YOU ARE NOT STUPID! ARE YOU SEEKING GOD?

From Quarry to Garden

– P.8 –



The END OF WAR? From mustard gas to unmanned drones, what has the century since World War I taught us about human nature?

A personal message from the Editor in Chief

Are You **Ready** for Tough Times Ahead?

f you have been following world news, you surely know that the seeds are now being sown to bring about the prophesied "Beast" of Revelation! As Russian-sponsored men in black masks occupy and hold police stations and other key facilities in the Ukraine, the European powers are reminded of how impotent they really are. Having depended upon the nuclear umbrella provided by the United States since World War II, the nations of central Europe now realize that they cannot depend upon America's support in the future.

Increasingly, America is seen around the world as a "paper tiger." As we at Tomorrow's World have pointed out repeatedly, the God of our forefathers warned long ago, "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 will break the **pride** of your **power**; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze" (Leviticus 26:14-15, 19). Yes, although it is rapidly declining, America still has a great deal of power. But as the U.S. has as a whole turned its back on the Creator who gave the nation the power and almost unparalleled wealth it has possessed, its people have become less cohesive, less competent, and increasingly confused about how to use the wealth and the power bestowed upon them.

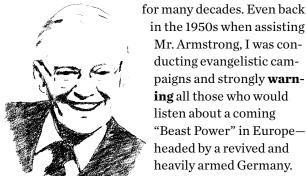
Talk, Talk, Talk

Russia, Ukraine and many other nations around the world are seeing more clearly than ever that the U.S. is now a nation that will do a lot of "talking"—but will not act vigorously to protect its friends as it would have done a generation or two ago.

With such a "power vacuum" created by American weakness, a full-scale European Empire cannot be too many years off! For, as America continues to deteriorate in its morals, and becomes more and more a hedonistic society seemingly without purpose, Almighty God has decreed that a coming "Beast Power" will be His "tool" in humbling us and teaching us lessons!

It is not that this superpower led by the "Beast" will be filled with "bad" people; rather, it is simply that God uses different nations at different times as His instruments to humble those who rebel against Him, and teach the rebels some much-needed lessons. The Bible is full of such warnings. We in this Work have

specifically warned about this



in the 1950s when assisting Mr. Armstrong, I was conducting evangelistic campaigns and strongly warning all those who would listen about a coming "Beast Power" in Europeheaded by a revived and heavily armed Germany. At that time, many scoffed

at this, thinking that Germany could never become a powerful nation again. But it has. It is!

We have shown you repeatedly in the pages of this magazine how Almighty God warned the descendants of ancient Israel that, **if** they would "despise" His statutes and His commandments—as we certainly have done—He would then "break the pride of your power" (Leviticus 26:19). That very prophecy is now being fulfilled big-time! As you watch world events moving along swiftly, I hope all of you begin to really **understand** what is happening to those nations originally composed of the British-descended and American peoples—the descendants of the "Lost Ten Tribes" of Israel!

Leaving God Out?

Truly, when God is "left out," bad things begin to happen! As Scripture tells us, "Where there is no vi-

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Tomorrow's World

sion, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he" (Proverbs 29:18, KJV). Cut off from the true God, individual people and entire nations lose their sense of purpose and their reason for being. Families begin to come apart. Crime and violence begin to escalate. And all manner of perverted **behavior** soon becomes the norm. And, increasingly influenced by the Master Deceiver-Satan the Devil—most people simply do not know why these things are happening.

You Must PREPARE!

So, how can you prepare for what is coming? First and foremost, if God is calling you, be sure to "seek" Him with your whole heart and soul (Deuteronomy 4:29). Read your Bible daily! Do not just glance at it for

As hard as it may be to believe, most of mankind will actually fight against the returning Jesus Christ!

"warm feelings" you may get from Psalms or the Proverbs. Study it—all of it—with all the seriousness at your command, for it is God's very Instruction Manual for your life! As the Apostle Paul told the young Timothy, every word of Scripture is profitable—not only for doctrine, but also for practical instruction in how to live as a Christian (2 Timothy 3:16).

Be sure to read my article, "Do You Seek God?" beginning on page 5 of this issue, for more on this vital topic. You need to use the tools God has provided in order to draw closer to Him!

Also be sure to read Mr. Richard Ames' important article, "Does the Sabbath Matter?" on page 10 of this issue. Although more than two billion human beings alive today call themselves "Christian," how many are really following Christ's example, and receiving the blessings for obedience that God promises (Deuteronomy 28:1)?

Wars and Rumors of Wars

As I mentioned at the start of this brief message, our world is on the brink of the most terrible war it will ever experience. Thankfully, as Christians we can

have in our own lives the "peace of God, which surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7). If we let God do His will in our lives, as we yield to the Holy Spirit—which He gives to repentant Christians upon baptism—we will be able to wage war against the sin in our lives, and experience a foretaste of the coming Kingdom of God.

But we know that, as a society, human beings will have to go through terrible times ahead before the returning Jesus Christ will come to save mankind from self-destruction and utter cosmocide! Perhaps a very few of you reading this magazine were alive a hundred years ago, when World War I began in July of 1914. That war was for a while known as the "War to End All Wars"-but the sad reality was that within a generation World War II brought not only greater carnage but the advent of nuclear weapons. Please read Mr. John Meakin's excellent article, "The End of War?" on page 16 of this issue—it will help you understand and appreciate God's plan that will bring peace to our war-ravaged world.

As hard as it may be for many to believe, Scripture teaches plainly that most of mankind at the end of this age will actually fight against the returning Jesus Christ! "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords



and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful" (Revelation 17:14). It is hard

to imagine how massive the deception of countless millions of human beings will be in order for them to be willing to literally **fight Christ** when He returns as King of kings! Yet that is the deception we must all be preparing to resist!

Dear readers, please draw closer than ever to our Savior, Jesus Christ—while there is still time to be protected from the awful crises ahead of us. And be sure to pray always, "Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10)!

Robert & Merelith

5 Do You Seek God?

Is God real to you? Is He a vital presence in your life, or just some abstract concept that makes no difference? Are you applying the vital scriptural tools that can draw you closer to Him?

10 Does the Sabbath Matter?

Why did God command the ancient Israelites to observe the seventh-day Sabbath, and what importance does His command have for Christians today?

16 The End of War?

As the world reflects on the 100th anniversary of World War I this July, we wonder: will there ever be an end to war? Your Bible gives an encouraging answer!

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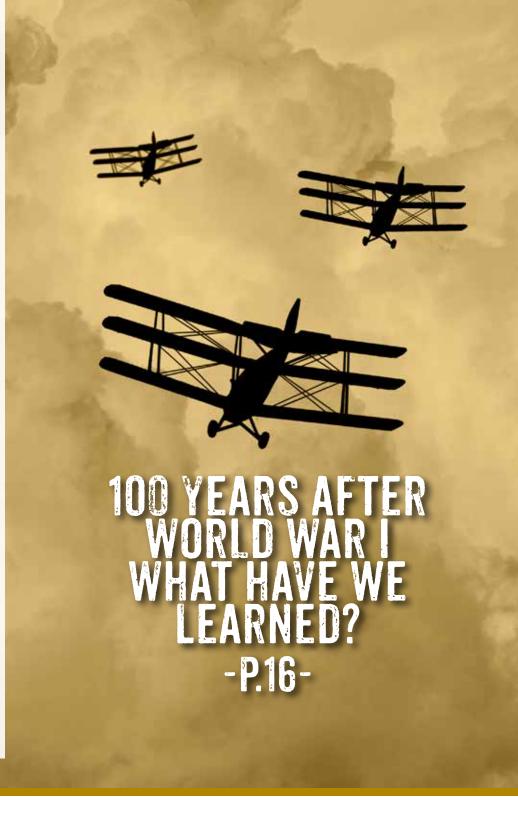
When activity is buzzing all around you, how can you keep your focus?

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By Roderick C. Meredith

do not get into any direct religious appeal or "sermonizing" in these articles for our *Tomorrow's World* magazine. For in this Work we simply want to "tell it like it is"—to give *you* the real facts and let **you** make any decision about what kind of action you should take. But, whatever I write, I try to help all our subscribers *understand* certain aspects of life or prophetic events personally affecting them.

So, because prophetic events are speeding up, and the "pride of power" of the British-descended and American people really *is* being "broken" in an obvious way (Leviticus 26:19), it comes to me that

I am responsible to put before you readers at least the very **basic** things you **must do** to survive the soon-coming trials and tests. For Jesus Christ stated regarding the coming Great Tribulation: "For in those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be" (Mark 13:19).

No! You do **not** need to rush out and "join our church" to be saved!

But your very Creator says over and over in His inspired word that at such a time as this, **anyone** who truly wants the help, the guidance and the divine protection of Almighty God must at the very least begin to sincerely "**seek God,**" **cry out** to God and sincerely and earnestly let Him know that you **do** want the

help and guidance of the One who gives you life and breath! Is that *too much* to ask?

Keep His Testimonies

When instructing the Israelites about *what to do* as they returned from their Babylonian captivity, God

YOU WILL SEEK ME AND FIND ME, WHEN YOU SEARCH FOR ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART. I WILL BE FOUND BY YOU, SAYS THE LORD

stated: "For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive" (Jeremiah 29:10-14). God inspired King David to declare: "Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek **Him** with the **whole heart**!" (Psalm 119:2). *Please* notice that last phrase: "with the whole heart." Many professing Christians half-heartedly seek God. They do a little Bible study, have an occasional prayer session with God and "hope" that that might be enough to give them some special guidance.

However, when Daniel—one of the greatest prophets of all time—was struck with the realization of the *special time* in which he was living, he sought God with all his heart: "Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, 'O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and

rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments'" (Daniel 9:3–5).

So Daniel "set his face" to **seek** God for His guidance and His mercy. And God greatly honored this. For God sent a mighty angel to instruct and encourage Daniel. The angel said: "'O Daniel, man greatly be-

loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.' While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. Then he said to me, 'Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to hum-

ble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia" (Daniel 10:11–13).

Spirit War

Daniel was made to realize that there was a "spirit war" being waged between God's faithful angels and the **demonic** spirits—the "fallen angels" who influenced and guided the pagan nations

around Israel. But God encouraged Daniel and let him know that "from the first day" that Daniel began to truly "seek" God through *fervent prayer*, *fasting* and *confessing* his sins, **God heard**. And now Daniel was given *real understanding* of the tumultuous events beginning to take place all around him. He was



used by God to warn his people. He was powerfully used by God to give us, today, some of the most specific

and powerful prophecies in the entire Bible!

Will you join Daniel and many other great servants of the true God in genuinely "seeking" your Creator and His will for your life?

How To "Seek God"

As the above examples clearly show, Almighty God honors those who seek Him with **all** their hearts (Jeremiah 29:13). He honors those who seek Him through fervent prayer, fasting and repentance (Daniel 9:3–4). Another vital "key" for us today is the

extreme importance of genuine Bible **study**. For those ancient prophets whom we have cited in the above examples

were often in close contact with God in a personal way and genuinely "knew" Him in a way very few today do. In our era, most people have never really known the true God. For Satan the Devil has truly "deceived the whole world" (Revelation 12:9). He has been allowed to "blind" most of the world to the will of the true God (2 Corinthians 4:3-4). Therefore. since we are in this situation today, we must get real. You and I need to genuinely "study" the word of God. For it is the inspired revelation from our Creator. It reveals how God thinks, how He is, and what He will do in various situations. Without this understanding, it is difficult for us to fervently "seek" the true God in the way the ancient prophets did. For most human beings are truly "cut off" from God. They have only known a false God, a false Christ and a false gospel (2 Corinthians 11:3-4).

Please notice what Jesus Christ Himself said: "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who **feeds** on Me will live because of Me" (John 6:56–57). He then went on to say: "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The **words** that I speak to you are **spirit**, and they are **life**" (v. 63). So God's inspired word—the Holy Bible—helps us understand God's will, and gives us **life** eternal in God's Kingdom, **if** we will obey it.

"Feed" on Christ

That is **why** Jesus indicated that we should "feed" on Him and genuinely **study** His words which "are spirit and they are life."

So I urge **all** of you subscribers to "blow the dust off your Bibles," and begin to actually **study** the Bible in a way you have probably never done before. One good plan would be to start out reading through the **entire** New Testament from the beginning. Start with the book of Matthew, and see how Jesus Christ in

His "Sermon on the Mount" (chapters 5–7) "exalted" God's law (Isaiah 42:21)—or "magnified" it (*KJV*)—by explaining **how** human beings are to live. As you genuinely **study** through Matthew, you will begin to understand "the mind of God" as set forth directly by Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

SEEK GOD? CONTINUES ON PAGE 28



Jennie's Garden



North of the city of Victoria, on Vancouver Island, a famous landmark tells a story of transformation and hard work, showing how even in this troubled world, mankind is capable of amazing achievements.

In the 1850s, a young man named George Butchart moved from Dundee, Scotland to the village of Owen Sound, Ontario. Butchart was in the hardware business, and had earlier learned of an English bricklayer's invention of a new material called "Portland cement." It was named after the island of Portland (near Dorset, England), since the new cement product looked a lot like Portland limestone.

Butchart had a son named Robert, who would in time take over his father's hardware business. By 1900, Robert was looking to move. He saw great business potential along Canada's west coast, in the growing colony of British Columbia, so he moved to the colony's biggest city, Victoria.

When Robert learned that the Canadian Pacific Railway sought to replace its wooden rail-bridge bases with concrete ones, he saw an opportunity. Just north of Victoria, he found a large soft limestone deposit suitable for making Portland cement. He bought the property and built a home there with his wife Jennie, next to what would become the quarry and cement works.

The family's fortunes improved dramatically when Robert began to ship cement in paper bags instead of barrels. This made their product cheaper and easier to transport, and demand for it grew. The 1906 San Francisco earthquake caused a huge increase in demand for Portland cement—and Robert met the need, becoming very rich.

Birth of a Project

Eventually, the old limestone quarry became exhausted. With the empty quarry and retired cement works wearing on her nerves, Jennie made frequent appeals to have the whole unsightly place cleaned up. Robert finally acquiesced and gave her free rein to do whatever was needed, money being no object.

Jennie went to work. Part of her motivation came when some of her friends told her bluntly that no one could get anything to grow on that barren rock. Jennie, who had been quite bold and adventurous in her youth, was determined to prove them wrong. But what was she facing? A huge quarry, waterlogged at the bottom, strewn with rusting, abandoned equipment and other debris—it was the very definition of ugly.

Not knowing much about gardening at the time, Jennie hired some expert gardeners, with her husband's backing. She herself worked very hard, sometimes hanging on a rope, 70 feet above the quarry floor, pushing soil and vine roots into cracks in the rocky wall.

Debris was cleaned up, hundreds of horse carts of soil were brought in, and drainage was installed. Between 1909 and 1921 the quarry was slowly transformed and named the "Sunken Garden." Twelve years of work had paid off. During the years between 1907 and 1912 Jennie hired an expert Japanese gardener to build one of the finest examples of a Japanese garden in existence. Her projects were endless, and her work in the quarry eventually became a family effort.

The Remarkable Butchart Gardens

Today the Butchart Gardens have become renowned as one of the top five public gardens on earth. No longer

a place to avoid, people line up by the thousands to see this remarkable display twelve months of the year. A desolate wasteland transformed into a garden of breathtaking beauty—this is what just one hard-working family accomplished. Such an incredible achievement holds lessons of great encouragement.

For one, desolation can be reversed. The quarry was not only wilderness, it was desolate, ugly and lifeless, its natural habitat destroyed. The work of the Butcharts is an encouragement to mankind, giving us confidence that even desolate, ravaged areas of the earth can become beautiful, desirable and productive.

There is great strength unleashed when family members work in harmony under a common cause and leadership. When any large project is successfully completed, it is because people are working together. In this case, Mr. and Mrs. Butchart were in total agreement. Mr. Butchart eventually became more and more inter-



ested in the work and the project expanded. Over the generations, family members continued the work, as

continual effort is essential to maintain such a treasure. The result of just one family working for a common goal over time is one of the most picturesque sites on earth.

There is power in sharing and generosity. The Butchart family wanted people to share this garden. In the early years, hundreds came to view it and, until it got to be impossible, every visitor received a cup of tea in a teahouse built for this purpose. Jennie's joy was magnified when others received pleasure from her work.

There is a story that goes as follows: Jennie was a hands-on gardener. Although very wealthy, she would often be in work clothes tending the garden with her staff. One day two visitors, thinking she was a paid worker, plied her with questions that she took great pleasure in answering. When leaving they offered her a tip, to which she replied: "...Oh, no thank you, the old lady wouldn't like that."

The Butcharts were generous with all they had. Mr. Butchart made sure his family was looked after, but with the surplus he was a most kind man, and his wife followed his example. As a result, hundreds of thousands of people enjoyed their garden. Sharing makes effort seem more worthwhile and enjoyable.

Vision, diligence, and perseverance produce good fruit. Jennie Butchart had a vision and she was willing to overcome great challenges. The Butcharts exemplified industry, the willingness to work hard toward a goal and to struggle to surmount obstacles. Their vision with regard to their garden was to develop something that would render a desolate area beautiful. They never lost the desire to make it better. Vision is essential to bring about the desired result, to stick to the task, and to sustain morale. The Butcharts had a physical vision of a physical garden that would benefit them and their community.

A World Restored

Despite the skepticism of a modern world, the Bible clearly predicts a future ruled by a returned Christ and His Family—resurrected "firstfruits." It describes a world restored from destruction to great beauty, peace and productivity. It will be a time when people will live by God's law, which will produce generosity, kindness, diligence and creativity.

"The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice, even with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellence of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the excellency of our God" (Isaiah 35:1-2).

The Butchart family achieved a great feat, but it is only a minuscule example of what is pictured to come, when God's Kingdom administers His law on this earth, creating a paradise infinitely more spectacular, joyful and lasting than Jennie's magnificent garden.

-Stuart Wachowicz



The Butchart Gardens

Does the Sabbath Matter?

By Richard F. Ames

ifferent religions set aside varying days as holidays and times of worship. While most of the world's 2.1 billion professing Christians worship on Sunday, 1.3 billion Muslims keep Friday as their weekly day of worship. Millions of Jews observe the Sabbath—their day of rest and worship—from sunset on Friday through sunset on Saturday.

Does it matter which days we observe? And does God care when we worship Him, as long as we do worship Him? Most professing Christians just accept whatever their parents or church taught them as tradition. Until I was a young adult, that is what I did, too. When I was a boy, I asked my mother, "Why do we keep Sunday, when the fourth commandment in the Bible teaches us to keep the Sabbath, the seventh day?" She gave me some vague answer, which I accepted at the time. But can you answer that question? Which day is the Christian Sabbath?

Where do today's professing Christians get the idea that Sunday is the Christian day of worship? You may be shocked to learn that some religious sects teach that their church's tradition carries more authority than the Bible! Notice this statement from Anglican theologian Isaac William: "Where are we told in Scripture that we are to keep the first day at all? We are commanded to keep the seventh; but we are nowhere commanded to keep the first day.... The reason why we keep the first day of the week holy instead of the seventh is for the same reason that we observe many other things, not because the Bible, but because the church, has en-

joined it" (*Plain Sermons on the Catechism*, vol. 1, pp. 334, 336).

Is William right? Does the Bible—the word of God—carry less weight than church tradition? What example did Jesus Christ set, Himself? Notice what the Bible says about Jesus' own practice at the start of His ministry. "So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read" (Luke 4:16).

Yes, it was Jesus' regular custom to worship on the Sabbath! What day of the week was that? Since the time of Jesus, and centuries before, the Jewish community has very carefully documented its observance of the seventh-day Sabbath, from sunset Friday through sunset Saturday. We know from thousands of carefully kept records that the seven-day cycle of the week has not been broken. Those who worship on the seventh day today are worshiping on the same day Jesus did!

Ask yourself: did Jesus set His example of keeping the Sabbath, and all the biblical precepts, so that we would not need to? Shockingly, this is what many preachers teach today! But did Jesus even once tell His followers to ignore His example? No! Not only did Jesus keep the commandments, He instructed others to keep them as well. He said, "if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments" (Matthew 19:17). Jesus' answer clearly showed He was speaking of the Ten Commandments.

Paul's Example

We have seen that it was Jesus' practice to observe the Sabbath. Did the Apostle Paul—the "apostle to



Ruins of the great synagogue of Capernaum, in modern Israel. Jesus Christ and the Apostle Paul regularly worshiped on the Sabbath day, and taught Christians to do so (Luke 4:16; Acts 17:2).

the Gentiles"—observe the Sabbath, or did he set an example showing that Gentile Christians need not do so? Remember, Paul was trained as a Pharisee, and knew Scripture very well. When Paul was in Greece, in the city of Thessalonica, he preached for three consecutive Sabbaths to the Jews in the synagogue. Notice that this was Paul's custom—he regularly preached on the Sabbath. "Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, 'This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ'" (Acts 17:2–3).

So, we see that Paul regularly preached to the Jews on the Sabbath. But did he also speak to the Gentiles on the Sabbath? Notice what he did in the Gentile city of Corinth, in Greece. "And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks" (Acts 18:4)! Yes, Paul preached to the Gentiles on the Sabbath!

If Paul expected Christians to keep a Sunday observance instead of the seventh-day Sabbath, we

might expect him to speak to Christians—at the very least, to the Gentiles—on Sunday. Is that what your Bible shows he did? Notice Paul's example in Antioch, in what is today the nation of Turkey. What happened after Paul's usual Sabbath sermon to both Jews and Gentiles in the synagogue? "So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath" (Acts 13:42).

If Jesus or the apostles had changed the commanded day of worship to Sunday, here was a perfect opportunity for Paul to tell the Gentiles, "No, you don't have to wait until next Saturday, we Christians now worship on Sunday. Meet with us tomorrow!" But he did not do that! What does your Bible say? "On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God" (Acts 13:44). Paul taught the Gentile Christians on the Sabbath! He also commanded the Gentile Corinthians to follow his example. Remember Paul's instruction, "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1). Or, "Follow my example, as I follow the example of

Christ" (*NIV*). Yes, Jesus, Paul, and the apostles set an example for all Christians in observing the Sabbath!

Why the Change?

Since the example of Christ and the apostles is clear, we may wonder: when did "mainstream" churches begin to observe Sunday instead of the seventh-day Sabbath as a day of rest? Notice: "Tertullian (202AD) is the first writer who expressly mentions the Sunday rest: 'We, however (just as tradition has taught us), on the day of the Lord's Resurrection ought to guard not only against kneeling, but every posture and office of solicitude, deferring even our businesses lest we give any place to the devil" (article: "Sunday," The Catholic Encyclopedia). That was not until 202 AD, more than 170 years after the death, burial, and resurrection of the Messiah, Jesus Christ!

Later, in the fourth century AD, the Roman emperor Constantine enforced Sunday worship throughout his empire. Constantine had been a pagan sun-worshiper. He gave the following edict in 321 AD: "On the venerable day of the Sun let all magistrates and people... rest" (article: "Sunday Legislation," *Schaff-Her*zog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge).

Disobedience to the emperor's command could mean death to Sabbath-keeping Christians. Just a few years later, the Roman church also passed a startling decree at the Council of Laodicea. It declared: "Christians must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, resting rather on Sunday. But, if any be found to be judaizing [keeping God's Sabbath], let them be declared anathema from Christ" (A

CONSTANTINE ENFORCED SUNDAY WORSHIP THROUGHOUT HIS EMPIRE. EARLIER, HE HAD BEEN A PAGAN SUN-WORSHIPER!

History of the Councils of the Church, p. 316). Christian Sabbath-keepers were labeled as heretics.

Both the government and the churches moved against Christian Sabbath-keepers. Yet the true Christianity of the first century—which never stopped



Sabbath-keeping Christians in seventeenth century New England (meeting hall pictured here) held a number of prominent roles in their communities

following Christ's example of keeping the fourth commandment—has continued to this day, in spite of persecutions over the centuries. Millions in the United States today forget that many of the first American settlers crossed the Atlantic Ocean in the 17th century in search of religious freedom in the colonies of North America. Thousands came to Rhode Island to take advantage of its royal charter, granted in 1663 by King Charles II of England, which guaranteed religious freedom in the colony. To this day, that charter remains on display in the Providence, Rhode Island statehouse.

Seventh-day Sabbath-keepers were among those who came to Rhode Island seeking religious free-

dom. Stephen Mumford and his wife, who came to Newport, Rhode Island in 1665, were the first Christian Sabbath-keepers documented to have settled in Rhode Island. Others followed, and by 1729 their group had expanded so much it needed a larger meeting hall. That hall, built in 1729, is still being pre-

served by the Newport Historical Society.

If you are ever in Newport, Rhode Island, you may want to visit that historic building. Inside the hall is a raised pulpit. Behind the pulpit are two large plaques, inscribed with the Ten Commandments. At the bot-

tom of the second plaque is the Apostle Paul's bold statement, "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law" (Romans 3:31, KJV). Yes, these New Testament Christians affirmed their allegiance to Christ's statement, "But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." These Christians correctly understood that Jesus'

Creator of the universe. It had meaning from the very creation, and it still has deep meaning for Christians today, who look at the seventh-day Sabbath as a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ's thousand-year reign on the Earth during the soon-coming Millennium.

What did Jesus claim about His relationship to the Sabbath? Did He say He was Lord over Sunday—that

> Sunday was the Lord's day? No! Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27-28). If Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath, what day is the Lord's

PAUL TAUGHT THE GENTILE CHRISTIANS ON THE **SABBATH!** HE ALSO COMMANDED THE GENTILE CORINTHIANS TO FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE.

teachings insist on His followers' observing and obeying the Ten Commandments!

Sabbatarian church records, preserved in the Newport Historical Museum, contain members' names and contributions. Significantly, the church describes itself in those records as "keeping the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus, and in particular the Lord's Seventh-Day Sabbath."

Some seventh-day Sabbath-keepers were prominent citizens of Rhode Island in the 18th century. Two of the colony's governors—Richard Ward and his son Samuel—were seventh-day Sabbath-keepers. Even the first president of Brown University-James Manning—was a Sabbatarian!

The Sabbath Before Moses?

A common misunderstanding today is that Sabbath observance was first instituted as a Jewish custom at Mount Sinai, when Moses received the tablets containing the Ten Commandments. Is this so? No! Notice how your Bible describes what is called "creation week." We read that God created man and woman on the sixth day. What, then, happened on the seventh day? "Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made" (Genesis 2:1-3).

Yes, the seventh-day Sabbath is a memorial of the creation-and it points to the true God and true day? Sunday? No! The Sabbath is the "Lord's Day"-Jesus Himself said so! In fact, the expression "Lord's Day" appears only once in the Bible, in Revelation 1:10. There, it refers to the prophetic period known as the Day of the Lord, which leads up to the Second Coming of Christ. It does not refer to a day of the week.

The book of Hebrews depicts the Sabbath as a foreshadowing of the Earth's millennial rest, as well as a memorial of God's rest at creation. Regarding the ancient Israelites' disobedience on their way to the promised land, we read, "For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God" (Hebrews 4:8-9). The original Greek word for "rest" in verse 9 is sabbatismos, which means "a Sabbath-keeping" (see Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words). Both the Revised Standard Version and the New International Version translate verse 9 as "a Sabbath rest."

Yes, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, even to this day! But is it merely a symbolic rest, or is it a literal Sabbath rest? If you have access to a



copy of the Anchor Bible Dictionary, you can see for yourself that in other contexts, including secular Greek

writings not dependent on this verse from Hebrews, that the word *sabbatismos* plainly and literally means "Sabbath observance" or "Sabbath celebration." There is no question that this verse is a New Testa-

SABBATH CONTINUES ON PAGE 22

13

ELondon CALLING

Britannia Waives the Rules



he English suspicion of "all things European" harks back centuries—a suspicion certainly reinforced by the Spanish Armada, Napoleon and Adolph Hitler. For many Britons, there have been too many continental tyrants who have cast covetous eyes on their "sceptered isle." Englishmen have eschewed any ruler who wants to impose his will on a nation whose people value their freedom more than almost anyone else in Europe. Why has this been so?

Who Are the English?

England derives its name from the **Angles** who—along with the **Saxons** and **Jutes**—arrived from modern-day Germany and Denmark soon after the Romans left Britain in the fifth century. Clearly there are regional differences in the country after waves of invasion and migration. For example, the pragmatic southerners are considered to have too much of the "stiff upper lip" by the warmer, more convivial northerners.

What is virtually unknown is that the three tribes of people mentioned above had come into northwestern Europe only a few centuries before their arrival in England. But where did they come from?

Saxons Are the Sons of Isaac

Most historians acknowledge that the Germanic tribes arrived in the Rhine, Weser and Elbe river valleys from the Scythian region between the 1st century BC and the 3rd century AD. They were accompanied by another people who spoke a similar language but chose to settle in the coastal regions from Normandy as far north as Scandinavia.

English historian Sharon Turner's work, *History of the Anglo Saxons* (1836, Volume 1, pp. 100–101) states, "Ptolemy [the Roman geographer] mentions a Scythian people, sprung from the SAKAI, by the name of Saxones... Sakai-Suna, or the Sons of the Sakai, abbreviated into Saksun, which is the same sound as Saxon, seems a reasonable etymology of the word, Saxon."

Other historians have often made the easy connection between the name "Saxon" and "Sons of Isaac" of biblical fame.

Why would these Saxons—who were to later settle in Southern England and give their name to Essex (East Saxons), Sussex (South Saxons) and Middlesex (Middle Saxons)—want to perpetuate their connection with the name of Isaac? The answer is that Isaac's son Jacob, also named Israel, bequeathed his father's name to his grandson **Ephraim.**

Just before Jacob's death, he called his son Joseph to bring his two sons Manasseh and Ephraim to him. As he blessed the lads he said, "Let my **name** be named upon them" (Genesis 48:16). He crossed his hands so that his right hand was on the younger grandson's head and his left hand on Manasseh's. Joseph remonstrated but Jacob said, "I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he shall be great; but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations" (v. 19).

These two sons have become, in the latter days, Britain (Ephraim) and the United States of America (Manasseh).

The inhabitants of Britain today are made up of several groups other than the Angles, Saxons and Jutes. These include the indigenous Britons (Welsh, Picts,

Scots, Irish and Cornish); Danes and Norwegians from the Viking invasions and lastly, the Normans. The most numerous, however, are the Saxons, living in the southeast of the country.

Ephraim's brother Manasseh's descendants lived with their brother until the time came for them to depart for North America from the seventeenth century onward.

Many of these "Manassehites" were domiciled in Anglia. Notice what John Ogwyn wrote on page 36 of our free booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*:

"New England, for instance was settled primarily by immigrants from East Anglia. Certain parishes of this South-Eastern part of England were almost emptied of population between 1629 and 1641, as whole family groups migrated en-masse. 'Today, East Anglia seems very rural by comparison with other English regions. But in the early 17th century, it was the most densely settled and highly urbanized part of England, and had been so for many centuries'" (*Albion's Seed*, p. 43).

Subsequent migrations of Englishmen from other counties swelled the population of the United States.

One has only to go to a map of New England in the United States to find place names such as Norwich, Boston, Cambridge, Lincoln and Peterborough. All these place names originate in the areas of East Anglia or nearby.

Britannia Waives the Rules

God warns His people to heed well the consequences of despising His laws. A hundred years ago, as Great



Lawlessness is on the rise; pictured here are British riot police under attack at a March 2011 protest rally.

Britain prepared for war, the majority of Englishmen believed in God and the Bible. There had been a long-lasting sense of identity between them and the *King James Version* of the Bible, first published in 1611. To ridicule or make fun of the Bible would have been considered blasphemous. Reverence for the Bible was much the same as it is today for Islamic people to revere the Qur'an.

Our great grandparents would be shocked if they could read the secular, humanistic pronouncements of church leaders today. To think that homosexuality could be upheld by the mainstream Protestant churches and even openly practiced by the clergy would

Historians have often made the easy connection between the name "Saxon" and "Sons of Isaac" of biblical fame

astound them. The widespread acceptance of sex before marriage and divorce would have been unthinkable amongst the majority of them.

The book of Leviticus warns us, "and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul ab-

hors 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" (26:15–17).

Britain and America's recent troubles in Iraq and Afghanistan make it seem as if God wrote the script for them 3,500 years ago. Notice how these words of Scripture foretell Britain's future, "I will bring the land to desolation, and your enemies who dwell in it shall be astonished at it. I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste" (Leviticus 26:32–33).

Britain has "waived the rules" and no longer "rules the waves." The well-known patriotic song, "Rule Britannia" from which these words are taken proudly states, "Britons never, never shall be slaves." Sadly, Scripture warns that a time of slavery is yet coming for the onceproud British people, as well as their American cousins.

—Rod King

#End of WAR?

At the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I, what can the "war to end all wars" teach us about mankind and human nature? A look at the past can teach us much about our future.

By John Meakin

t was the summer of 1914, and the weather across Europe was unusually pleasant.
Though storm clouds of political and social developments had been building toward a crisis for some time, the average man-in-the-street could scarcely have imagined the heartbreaking tragedy that was about to consume the entire continent.
War on a truly industrial scale, slaying millions, was about to be unleashed!

The conflict on the horizon—so devastating that for a time it would be called the "war to end all wars"—would lay the foundation for a troubled century of bloodshed. European civilization would be brought to its knees; totalitarianism—the political continuation of war by other means—would be unleashed; empires and the monarchical form of government would be abandoned.

New nations would arise, realizing the long-held aspirations of their people; the map of much of the world would be dramatically redrawn. The center of gravity of world power would decisively shift from the "old" world to the "new." Belief in God would precipitously decline in the face of man's ungodly, brutal and inhuman treatment of fellow man.

Modern War Threatens All Life

Wars may well have been part of human history from its inception, but war in the twentieth century took on an entirely different complexion, which for the first time threatened the extinction of mankind. Peace may be man's heartfelt desire, but peace just seems to elude us, even as our capacity to kill each other expands exponentially.

Why should this be? As the world marks the centenary of the start of World War I, it is fitting to meditate on humanity's extraordinary and seemingly innate capacity to slaughter one another. What lessons can we learn about the reasons for war, and the human na-

ture that lies behind it? Is there a *hidden cause of war* to which we are blinded? Is it possible to look forward to a time when there will be *no more war?* Thankfully, we can be assured of a peaceful future—though from a source few in our modern day expect.

Tinderbox Europe

What was European life like in 1914? Business and commerce were prospering in a plentiful era of globalization. Populations were expanding rapidly, fuelling the emigration of millions to the Americas and Australasia. Labor conditions were improving, stimulated by a vigorous socialist movement active across many nations. Commercial interdependence and internationalism had given rise to the popular notion that large-scale warfare was now *a thing of the past*.

Life for many was abundant, civilized, cultured and extraordinarily optimistic. Unprecedented scientific and technological advancement promised a rosy future.

Yet the entire continent was also marked by "naked nationalism" and an accelerating arms race. The three great European empires, Germany, Austria and Russia, were beset by internal dissatisfaction, with marginalized groups making demands for greater democracy. Along with Britain and France, all the European powers had reason to feel their position was in some way threatened.

Europe's continental powers were fixated on the timeless quest for security in military superiority. There were millions of trained soldiers ready to fight for their countries, with enough firepower to annihilate each other at unprecedented speed. As a complicating factor, rapid communications were still in their infancy, making it difficult for national leaders to act knowledgeably and decisively should a crisis develop.

It was General Sherman of the United States who, in an earlier conflict, had famously said: "War is hell!" As Europe entered into the summer of 1914, the world was about to find out how hellish it could be. These



World War I is known for its devastating application of "trench warfare," which in combination with modern innovations such as the machine gun made these conflicts more deadly than ever before. Pictured here is a Royal Irish Rifles regiment at the Battle of the Somme, July 1916.

powerful nations "proceeded, as if in a dead march and a dialogue of the deaf, to the destruction of their continent and their civilization" (*The First World War*, Keegan, p. 23).

One Crucial Spark

All it took to ignite the conflagration was *one vital spark*. It came when Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand, nephew to the Austrian Emperor Franz Joseph, during a visit to Sarajevo in Bosnia on June 28, 1914.

At first, nothing seemed to change. European life continued normally. Behind the scenes, Austria was seeking an alliance with Bulgaria and Turkey to settle their "Serb problem" once and for all. Yet Austria dared not act alone. Had it done so, a local conflict might have gone relatively unnoticed.

Instead, Austria—backed by Germany—dispatched a provocative note to the Serbs demanding a response by July 25. Serbia, however, emboldened by Russian support, rejected important conditions of the note, and after two days mobilized its small army.

Europe Mobilizes for War

The die was cast. Events quickly spiraled out of control. Between July 28 (when Austria-Hungary

declared war on Serbia) and August 12 (when Britain and France declared war on Austria), all the major European nations declared war on each other.

Like a series of enormously destructive triggers being pulled, Russia began mobilizing its forces against Germany and Austria; then Germany against Russia; France against Germany; Germany against France. Britain declared war against Germany, and neutral Belgium was forced to side with the Allies.

Virtually all of Europe was now at war! But it did not stop there. Some 36 countries were eventually involved in hostilities, mobilizing more than 70 million military personnel. These included the British dominions of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India, with Japan, Italy, Serbia, Montenegro, Romania, Greece, Portugal and eventually the U.S. all joining the Allied cause. The Central Powers were joined by the Ottoman Empire and Bulgaria.

All these hostilities were happening more or less at once, in many different theatres of conflict. In Europe, the Western Front saw Germany pitted against France and Britain. On the Eastern Front, Russia faced Germany and Austria, eventually battling each other from trenches along a 900-mile front. On the southern Balkan Front, Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Turks fought

against Russia, Serbia, Montenegro, Romania, Greece and Italy. On the Italian Front, the Italians engaged Austria-Hungary.

On the high seas, Britain successfully blockaded German ports and neutralized the German navy. In the Middle East, Britain and France fought along with the Arabs to protect Egypt and the vital Suez Canal, form a complex of defensive trenches across a 600-mile front. The Allied forces confronted them with their own trenches, and thus began the intractable and bloody trench warfare that ebbed and flowed over the next four years with neither side gaining a decisive advantage.

The losses on both sides were almost beyond

comprehension; Germany lost 2 million dead, France 2 million and Britain around 1 million. The trenches became renowned for almost unimaginable mud and filth, barbed wire, machine guns and poisonous gas. And, shockingly, *about*

THE TRENCHES BECAME RENOWNED FOR ALMOST UNIMAGINABLE MUD, FILTH, BARBED WIRE, MACHINE GUNS AND POISONOUS GAS!

eventually liberating Jerusalem and Palestine.

The Allies also fought the Ottoman Empire in Mesopotamia and the Persian Gulf, and—despite a famous defeat on the Gallipoli peninsula at the Dardanelles—finally emerged victorious.

This was war on a truly epic scale, never seen before! This was the entire world at war!

Germany's Plan Unfolds

Though it was a war that enmeshed the whole world, the Western Front remained the most gruesome arena of carnage. Events there moved very rapidly. Each army possessed its own carefully prepared war plans, which were quickly translated into action. The task of rapidly moving millions of troops with all their equipment, food and other support by rail—including 2.5 million horses—was formidable.

At first the German offensive proceeded according to an ambitious timetable hoping to crush the French in 40 days. Once this was accomplished, they thought, German forces could concentrate on the Eastern Front to annihilate the approaching Russian Army.

What in fact happened? The French, joined by British troops, conducted an orderly retreat southward towards Paris. Their plan was to mount a massive counterattack that would repulse the Germans and turn the tide of the war.

Stalemate and Attrition

Instead of a whirlwind victory for either side, there was *stalemate*. German troops were forced back to

50 percent of those who died were never recovered from the battlefield!

Hoping to cut supply lines from America to Europe, Germany resorted to indiscriminate submarine warfare. As a result, an angered U.S. entered the war in early 1917, soon afterward flooding France with men and materiel at a rate of 10,000 troops per day.

As the war progressed, so did the technology of war, especially for the Allies. Tanks were developed, and the use of aircraft and most other forms of military hardware advanced, giving decisive advantages over the enemy.

The Cost of War

Eventually the German-led forces, war-weary and demoralized in the face of a now-superior foe, were forced into an ignominious armistice on November 11, 1918—"the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month."

By the time it was all over, nearly 10 million soldiers had been killed, more than 20 million had been wounded and nearly 8 million were missing. The war caused endless sorrow and lasting heartache for millions more. In the value of today's currency, the total cost of the war exceeded \$1 trillion.

The war was an unparalleled tragedy in which the entire continent of Europe ensnared much of the world into a suicidal maelstrom of bloodletting. The world reacted, and continues to react, with utter horror at what man can do to fellow man.

END OF WAR? CONTINUES ON PAGE 24

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

"Use it or lose it" is a vital principle for Christian living!

Question: Since eternal life is a free gift from God, through the Holy Spirit, what role do "good works" play in the life of a Christian?

Answer: We cannot, by our own "righteousness" and "good works," persuade God to grant us eternal life. Scripture reminds us: "But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away" (Isaiah 64:6). We all need salvation, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Those who may assume that they are fulfilling the letter of the law, and that doing so will earn them eternal life, should consider that they have not yet encountered every trial Satan can offer. Before his conversion, Saul thought he was perfectly obeying God. "If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless" (Philippians 3:3-6). Saul believed he was righteous in God's eyes, until the resurrected and glorified Christ stuck him down on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-4).

Yet the commandments do matter. When a wealthy young man asked Jesus, "what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" (Mark 10:17), Jesus Christ first rebuked him, saying that no one but God is truly "good." Then, Christ proceeded to remind him of the commandments of God" (vv. 18-19). When he asserted that he had kept the commandments faithfully, Christ told him he must "sell whatever you have...



and come, take up the cross, and follow Me" (v. 21) the rich young man "went away sorrowful" (v. 22). Jesus

did not tell the young ruler that keeping the commandments did not matter. Rather, Christ demonstrated that by valuing worldly wealth more than the Kingdom of God, this young man was not doing the works God required of him!

It is through the Holy Spirit in us that we are saved. "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit... the Father will send in My name... will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you" (John 14:26). We receive the Holy Spirit after repentance and baptism: "Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call" (Acts 2:38-39).

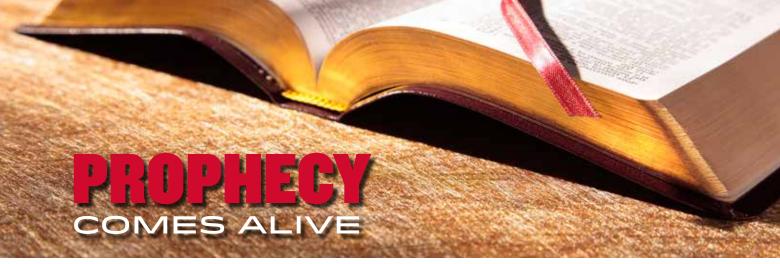
We are in the process of "being saved" (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:18; 2 Corinthians 2:15). Yet we must complete the process: "But he who endures to the end shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13).

It is a mistake to pit "faith" against "works." We read: "But someone will say, 'You have faith, and I have

God can take the gift of the Holy Spirit back, if we intentionally reject it and decide to stop following the path of righteousness!

works.' Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works" (James 2:18). Yet neither our works, nor the Holy Spirit now within us, can guarantee salvation. God can even take the gift of the Holy Spirit back, if we intentionally reject it and decide to stop following the path of righteousness (Hebrews 6:4-6). Even ancient King David knew the importance of God's Spirit, and asked that God not take it from him (Psalm 51:11). We must be careful not to "quench" the Spirit that God has given us (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

One who actually believes in God and His promises will inevitably strive to obey His laws, and the indwelling Holy Spirit—an unmerited gift from God the Father-will help us become increasingly practiced at obeying those laws. As we obey, yielding to the Spirit, we will increasingly overcome our faults as we grow in grace and knowledge. We must use the gift of God's Spirit—the use of which will be manifest by our works-or we may lose it!



The Ecumenical Delusion

hroughout a history of nearly 2,000 years,
Christendom has experienced various major schisms and spawned thousands of schismatic sects. Yet serious efforts are now underway to heal the divisions and bring the fragmented pieces back together. While this appears to be a noble, and even godly goal, few today realize that we are watching ancient Bible prophecies *come alive*—which will shock and surprise a misguided world!

Agenda for Unity

The modern drive to heal the divisions among the fragmented denominations of professing Christianity has been actively promoted by the Roman Catholic Church. In 1964, the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) made the "restoration of unity among all Christians" and bringing Protestant denominations back to the Catholic fold a long-term goal for the Roman church. The Council changed a centuries-old practice by referring to baptized members of other churches as "separated brothers" instead of "heretics." Also in 1964, the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church "canceled their mutual excommunications of one another" that began in 1054AD (Foreign Affairs, May-June 2013). Since then, several popes and patriarchs have met and prayed together in their efforts to promote unity. The Orthodox patriarch represents 250 million believers.

In the 1990s, leaders of the Lutheran Church signed a joint statement with the Roman Catholic Church on the topic of "justification"—a contentious topic that had been one of the key reasons behind the Protestant Reformation. Methodist leaders have since signed the

joint statement. Around the same time, a number of prominent evangelical and Catholic leaders signed an agreement called "Evangelicals and Catholics Together" (ECT) to promote collaboration between the two groups. The World Council of Churches and prominent leaders like Dr. Billy Graham have promoted the move toward unity among the many denominations that call themselves Christian. In January of 2013, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and four Reformed Christian congregations signed an agreement recognizing each other's baptisms. Roman Catholic pontiffs John Paul II and Benedict XVI have prayed together with several Archbishops of Canterbury for the unity of their churches.

During his 25-year pontificate, Pope John Paul II traveled to more than 100 countries to promote church unity. He also allowed former Episcopal priests and parishes to return to the Catholic fold while retaining their traditional forms of worship. Pope Benedict worked tirelessly "towards the reconstitution of the full and visible unity of all Christ's followers" with his message of "Unity in multiplicity, and multiplicity in unity" (Foreign Affairs, May-June 2013). Pope Francis softened Protestant reactions to the papacy during his first address to the world from Rome by referring to himself only as the "Bishop of Rome." Reaching out to charismatics (estimated to be some 500,000), Francis said "we are all brothers" and that old divisions that caused separation need to be put aside. His message was delivered to a charismatic gathering in the United States by Anglican Bishop Tony Palmer, who told the assembled group, "the protest is over" and "there is no more need for a Protestant Church... we are all Catholic."

Ignoring the Scriptures

Leaders in the ecumenical movement claim the move towards unity is God's will by referring to Jesus' prayer for His disciples "that they may be one as We are" (John 17:11), yet they ignore what else is clearly stated in Scripture. Jesus actually said, "I do not pray for the world, but for those whom You have given Me" (John 17:9). He also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me *draws* him" (John 6:44), indicating that people cannot just decide on their own to come into God's Church; they must be *called*!

When Pope John Paul II met and prayed with religious leaders from around the world (including Muslims, Hindus and animist priests) in Assisi, Italy, he assured them, "We are all praying to the same God." However, Jesus told a Samaritan woman that she was not worshiping the true God (John 4:21–22), and Jesus described

Tony Palmer, Anglican bishop:
"the protest is over...
there is no more need
for a Protestant
church... We are
all Catholic!"

religious leaders of His day as the "blind leaders of the blind" (Matthew 15:14). Pope Benedict told an audience in Rome "whoever seeks peace... will be saved even if he lacks biblical faith" (Pope Benedict XVI's general audience, November 30, 2005).

Yet the Bible says the only path to salvation is through Jesus Christ (Acts 4:10–12). Pope Francis has stated that "the heart of the Gospel is about the poor" yet Jesus came preaching "the Gospel of the kingdom of God" (Mark 1:14–15) and the coming government of God that will be set up on this earth (Isaiah 2:2–4; 9:6–7). In light of the differences between Scripture and the statements of ecumenical leaders, we need to remember Isaiah's warning, "To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light [truth] in them" (Isaiah 8:20)!

Prophetic Significance

Bible prophecies have long foretold that just before the return of Jesus Christ there would be an attempt to form *one world religion* that would begin with a "mother church" attempting to reunite with her daughters. Revelation 17:1–5 mentions a woman (a church) described as a "great harlot" and "the mother of harlots" who will

ride a beast and whose religious beliefs and practices can be traced back to ancient Babylon. This woman sits

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What Is a True Christian?



on seven mountains (Revelation 17:9)— Rome sits on seven hills. She claims to be "a lady forever" (Isaiah

47:7)—Rome is the "eternal" city. She says "there is no one else besides me" (Isaiah 47:8)—the Roman church claims to be the one true church and asserts, "nor shall I know the loss of children" (Isaiah 47:8), indicating an ecumenical effort to reunite with her departed ("protesting") daughters. We see this happening today!

Revelation 13 states the rise of this beast power will *surprise* the world (v. 3). It will be aided by a prominent miracle-working religious figure at the head of a great false church. The Scriptures indicate the beast and false prophet will both be empowered by Satan, and together they will deceive the world into worshipping the false religion of the beast. Daniel chapters 2 and 7 indicate this end-time beast and false prophet will arise *in Europe* and have historical links to the ancient Roman and medieval "Holy Roman" empires. It should come as no surprise that numerous Roman Catholic popes have actively promoted the rise of the European Union, which they have sought to infuse with Catholic social



values. The ecumenical movement we are witnessing today will culminate with the appearance of these two prominent figures who will delude the world into fol-

lowing their satanic teachings—and this will occur just before the return of Jesus Christ. You need to be alert while these ancient prophecies *come alive*, surprising and misleading the world!

—Douglas S. Winnail

ment statement about a literal Christian observance of the Sabbath!

If Christians are to cease from their works, just as God ceased from His (Hebrews 4:10), we must ask: how did God cease from His works? Scripture gives us the answer: "For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: 'And God rested on the seventh day from all His works'" (Hebrews 4:4).

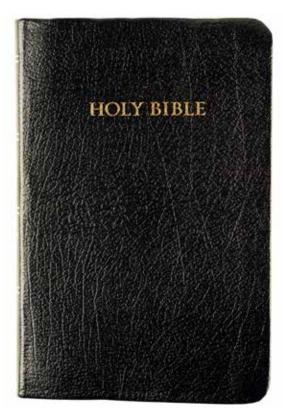
There is no guessing here! New Testament Christians are supposed to rest just as God rested—on the seventh day! Both the Old Testament and the New Testament give Christians the clear example and instruction to keep the Sabbath day holy! If you consider the Bible your authority, rather than some church tradition that claims to overrule the Bible, you have no other choice! So, what is your authority?

Scripture or Tradition?

What brought about a Sunday observance in place of the seventh-day Sabbath? Noted Roman Catholic theologian James Cardinal Gibbons wrote, in his book Faith of Our Fathers: "But you may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify." Gibbons admits that if the Bible is your authority, you have no basis for observing Sunday. Scripture, as he writes, enforces "the religious observance of Saturday." Gibbons acknowledges that it was the Council of Laodicea in the fourth century AD—not the pages of your Bible—that caused the professing Christian world to change from the seventh-day Sabbath to a Sunday observance.

Similarly, prominent Southern Baptist minister Harold Lindsell—a former editor of *Christianity Today* magazine—wrote: "There is nothing in Scripture that requires us to keep Sunday rather than Saturday as a holy day."

What should you do? You need to study your Bible and decide whether you will live by "every word of God" as Jesus admonished us in Matthew 4:4 and Luke 4:4. Jesus said He is Lord of the Sabbath. He observed the seventh-day Sabbath regularly, and He did



not break the law. As He said, "I have kept My Father's commandments" (John 15:10). Will you follow the example of Jesus Christ and the instructions of your Bible? Or will you oppose them, in order to follow the tradition of men?

If you still have any doubt about which day is the Christian Sabbath, notice what your Bible teaches about the coming Kingdom of God, where Jesus Christ will rule all nations on Earth. "For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before Me,' says the Lord, 'So shall your descendants and your name remain. And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon [month] to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me,' says the Lord" (Isaiah 66:22–23).

In God's Kingdom, everyone will keep the seventh-day Sabbath. What a wonderful world that will be. True Christians, in their worship, are foreshadowing that time today.

MAY WE SUGGEST? **Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?** Will you follow the example of Christ, or of men who rejected His teaching? Request a **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.

THE SOUNDS OF SUMMER

When activity is buzzing all around you, how can you keep your focus?

he sound of the cicadas was deafening as I walked along the path on a summer Sabbath morning, enjoying the breeze and collecting my thoughts after a busy and eventful week. There was so much to think about, and to make sense of from a biblical point of view. Yet those cicadas were humming away so noisily that it was hard to concentrate!

As I walked along, though, it dawned on me that the sounds of summer are an affirmation of a promise God made long ago—a promise that can help us keep our bearings, even when circumstances seem to go awry in ways that leave us doubting and confused.

God knew that we would need to get our bearing from time to time. And soon after the Great Flood—

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the greatest catastrophe the world had ever seen—He made a promise: "While the earth remains, seed-

time and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22).

God assures us that there will come a new season. Although difficulties may come and obstacles may arise, His plan is ever unfolding. The Psalmist understood this when he wrote: "The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations" (Psalm 33:11).

In a similar vein, the prophet Isaiah recounts these powerful words given by God: "Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure'" (Isaiah 46:9–10).

Yes, God has a plan, and He is working to bring about the best He can in our lives. We also read of this in the New Testament. Paul wrote these words that can be very reassuring in times of trouble: "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28).

So, when we are distracted by the world around us—or when we see loved ones suffer, or we face personal obstacles that might shake us—we need to remember the many plain statements in God's word, and have confidence that as long as we do our part, our circumstances will turn out just as God wants them to, even if right now we cannot imagine how this will be possible.

As Paul so eloquently wrote: "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (vv. 38–39).

With these wonderful promises in mind, we can be prepared for the unexpected, the unthinkable, the upheavals and disruptions that we would prefer never to face, yet which can happen when we least

Remember the promises of our loving God!

expect. Through it all, God will provide the strength, the guidance and the answers that we need. We can follow in the footsteps of Paul, who reassured us: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

When you hear the sounds of summer—or of fall, winter or spring—be encouraged and remember the promises of our loving God. With His help and guidance we can and will make it through the difficult seasons that are sure to be ahead of us. So, take a walk. Meditate on the things of God (v. 8). And know that a time is soon coming when the whole world will be under His firm and benevolent, loving rule. To learn more about that time, read our free booklet, *The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like?* Request a copy from the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 4 of this magazine), or order online at *TomorrowsWorld.org*.

-J. Davy Crockett, III















July-August 2014

Tomorrow's World

The "War That Will End War"?

In August 1914, famous British author H.G. Wells looked forward to Britain's participation in what he called "the war that will end war." Even afterward, looking back on the horror of it all, many turned to pacifism and internationalism with new fervor, calling the events of 1914–18 "the war that will end **all** wars."

Of course, in hindsight, we know that another world war ravaged Europe barely 20 years after the end of the first. That war saw more than 50 million directly killed in war, with countless millions more dying as a consequence of the violence.

Today, we look at the history of the last hundred years, and we come to a sobering conclusion. So far, every time mankind has invented a technology that **can** be used for warfare, it **has** ultimately been used for warfare. The mustard gas of World War I and the atom bomb of World War II have given way to "suitcase nukes," chemical and biological weapons and sophisticated airborne drones.

The Spiritual Dimension

Amid all the retrospective discussions that will take place this anniversary year, one dimension is likely to be neglected—the *spiritual* dimension. One cannot understand war without appreciating this dimension, which is provided by God's inspired word—the Bible.

Scripture offers us the most basic, yet profound insights: "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures" (James 4:1–3).

To many war-weary cynics, this may sound deceptively simple and even obvious. Wars and conflicts arise from human desires—the things we want badly enough to fight for. Ramp up what is true of individuals, and it is even more true of nations and states that are, after all, led by individuals.

Consider that in 1914, Germany was ambitious and hungry for expansion and dominance; it wanted the supreme place for itself on the world stage. France wanted security in the face of Germany's burgeoning



military might, and desired the return of Alsace and Lorraine, which Germany had annexed in the Franco-Russian War of 1870.

The Russians—defeated and humiliated in the Russo-Japanese War of 1902—wanted to recover their industrial and military might, to catch up with and defend against the growing German menace on their borders. The Austro-Hungarian Empire wanted to permanently resolve its problems with a violent and nationalistic Serbia, which wanted a Greater Serbia free of Austro-Hungarian control.

And so the stage for war was set, in just the manner Scripture described, by a clash of fundamental and conflicting human and national desires.

Satanic Influences

Yet there were further influences being exerted on a spiritual level. The Bible reveals that this world is now controlled by a spirit being known as Satan, or the devil (2 Corinthians 4:4). He is a fallen archangel who long ago rebelled against God (the *first war* about which mankind has any information), and drew onethird of the angels into his rebellion (Revelation 12:4). The Bible calls these rebellious angels "demons."

Satan is the great adversary, the arch-accuser (from the Greek *diabolos*) and deceiver of humanity (v. 9). He is the great destroyer. The Bible calls him a murderer, and the father of lies (John 8:44). He is the malignant enemy of God and of mankind.



the Bible warns that Satan's evil spirit permeates this world. He is "the prince of the power of the air" whose spirit "now works in the sons of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:2). The outcome of his nature will always tend towards the confusion, chaos, violence and war that, above all, is *Satan's signature activity*. For human beings to live at peace, we must repudiate Satan's violent nature—not just collectively as nations, but as individual human beings with free moral agency.

Even now, the Bible tells us, Satan is very angry because he knows his time is running out (Revelation 12:12). When Jesus Christ returns to establish the Kingdom of God over the entire earth, Satan will be removed and neutralized (Revelation 20:1–3). Satan knows this—and it makes him very angry, indeed!

Christ Will Bring Peace at Last!

So, will there be a World War III? Sadly, Scripture warns us of a *greater cataclysm yet to come*. A terribly traumatic time of intense war, destruction and loss of life is prophesied to occur soon, immediately before the return of Jesus Christ. It will be so much more devastating than any war that has preceded it that Jesus Christ will *need* to intervene to **save all life** on planet Earth from total annihilation (Matthew 24:21–22).

Yes, there **is good news** beyond the bad. Christ will return to save mankind from itself, and from the evil machinations of Satan. Coming as the newly reigning King of the Kingdom of God on this earth, He will completely crush Satan's attempt to prevent that kingdom from being established (Romans 16:20).

relative few are being called to the Truth, and are living the Way that God intends for all mankind. During the Millennium, *every human being alive* will be able to live God's way, without the corrupting influence of Satan.

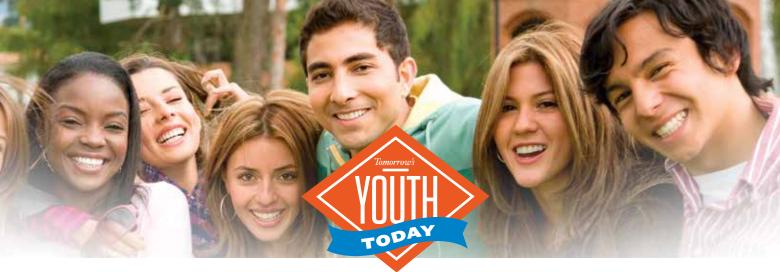
Yet even this will not quite be the end of war, nor of Satan's place in it. Revelation records that Satan and his demons will be released once more, near the end of a thousand years of peace. Will mankind by then have learned all the lessons of war? Amazingly, rebellious human beings will once more be swayed by Satan and will cause the world to erupt *one final time* into violence and war (Revelation 20:7–10). This will be Satan's final assault, after which he will be cast into a lake of fire, unable ever again to gain a hold on mankind.

Then will come a time known as the Great White Throne Judgment, during which all those who died without an opportunity for salvation will finally have that opportunity offered to them. At this point, war will truly become a thing of the past for mankind, as the Plan of God will then move into its next phase, when the Headquarters of God's throne over the universe will come to planet Earth for the first time (Revelation 21:1–4).

So, yes, mankind will finally see an end to war. But there will be great turmoil between now and that wonderful day. You, however, can individually have peace in your life. If God is calling you now, turn to Him and resolve to live His way. If you would like to talk personally with someone about how to do all of this, call or write to the Regional Office nearest you, listed on page 4 of this magazine. Our representatives will be eager to help you find the peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7).

MAY WE SUGGEST? **The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like?** Jesus Christ will soon return to planet Earth to bring peace as never before! Request a **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest vou, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.





You Are Not Stupid!

ave you ever thought of yourself as being less intelligent than others? Did other kids at school call you "dumb"? If so, how did this make you feel about your ability to learn and be considered a good student?

I know someone who was "held back" in first grade, and lived with the stigma of being academically "slow" for the rest of his school career. Yes, he had difficulty with classes that focused on reading and writing. But, I assure you—he was **not** stupid! He had above-average artistic skills, and remains one of the most creative people I know. He was also an excellent athlete who became a star running back in football and one of the school's fastest runners in track.

Perhaps you know someone like this, or maybe this is similar to your story. Many people, simply because they do not excel in certain subjects at school, are labeled as "dumb" or "slow" and are considered inferior to other "better" students.

But are they really dumber? Are they in fact inferior?

Or is it just that most traditional school systems focus on a particular approach to reading, writing and arithmetic? What about those students whose natural abilities do not lend themselves to success in those areas? Who—and what—really is "stupid"?

A Broader View

Kathy Koch is an educator, author and motivational speaker who believes that everyone is smart. She also teaches that a new understanding of "smart" is necessary. Here is something she wrote at her Web site, *CelebrateKids.com*: "A question children shouldn't

need to ask is, 'Am I smart?' because the answer is always, 'yes.' If they're asking this question, it's because they're doubting themselves, have been made to feel stupid by something or someone, and need to be encouraged."

One tragedy of being labeled "stupid" is that people can believe the label and sell themselves short in important ways. Even as adults, many continue to feel inferior because they received the message in school that they did not measure up academically—despite the fact that this message was based on a system that tends to reward those who do well in a narrow set of criteria, primarily in language and mathematical skills.

While these aptitudes are vitally important, they are only two of the eight areas of intelligence that Dr. Koch and some others believe all people have. Discovering and developing the other six can help people discover for themselves that they are not stupid, even if they have not done well in certain subjects.

Eight Kinds of Smart

Dr. Howard Gardner, a professor of education at Harvard University, is credited with developing the theory of multiple intelligences. In 1983, he wrote a book, *Multiple Intelligences*, describing them and their meaning. Educator Thomas Armstrong, Ph.D., has since simplified the original labels to make them easier to understand. Here is each one with a brief description:

Word Smart: This is thinking in words, and enjoying using them to read, write, tell stories, persuade, entertain or instruct.

Logic Smart: Those who demonstrate the ability to reason, categorize and understand cause-andeffect relationships. They have a natural inclination toward math, science, statistics, puzzles and asking questions.

Picture Smart: People who think visually and enjoy creating art, designing, making crafts, learning history, photography, beauty and building toys gravitate toward this intelligence.

Music Smart: Thinking in rhythms and melodies, with ability in music, singing, or having a musical ear describe this type of smart.

Body Smart: This is being able to control body movements through physical activities such as sports or dancing, but also sewing or carpentry.

Nature Smart: If you are drawn to being outdoors and have a strong interest in animals, plants, rocks, stars, camping, hiking and other facets of nature, you have this type of intelligence.

People Smart: Those who understand and are able to discern and respond to the moods, intentions and desires of others are people smart. They enjoy working with and getting to know others, and often make good leaders.

Self Smart: A person who likes to reflect and naturally has good self-understanding fits into this smart. These tend to be those who are comfortable being by themselves, and tend to be independent, goal-oriented and selfdisciplined.

By broadening our understanding of what it means to be smart, it becomes easier to understand that it is not whether we are "smart" or "stupid"—the right question to ask becomes, "In what ways am I smart?" Then, once we understand the ways in which we are smart, we can use those abilities to achieve success.

Developing Your "Smarts"

Look around, and you will see the world is filled with successful people who excel in various aptitudes that are not rewarded in traditional classroom settings. Even significant contributors to society, such as Thomas Edison and Albert Einstein, struggled in particular areas of learning at school, but visibly flourished when they were able to fully develop other aspects of their intellect.

Gardner believes that everyone is born with all eight of these smarts, and that each will develop as a result of both natural abilities and opportunities to use that particular kind of intelligence. So, how can you find your smarts, and identify opportunities to develop them further?

First, notice what you naturally like to do. Do you like to read? If so, you are probably "word smart." But you might also be "logic smart" if your reading gravitates toward detective fiction or mystery stories. Do you like to ride a skateboard, or to ski? Even if you are not the point guard on your high school basketball team, this might indicate that you are "body smart" and can develop toward success using that aptitude.

Next, look for opportunities to further enhance the skills you already have while stretching yourself to try activities that develop those abilities that

are less natural to you. For instance, if you have very little in the way of music smarts, use your other smarts to expose yourself to ways to grow that intelligence, perhaps by studying music history or even learning to play an instrument.

As you do so, not only will you develop new skills; you will also grow in the confidence to tackle other new challenges, unfettered by fears that you are "stupid" and unable to grow.

We all have God-given talents and abilities that should be developed as we have opportunities, as Jesus Christ explained in the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30). Even if you have not yet found which smarts you have, you can be sure they are there—waiting to be discovered. When you find them, develop them, and you will experience

for yourself the truth that you are **not** stupid!

—Phil Sena

Learn to slowly and carefully read two or three chapters, at least, in each of your times of study. *Mark* the key passages that are of most importance, and then go back and review them at the end of your study. Then review, in your next study session, the three chapters you have gone over before by noting quickly the key areas you have marked, then proceed through the next three or four chapters and *think about* what you are reading—asking God for *genuine understanding*.

True Christian Meditation

It is also vital to learn the importance of Christian **meditation**. This is **not** simply "emptying your mind" as some of the eastern religions proclaim. It is, rather, the *focusing* of your mind on a single theme—turning it over and over in your mind to gain understanding. So *your theme* should be trying to truly understand what God is saying through His inspired word. You should, therefore, take time after each study period and perhaps again later in the day to *carefully meditate* on what you have read, asking God over and over to give you genuine *understanding*, *knowledge* and the *willingness* to do His will as revealed in His inspired word.

Then, *after* you have studied and meditated, you will have far more understanding of *how* to pray and of the nature of the **real God** to whom you are praying. Read the examples of Christ's prayers, and **how** He prayed to God—and of **how** the prophet Daniel prayed to God, and of **how** King David prayed to

for His help, His guidance, His protection, His leading. *Please think about it that way!*

Learn to talk to God **fervently** for, as I have indicated before, God does not appreciate "half-hearted" prayers. Remember the example of our Savior, Jesus Christ, "who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up **prayers** and supplications, with vehement **cries** and **tears** to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear" (Hebrews 5:7). Jesus set us the *supreme example* of how we ought to genuinely "seek God" with **all** our hearts!

Along with genuine *study* of the Bible on a regular basis, regular meditation, and fervent **prayer** each



morning and throughout the day, another vital key in seeking God is the practice of **fasting**. Throughout

the Bible, we find that God's true servants would abstain from both food and water for at least a day or two when faced with a genuine crisis.

Use the "Tool" of FASTING

Note how Moses, the "man of God," sought God and explained that when he went up to Him to receive the Ten Commandments, "then I stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights. I neither ate bread nor drank water" (Deuteronomy 9:9).

One of the greatest "women of God" revealed in the Bible, Queen Esther, instructed her Uncle Mor-

decai at a time when the Persian King was set to destroy the Jews: "Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither

eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will **fast** likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!" (Esther 4:16).

Therefore, no doubt *hundreds* or even thousands of her fellow Jews began fervently **fasting** and seeking God on behalf of their people and of Queen Esther. The whole situation was then turned around in a remarkable way! Read the "rest of the story" in the book of Esther!

LEARN TO TALK TO GOD FERVENTLY, FOR HE DOES NOT APPRECIATE "HALF-HEARTED" PRAYERS!

God—and read the inspiring examples throughout the entire book of Psalms. As you follow their example, you will be able to "pour out your heart" to your Creator in a meaningful way—and in a way He will *hear* and **answer**.

Learn to *start each day* with prayer before you leave your home. For going out of the door in the morning without praying is almost like going out "naked." For you are—in a sense—*spiritually naked* if you leave your home and have not prayed to the Creator



When the Apostle Paul was struck down and blinded when he was on the way to Damascus to persecute the Christians, he knew what to do. For the Bible reveals that, as he began to repent and seek God, "he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank" (Acts 9:9). So this man who became one of the greatest apostles of all time

began to "seek God" by **fasting**, cutting himself off from food and water for a period of time in order to *humble himself*, in order to *focus* his entire being on God and His will through *prayer* and **fasting**.

Also, it is good to remember that—especially in our modern time of so many physical weaknesses and ailments—it is wise to be careful in fasting more than one day. Jesus Christ could fast for 40 days, but we should not just "assume" that we can duplicate His example in this regard. Certainly, if you have any serious medical condition, you should heed the advice of a respected medical professional before going on any kind of "unusual" fast beyond what God commands of His people (e.g. the Day of Atonement).

Nevertheless, **fasting** is a vital "tool" in genuinely seeking God and trying to draw close to our Creator. As you can see, this tool was used over and over by the true servants of God down through history. Certainly, exercising the "tools" of Bible study, meditation, prayer and fasting is *vital*.

Doers of the Word

Beyond all of this, Scripture clearly reveals in many places this principle: "But be **doers** of the word, and

not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22). Jesus Christ Himself declared: "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). So above and beyond simply drinking in of God's mind and will through using the "tools" outlined above, each of us must learn to be **doers** of God's word. We must learn to obey our Creator as Jesus Christ said so many times. And we must so surrender to God that Jesus Christ literally lives within us the same faithful, obedient life that He lived on this earth 1,900 years ago! As the Apostle Paul was inspired to state: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20, KJV). So we must learn to keep holy the days Christ kept holy. We must live the same pattern of life that He lived. We must literally **obey** the Ten Commandments as He did-since He will be literally living His life within us through the Holy Spirit (John 15:10).

If you are truly interested in imitating Christ, I urge you to write to the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 4 of this magazine) for our very inspiring and thorough booklet, *The Ten Commandments*. It will be sent absolutely free and postpaid. It will *spell out* how Christ is to live His life in you and me. You will find it *most helpful*. Order it today, or read it online at *TomorrowsWorld.org*.

May God help **all** of you dear subscribers learn to truly "seek" God during the most upsetting, traumatic and difficult years just ahead. *Then* you will begin to see what you **really** ought to be doing. Then, God will undoubtedly open your mind to understand His will—**if** you truly seek Him with all your heart, mind and soul and are willing to actually **do** what He says in His inspired word. May God help *you* to *take action*! As the Apostle Peter was inspired to tell us: "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you **do these things** you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:10–11).

MAY WE SUGGEST? **What Is a True Christian?** As you seek God and draw closer to Him, you will more and more think and act like Him! Request a **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.





The Liquid of Life

ne of the marvels of our beautiful creation is all around us—taken for granted and often unnoticed. In fact, sometimes we are looking right through it! Though incredibly common on our planet, it represents one of the most remarkable substances in the universe. What is it?

This marvel is *water*, and its extraordinary properties make it a fascinating indication of the intelligence and foresight of our loving Creator.

The intimate connection between life and water is prominent in scientists' search for life beyond the earth. We send probes looking for water on Mars. We examine the spectrum of light from worlds far out into space, looking for telltale signs of water in exoplanet atmospheres. With the recent discovery of what appear to be water geysers on Jupiter's moon Europa, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is looking at different ways to mount a space mission to send a probe or even a robotic rover to that far-off world to examine, experiment and explore.

Why?

Because scientists generally agree that the largest hope of finding life on another world is finding water, thought by most to be a virtually *indispensable* ingredient to life.

What makes water so special? What properties does water possess that make it such a fundamental, essential component to life on earth—to our lives?

Common Yet Uncommon

As a substance in and of itself, water is not particularly *complicated*. A molecule of water is *very* simple and is

composed of some of the most abundant elements on earth. We see this in its chemical formula: $\rm H_2O-two$ atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen.

Amazingly, hydrogen and oxygen by themselves are gases under normal Earth temperature conditions, and are highly flammable—even *explosive*. Yet, once combined, they form liquid water: something people reach for to *put out* a fire!

But while water may be simple and common, its collection of properties is *far* from common. In fact, the substance is, in many ways, absolutely *unique*—and can be considered one of the most remarkable materials in all of creation.

Consider some of the thermodynamic properties of water. Most substances expand when heated and shrink when cooled—most substances, that is, except for water! As the temperature of water drops on its way to freezing, it shrinks like most materials until it hits 4° Celsius—at which point it begins to expand! This means that, when water becomes completely frozen at 0° Celsius, it is lighter than the water around it, and it floats, unlike other materials that would simply become dense and sink!

What does this amazing quality mean for life on our planet? Because of this very unusual characteristic, our planet's ponds, streams and lakes never freeze all the way through! Instead of a liquid simply turning into ice, as happens when many liquids freeze, ice forms on the top of the liquid water beneath it! The liquid water stays above freezing temperatures, allowing aquatic life forms to survive the cold—preserving our food chain and, with it, life on earth.

Water's remarkable capacity to store heat energy also plays a vital role in preserving life on our planet.

In summer months, Earth's oceans and lakes absorb a vast quantity of the sun's heat energy, storing it away and moderating global temperatures. Then, in winter, that heat energy is released back into the environment, creating the *reverse* effect—adding warmth in a way that prevents the winter from being too cold for life to survive.

Remarkable Water Vapor!

Another vital property of water is one you will never directly observe—because it is apparently designed to be invisible! Earth's atmosphere contains a gaseous form of water called water vapor. Nearly all of what we call "weather" involves the atmosphere's water vapor: condensed as clouds or fog, falling as rain or hail, or whipping around us as snow. Water in the air, like other substances, absorbs light at certain wavelengths—meaning certain varieties of light are not able to pass through it. In the case of water, the blocked varieties of light are the invisible kinds we call infrared and ultraviolet. In fact, it is water's ability to absorb ultraviolet—or UV—light that helps protect human skin from the sun's potentially damaging UV rays.

Yet, while water vapor powerfully blocks most wavelengths, there is a narrow band of light that water allows to pass right through: the visible part of light we need to see! Every color of the rainbow can pass through water vapor unhindered, leaving the air crystal clear for our eyes to see the world around us.



Water is also one of the primary tools used by nature—wielded as a flowing river, persistent rain, or freezing ice—to wear down mountains and break up rocks, creating rich soil full of nutrients for vegetation. But, consider: How do those nutrients in the soil reach every part—every branch and every leaf—of the plants of the world? Consider the mighty California Redwoods, the tallest trees on the planet, some growing more than 100

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The Real God: Proofs and Promises



meters high. How do the nutrients and minerals in the soil, needed to feed and sustain such giants, reach the very

top, day in and day out? A tree has no heart to pump "blood," nor is there an elevator.

Enter, once again, the power of water. Water is attracted to the materials in the roots, and the bonds between water molecules are so unusually strong that as some water "climbs" through the roots, it keeps bringing more water with it! This drawing power of water is so strong that a redwood tree—with neither muscle nor motor, neither pump nor power—can draw four tons of water every day into its leaves to be evaporated!

The list could go on and on. In its rare and one-of-a-kind properties, water demonstrates the love and care of our divinely intelligent Creator! Seemingly among the simplest of substances, H₂O is far from simple. It truly is a "wonder material" that makes *all life on earth* possible.

Rivers of Living Water!

Significantly, when Jesus Christ wanted to teach His audience about what God would make available to those who believed His teachings and chose the way of life He offered, He used water to picture the Holy Spirit: "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" (John 7:37–38). Considering what we know about the vital role of water in our physical life, is it any wonder that Christ chose wondrous, life-enabling water as a symbol for the wondrous, life-giving Spirit of God?

We should all thank God for the wisdom with which He has designed our world and made it a perfect home for us—where even the most common substance silently declares His glory!

-Wallace G. Smith

A LESSON IN KITE-FLYING

What is the small-but-vital detail that can help you stay on course?

hen the weather warms and the wind blows at a constant pace, a wide variety of kite kit displays are sure to appear in the stores.

The winter chill is gradually being pushed aside, along with those fluffy white clouds. Your local park becomes a good destination for a lazy Sunday adventure in flight.

After a quick stop at the store to buy the essential package, you are on your way. You start with a plastic sheet, perhaps decorated with your favorite fictional character or an intricate artistic design. Then you add a plastic tube frame and a small roll of twine. Quickly, you assemble the kite's pieces and parts into the grand work of art advertised on the package.

Your wet index finger reveals the direction of the wind. This time, it is coming from the west. You are ready to be the next aviation superstar—another Charles Lindbergh.

You prepare your craft with all care, waiting for that perfect gust. The swell gathers. The twine is secured in the palm of your hand. You release your kite into the passing breeze.

Then, the crash occurs. Down goes the kite, in what seemed like a fraction of a second.

What could cause such a disaster? Everything seemed to be perfect. The breeze was blowing. The kite was sturdy—constructed with a soundness and care that would make Wilbur and Orville Wright proud. Yet, it still came crashing to the ground.

Suddenly, while you are examining the wreckage of your once-beautiful flying machine, a passing eightyear-old asks you, "Where's your tail?"

What?

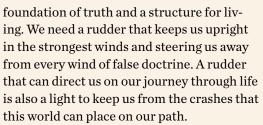
A kite tail is a cloth strip attached to the "toe" or bottom point of the kite, to work as a rudder. The tail attachment provides enough weight for the entire apparatus to stand upright, and it supplies guidance in the breeze.

"Aha!" you say. "How simple! How could I have forgotten?" Eagerly, you find a strip of cloth you can use, then secure it to your kite.

Your re-moistened index finger tip reconfirms the wind direction. The trees around you echo with the approaching gust. The wind passes and gracefully lifts your plastic aircraft skyward. Up it goes! And, this time, it stays!

What Is Your Rudder?

We all need a rudder in our personal lives, but it has to be much more than a cloth fragment. Our rudder needs to be an unwavering belief—a



Nearly 2,000 years ago, a young teacher was confronted by the most evil of forces. He was questioned on the simplest basics of beliefs, doctrines, plans and desires. His rudder was firm, secure and carried more weight than any human being had ever known. That young man, Jesus Christ, knew that His rudder was the word of God (Matthew 4:1–11).

Ancient King David explained in Psalm 119:97–104 that this rudder for true success in life was given to mankind for knowledge, direction and happiness. David understood that he was given direct insight into the mind of God through the use of this rudder—so he was careful to use it very wisely in his duties as a king, and he carefully sought to pass it down to his children. In doing so, he became known as a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22).

The exact same rudder is available to each of us—but we must be willing to attach it to our own life. We can make the word of God our personal rudder, which will keep us upright and flying level.

Call or write to the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 4 of this magazine) to receive our free booklet *The Bible: Fact or Fiction?* Or read it online at our *TomorrowsWorld.org* Web site. It will help you put a rudder on your life.

-Lehman B. Lyons, Jr.

LETTERS TO TWO TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

I would like to express my gratitude for your in-depth knowledge, insight and wisdom in teaching on true biblical prophecy. Powerfully explained with clarity and its deepest meaning based upon the scriptures. Your teaching materials always touch the very core of my being. Thank you all at *Tomorrow's World* for being true servants, an open vessel for carrying the truth of God's Word. Through your magazines and booklets this has not only opened my eyes to the real meaning of what I read in my Bible but also causing a great hunger for the Word, to know the truth, seeing God's hand in our lives and in world events. I would like to take this opportunity to kindly ask you for your *Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course*.

A.B., Midlands, England

Editor's Note: While the majority of *Tomorrow's World* magazine readers watch the telecast over the air on one of several hundred television stations that carry the program, a growing number enjoy watching on the Web at *TomorrowsWorld.org*, or via a streaming media player such as Roku, where you can watch at any time of day, any day of the week, no matter when or where the telecast is aired near you.

Your article "Who are the Irish?" (March-April 2014) was excellent! My ancestors are from northwest Spain, the region called Galicians. We divided the land like the Irish, eat lots of potatoes, speak a language that combines the Latin and Irish dialects, and the bagpipe is our main instrument in all our music.

L.B., Flowery Branch, GA

I enjoy every single magazine I receive and I have kept every single issue, as I display them on my coffee table

after reading. Many guests and relatives can't help but pick it up and read it. Your small publication goes much further than you realize. Thank you so much for the many blessings you have brought into my home. I also watch your program and tape it if I will not be available.

D.C., St. Rose, LA

I just want to say God bless you all at *Tomorrow's World* for helping me through my journey to better understand God's word and what it is He expects from me. My journey began about seven months ago. All the things I didn't understand all of a sudden started to make sense. Me and my husband and kids no longer celebrate Christmas, Halloween, Easter, or Valentine's Day. A lot of our family thinks we are atheist, because even with the evidence we show them they refuse to believe that Dec 25 isn't God's birthday. It makes me sad that they won't even be open minded enough to even see concrete proof. Thank you for giving me information!

M.A., Tyler, TX

I am disabled and often get depressed because of the evil and uncertainty of our times. Years ago I found your Web site. It gives me comfort and hope. I have learned a lot. I read the Bible all of the time and I agree that it is the only way you are going to know if someone is right when they start quoting the Bible. I have often found error in churches and pamphlets. I have also found when I am hearing the truth. That is why, when I heard your telecast for the first time, I knew you were speaking the truth! In these latter days you provide me with comfort and knowledge of God's blessings. I thank you for your part in showing people the way.

M.S., Branson, MO

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Mail your letters to "Letters to the Editor" at our U.S. address, or send e-mail to: Letters@TomorrowsWorld.org. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.



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		MO 2:00 a.m.		Garden Grove		SU 6:30 p.m.		Latonia	PEG	TH 12:00 a.m.	MS	Biloxi	WBGP	SU 7:00 a.m.
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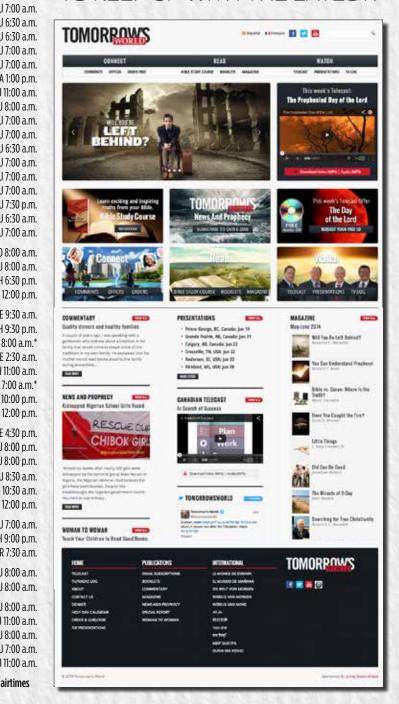
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Mediacom

NY	Albany	WCWN	SU 7:00 a.m.		Jackson	WBJK	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Albany-Troy	Time Warner	M0 3:00 p.m.		Knoxville	WBXX	SU 7:30 a.m.
	Batavia	Time Warner	SU 2:00 p.m.		La Follette	Comcast-WLAF	WE 6:00 p.m.
	Batavia	Time Warner	TU 5:30 p.m.		Nashville	WZTV	SU 6:30 a.m.
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	Binghamton	Time Warner	FR 8:00 p.m.		Austin	KNVA	SU 6:30 a.m.
	Binghamton	WBNG	SU 8:00 a.m.		Beaumont	KBTV	SU 6:30 a.m.
	Brookhaven	Cablevision	SU 11:00 p.m.		Beaumont	KFDM	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Brooklyn	BCAT	SU 7:30 p.m.		Corpus Christi	KRIS	SU 7:00 a.m.
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	Hauppauge	Cablevision	SU 11:00 p.m.		Lufkin	KTRE	SU 6:30 a.m.
	Manhattan	MNN	SA 7:00 p.m.		McAllen	KSFE-LP	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Oneida	Access	TH 2:00 p.m.		Midland	KWWT	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Oneida	Access	TH 7:00 p.m.		Odessa	KWWT	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Queens	Public Access	MO 11:00 p.m.		Temple	KPLE	SU 7:30 p.m.
	Queens	Public Access	TU 4:30 p.m.		Tyler	KLTV	SU 6:30 a.m.
	Riverhead	Cablevision	SA 10:30 p.m. SU 11:30 a.m.		Waco	KWKT	SU 7:00 a.m.
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	Rockland Cty.	Cablevision	TH 9:30 p.m.		Chesterfield	Comcast	TH 6:30 p.m.
	Schenectady	WCWN	SU 7:00 a.m.		Fairfax	Public Access	M0 12:00 p.m.
	Staten Island	Community	SU 8:00 p.m.	VIT			
	Staten Island	Community	TU 2:00 p.m.	VT	Bennington	CAT	WE 9:30 a.m.
	Syracuse	Time Warner	SU 7:30 p.m.		Bennington	CAT	TH 9:30 p.m.
	Webster	Cable Access	SU 9:30 a.m.		Bennington	CAT	SA 8:00 a.m.*
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	Cincinnati	Time Warner	TH 8:30 a.m.		Springfield	Public Access	TH 10:00 p.m.
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	Fairborn	CAC	TU 1:00 p.m. TU 12:00 p.m.				
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OR	Bend	KTVZ	SU 8:00 a.m.		Kennewick	Charter	TU 8:00 p.m.
	Eugene	KMTR	SU 8:00 a.m.		Vancouver	Community	SU 8:30 a.m.
	Medford	KTVL	SU 8:00 a.m.		Vancouver	Community	TU 10:30 a.m.
	Oregon City	Access WFTV	SU 8:00 a.m.		Vancouver	Community	WE 12:00 p.m.
	Oregon City	Access WFTV	SA 8:00 a.m.	WI	La Crosse	WQOW	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Portland	Community	SU 12:30 p.m.		Wausau	Charter	TH 9:00 p.m.
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	Erie	WBEP	SU 8:00 a.m.	VVV	Clarksburg	WVFX	SU 8:00 a.m.
	Johnstown	Atl. Broadband	M0 10:00 p.m.				
	Scranton	FOX	TH 5:00 a.m.	WY	Casper	KGWC	SU 8:00 a.m.
	Scranton	FOX	SA 5:00 a.m.		Casper	KTW0	SU 11:00 a.m.
SC	Charleston	WCBD	SU 8:00 a.m.		Cheyenne	KGWN	SU 8:00 a.m.
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CD					Cheyenne	KLWY	SU 11:00 a.m.
2D	Rapid City	KWBH	SU 7:00 a.m.		*Check local list	tings for additio	nal airtimes
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TO KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST!















UPCOMING TELECASTS

The Sabbath Controversy

The first Christians kept the seventh-day Sabbath. Should you? July 17-23

The World of Angels and Demons

Do you know what Jesus Christ taught about the spirit world? July 24-30

How to Watch World Events

Jesus told His disciples to "watch" for His return, and He told them how.

July 31-August 6

Seven Keys to Answered Prayer

Learn how to receive the answers you need when you pray! August 7-13

Anything Goes

What will be the result of mankind's modern lawless ways? August 14-20

God's Master Plan

Seven festivals given in Scripture reveal what God is doing in our lives! August 21-27

Schedule subject to change

TOMORRON

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Join us on WGN Sundays at 8:30 a.m. E.T. and BET Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m. E.T.

