

Will You Resolve to Persevere?

ow many years begin with lofty hopes for world peace, prosperity and cooperation among nations? Yet it was historians Will and Ariel Durant who famously pointed out that in 3,400 years of recorded human history, only 268 found the civilized world entirely without conflicts between nations, kingdoms and governments. For 92 percent of human history, some part of the world has been at war. In the 20th century alone, more than 100 million people died as a direct result of war, and estimates of war deaths throughout human history rise as high as 1 billion.

Clearly, human beings have been unable to find the way to lasting peace. Will 2016 bring any unprecedented breakthrough? What do you think? Looking back for a moment, let us consider: how did human society fare in 2015? It was a year of escalating conflict and terrorism. The tragic and horrific terrorist attacks in Paris that have galvanized Europeans to greater military, security and defense awareness will—as many long-time readers of this magazine recognize—play a part in the eventual rise of a unified and powerful European super-state, a final revival of the old "Holy Roman Empire."

That state will believe itself so powerful that it will even promote a false religion that calls itself a form of "Christianity." Yet that false religion will in fact not only oppose the actual teachings of Jesus Christ; it will support the world's armies rising up in rebellion against Christ when He returns to planet Earth to establish the Kingdom of God, putting an end to 6,000 years of humanity's attempts at ruling itself.

Overcome the "God of This Age"!

Yes, Jesus Christ needs to return to become the King of planet Earth! One little-recognized truth found in your Bible is that mankind, today, is living under the rule of the "god of this age"—Satan the devil (2 Corinthians 4:4). Yet there is a better way. God is calling a very few in this present age to a life of overcoming—of experiencing right now a foretaste of the peace and fulfillment that the whole world will know in the soon-coming Millennium. Today's genuine Christians look to this hope, even in times of trouble, as they strive to persevere (Matthew 24:14). They know that, as they persevere,

they will be coming ever closer to the day when all the earth will know the Way and will submit to the loving government of their benevolent King, Jesus Christ.

Yet this Way is unknown to the vast majority of people today, who seem to have almost unbounded creativity to accomplish anything they seek to do—except to obey God.



Resolve To Obey God!

Millions each year begin their January by making "New Year's resolutions." Leaving aside the plain truth that God's year begins in the spring, not in the middle of winter (this year, the biblical New Year's Day, Nisan 1, actually begins at sunset on April 8), we know this is a time when many resolve to do better. That is something worth doing at any time of the year.

Yet, with every new year, we quickly see that even the simplest "New Year's resolutions" fall by the wayside. Health clubs enroll thousands of new members each January, but how many of those new subscriptions are still being used in March? How many millions of new diets begin each January? How many well-intentioned plans are made, only to come crashing down on the shores of reality?

When human beings often cannot even govern themselves individually, is it any surprise that when they come together as states and nations

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Tomorrow's World has no subscription price. It is made possible by the tithes and offerings of Living Church of God members, and by others who have chosen to become co-workers in proclaiming Christ's true Gospel to all nations. Donations are gratefully acknowledged, and may be tax-deductible. the problems of government remain? For several thousand years, mankind has failed again and again in its efforts to experiment with new forms of government, new social structures-and, recently, even new definitions of "family" and "marriage." Read the stirring page 5 article, "Play God or Obey God?" by our Editor in Chief, Dr. Roderick C. Meredith. Rebellious human beings almost seem to take it for granted that if the God of the Bible commanded it, they want no part of it! Long-time readers of this magazine know that God has a plan for human beings-they are put here on planet Earth to develop within themselves the holy and righteous character of God Himself. What they cannot do by their own efforts becomes possible through the indwelling of the very power of God, the Holy Spirit.

Please do not misunderstand. Christians do not become perfect overnight. God does not build His righteous character within us by "fiat"—unilaterally, without our cooperation. Rather, as we learn to yield our will to His, and to practice righteousness rather than sin, Christians have more of the "mind of God" and learn to think and act as their Savior would in any given situation (Philippians 2:5).

What is the destiny of those who learn to live God's way? As you will see in my article on page 10 of this

Persevere in your faithful service and obedience to your Creator!

issue, "The New Jerusalem," a time is coming when today's Christians will rule under Jesus Christ in the prophesied "Millennium"—a time when the whole world will learn the ways of God. At the end of that time, after the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20) has

passed, a New Jerusalem—the very abode of God the Father—will come to the restored planet Earth. Yes, "Heaven" will come to the earth!

Until then, what can Christians do to prepare? We know that our world is fraught with dangers. Some of you reading this magazine may have been alive before the widespread use of penicillin to treat bacterial infections in the early 1940s. You remember what a wonderful breakthrough it seemed to be, that suddenly there was a simple way for most people to overcome infections that previously would have meant certain death. Sadly, as with so many wonderful new developments, mankind has blundered. Because of over-prescription and careless use of antibiotics, new types of drug-resistant bacteria are becoming more and more commonplace. Read more about this in Mr. John Meakin's powerful article, "Superbugs!," on page 18 of this issue.

Your Bible warns that a time is coming, right at the end of this age, when disease epidemics will ravage our planet. Today, many take comfort in the idea that they can take a pill and make an infection go away. Yet a time is coming—sooner than some realize—when the only sure source of healing will come not from medicine, but from God Himself. Some today forget that when Jesus Christ sent His disciples out to preach, He sent them "to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick" (Luke 9:2).

Resolve To Stay Close To God!

A time is coming when only those who know and serve the God of the Bible will be able to withstand the terrible diseases unleashed upon mankind. So be sure to stay close to God. Read your Bible every day. Pray to your Creator several times a day. It is even



helpful to get down on your knees to pray at least once a day, if not more, though I know some of us with "old

bones" may not be able to do so very easily, if at all. But the main thing is to call out to God, then listen for His answer. And you know His answer can be found in the pages of your Bible, which reveals His way to His servants: true Christians.

May God bless all of you readers as you turn to Him with even greater fervency, going against the tide of so many in our world who think they can get along without Him. Do your part to build God's holy and righteous character with His guidance. Persevere in your faithful service and obedience to your Creator. And be sure to seek first the Kingdom of God, and God's righteousness, in all you do (Matthew 6:33)!

Fichard F. amer

5 Play God or Obey God?

Can mankind survive without God? What will happen to our world if it continues on its current course, going against long-cherished truths found in the pages of your Bible?

10 The New Jerusalem

Jerusalem is not just the focal point of today's Middle East conflicts. Your Bible reveals that Jerusalem will be the world capital, and that a new Jerusalem will ultimately come to planet Earth!

18 Superbugs! The End of the Antibiotic Era

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Penicillin and other antibiotics seemed to promise a cure for bacterial infections, but new generations of bacteria now outwit old remedies. How will humanity cope? Can God help?

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Circulation: 527,000

To request free literature or correspond with the editors, contact the Regional Office nearest you or write to Letters@TomorrowsWorld.org.

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Play God or Obcy God? The Supreme Court Rules Against God

By Roderick C. Meredith

n America, our political and even judicial leaders often look for "guidance" about big problems almost everywhere else **except** consulting the Holy Bible—the inspired Word of God. Yet, we claim to be a "Christian" nation. We have on our coins and bills, "In God We Trust." Sadly, instead of obeying God, rebellious human beings seem ever more intent on "playing God"—taking upon themselves the judgment of what is right and what is wrong.

The Bible itself tells us through Jesus Christ the very Son of God: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God" (Luke 4:4). The Bible is often referred to as the "mind of God" in print. For it is the Big Picture principles of the way God thinks the way the **Creator** thinks. That is **why** Jesus Christ told us to live by **every word** of God!

Overturning Millennia of History?

In the discussion of the "same-sex" marriage issue recently before the Supreme Court, one of the justices began his comments by "discussing the rituals of the Kalahari people, an African tribe descended from ancient lineage, who never recognized same-sex unions as a form of marriage. His point was that marriage had until recently always been tied to childbearing. "This definition has been with us for millennia,' he told Mary Bonauto, the attorney for same-sex couples. 'And it's very difficult for the court to say, "Oh, well, we know better"" (*Time*, May 11, 2015).

Yet, that is *exactly* what the Supreme Court has essentially done. They have tried to overrule some 6,000 years of human history–overrule the whole concept that marriage is about child-rearing and family. They are even trying to overrule the Supreme Court of Heaven-Almighty God Himself! What on earth do they think they are doing? And why do they refuse to consult the One who instituted marriage in the first place: Almighty God? Why will they never consult the **Bible**, the *inspired Word* of the one true God, which gives us instruction on every basic topic affecting our relations with God and one another? Why is the Bible nearly always "left out" in such discussions? What have we, as a purporting Christian nation, actually come to when most people refuse to even consider what the Bible says?

Meanwhile, "What happened to the Bible?" Many of you probably realize that the Bible has been under an absolute **assault** for the last several decades. Liberals, communists and secular humanists have squirmed their way into leadership positions in many of the mainstream Protestant churches and even the seminaries. They bring in a concept that you cannot be sure of what the Bible actually says. You cannot be sure that the manuscript the Bible is based upon was inspired by God. You cannot be sure of this or that. "So," they say, "let's just let *human reason* decide"! This is the concept of the secularist approach

PLAY GOD?

of people who do **not** have the *fear of God* or any deep respect for the Word of God.

Think!

What has *always happened* to any nation that has turned away from God and the laws of God? Many historians recognize that ancient Greece-which permitted homosexuality and other abominable practices to exist-went "down the tubes" as a result of its moral decay, which led to further decay, such that it is no longer a power in the world or example

to other nations. They recognize the same about Rome. When in various areas the ancient Romans upheld standards of morality that corresponded in many ways to God's laws and statutes, in those ar-

Obergefell v. Hodges 2015 (5-4 decision) Ruled that same-sex couples have the same right to marriage as opposite-sex couples

eas they tended to be blessed. Certainly, though, the more that certain Roman leaders and philosophers took to increasingly vile practices of violence and murder and sexual perversion, the further down the Roman Empire descended, leading to the eventual "fall of Rome" by 476AD.

Describing the professing wise men and philosophers in his day, the Apostle Paul states: "Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. 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,

One, Inc. v. Olesen 1958 (5-4 decision) Determined that pro-homosexuality material is not inherently obscene. and thus could not be refused delivery by the U.S. Post Office

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. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowl-

> Miller v. California 1975 (5-4 decision)

Redefined "obscenity" to exclude sexually explicit materials deemed to be of "serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.'

edge, God gave them over to a debased mind, things which

to do those

are not fitting" (Romans 1:24-28).

Mankind's rebellious ways lead to confusion and eventual destruction! Yet God's ways work! The inspired Word of God tells us clearly: "Even the

United States v. Windsor 2013 (5-4 decision) Declared the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional

> Lawrence v. Texas 2003 (6-3 decision) Denied a state's right to outlaw sodomy.

6

Romer v. Evans 1996 (6-3 decision) Overturned a state law that denied homosexuals protected" status as a minority.

stork in the heavens knows her appointed times; and the turtledove, the swift, and the swallow observe the time of their coming. But My people do not know the judgment of the LORD. 'How can you say, "We are wise, and the law of the LORD is with us"? Look, the false pen of the scribe certainly works falsehood. The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD; so what wisdom do they have?

AS ROMAN LEADERS TOOK TO VILE PRACTICES, THE ROMAN EMPIRE DESCENDED, LEADING TO ITS FALL

Therefore I will give their wives to others, and their fields to those who will inherit them; because from the least even to the greatest everyone is given to covetousness; from the prophet even to the priest everyone deals falsely. For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, saying, "Peace, peace!" when there is no peace'" (Jeremiah 8:7–11).

Biblical scholars tell us that in this scripture passage, where it states that these false teachers have healed God's people "slightly"—that this word actually means **superficially**. Yes, sometimes the "mainstream" ministers who are often sincere "do-gooders"



do help **temporarily**. But their human solution is only "superficial." For they do not go back to the root

problem: the fact that humans must actually **do** what God says and follow the Bible—*not human reasoning*.

God's Powerful Warnings

Almighty God told our forefathers in ancient Israel: "But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, I also will do this to you: I will even appoint **terror** over you, **wasting disease** and **fever** which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you" (Leviticus 26:14–17).

As America turned further and further away from God, we *did have* the experience of "9–11." Our Twin Towers were **destroyed**, and our Pentagon's structure was breached, through "terror"—**terrorism**! Because of what happened in the early stages

of the homosexual movement, we have had a tremendous increase in "wasting disease" and fever—increasing incidence of AIDS, which is one of the most horrible and debilitating diseases affecting the entire world. Because of all these things, our nation is going to experience the other punishments described in Leviticus 26 including drought, famine, disease epidemics and finally *national captivity* on a scale never experienced in modern history!

If you, my friends, are willing to **study** and to prove what is really involved in all this, please call us or write today for a *free copy* of our powerful booklet entitled: *The Bible: Fact or Fiction?* Then begin to really **prove** to yourself that the Bible is truly the "very Word of God" as it claims to be.

For the Bible makes very clear the opinion of the Creator God about "same-sex marriage" and many other issues. In answering a question about the right of people to divorce each other, Jesus Christ answered: "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'? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate" (Matthew 19:4-6). The entire reason for marriage was that the Creator God made us male and female so that we could have *family* and we could have children. Homosexual couples cannot produce children of and by themselves. I hope everyone can figure that out!

God's Purpose For Marriage

At the very beginning, your Bible tells us: "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. **PLAY GOD?** CONTINUES ON PAGE 26

Elected by Men or Appointed by God?



Since the time of Confederation, Canada has held 42 federal elections, with the most recent occurring on October 19, 2015. The 78-day campaign—long by Canadian standards leading up to October 19 consisted of rallies, TV debates and the traditional door-to-door

appeal to the voter for support of their party. The Liberal Party of Canada, headed by Mr. Justin Trudeau, won a decisive victory—garnering 39.5 percent of the popular vote and 54 percent (184 of 338) of the seats in the House of Commons, thus forming a majority government.

Conservative Party leader Mr. Stephen Harper, who was the 22nd Prime Minister since Confederation, officially stepped down on November 4, 2015 when Canada's new Prime Minister, Mr. Justin Trudeau, was sworn in to become Canada's 23rd Prime Minister.

Mr. Trudeau represents a second generation of Trudeaus occupying this seat of authority. He now resides at Sussex Drive in Ottawa where many years ago he lived with his father and mother, when his father, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, served as the 15th Prime Minister of Canada from April 20, 1968, to June 4, 1979, and again from March 3, 1980, to June 30, 1984.

Many consider Mr. Trudeau's election to be crucial and many wonder what direction this country will take under his leadership and during the years of Liberal Party mandate. His controversial stand, for example, on the need for the legalization of marijuana was an obvious appeal to many of the electorate.

Change and Leadership?

Perhaps we can get a further glimpse of things to come from the prepared slogan of his party. Often repeated

by the Liberals during the 78-day campaign was the phrase "Real Change." It remains to be seen what this will mean in reality as the months and years go by.

The other two main parties, the Conservatives and New Democratic Party, also had their slogans, the New Democratic Party quite similar, being "Ready for Change" and the Conservatives, "Proven Leadership for a Strong Canada." But, can *any* political party of *any* persuasion actually deliver what is **truly** needed for the continued welfare of the nation?

Many Canadians take great pride in exercising their right to vote for whom they think might be better to serve the needs of the country—and represent Canada on the world stage—based on their party agendas and platforms. They often become financial contributors to their favourite party and thus become part of their party's campaign machinery in hopes that their vote will make a difference. To *not vote*, many think, is an abrogation of responsibility. Some might even consider it *unpatriotic* to fail to exercise this franchise.

But, does God Almighty take an interest in the leadership in Canada, as well as all the governments around the world? Yes, He does! In fact, God is the one who decides the governing authority of nations.

The prophet Daniel told King Nebuchadnezzar of ancient Babylon that "the Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomever He chooses" (Daniel 4:25). And again, "He removes kings and raises up kings" (Daniel 2:21).

So, yes, God is involved in choosing the leadership of Canada—and all nations.

As this magazine's Editor in Chief wrote before the last U.S. presidential election, "Where is God in all of

A song often sung during the time surrounding December 25 is the famous "Hallelujah Chorus," which features the often-repeated words, "The kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdoms of our Christ... and He shall reign for ever."

That will prove to be the final solution to all the ills of humankind—not just Canada's.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau



A Christian's Responsibility

With all this in mind, what responsibility does a Canadian citizen who is also a Christian have toward the governing powers that God allows to be in place?

Jesus Christ, when He walked on planet Earth, did not participate in the government structures of this world, but He did urge people to be subject to the governing *authority*—even to the point of paying taxes: "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21). Christ set an example as one who was subject to civil laws and authorities and expected His followers then and expects His followers now to do likewise.

The Apostle Paul wrote: "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves" (Romans 13:1–2). Paul further explains: "For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor" (vv. 6–7).

Pray for Leaders

Paul also instructs us to pray for those in positions of authority. "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings **and all who are in authority**, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence" (1 Timothy 2:1-2). There is much in God's word about the responsibility for all to be subject to the leadership, even while realizing that, in the event of a conflict, God's laws and directions supersede the ordinances of human government.

Yet, truly, Canadians indeed are very blessed to be living in a nation that has many laws and benefits in place for the betterment of all. Doubtless there have been Canadian politicians and leaders, in the past, who despite their human frailties and weakness have striven to provide what is considered their best for the people. God has allowed leaders to be set in place, even in the latest election process, who will see that His will is done in the overall sense according to His plan, which He is working out here below. That will may be for Canada's blessing, or for its cursing—it all depends on the people, and how they have responded to their God.

God is in charge. A democratic form of government may well be the best that humanity can hope to achieve on its own, but, as former British Prime Minister Win-



ston Churchill famously said to the House of Commons: "Democracy is the worst form of government, except for

all those other forms that have been tried from time to time" (November 11, 1947).

So, it remains to be seen what this country's direction and course will be over the next number of years. To repeat what the Apostle Paul said to Timothy, "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."

-Winston Gosse

The New Jerusalem

By Richard F. Ames

he city of Jerusalem is a focus of three major religions: Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. The modern nation of Israel was established in 1948. Even though it controlled just half of the city, Israel declared Jerusalem its capital in 1950. After the six-day war in 1967, Israel united the old city with the new. Today, Palestinians also claim Jerusalem as their capital. The peace process between these peoples has stalled.

When we consider all the conflicts in the Middle East, the prospects for lasting peace look very dim. But Bible prophecy reveals that Jerusalem will not only be the future capital of the descendants of ancient Israel and Judah, but that Jerusalem will be the capital of the world. Even more amazing, Bible prophecy proclaims that a New Jerusalem will eventually come to earth from heaven, where it will be occupied by God the Father and the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Will you be a part of that glorious future?

Today, the Middle East remains a region of conflict and violence. Some observers are hopeful that Israel and the Palestinians can establish lasting peace. One of the obstacles to peace is the question of Jerusalem. Can Jerusalem function as the capital of both Israel, and a Palestinian state?

To the Jews, Jerusalem was the city of the great prophets, and the capital of the Kingdom of Israel under King David and his son King Solomon. The first and second temples were the center of worship until the destruction of the city by the Romans in 70AD. Jerusalem is also the third most holy city of Islam, after the cities of Mecca and Medina. Today the Islamic Mosque of Omar, or the Dome of the Rock, dominates the Temple Mount. The Arabic term for the holy place is "al-Haram as-Sharif" which means "The Noble Sanctuary." Muslims believe that Muhammad ascended to Heaven from that site. And that God told Abraham to sacrifice Ishmael rather than Isaac, at that location. Christians revere the city as the place where their Savior was crucified, and where He taught in the Temple. Christians believe Jesus will return to establish His Kingdom, with Jerusalem as world capital.

Prophetic Milestones Ahead!

What lies ahead for the city of Jerusalem? The Scriptures reveal significant prophetic milestones. Regular readers of *Tomorrow's World* understand the end-time Tribulation and Day of the Lord, the 3¹/₂ years before Christ's return. Two major events during that time will focus on the city of Jerusalem. Notice what your Bible says—that for those 3¹/₂ years, God's two witnesses will challenge the Beast power, the coming European superpower we have been warning you about. "And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth" (Revelation 11:3).

God has always given a witness to the rebels and wicked of this world. The world thinks that it will have gained a victory over the two witnesses, who will be killed and will lie dead in Jerusalem for 3½ days. But God will resurrect the two dead witnesses—to the shock of their persecutors.

We read: "Now after the three-and-a-half days the breath of life from God entered them [the two witnesses], and they stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, 'Come up here.' And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them. In the same hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell. In the earthquake seven thousand people were killed, and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven" (Revelation 11:11–13).

What else will transpire during the 3½ years of the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord? Notice: "Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, 'Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months" (Revelation 11:1–2).

Yes, Bible prophecy is clear. Jerusalem will be conquered by Gentiles and be oppressed for 3½ years, or forty-two months. During this forty-two month period, Jerusalem will be trodden down by the Gentiles. The two witnesses will prophesy for 1,260 days. The Church—true Christians—will be taken to a safe place in the wilderness for 3½ "times"—3½ years—and the Beast power will continue for 42 months.



Modern model of Solomon's Temple, on display at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem

What will happen at the end of those 42 months? The last of seven trumpets in the book of Revelation announces the establishment of God's kingdom on earth. The heavenly announcement ensures the **end** of mankind's rush to destruction and **cosmocide**. "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).

Christians Resurrected!

The general resurrection of faithful Christians will take place at this seventh trumpet, or the last trumpet as it is called in 1 Corinthians 15. That is the time when the dead in Christ will be transformed from mortal to immortal. They will be born into the royal, divine family of God. Scripture describes that



transformation: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; [we

are now flesh and blood. We have not yet inherited 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" (1 Corinthians 15:50–53).

Today's Christians want to be in that resurrection. If you feel God is calling you, and you want to make significant changes in your life, you may want to counsel with one of our representatives from the regional office nearest you, listed on page 4 of this magazine. You will have the opportunity to talk with someone who can answer your Bible questions and help you reflect on your desire to repent and be baptized. Remember the Apostle Peter's instruction to the masses of repentant people in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost in 31AD: "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" (Acts 2:38). Not only will the seventh trumpet signal the resurrection of faithful Christians, but it will also signal the final judgment on rebellious nations. Revelation 15 introduces the seven last plagues on rebellious human beings. John describes the heavenly scene this way: "Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives forever and ever" (Revelation 15:7).

As long-time readers of this magazine are aware, the seven seals of Revelation describe prophetic events from the time of Christ through the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord. In fact, the

JERUSALEM WILL BE THE CENTER OF World Government and Education

seventh seal (Revelation 8) represents the seven trumpet events during the one-year Day of the Lord, and the seventh trumpet (Revelation 11:15) represents the seven last plagues.

John describes the sixth of the seven last plagues leading to the battle commonly referred to as Armageddon: "Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty" (Revelation 16:12–14).

Then, Jesus warns us all: "'Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame.' And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon" (v. 15).

The battle of Armageddon has been described as the final battle between good and evil. The prophet Zechariah describes the setting for that battle. "Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem" (Zechariah 14:1). Jerusalem will be the focus of the final battle. And who will win that battle? "Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south" (Zechariah 14:3–4).

Yes, Jesus Christ will once again set foot on planet Earth. He will conquer all rebellious nations. As it states in Revelation 17:14, "the Lamb will overcome

> them"—that is, **all** the military powers who fight against Christ at His coming. Notice the punishment that hateful and rebellious nations receive because they thought they could fight against God: "And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will strike all

the people who fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet, their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, and their tongues shall dissolve in their mouths" (Zechariah 14:12).

Capital of World Peace

The King of kings will put an end to all wars among nations. He will teach all peoples the way to peace. But it will take time. Some nations and peoples learn the hard way. Jerusalem will be the world capital. All nations will send representatives to worship the King, Jesus Christ, in Jerusalem. Notice: "And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain" (Zechariah 14:16–17).

Human beings have never learned the way to lasting peace. Indeed, "the way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Romans 3:17–18). The King of kings will teach the nations the way to peace. Jerusalem will be the center of world government and education, and all nations will come to Jerusalem to learn God's way of love and peace. "Many nations shall come and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.' For out of Zion the law shall go forth, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and rebuke strong nations afar off; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Micah 4:2–3).

The nations will learn the Ten Commandments and the entire way of life taught by Christ, the way of life recorded in the Scriptures. Notice this inspiring description of Jerusalem's future: "Thus says the LORD: 'I will return to Zion, and dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, the Mountain of the LORD of hosts, the Holy Mountain" (Zechariah 8:3).

Jerusalem is not **now** called the city of Truth. But it soon will be, when God's Kingdom is established all over the world. Continue reading in the book of Zechariah. Listen to this beautiful description of peace and family activity in Jerusalem, typical of peace in nations around the world. "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Old men and old women shall again sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each one with his staff in his hand because of great age. The streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets" (Zechariah 8:4–5). The prophet Isaiah gives us a picture of the future joy within Jerusalem: "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, and her people a joy. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in My people; the voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, nor the voice of crying" (Isaiah 65:17–19).

God plans a glorious future for us and for Jerusalem. He also will create new heavens and a new earth, along with a **New** Jerusalem. After the Millennium and the Great White Throne Judgment, God will purify the creation by fire. The lake of fire will expand over all the earth to purify it. Notice: "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (2 Peter 3:10).

The lake of fire is described in Revelation 20:14-15. Revelation 21 describes the New Jerusalem. The Apostle John writes, "Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down



out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband" (Revelation 21:1–2).

Future Home for Christians!

Faithful Christians will eventually live in that New Jerusalem. Those who long to "go to heaven" should notice that God's very city is coming to planet Earth! Sadly, Bible critics often dismiss the coming reality of these amazing events. They say that the book of Revelation contains apocalyptic language and allegory such that most if not all of the events it

THOSE WHO LONG TO "GO TO HEAVEN" Should notice that god's very city Will come to planet earth!

describes are not literal.

Yes, it is true that the book of Revelation uses symbolic language. But it is also true that the Bible interprets the Bible, and can help us understand not just the literal truths directly written in Scripture but also the literal truths behind symbolic passages. Remember that the Revelator Himself, Jesus Christ, wants to show us the future and the major prophetic events yet to occur in their sequence. "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him **to show His servants**—things which must shortly take place" (Revelation 1:1).

As Christians, we need to know those major events Christ reveals. Remember the blessing He pronounces on those who seriously read and retain this book: "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near" (Revelation 1:3).

Do you marvel at this description of the New Jerusalem in Revelation 21:9? Faithful Christians, referred to in Scripture as the Lamb's wife, will live in the New Jerusalem. An angel speaks to the Apostle John and gives him this vision: "'Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife' And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal" (Revelation 21:9–11).

Over centuries past, Bible artists have drawn their concepts of the New Jerusalem. It is usually depicted as a cube, as per the scriptural description (Revelation 21:16). Note that the ancient tabernacle

and Holy of Holies were also cubical in shape. Many have emphasized the brilliance of the city. Consider this description from Scripture: "But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The

Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life" (Revelation 21:22–27). Yes, those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life will receive this glorious inheritance to be with God the Father and with the Lamb, Jesus Christ—forever.

God Almighty has an awesome plan of salvation. You can be a part of the glorious plan and inherit all things. Jesus said, "The meek shall inherit the earth" (Matthew 5:5). Faithful Christians will rule with Christ on earth in the Kingdom for a thousand years, then we will inherit all things—the universe. "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son" (Revelation 21:7).

Today, the world is in conflict, particularly in the Middle East. But soon, Jerusalem will become the capital of planet Earth. And you can have a part in that glorious Kingdom!

MAY WE SUGGEST?

Your Ultimate Destiny What will you be doing for all eternity after the New Jerusalem arrives on planet Earth? Request a **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.



TomorrowsWorld.org

There is a weekly test that is not just for schoolchildren!

Question: I have heard the Fourth Commandment (Exodus 20:8–11) described as the "test" commandment. What does this mean for Christians?

Answer: To succeed in school, students learn to follow their teachers' instructions, and learn their lessons carefully. But few realize that God is testing *us* in a special way *every week*. Are we following our Teacher's instructions (Matthew 19:17) and absorbing His lessons for us?

Scripture tells us that God rested on the *seventh* day of the creation week (Genesis 2:1–3; Exodus 20:11). He created or "made" (Mark 2:27) the day of rest holy by resting, while He made all else by working. He did not need to rest because He was tired (Isaiah 40:28); He is Spirit, and never tires. By resting on the seventh day of the creation week (from sunset Friday to sunset Saturday), God sanctified the Sabbath, *setting the example* for Adam and his descendants to follow.

The one who became Jesus Christ (John 1:1–5, 10– 14) is the one who ceased from His labor of creation (Colossians 1:13–16; Mark 2:28). Jesus made it clear that the seventh day was made *for mankind* (Mark 2:27; Exodus 20:8–10). God intended the weekly



"Sabbath" (this word means *rest* in Hebrew) to be a refreshing blessing for mankind (Deuteronomy 5:14;

Exodus 23:12). God knew that human beings would need periodic rest and change from work.

But the purpose for keeping God's Sabbath goes far beyond simply resting on that day. We need that time each week to have close spiritual contact with God through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other believers.

God's Sabbath is not to be treated lightly or forgotten. We are commanded: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8). It is a memorial of God's restoration of the earth and the creation of man, reminding us who the Creator is.

How is keeping the weekly Sabbath a "test"? It is a *test of our obedience to God!* Real *belief* in God means

active *obedience* (Acts 5:29, 32; Romans 16:25–26). Those who *really* believe God will do as He says and will keep His Sabbath! Sabbath-keeping was a "test" to see if the ancient Israelites would obey God (Exodus 16:4–5, 22–24), even before He revealed all Ten Commandments to them in codified form (Exodus 20:1–17).

Observing the Sabbath day was also to be a special sign of identification between God and His people (31:13, 16–17). God wanted ancient Israel to remember that He is Creator, Sustainer and Supreme Ruler over all His creation, so He singled out Sabbath observance as the one great sign by which they would always be reminded of who He is and who they were— His chosen people.

Many professing Christians are willing to

Those who are striving to obey God today, are keeping the same day that Jesus, Paul and the entire true Church always kept.

acknowledge that the other nine commandments should be kept in some way today, but reject and refuse to literally obey just one commandment: *the fourth*! So we see that the Sabbath command is a *crucial test of obedience*, for it identifies those who have surrendered to God and are striving to

obey all of His commandments.

Jesus regularly attended religious services on the Sabbath day "as His custom was" (Luke 4:16, 31). He obeyed His own command to meet with other believers every Sabbath (Leviticus 23:3). This is the day He would naturally have observed, because He originally made the Sabbath holy by resting and ordained that it be kept holy from that time forward. It was also the Apostle Paul's custom to keep the Sabbath (Acts 17:1–2). Other evidence shows the early Church of God observed the Sabbath (13:13–15, 42, 44; 18:1, 4, 11).

Those who are striving to obey God today, and to *do what He says* (Luke 6:46), are also keeping the same day that Jesus, Paul and the entire true Church always kept. They are *passing* God's "test" every seventh day of the week!

置London CALLING

Was Malthus Wrong?



Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and the young man imbibed philosophy, Latin, Greek and mathematics as a student at Oxford.

While most people living today may have never heard of Malthus, who went on to become a professor of history and political economy at the East India Company's Haileybury College, his theories regarding pre-industrial world population had a profound effect on British social policies of his day. His writings even proved influential in the later research of English naturalist Charles Darwin, and on Darwin's theory of natural selection.

Malthus is perhaps best known for his theoretical work titled, *An Essay on the Principle of Population*. In it, he explored the notion that population would increase and overwhelm the availability of food, thus creating a global threat to human society and survival. This discrepancy between mouths to be fed and available food would, according to Malthus, bring about what is now known as a *Malthusian crisis,* or *Malthusian catastrophe*.

Predictions and "Positive Checks"

The Malthusian catastrophe is the prediction that population would overtake agricultural production, precipitating a return to subsistence-level conditions, which would result in a long-term, widespread and unhappy existence for most of humanity. Malthus felt that the human desire to propagate would inevitably lead to humanity's ruin, as population outpaced food production.



He also believed that the equilibrium between population and food availability would be brought back through what he saw as the *positive checks* of *war*, *famine* and *disease*—things that effectively raise the death rate. As you may surmise, Malthus was an *economic pessimist!* In later editions of his book, he also included *preventative checks* such as postponing marriage, birth control and celibacy.

Today, we see a global population of more than 7.2 billion human beings—roughly 6 billion more than in Malthus' day—and they are still being fed! This is evidence that, thus far, Malthus' theorem has fallen short.

Beijing *TIME* magazine correspondent Michael Schuman, in a July 15, 2011 article titled "Was Malthus Right?," points out that "Malthus misjudged man's ability to develop the necessary technologies to use the land, water and other limited resources of our planet more efficiently. Food production has more or less kept up with population growth."

So, Malthus failed to account for the advances such as in human technology and agricultural methods—we now take for granted. But, does this mean that humanity has evaded the "positive checks" of the Malthusian catastrophe?

Still Prophesied...

While Malthus' predictions have not come to pass in the way he postulated, the "positive checks" of war, famine and disease that he described are still prophesied by the Bible to occur.

Referred to in Scripture as the "time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7), the Bible predicts a coming Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21)—a time of unprecedented trouble involving war, famine and widespread disease epidemics, which the modern-day descendants of ancient Israel will not escape (To understand the identity of these peoples, request our booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*).

Jesus Christ prophesied in Matthew 24:7-8, that at the time of the end, "...**nation will rise against nation**,

Although Malthus misjudged our ability to develop new technologies, the war, famine and disease he envisaged still ravage our world! and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be *famines*, *pestilences*, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the *beginning* of sorrows."

In a related prophecy, the book of Revelation describes four horsemen who, symbolically, ride across the earth with ever-increasing intensity as the end times draw to a close. The first horse is sym-

bolic of false prophets and deceivers (Revelation 6:2), but the second, third and fourth are symbolic of war, famine and pestilence, respectively (vv. 4-8).

Additionally, in a prophecy directed at the end-time descendants of Israel, we read in Leviticus 26:16, "I also will do this to you: I will even *appoint terror over you*, *wasting disease and fever* which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And *you shall sow your seed in vain*, for your *enemies* shall eat it."

The "positive checks" which Malthus cited are clearly factors used by God to judge His people. However, *the root cause* of the coming catastrophe will not be overpopulation and food shortage, as Malthus envisioned and predicted, but rather the manifold, ever-mounting sins of modern-day Israel.

God Offers Protection

As we near the coming catastrophe—not of the Malthusian kind, but the one that will be executed according to the righteous judgment of God in response to the growing sins of Great Britain, the United States, and the other Israelite-descended nations of the world, we can be grateful that God has promised protection for those who strive to live by His law (Revelation 3:10; Revelation 12:14).

Proverbs 10:3 instructs, "The LORD will not allow the righteous soul to famish...." And in Exodus 15:26, God told ancient Israel, "If you diligently heed the voice of

the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you."

We must completely put our trust in God as we see more and more signs of the coming Great Tribulation—the real catastrophe that humanity will soon face. Malthus predicted a time of coming catastrophe on the inhabitants of the earth, yet his predictions have so far not come to fruition. Nevertheless, that does not mean mankind is "out of the woods" yet. God, in His

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infinite knowledge and wisdom, foresaw that man would continue to violate His "perfect law of liberty," and in so do-

ing, bring upon himself the plagues of sickness, famine, war and so much more.

You can, however, escape the coming catastrophe. God will provide protection from the Great Tribulation for those who are willing to **believe** and **act** on what they read in God's word, the Bible. To find out more, request our free booklet, *The Ten Commandments*, today! —Adam West





SUPERBUGS! THE END OF THE ANTIBIOTIC ERA

So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth. –Revelation 6:8

By John Meakin

ne of the most impressive features of developed societies over the past 75 years has been the remarkable advance in human health brought about by medical science. This is especially true in the arena of microbiology; we have seen the complete eradication of some infectious diseases, like *smallpox*, and the partial eradication of others, such as *diphtheria*, *cholera* and *polio*. These are diseases that in former times wreaked widespread misery, suffering and death.

The scale of these victories should not be minimized; for example, it is reckoned that some 300 million people died during the 20th century alone from smallpox. Yet by 1979 the world was declared free of the disease after concerted efforts to eradicate it paid off. No new cases have been recorded since that time.

Defeating the Bugs

Advances in science and technology have enabled us to understand the dangerous microbes that cause disease. Their secrets have been unmasked. A formidable arsenal of anti-microbial defenses, such as vaccines, anti-virals and anti-bacterials (antibiotics), has been successfully deployed. This has led to great success in the ongoing war against infectious diseases.

However, despite these advances, the microorganisms—*bacteria*, *viruses*, *fungi* and *parasites*—have found ways to fight back. Progressively, they have proven adept at eluding our attacks; they have discovered how to outwit our anti-microbial arsenal by building *resistance* to it; they have developed ever more potent *toxins*. Indeed, the more bacteria are placed under attack the more active they become, mutating and modifying their genetic structure.

Today we call these microorganisms *superbugs*! They produce a nightmare of infectious diseases that are progressively overwhelming us, heralding a potential worldwide crisis on our doorstep!

These powerful bugs are our *invisible enemies*, seemingly spreading everywhere—lurking in hospitals and healthcare facilities, and colonizing our communities; in schools, in sports facilities, in prisons, in our farm animals and even on our pets and in our food. These bugs have become *killing machines*, because increasingly we have little left with which to fight them. The bugs are winning, and science simply cannot keep up.

So where is all this leading? Should we be worried about superbugs and the threat they pose to our collective well-being? What does the future hold with regard to infectious disease, and does the Bible shed any light on the subject?

The Rise of Superbugs

Initially, the scientific community was euphoric at the prospect that infectious diseases could be banished permanently. Because of the impact of new anti-microbial agents, infection rates were plummeting and spectacular progress seemed to take place. It was tantalizing to imagine that pandemics from the past might never be repeated. For example, the Black Death killed 30–60 percent of Europe's population in the 14th century (maybe 100 million people) and the 1918 Great Influenza pandemic killed upwards of 50 million people around the world at the end of the First World War.

But the new anti-microbial agents did not prove to be all-powerful for very long; in 1928 the first "miracle drug," a fungus called *penicillin*, was discovered. Adept at killing bacteria such as staphylococcus and streptococcus, and those that caused diphtheria, pneumonia and meningitis, penicillin was widely used from around 1943. Almost immediately, with the increasingly widespread use, resistance to the drug began to develop.

A new family of penicillin-type drugs was rapidly developed, including one called *methicillin* in 1960. *Within one year*, a strain of staphylococcus resistant to methicillin appeared and became known as MRSA. Today we have strains of MRSA that are resistant to virtually all antibiotics. They have developed numerous other characteristics that make them true killer bugs, the scourge of hospitals and communities around the world.

In her book, *Superbug: The Fatal Menace of MRSA* (Free Press, 2010), award-winning science journalist, Maryn McKenna, meticulously lays out in graphic detail the inner workings of MRSA. She notes that this superbug has developed "a huge range of microbiological weapons called *virulence factors*—more than seventy cell-destroying enzymes and toxins, many more than any other bacterium can produce" (p. 5). She also notes "It became evident that broad use of antibiotics not only *caused* drug-resistant infections; it also made people who had no symptoms of infection into silent carriers of drug-resistant strains" (p. 42, emphasis ours).



fected with TB, and some 20 percent involves drug resistant superbugs. Other examples of resistant bacteria are those producing salmonella and E-Coli infections, tetanus, whooping cough and cholera.

What the Experts Say

So, how serious are these developments? According to a World Health Organization (WHO) fact sheet on *Antibiotic Resistance (October 2015)*, "In the European Union (EU) alone, drug resistant bugs are estimated to cause 25,000 deaths and cost more than US\$1.5 billion every year in healthcare expenses and productivity losses."

The same WHO fact sheet summarizes the truly sobering realities now impacting global health,

> including: "Antibiotic resistance is one of the biggest threats to global health today. It can affect anyone, of any age, in any country. A growing list of infections—such as pneumonia, tuberculosis, blood poisoning and gonorrhea—are becoming harder, and sometimes impossi-

WE ARE HEADING FOR A POST-ANTIBIOTIC ERA, IN WHICH COMMON INFECTIONS AND MINOR INJURIES CAN ONCE AGAIN KILL

Today, there are resistant strains impacting most diseases, including *tuberculosis*, which kills 2 million people a year, mainly in developing countries. It is thought that a third of the world's population is inble, to treat as antibiotics become less effective. *The world urgently needs to change* the way we prescribe and use antibiotics. Even if new medicines are developed, without behavior change, antibiotic resis-

Simple Principles To Avoid Disease

Although human history has been dominated by infectious diseases, and they are still the leading cause of death in developing countries, pathogenic bugs are actually quite rare. If our immune systems remain strong through adequate and suitable *nutrition*, and we are paying close attention to proper *sanitation* and *hygiene*, these will go a long way to protect us from infection.

God gave important principles and instructions to the ancient nation of Israel and also to the New Testament Church, which, if followed, would help immensely in our fight against disease. Some of these were the very factors, along with *improved housing*, that caused a marked decline in infectious diseases, even before antibiotics were available. Here is an overview:

- Strictly quarantine those who are carrying infectious diseases (Leviticus 13 and 14).
- Observe the food laws that God instituted to protect us from illness and disease (Leviticus 11:1–31 and Deuteronomy 14:3–21). Looking after our diets keeps our immune systems strong.
- Control the spread of disease by meticulous attention to hygiene (Leviticus 11:32–40).
- Be careful about sanitation and the removal of excrement (Deuteronomy 23:12–13). Keep yourself and your environment as clean as you can.
- Use running water for washing hands, bodies and clothing (Numbers 19:14–19). It is ironic that perhaps the most important measure today in the fight against infectious diseases is to *wash our hands thoroughly* before and after any risk of infection. Good old-fashioned soap and water can succeed where antibiotics might fail.
- Be obedient to God and reap the blessings of good health and well-being that result (Leviticus 26:3-13; Deuteronomy 28:1-13; Proverbs 3:7).
- Minimize negative thinking, and focus instead on the positive. Instead of dwelling on prob-

lems, focus on solutions. Pervasive negative thoughts can manifest themselves in physical ways, including illness (Philippians 4:8).

- Avoid misplaced ideology and selfish desires for conquest, which will inevitably lead to conflict and war (James 4:1-3). War leads to physical and social disruption, which in turn produces famine and disease. This has ever been the lesson of history.
- God promises to take sickness away from the nation that looks to Him and obeys Him (Exodus 23:25; Deuteronomy 7:15).
- Finally, and most important of all, follow the inspired instruction of Scripture: "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14). A time will come when planet Earth is so ravaged by disease that no amount of "self-help" will suffice. Only those who put their trust in God and seek divine healing will be spared from the worst that is to come. Divine healing is not a last-resort step for those who have not taken all the other steps; it is the foundation on which all other healing rests. Do your best to protect yourself, but do not leave God out!

AIDS Virus

tance will remain a major threat. Without urgent action, we are heading for a *post-antibiotic era*, in which *common infections and minor injuries* can once again kill" (emphasis ours).

Dr. Tom Frieden, Director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), wrote that "Antibiotic resistance is a worldwide problem. New forms of antibiotic resistance can cross international boundaries and spread between continents with ease. Many forms of resistance spread with remarkable speed. World health leaders have described antibiotic-resistant microorganisms as 'nightmare bacteria' that 'pose a catastrophic threat' to people in every country in the world" (*Antibiotic Resistance Threats in the USA*, 2013, p. 11).

The CDC conservatively estimates that in the United States, more than 2 million people become ill every year with antibiotic-resistant infections, with at least 23,000 dying as a result (*ibid.*, p. 6). In addition, almost 250,000 people annually require hospital care for *Clostridium difficile* infections, and at least 14,000 people die as a result. Many of these infections could have been prevented" (*ibid.*, p. 11).

Echoing a number of these thoughts, Professor Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England, wrote, "We are losing the battle against infectious diseases. Bacteria are fighting back and are becoming resistant to modern medicine. In short the drugs don't work!" (*The Drugs Don't Work—A Global Threat*, Penguin, 2013, p. viii).

Some 1.2 million hospital patients around the world suffer from bacterial infections and 90,000 of them die. It is estimated that 70 percent of bacteria now possess resistance to one or more antibiotic drugs (*Superbugs*, John DiConsiglio, Raintree, 2012, p. 6).

Did you catch the importance and urgency of these words? Approaching a "post-antibiotic era" ... Killed by "common infections and minor injuries" ... "The world urgently needs to change" ... "Anyone can be affected, anywhere" ... "nightmare bacteria" ... "catastrophic threat" ... "The drugs don't work." All this suggests that we are in deep trouble. A crisis is upon us and we are running out of time and the ability to defend ourselves. As Margaret Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization, told delegates in her October 11, 2015 speech to the World Health Summit in Berlin, Germany, "Antimicrobial resistance has become a major health and medical crisis. If current trends continue, this will mean **the end of modern medicine as we know it."**

Disease Epidemics Yet To Come

Will we lose the battle against infectious diseases, or will humanity yet find ways to decisively deal with superbugs? We can certainly hope that medical research will make breakthroughs. Yet it may well be that science will be overtaken by events. Superbugs are relentlessly growing stronger and more ubiquitous. At some point they may break out and afflict our expanding world population with devastating pandemics that we are simply unable to contain. And, in fact, this is what has been prophesied for centuries in the pages of your Bible. A time will come when no amount of medical intervention will be able to stop the onrush of disease and death afflicting mankind.

Jesus described various signs that would herald His return to planet Earth. They would include *wars, famines* and *pestilences (disease or plague,* Matthew 24:7). But Matthew adds that these are (only) the "beginning of sorrows" (v. 8). Indeed, these three signs have been features throughout most of human history. But, the account suggests these are factors that will worsen over time as we come nearer to Christ's return.

The account in Revelation 6 is even more explicit. John's vision, inspired by Christ Himself, projected him forward in time to the "Lord's day" (Revelation 1:10). In the context of the book, this refers to an unprecedented Importantly, these four horses *ride together*, killing as they go with the sword, with famine, with death (pestilences) and with wild beasts. These four scourges ravish "the fourth part of the earth." This phrase carries the chilling connotation that one out of four human beings on planet Earth will die at this time, just prior to Christ's intervention. If so, the loss of life would be truly "off the scale" and unprecedented in all of human history. Interestingly, Scripture does not tell us the precise size of the "wild beasts" that will kill so many human beings. Superbugs remind us that the tiniest microorganism may prove just as deadly as the largest carnivore!

But There Is Good News!

To our modern generation, brought up to believe that diseases are being conquered, and will continue to be conquered, the Bible's account may scarcely seem be-

SUPERBUGS REMIND US THAT THE TINIEST MICROORGANISM MAY PROVE JUST AS DEADLY AS THE LARGEST CARNIVORE!

series of events that signal the end of humanity's rule over planet Earth and the outpouring of God's intervention in world affairs. It is a time of such great trouble that unless Christ intervened, all life would be extinguished from the earth (Matthew 24:21–22).

The first four seals depicted in Revelation 6 are commonly called *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*. The figure sitting on the white horse has a bow (the symbol of conquest) and a crown. He goes forth bent on conquest. The rider of the red horse brings war. The rider of the black horse brings famine. The rider of the pale horse brings death (Gr. *thanatos*) and the grave. Although not directly referred to as the bringer of pestilence or disease, this is the strong inference (see *NIV* and *ESV* translations). In the Old Testament, the Hebrew term for pestilence, *deber*, is translated in the Septuagint by the Greek word *thanatos*, meaning death. lievable. Yet it is often when civilized society becomes seriously disrupted that the horsemen of war, famine and disease ride together. From time to time one horse or another may take the lead; war, after all, can lead to famine and disease, but famines and disease can also precipitate

wars. If superbugs become part of the mix (and why not?), the combined effect will be even greater.

No doubt many of you reading these words will be alive to witness these earth-shattering events. On God's own authority, the Holy Bible, the day will come when the thin and delicate "crust of civilization" we enjoy will crumble and disintegrate before our very eyes. Arguably, this is already happening in several countries! But war, famine and pestilence will run amok when The Four Horsemen commence their fateful ride across planet Earth.

Thankfully, the good news is that the suffering they inflict will come to an end when Christ intervenes to save the world and establish God's Kingdom over all the earth. At that time He will usher in an unprecedented age of peace and happiness, when wars, famines, pestilences—superbugs included—will cease to be a problem.

MAY WE SUGGEST?

Does God Heal Today? When the world is ravaged by plagues that no medicines can cure, will you humble yourself to seek divine healing? Request a **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.





The Value of Competitive Sports

n his letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul drew a direct comparison between the Christian life and an athletic competition. This comparison would have caught the attention of his readers, as Corinth was the site of the Isthmian games, a great athletic festival that was similar to the Olympic games of today. The highlight of the Isthmian games was a great endurance race. It was this race that Paul used as an illustration to depict the Christian life. Notice what Paul wrote: "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified" (1 Corinthians 9:24-27).

Some people think that all competition is "bad." However, that is not the case. Certainly there is a wrong kind of competition—the kind that does not take into account an outgoing concern and love for others—but that does not mean all competition is evil.

Like Paul, we too must run the race that is set before us in such a way that we may obtain the prize. He understood the dedication needed to become a champion! Paul knew that if he would remain faithful to his calling, and his mission, he would receive a reward. Having seen others forsake their calling (2 Timothy 4:10) Paul recognized that the loss of the victor's crown was a very real possibility for any believer. Paul was a focused competitor with a clearly defined goal—being born into the Family of God. He faithfully fought the good "fight" to the very end. In his last letter, written shortly before his death, we discover that he accomplished his goal (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

In these verses the Apostle Paul used physical examples to teach spiritual lessons. The lessons that can be learned through competing in sports have strong

By competing with those who are more accomplished than ourselves we are pushed to elevate our level of play. spiritual ramifications. Spiritual character is either developed or eroded when competing in athletics. Competition does bring out the best, and sometimes the worst in people. It is the responsibility of the coaches and officials to deal firmly and swiftly when unsportsmanlike conduct is displayed, and to promote and encourage good behavior. Moments like these provide ex-

cellent opportunities to teach the correct values—godly values. In team competition, when the pressure is on, and the score is close in the final seconds of the game, our character is tested. Similarly our character is proven when competing as individuals.

Growth After Defeat?

How do we react to defeat when we lose a foot-race, a tennis match or a game of basketball? How do we handle a loss? As Christians, we should learn from our failures and use them as springboards for growth. Our skills are perfected through the process of success and failure. We should never let failure destroy us. In sports,



as in life, we do not always win, and we are not always successful. But, dealing with a loss can be good for our character development. When we lose—and it will happen we should never take it out on our opponent, our team, or the officials. We must learn to

UCLA basketball coach John Wooden exemplified the value of character in athletics.

take it in stride. Good sportsmanship means congratulating winners promptly and willingly. It also means accepting the game's outcome without complaint and without excuses, even if we feel the officials made a few wrong calls. Keep in mind; the officials are humans who are doing their best, and do not intentionally make "bad calls."

Conversely, how do we react when we win? Is our conduct appropriate for a Christian? Doing what is right, fair and honorable should always be more important than winning. Winners should never gloat, be condescending or demeaning to their opponents. When we win we should be gracious, and should let our victories speak for themselves. Winners should also always look for ways to compliment their opponents.

Winners and losers should shake hands, and show respect for their opponents, teammates, coaches and the officials. All of us will experience both the joy of victory, and the pain of defeat. It is how we react to these that is important. Coach John Wooden, the head basketball coach at UCLA who won ten NCAA championships in twelve years (1964–1975), including an unprecedented seven in a row, said it well: "It is normal to enjoy praise and to dislike criticism. True character is when you prevent either from affecting you in a negative manner" ("John Wooden Quotes," *AZQuotes.com*).

Opponents, Not Enemies

Too many athletes mistakenly view the competition as the "enemy." In the context of competitive sport, an opponent is **not** an enemy. In an important sense, our athletic opponents are our partners, and the better they are, the more opportunity we will have to play to our potential. One of the best ways to dramatically improve our game and raise our training to the next level is to find athletes more skilled or experienced than



ourselves with whom we can practice and compete. While it is comforting to be the best, the fastest or the

strongest, it will not help us improve as quickly in the long run. What will launch our training ahead is to continually challenge ourselves by going up against tougher and tougher competition—and our competition will always challenge us more than we can ourselves.

We must learn to rise to the challenges we face. By competing with those who are more accomplished than



Lew Alcindor, later Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, played for Coach Wooden on three consecutive NCAA championship teams from 1967–69.

ourselves we are pushed to elevate our level of play. We develop new skills and push ourselves beyond what we thought we were capable of achieving in such situations. Good athletes have the potential to be excellent role models, capable of lifting up others. Their examples and

positive actions can inspire, motivate and challenge those around them. Not only are our physical abilities enhanced through competition in sports, our character is enhanced and strengthened as well. Competitive sports are a powerful tool that can be used to instill godly values and teach proper Christian conduct. This is why the Apostle Paul used a competitive race as an illustration to depict the Christian life!

—Sheldon Monson

PLAY GOD? CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth'" (Genesis 1:27–28). At first, God created *only* the man. "And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him'" (Genesis 2:18).

So, the woman was created to be a "helper" for the man—to be his companion; to enlarge his horizons physically, mentally and emotionally. And, obviously, when you look at the big picture, you will see that this helpmate is what makes possible the creation of the entire *family structure*. For God calls Himself "Father" in the New Testament. And *He* intends to build His Family and make us His **full sons**. We *learn* this through the institution

IF TWO MEN "MARRY" EACH Other, which one is going to bear the children?

of the human family. Men and women learn to *submit to one another*, forgive each other, care for each other, and **love** each other in a special way. This the Bible tells us in a number of ways—pictures the relationship between Jesus Christ and the Church. The inspired Word of God tells us: "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. There-

fore, 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).

If two *men* "marry" each other, which one is going to bear the children? Will one "pretend" to bring the fem-



inine qualities into the relationship-or will they admit there is no masculine-feminine partnership or bond in their "marriage"? If they adopt children, will those children ever have the example of a "man being a man" and a "woman being a woman"? Already, even in marriages between men and women, Satan has launched an attack on the very idea of "husband and wife"-each with distinct gender roles and duties to complement one another in the family relationship. Now, with same-sex "marriage" it is as if everything is "up for grabs." Can any long-term good come from this rebellion against long-standing social and biological realities?

No way!

For all the lessons of marriage, of building a family together, of natural love and submitting to one another in the various roles that God has intended—**all** of this is lost in the strange relationships that people are now trying to imagine as "marriages" between two people of the same sex. This is truly **perverting** the entire purpose of God making us male and female in the first place!

Over decades to come, **if** we allowed this destruction of the normal family to occur, it would *tear to pieces any* society in which it is practiced. That, of course, is one reason that Jesus Christ **must** come back to this earth to *save mankind from itself*!

For we are now on the verge of more and more "sex change" operations being performed so human beings can try to be some-

> thing they are **not** intended to be. Even the very idea of gender is under attack by confused, misguided people who think they can "decide" to be male one day and female the next, and "in-between" some other time. What nonsense!



And if you think "same-sex marriage" is the last of it, **think again**! For, as we—particularly in the American and British-descended nations—*totally turn away* from Almighty God and His Word, degrading ourselves by going wholesale into polygamy, polyandry and finally *group marriages*, then no doubt "bestiality" at the end, God will **not** be mocked! He will begin to intervene in a way He has not done for thousands of years! For, my friends, we really are at the very time of the **end** foretold numerous places in your Bible!

Now, more than ever, it seems that Satan wants to confuse mankind and blot out the very basic human family relationship—the same relationship on which our destiny is predicated as actual sons of God the Father, into whose Family true Christians are destined to be resurrected (Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5). Yes, true Christians will become real sons of the God "kind"—not just some adopted "other kind" like sheep or goats. For this is what your Bible really teaches—and is what Satan wants you to forget or even to deny!

Speaking specifically to the ancestors of today's American and British-descended peoples, God

warned: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children" (Hosea 4:6). Because our people have not been taught the "Law" of our Creator, they have turned aside into every form of perversion. The ministers of this world have not taught them the deep respect they should have for Him and for His ten great laws-the Ten Commandments. In this magazine, we constantly explain, expound and reinforce the concept of truly obeying the Ten Commandments and living by every Word of God-not through our own human will, but with the help of the indwelling Holy Spirit that lets us develop the very mind of God in all we think, say and do. It is the mind of God, not of man, that has the ultimate answers!

Satan wants each of us to think that we know better than the God who created us! So, falling for his snares, humankind is trying to "play God" in defiance of the Creator-the God of the Bible! In every way, this will lead to **destruction**-the dashing of hopes and joy for human beings, the destruction of any society that permits this, and the ultimate destruction or "cosmocide" if mankind were allowed to continue on with its own ideas. For the Word of Almighty God tells us clearly: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12). I hope and pray that **all** of you subscribers to Tomorrow's World begin to prove that the basic truths of the Bible are genuine truth-that they are to be followed and obeyed not only individually but by any society that intends to continue. May God help each of you to start **studying** the inspired Word of God and learn to "feed on Christ" (John 6:57) and drink in of the mind of God and learn to think as God thinks!

Then, you will be able to fulfill the **purpose** for which you were created in the first place. May God help you to "wake up"—to "come out" of this modern Babylon (Revelation 18:4)—and to *fulfill* the *purpose* for which God created *every human being* made in His image.

MAY WE SUGGEST?

What Is a True Christian? Will you resist the secular anti-God movement that is sweeping across our world? Request a **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.



TURNING POINTS

Abram Becomes Abraham

hy do we think and believe the way we do? What has molded and shaped our perspectives over the centuries? What has made the world the way it is? In this series, we are going to focus on individuals, ideas and events that have had a *major impact* on the world and *changed* the course of history. While many today assume the flow of history is random—that things just happen—others suspect there is evidence of purpose and direction, and that an *outside force* is guiding history. In spite of what critics believe, the Bible makes numerous claims that God determines the rise and fall of nations, and guides the course of history (Job 12:23; Daniel 2:21; 4:17).

In these Turning Points columns, we will look at evidence indicating there is a God who is working out a plan on this earth and that He has used individuals and nations to accomplish His purposes. It is quite an amazing story—especially when we are willing to view the Bible as history and not just a book of fables.

One of the most remarkable men we encounter in the biblical record is Abram, whom God renamed Abraham (Genesis 17:5). He lived in the city of Ur in southern Mesopotamia about 2000Bc—about 350 years after the biblical flood and more than a century before the famous Babylonian king Hammurabi. Abraham's life and influence, when viewed from a historical perspective, proved to be a *major turning point* in civilization's history. "He was born into a world where idolatry and the worship of multiple gods were universal. He died with the practice of monotheism [the worship of one supreme God] firmly implanted, never to be extinguished" (*The Mark of a Giant*, Ted Stuart, p. 3). Three great monotheistic faiths of our modern world trace their roots to Abraham.

Abraham's God Before Abraham

However, Abraham did not "invent" monotheism. According to the Bible, God was known to Noah (an ancestor of Abraham who lived centuries earlier) and to previous generations back to Adam. Yet, over time, knowledge of the true God and His way of life was rejected and lost. The Bible records that God spoke to Abraham when he was about 75 years old and worked with him for one hundred years (Genesis 12:4; 25:7). During that century of personal instruction, God saw Abraham's faith and obedience (Genesis 12:1-4; 22) and his unselfishness and big-mindedness (Genesis 13:7-12). God also provided Abraham with moral instruction (Genesis 12:10-20; 20:1-18), and Abraham saw the terrible consequences of moral depravity when God destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for their sinful actions. Because of Abraham's faith and obedience to God's commandments and instructions (Genesis 26:5), God made promises to Abraham and his descendants that would have a major impact on the history of the world far into the future.

Scripture reveals that God took a special interest in Abraham to train him to be the individual who would teach his descendants about his experience with the one true God (Genesis 18:19) and eventually become the "father of the faithful"—future generations of believers (Romans 4:11-16). God was preparing Abraham to *change the course of history*—to *restore* the knowledge of the one true God in a world dominated by idolatry and polytheism (the worship of many gods).

Abraham's God Is Unique

However, it was not just monotheism that Abraham introduced to the ancient pagan world. It was the worship of a God who is unique in all of history. The God of the Bible and the God of Abraham is not an impersonal force, but He is a personal God who walked, talked, instructed and advised Abraham (See Genesis 18). The God of Abraham operates by ethical standards—not by caprice. The Babylonian flood story records that the gods sent a flood to destroy human beings who were making too much noise, which somehow disturbed the gods. The Genesis account records that God sent a flood to end a human civilization that had become evil, wicked, corrupt and filled with violence (see Genesis 6). Noah and his family were saved because Noah was righteous, not because he was a favorite of the supposed "gods." The biblical account is concerned with ethics and morals; the Babylonian account depicts whimsical actions of capricious gods. The ethical God of biblical monotheism is concerned with absolute values of right and wrong. The one true God has one moral standard for all mankind—and it applies to people as well as their leaders. One author has observed, "Words cannot convey the magnitude of the change wrought by the Hebrew Bible's introduction into the world of a God who rules the universe morally" ("Ethical Monotheism," Prager, JewishVirtualLibrary.org).

The God of the Bible who spoke to Abraham *cares* about His creation, and He is *involved* in the lives of those with whom He is working. God's plan for man-



Abraham and Lot go their separate ways

kind involves everyone. This caring God created human beings to be capable of *caring for others*. The God of the Bible who made human beings in His image (Genesis 1:26-28), views all human life as sacred which is why human sacrifice and murder—whether of adults, children or the unborn—are evil and wrong (Genesis 4:8-12; Exodus 20:13). The God of Abraham also demands *holiness* among His followers (Leviticus 19:2), which involves showing love to neighbors and treating others as you would like to be treated (Leviticus 19:18).

Turning Away from Pagan Gods

The knowledge of a personal, all-powerful, ethical, caring God of the Bible that Abraham experienced and

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transmitted to his descendants was *totally different* from the cold, insensitive, impersonal and powerless idols of

the polytheistic nations of Abraham's day. Abraham and his descendants rejected the pagan fertility rites and sexual perversions practiced by neighboring nations, and they emphasized that the true God required sexual morality in His followers. The God of Abraham required honesty, right conduct, and respect for human life among all people—including their leaders. As one author notes, "Wherever Abraham's influence has been most powerfully found, philosophy and religion have been very different from where there is no such influence" (Stewart, p. 20).

While modern critics and scholars prefer to ignore biblical accounts, history and biblical evidence reveal that Abraham's life and legacy and the God he encountered have had a *remarkable* and *lasting* impact on the world. The influence of ethical monotheism that God used Abraham to *re-introduce* to the world *changed* the course of history—and that influence remains today, in our world where half of its peoples follow a monotheistic faith with roots that go back to Abraham. The life and teachings of Abraham about the one true God represent a *major turning point* in the history of the world one that still determines how we think and what we believe today! The God of Abraham is *alive*. He has a *plan*. He is still working in people's lives and He continues to *guide* the course of history.

—Douglas S. Winnail

STICKS AND STONES

Give your neighbor a break. Choose kind words.

A nyone who watches the news these days, or observes the world scene around us, has to be struck by the lack of civility that has become so common. We see this in news reporting and in the news events themselves. We see it in daily interactions between people across all walks of life. There is a strident tone, a hard edge in many—if not most—exchanges that involve differences of opinion. Whether it is on the floor of Congress, in the chambers of Parliament, on the streets of our cities from bedroom to board room, in countries large and small—contention seems to be the spirit of the times.

Imputing of motives, name-calling and hurling insults seem to be the order of the day. Shockingly, many of the news programs cultivate that coarse approach in their presentation or coverage of the news. Raised voices, stepping on each others' lines and interrupting the person who is speaking is a standard format being employed by many if not most "news" outlets on television. I can only assume that the networks have taken surveys revealing that their viewers **want** this kind of raucous presentation of the news.

Our Angry World

Unsurprisingly, this attitude has hit the streets. We often read of "road rage," triggered by some minor incident, resulting in a fight or even a shooting.

Workplace violence often starts with harsh words between fellow workers or between a worker and a supervisor or manager. My wife recently had an unpleasant experience at a supermarket. While standing in a long line of folks waiting to check out, a woman with a few items stepped in front of the line. With a glaring look, she exclaimed in a loud voice to

> those patiently waiting their turn, "You got a problem with this?" It was a tense and stressful moment, but the rude shopper's actions totally intimidated the other customers. No one spoke up, and the incident passed without further confrontation.

What we say and how we say it does have an impact, either positively or negatively, on others. It may not surprise you to know that your Bible has a lot to say on this important subject. We read: "There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health" (Proverbs 12:18). Yes, words can cause deep wounds, so we should be very careful how we use them. A thoughtless taunt or

Words can hurt. How we use them can have a great impact on our life and the lives of those around us. a careless barb can be painful, and may cause irreparable damage to a relationship.

The book of Proverbs gives further priceless instruction on this important subject. It is written: "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger" (Proverbs 15:1). If we want to avoid stirring up anger and resentment in

others, we should carefully consider the tone and inflection of our voice. Often it is not **what** we say but **how** we say it that causes friction and animosity with others. When we speak with our spouse, our children, our fellow workers and those who serve us in the marketplace, we should consider the impact of our words. Do we build others up, or do we tear them down?

Try a Little Kindness

To paraphrase the "Golden Rule" given by Jesus Christ in Luke 6:31, "And just as you want others to speak to you, you also speak to them likewise."

When you were a child, you probably heard the old saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me." That was a lie. Words can hurt. How we use them can have a great impact on our life and the lives of those around us.

Once again, the book of Proverbs puts it in perspective with these lines, "Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones" (Proverbs 16:24). Which will you choose, "sticks and stones" or "sweetness to the soul and health to the bones"?

-J. Davy Crockett, III

LETTERS TO TY TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

I would like to thank the Creator God and am grateful for how He inspired you to provide a very detailed answer to the question about "spiritual communism" in the "Questions and Answers" section of your July-August 2015 issue. You have expounded the truth about the matter with scriptural links to support your explanations. I also appreciate Richard F. Ames' article on "The Truth About Hell" in the same issue. It is well written and presented, very clear. Thank you to all writers and editors of the TW. May God bless this work right to the return of Christ and beyond! A. A., Kokopo, ENB, Papua New Guinea

Just finished reading "Satan's War On Family Values" (November-December 2015) by Roderick C. Meredith. What an article! I just hope people will read it, and reread it carefully, because it is a real jewel. It so well describes what is presently going on in our society.

W. H., Gatineau, Quebec, Canada

Your September-October 2015 article, "Deflation! It can steal your wealth and rock the world," has partially answered questions I have had regarding precious metals and our national debt. My mother (b. 1905, Germany) lived through inflation and deflation (in Germany as well as America's Great Depression) and feared deflation more! During the Great Depression the price of gold was initially set at \$20.67 per ounce, and it gained purchasing power as consumer price levels fell. In 1933, the U.S. government raised the price of gold to \$35 per ounce through a formal devaluation of the dollar: gold gained more purchasing power. However, President Franklin D. Roosevelt confiscated gold bullion by executive order in concert with the devaluation, but exempted "rare and unusual" gold coins. As a result, only those citizens who owned gold coins dated before 1933 were able to profit from the higher fixed prices. Your article seems to be "right on." Thank you.

H. S., Melbourne, Florida

I feel saddened to write to you, and about your publication *Tomorrow's World*, when all you do is criticize others' faiths, when deep down every faith has the same objective. There is a famous saying by Jesus, "Judge as you will be judged," and I don't think I would want to be in your shoes. If you want to discuss this further, you have my address, but I don't think I will hear anything more from you, coward!

D.B., United Kingdom

Editor's Note: Many misunderstand Jesus' wellknown command, "Judge [condemn] not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?" (Matthew 7:1-3). Was He saying Christians must choose not to use their powers of discernment, or that they must deny the difference between Christian and unChristian conduct? Of course not! Jesus taught us, "You will know them by their fruits" (Matthew 7:16). Today's Christians are "strangers and pilgrims on the earth" (Hebrews 11:13), and as such do not seek authority within the political and judicial systems of this world, though we remain subject to the civil authorities within the bounds of God's law (Romans 13:1-7). As such, we do not pass our own self-appointed sentences on those around us. Even Jesus Himself, in the matter of the woman taken in adultery, did not pronounce a sentence upon her; but He did command her: "Go and sin no more" (cf. John 8). As for your statement that "every faith has the same objective," this demonstrates great naïvete regarding the very real differences not only in what the various faiths desire and expect for an eternal reward, but in the conduct expected of those seeking that reward.

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OF HIS HANDS

Inside the Atom

ave you ever seen a child at play with blocks or other building toys? Many a little boy and girl have spent an afternoon stacking and combining building blocks—sometimes made of plastic and sometimes of wood—creating whatever shapes and structures strike their fancy. Perhaps in their imaginary world they are constructing the buildings of a busy city street, or crafting the walls and towers of a castle, ready for adventure.

It just so happens that when the Creator God crafted the very *real* world around us, He did something not so very different at all! The entire material substance of this universe—from the giant stars shining in the nighttime sky to the wisps of hair falling on a child's forehead—is constructed from a remarkably small set of beautifully engineered "building blocks" called *atoms*.

Though each individual atom is so tiny as to be completely undetectable by all but the most powerful specialized devices, atoms together form the substance of all matter in the universe, and their design testifies to the existence of a supreme Engineer of the cosmos. So, by entering the world of the atom, what can we learn of its Creator?

The World Within

Just how small is an atom, anyway? Well, imagine you could *shrink* to the size of the period at the end of this sentence. Even then, you would still have much, much, *much* further to shrink to reach the seemingly impossible smallness of atoms, which are about one ten-*billionth* of a meter across! Roughly three *million* atoms could fit side-by-side across the diameter of that period! In fact, the number of atoms in a common household sugar cube is equivalent to the estimated number of stars in the *entire universe*. Truly the utter *smallness* of the atom is mind-boggling!

And yet, this infinitesimal unit of matter is not some indiscriminate and featureless object. The humble atom possesses a precisely designed structure that makes it the perfect building block for the remarkable cosmos we see around us.

Were we to shrink further—so small that the atom seemed the size of a large, professional sports stadium—we might be surprised to find that inside the atom there is mostly empty space! Yet there, in the center, we find a vital part of the atomic structure: its *nucleus*. If our atom were the size of the stadium, its nucleus would be the size of a *green pea!* Yet it is the tiny nucleus that gives each atom its fundamental characteristics.

Protons and Neutrons

The nucleus of an atom contains two kinds of subatomic particles: positively charged *protons* and neutrally charged *neutrons*. Elements are distinguished by the number of protons in an atom's nucleus. Hydrogen atoms have just one lonely proton. Oxygen atoms have eight, while carbon atoms have twelve. The largest naturally occurring atom, uranium, has 92 protons.

In physics, "like" charges repel and "opposite" charges attract, much like what any child experiences when playing with magnets. Yet this does not apply in the nucleus of the atom! A fundamental physical phenomenon known as the "strong nuclear force" binds neutrons and protons together so they do not fly away from each other. Together, they form a stable nucleus that gives each atom its small yet vital "heart."

While the nucleus at the center defines the atom's identity and properties, the outer shells of each atom are occupied by negatively charged particles called *electrons*. Once thought to orbit the nucleus like planets orbit around the sun, electrons are now known to move in a much more remarkable fashion, jumping around the nucleus from place to place in well-defined "shells" based on their energy levels and determined by the laws of quantum mechanics.

It is the attraction between these different charges—the positive charge of the proton and the negative charge of the electron—that binds electrons to the atom and keeps them in "orbit" about the nucleus, giving the atom its shape and structure.

Because the electrons moving about in their shells form the outside of the atom, they play the most crucial role in chemistry. For instance, when two hydrogen atoms combine with one oxygen atom to form water (giving it the chemical formula H_2O), it is the mutual sharing of their outer electrons that creates the powerful bond between the individual atoms that forms the water molecule.

Building Block of the Universe

This is just one demonstration of the *fine tuning* built into the atom, which makes it the remarkable "building block" it is. The attraction between protons and electrons needs to be *strong* enough that the electrons do not simply fly away from the atom, yet it needs to be *weak* enough that the electrons can interact with *other* atoms to form the chemical bonds that build the world around us.

There are so many aspects of the atom that make it a wonder of precision engineering! As physicist Stephen Hawking noted in his best-selling book, A Brief History of Time: "The laws of science, as we know them at present,



contain many fundamental numbers, like the size of the electric charge of the electron and the ratio of the masses of the proton and the electron.... The remarkable fact is that the values of these numbers seem to have been very finely adjusted to make possible the development of life" (p. 125).

If the atom were anything other than the precisely engineered creation that it is, then ours might be a universe without stars, without chemistry, without matter—without *us!* Thankfully, though, the atom is a wonder of engineering and design—composed of protons, neutrons, and electrons moving about and interacting in a beautiful and intricate dance, with the laws of physics as their music!

The result of this exquisite dance of particles and forces—the atom—is a master building block, which God



has crafted and wielded to create the astonishing universe around us! Everything we see from the cold, austere

granite of the Rocky Mountains to the bright, lively eyes of a laughing child—is crafted of these remarkable little wonders: atoms. The ingenuity of their design is truly a tribute to the ingenious God who made them.

While surely the Apostle Paul had the spirit world in mind, reflecting on the amazing role that these miniscule, atomic building blocks play in the Creation around us, one cannot help but recall his admonition: "By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible" (Hebrews 11:3).

Wonderfully Made!

King David wondered at the remarkable design of his own body and declared to God in praise, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14). The hard-won knowledge of chemists and physicists through the centuries has only taught us that the wonder David felt at his design does not cease the closer one looks—it only grows. Not only are we, ourselves, fearfully and wonderfully made, the very "stuff" of which we are made is, *itself*, a wonder to behold.

We can look at the majesty of the nighttime sky and observe the vastness of space and the stars that surround us and feel the awe that comes with recognizing that your Creator lives! But the atom teaches us that not only at the scale of the very large, but also at even the *tiniest* and most *unimaginably miniscule* of scales, the fingerprint of our Creator is present.

-Wallace G. Smith

TOMORPAN'S TELEVISION LOG

AUSTRALIA					KENYA					UK & NV	VE	UROPE		
Nationwide	7Two		SU 7:	:00 a.m.	Nationwide	Family I	Med	ia TV MO/W	/E 7:30 p.m.	CBS Action		Freeview		SU 8:30 a.m.
BARBADOS					NEW ZE	ALAND				CBS Action		Sky TV 14		SU 8:30 a.m.
St. Michael	CBC 8		SU 9	:30 a.m.	Nationwide	Prime T	V	S	U 8:30 a.m.	CBS Drama CBS Drama		Freeview Sky TV 14		SA 7:30 a.m. SA 7:30 a.m.
JAMAICA					SOUTH A	FRICA				CBS Reality		Freeview		SU 7:30 a.m.
Kingston	TVJ		SU 7:	:00 a.m.	Nationwide	CTV/SA		S	U 11:00 a.m.	CBS Reality		Sky TV 14	16	SU 7:30 a.m.
					TRINIDA	D & TOBA	G	0		Gospel		Sky TV 5		M0 7:00 p.m.
					Port of Spain	CNC3-TV	1	2	U 7:00 a.m.	WORD (TWN))	Sky TV 5 Sky TV 5		WE 6:00 a.m. MO 12:30 a.m.
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CANADA		1000	AK	Anchorage	GCI	SA 10:00 p.m.		Chicago	WJYS	FR 10:00 a.m.		Duluth	KDLH	SU 7:00 a.m.
Nationwide Netwo	orks (All tin	nes Eastern)	<u>с</u> .,	Anchorage	KYUR	SU 6:00 a.m.		Moline	Mediacom	MO 5:00 p.m.		Duluth	Public Access	SA 11:00 a.m.
Vision		SU 5:30 p.m.		Fairbanks	KATN	SU 6:00 a.m.		Peoria	WHOI	SU 7:00 a.m.		Duluth	Public Access	SU 7:00 p.m.
	MO	-FR 3:00 a.m.		Juneau	KJUD	SU 6:00 a.m.		Quincy	WGEM	SU 7:00 a.m.		Minneapolis	MCN	SA 8:30 a.m.
СНСН		SU 8:30 a.m.		Dothan	WTVY	SU 7:00 a.m.		Springfield	Insight	TU 5:00 a.m.		Minneapolis	MCN	SU 8:30 a.m.
GIGH		50 0.50 a.m.	AL	Montgomery		SU 7:00 a.m.		Springfield	Insight	TU 1:00 p.m.		Minneapolis	MTN	TH 12:00 a.m.
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		orn time)	AR	Fort Smith	KHBS	SU 7:00 a.m.	ш					Minneapolis	NWCT	SU 4:30 a.m.
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Angel One		SU 8:00 p.m.	112	Prescott	Community	SA 5:30 p.m.	KS	Parsons	TWPAR	WE 7:00 p.m.		Rochester	KTTC	SU 7:00 a.m.
		WE 7:00 p.m.			20.00			Salina	SCAT	TH 5:00 p.m.		Roseville	CTV	TU 8:00 p.m.
1.2.2.2		TH 9:00 a.m.	CA	Bakersfield	KGET	SU 8:00 a.m.		Salina	SCAT	FR 5:00 p.m.		Roseville	CTV	WE 4:00 a.m.
CW Plus		SU 8:00 a.m.		Chico	KHSL	SU 8:00 a.m.		Salina	SCAT	SA 9:00 a.m.		Roseville	CTV	WE 12:00 p.m.
		MO 2:00 a.m.		Eureka	KUVU-LP	SU 8:00 a.m.		Salina	SCAT	SU 7:00 p.m.				
IMPACT		SU 11:00 p.m.		Monterey	KION	SU 8:00 a.m.	101					St. Paul	NDHU. Networ	k SU 8:30 p.m.
	-			Orange County	/ Time Warner	M0 5:00 p.m.	KY	Bowling Gree		SU 7:00 a.m.	MO	Columbia	KOMU	SU 7:00 a.m.
WORD Networl		SU 7:30 p.m.		Palm Springs	KCWQ	SU 8:00 a.m.		Latonia	PEG	WE 5:30 p.m.		Joplin	KFJX	SU 8:30 a.m.
		WE 1:00 a.m.		Palm Springs	KCWQ-LP	SU 8:00 a.m.		Latonia	PEG	TH 12:00 a.m.		Kansas City	KCWE	SU 7:30 a.m.
	1	FR 7:00 p.m.		Sacramento	RCCTV	M0 5:30 p.m.		Lexington	Insight	Various*	мс	Biloxi	WXXV	SU 7:00 a.m.
8.53%	2.8	2018		Salinas	KION	SU 8:00 a.m.	LA	Alexandria	KBCA	SU 7:00 a.m.	CIT	Columbus	WCBI	SU 7:00 a.m.
DISH Network* (All	l times Eas	tern)		San Francisco	Access	WE 8:00 p.m.		Baton Rouge	WGMB	SU 9:00 a.m.		Greenwood	WBWO	SU 7:00 a.m.
and the second sec		SU 8:00 p.m.		Conservation of the second				Lafayette	KATC	SU 7:00 a.m.				
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		TH 9:00 a.m.		Naugatuck	Tele-Media	MO 9:30 p.m.						Jackson	Time Warner	WE 4:00 p.m.
Impact C	h 9397	SU 11:00 p.m.		New Haven	WZME	SU 11:00 p.m.	MA	A Malden	Access	SU 11:00 a.m.		Meridian	WTOK	SU 7:00 a.m.
		00 m00 pm		Des Moines	KCWI	SU 7:00 a.m.		North Adams	NBCTC	WE 8:00 p.m.	MT	Billings	KTVQ	SU 7:00 a.m.
DIRECTV* (All times	s Eastern)						ME) Baltimore	Community	SU 9:00 a.m.		Butte	KBZK	SU 7:00 a.m.
WORD	Ch. 373	SU 7:30 p.m.	FL	Gainesville	WCJB	SU 8:00 a.m.		Westminster	Adelphia	TH 10:00 a.m.		Butte	KXLF	SU 7:00 a.m.
		WE 1:00 a.m.		Jacksonville	WCWJ	SU 6:30 a.m.		Westminster	Adelphia	FR 10:00 a.m.		Glendive	KWZB	SU 7:00 a.m.
		FR 7:00 p.m.		Panama City	WJHG	SU 7:00 a.m.	M					Great Falls	KRTV	SU 7:00 a.m.
			GA	Augusta	WAGT	SU 8:00 a.m.	MF	Bangor	WABI	SU 8:00 a.m.		Helena	KMTF	SU 7:00 a.m.
WGN Network				Macon	Сох	SU 5:00 p.m.		Brunswick	TV3	SA 8:30 a.m.		Missoula	KPAX	SU 7:00 a.m.
Cable	SU 6:0	00 a.m. ET/PT		Macon	Сох	TU 7:30 a.m.		Brunswick	TV3	SU 6:30 a.m.				
DISH Network		Ch. 239		Macon	Сох	FR 2:00 p.m.		Presque Isle	WBPQ	SU 8:00 a.m.	NC	Charlotte	WAXN	SU 9:00 a.m.
DIRECTV		Ch. 307					MI	Alpena	WBAE	SU 8:00 a.m.		Greenville	WNCT	SU 8:00 a.m.
For the most up-	-to-date li	istings please	' IA	Dubuque	Mediacom	MO 3:30 p.m.		Detroit	Comcast	SU 7:30 a.m.		Hickory	WHKY	M0 7:30 p.m.
go to: Tomorrow				Dubuque	Mediacom	M0 7:30 p.m.		Kalamazoo	CACTV	SU 6:30 a.m.	ND	Fargo	WDAY	SU 7:00 a.m.
1.013	19-7			Dubuque	Mediacom	TU 10:00 a.m.*		Kalamazoo	CACTV	WE 8:30 a.m.				
			ID	Boise	KYUU	SU 7:00 a.m.		Lansing	WLAJ	SU 8:00 a.m.	NH	Hanover	CATV8	TH 7:00 p.m.
			iv.	Idaho Falls	KIFI	SU 7:00 a.m.		Marquette	WBKP	SU 8:00 a.m.		Hanover	CATV8	FR 7:00 a.m.
												Hanover	CATV8	FR 1:00 a.m.
			IL	Chicago	CANTV	Various*	M	Cloquet	MEDCLO	SU 8:00 a.m.		Hanover	CATV8	M0 12:00 a.m.

	Hanover	CATV8	M0 12:00 p.m.		Myrtle Beach	WWMB	SU 8:00 a.m.
NV	Reno	KREN	SU 8:00 a.m.	SD	Rapid City	KWBH	SU 7:00 a.m.
NY	Albany-Troy	Time Warner	M0 3:00 p.m.	TN	Jackson	WBJK	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Batavia	Time Warner	SU 2:00 p.m.		Knoxville	WBXX	SU 7:30 a.m.
	Batavia	Time Warner	TU 5:30 p.m.		La Follette	Comcast-WLAF	
	Batavia	Time Warner	FR 7:30 p.m.		Nashville	WZTV	SU 6:30 a.m.
	Binghamton	Time Warner	WE 10:00 p.m.				
	Binghamton	Time Warner	FR 8:00 p.m.	TX	Abilene	KTXS	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Binghamton	WBNG	SU 8:00 a.m.		Amarillo	KVIH	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Brookhaven	Cablevision	MO 4:30 p.m.		Austin	KNVA	SU 6:00 a.m.
	Brooklyn	BCAT	MO 4:30 p.m.		Beaumont	KBTV	SU 6:30 a.m.
			SU 11:30 a.m.		Beaumont	KFDM	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Canandaigua	Finger Lakes			Corpus Christi	KRIS-DT2	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Elmira	WENY	SU 8:00 a.m.		Laredo	KTXW	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Hauppauge	Cablevision	MO 4:30 p.m.		Lubbock	KLCW	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Manhattan	MNN	SA 7:00 p.m.		Lufkin	KTRE	SU 6:30 a.m.
	Oneida	Access	TH 2:00 p.m.		McAllen	KCWT	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Oneida	Access	TH 7:00 p.m.		Midland	KWES	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Queens	Public Access	M0 11:00 p.m.		Odessa	KWES	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Queens	Public Access	TU 4:30 p.m.		Tyler	KLTV	SU 6:30 a.m.
	Riverhead	Cablevision	SU 7:00 p.m.	VA	Charlottosvillo	Comcast Cable	M0 8:00 a.m.
	Rochester	Finger Lakes	SU 7:00 a.m.	VA	Charlottesville		SU 8:00 a.m.
	Rochester	RCTV	SU 5:00 a.m.		Chesterfield	Comcast	
	Rochester	RCTV	TU 10:00 a.m.*		Fairfax	Public Access	TH 6:30 p.m.
	Syracuse	Time Warner	SU 7:30 p.m.		Norfolk	WSKY	MO 12:00 p.m. SU 9:30 a.m.
OH	Cincinnati	Time Warner	TH 8:30 a.m.				
	Cincinnati	Time Warner	SU 11:30 a.m.	VT	Bennington	CAT	WE 9:30 a.m.
	Cincinnati	Time Warner	TU 1:00 p.m.		Bennington	CAT	WE 12:00 a.m.
	Fairborn	CAC	TU 12:00 p.m.	1	Bennington	CAT	TH 9:30 p.m.
	Lima	WBOH S	U MO 7:00 a.m.		Bennington	CAT	TH 12:00 a.m.
OV	Oklahoma City	VALIT	SU 8:30 a.m.		Bennington	CAT	SA 8:00 a.m.*
UK	Oklahoma City	NAUT	30 0.30 d.III.		Bennington	CAT	SA 4:30 a.m.
OR	Bend	KTVZ	SU 8:00 a.m.		Burlington	Access	WE 2:30 a.m.
	Eugene	KMTR	SU 8:00 a.m.		Burlington	Access	TH 11:00 a.m.
	Medford	KTVL	SU 8:00 a.m.	WA	Everett	Comcast	WE 4:30 p.m.
	Oregon City	Access WFTV	SU 8:00 a.m.		Kennewick	Charter	SU 8:00 p.m.
	Oregon City	Access WFTV	SA 8:00 a.m.		Kennewick	Charter	TU 8:00 p.m.
	Portland	Community	SU 12:30 p.m.				
PA	Allentown	SETV2	FR 4:30 p.m.	WI	La Crosse	WXOW	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Bethlehem	SETV2	FR 4:30 p.m.	WV	Bluefield	WVVA	SU 8:00 a.m.
	Erie	WSEE	SU 8:00 a.m.		Clarksburg	WVFX	SU 8:00 a.m.
	Johnstown		I MO 10:00 p.m.	WY	Casper	KCWY	SU 8:00 a.m.
	Scranton	FOX	TH 5:00 p.m.		Cheyenne	KGWN	SU 8:00 a.m.
	Scranton	FOX	SA 5:00 a.m.				
50	Charleston	WCBD	SU 8:00 a.m.			ings for additio ughout the wee	
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