

March-April 2002

Tomorrow's World

...For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

A man in a dark suit is the central focus, shown in profile with his eyes closed and hands clasped in prayer. He is surrounded by a group of people in a church setting. In the background, a woman in a white shirt and a man in a blue shirt are visible. To the right, a woman in a blue sweater is looking down at a small white cup. In the foreground, a woman in a purple top is also looking down, and another woman in a blue top is visible on the left. The scene is lit with soft, warm light, suggesting a church service or a moment of collective prayer.

Comfort in Times of Tragedy

Inside

Feature Article



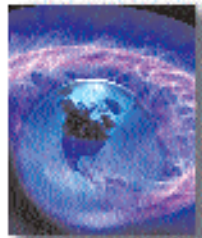
Comfort in Times of Tragedy 10

When tragedy strikes, it may shatter our hopes for security and peace. We may need to reach out to others, or we may need someone to reach out to us. How can we find comfort in times of suffering and uncertainty? Scripture provides a hope-filled answer.



What Would Jesus Do? 4

It is a slogan found on bracelets, hats and other youth accessories. But for most, it is just a fad, a gimmick or a fashion statement. Very few seem to want to know the answer to the question. What *would* Jesus do—and what should we do in response?



America's Protective Shield 14

For decades, the United States has felt invulnerable to the world's ills. But in a flash, on September 11, 2001, Americans woke up to the perilous reality that they, too, are vulnerable. Has God been protecting America? Do recent events signal a change?



How Will the Earth Be Restored? 20

Scientists warn that parts of our planet may become uninhabitable within 30 to 50 years. How should we respond to this global environmental crisis? Scripture shows us how we can heal our environment now, and how God will guide it in the future.



Conflict Over the "City of Peace" 26

One tiny city, Jerusalem, again and again finds itself at the heart of international disputes. Mankind's best efforts have failed to resolve the age-old conflicts over this troubled city. But Scripture reveals that peace will finally come to the "city of peace."

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Personal | 3 |
| Questions & Answers | 9 |
| Letters to the Editor | 19 |
| Prophecy Comes Alive | 24 |
| TV/Radio Log | 31 |

EDITOR IN CHIEF **Roderick C. Meredith**
 EDITORIAL DIRECTOR **Richard F. Ames**
 EXECUTIVE EDITOR **William Bowmer**
 MANAGING EDITOR **Gary F. Ehman**

REGIONAL EDITORS:

Rod McNair (Philippines)
Bruce Tyler (Australia)
Gerald Weston (Canada)
Douglas S. Winnail (Europe)

ART DIRECTOR **Donna Prejean**

PROOFREADERS:

Sandy Davis
Linda Ehman

NEWS BUREAU **June Olsen**

Regional Offices

UNITED STATES:

P.O. Box 503077
 SAN DIEGO, CA 92150-3077
 PHONE: (858) 673-7470
 FAX: (858) 673-0310
www.tomorrowworld.org

AUSTRALIA:

GPO Box 772
 CANBERRA, ACT 2601
 PHONE: (07) 3841-8360
 OR FREECALL: 1800-816-543
 FAX: (07) 3841-8325

CANADA:

P.O. Box 27202
 TORONTO, ONTARIO M9W 6L0
 PHONE: (905) 671-3730
 FAX: (905) 671-9599

NEW ZEALAND:

P.O. Box 2767
 AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND
 PHONE/FAX: (09) 435-3592

PHILIPPINES:

MCPO Box 1774
 MAKATI CITY 1257, PHILIPPINES
 PHONE: 63-2-813-6538
 FAX: 63-2-867-1569

SOUTH AFRICA:

P.O. Box 4271, LUIPAARDSVLEI, 1743
 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
 PHONE: (27) 11-664-6036

UNITED KINGDOM:

P.O. Box 9092
 MOTHERWELL, ML1 2YD SCOTLAND
 PHONE/FAX: 44-1698-263-977

Tomorrow's World has no subscription price. Its free distribution is made possible by tithes and offerings of members of the Living Church of God, and by others who have chosen to become co-workers with us in proclaiming Christ's true Gospel to all nations. Contributions are gratefully acknowledged and may be tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and other countries.

All scripture references are from the *New King James Version* unless otherwise noted.

Tomorrow's World® is published by the Living Church of God™, 16935 W. Bernardo Dr., Suite 260, San Diego, CA, 92127. ©2002 Living Church of God. Printed in the U.S.A. All rights reserved. Canada subscriptions: Canada Post Agreement Number 1545396. Send change of address information and blocks of undeliverable copies to P.O. Box 1051, Fort Erie, ON L2A 6C7. Periodicals postage paid at San Diego, CA and at additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to *Tomorrow's World*, P.O. Box 503077, San Diego, CA 92150.

Tomorrow's World is protected through trademark registration in the United States, and by international treaties. Trademark registration pending in other countries. The symbol ®, appearing herein, does not indicate trademark registration in countries where it is not yet registered or protected by treaty.

*Application pending. The symbol ™ appearing herein does not indicate trademark registration.



Personal

By Roderick C. Meredith, Editor in Chief

Loyalty to Our Leaders

After some of the leadership fiascos in Washington, DC in recent years, Americans should be very thankful to have a good and decent husband and wife team now occupying the White House. We can pray heartily for President and Mrs. George W. Bush, and ask God's guidance for them. And *all* of God's people around the world can and should pray for their human leaders, even though none are perfect.

The great God who rules over the nations tells us through the Apostle Paul: "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence" (1 Timothy 2:1-2). This does not mean that we agree with all the ideas, behaviors and policies of these men or women. It means that we deeply respect the *office* in which they are serving, for the office is ultimately of God.

The prophet Daniel tells us (Daniel 4:17) that "the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men." Throughout the Bible, God clearly indicates that He wants all humans to *respect authority*. For the ultimate Authority is **God Himself**. If a child, for instance, does not learn to respect his parents, his teachers and the civic authorities as he grows up, he may easily become a rebel or even a hardened criminal as an adult! Ultimately, he will not even respect God because of this approach to life that he has been allowed to develop.

When describing some of the early apostates who "turned the grace of our God into licentiousness" (Jude 3-4) and who virtually took over the professing Christian church, the inspired Apostle Jude writes: "Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries. Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body

of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, 'The Lord rebuke you!'" (vv. 8-9). It is interesting and significant that Michael the archangel did not even revile Satan the Devil! For Satan still occupied an office. Even now, until Christ returns, Satan is "the god of this age" (2 Corinthians 4:3-4), and Jesus called Satan "the ruler of this world" (John 14:30).

Therefore, even if a religious or political office is misused, or obviously wrong decisions are made by one in high office, true Christians should *respect the office* of those involved even though they may not agree with the decisions. This simply means that we respect the fact that God is ultimately in charge and that we will wait on **Him** to remove any evil or misguided men from office—or straighten things out in some other way in *God's own time*.

In some cases—usually very rare cases—we may honor the office involved yet *disobey* certain directives coming from that office. An early example of this was the situation surrounding Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego (Daniel 3). They definitely showed *respect* to King Nebuchadnezzar, yet they had to obey the higher authority of Almighty God who had commanded them **not** to bow down before idols! So did they rebel or try to assassinate the king? Of course not! They made themselves subject to the *penalty* Nebuchadnezzar imposed, and looked to **God** to either deliver them or resurrect them in His time. They put their *trust* in **God**, though they respected human authorities even as they did so!

In the New Testament, we read the example of Peter and the rest of the Apostles being threatened by the Jewish authorities. When they were commanded *not* to preach about Jesus Christ, they answered respectfully but stated very clearly: "We

Continued on page 30

What Would Jesus Do?



By Roderick C. Meredith

Millions are asking this question. But most people become really mixed up on this vital topic! How can you really be sure what Jesus would do?

All across the United States, young people are wearing “WWJD” hats, bracelets and other items. Some few really want to know *what Jesus would do* if He were alive on earth today. But for most it is just a fad, an item of clothing or a cute gimmick.

As the *Associated Press* reported from Dallas, TX, on July 24, 1998: “Lee Ferguson, fresh out of the pool after swim practice, sits with her pals under a shade tree fiddling with her fluorescent yellow bracelet embroidered with the letters ‘W.W.J.D.’ Ah, youth. Is this another teen-ager pondering the question, ‘What Would Jesus Do?’—a slogan that’s wrapping wrists of kids across the country? ‘I wear it because it matches my bathing suit,’ said Ferguson, a blue-eyed 14-year-old hanging out at a Dallas neighborhood pool club. WWJD bracelets are not just for church kids anymore. In fact, some kids have changed the meaning to ‘We Want Jack Daniels.’ Great. Just great.”

During the past presidential campaign, Al Gore commented that he often asked himself: “What would Jesus do?” In reaching out for the “religious vote,” both Gore and George W. Bush indicated that they wanted to follow Christ’s example.

If folks **really** want to know what Jesus would do, *how can they find the absolute authoritative answer?* How can they *know* what Jesus would actually do?

The answer is simple.

Yes, **simple!**

Because *if* you believe that the Bible truly is the inspired Word of God, then you can pretty well narrow down what Jesus would do in most situations if He were alive in the flesh on earth today!

The “key” to genuine understanding on this topic is found in the New Testament book of Hebrews, where God tells us: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). This inspired scripture indicates that Jesus would do *as He did do* while in the human flesh! And *many* other scriptures indicate the same. Jesus said: “I and My Father are one” (John 10:30), and in Malachi 3:6, God tells us: “I am the LORD, I do **not** change!” Again, Jesus Himself tells us: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away” (Matthew 24:35). His message—His instructions—will **not** “pass away!”

Note carefully that at the very end of Jesus’ ministry—even *after* the cross and *after* His resurrection—Jesus strictly charged His disciples: “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations... teaching them to observe **all** things that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19–20).

Wow!

How plain can it be?

The Jesus Christ of your Bible did not want a “different” teaching introduced or a “different” example presented to the world after He ascended to heaven. He wanted His true servants to go out and teach the *same message*—the *same way of life*—“all things”—to “**all** the nations,” not just the Jews!

But is that what professing Christianity has been doing for the last 2,000 years?

No way!

“Another” Jesus Now Presented

Few today realize that a “different” Jesus Christ and “different” way of life have been presented to the world, by teachers wrongly doing so in His *name!* The Apostle Paul warned the Christians of His day: “For if he who comes preaches **another Jesus** whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted; you may well put up with it” (2 Corinthians 11:4).

For centuries, professing Christianity has been promulgating “another Jesus” and a message *totally unlike* the one Jesus proclaimed! As one author put it: “If by any chance Christ Himself had been taken by His later followers as the model and pattern of the new way, and a serious attempt had been made to set up His life and teaching as the standard and norm for the Church, Christianity would have been something vastly different from what it became. Then ‘heresy’ would have been, as it is not now,

deviation from His way, His teaching, His spirit, His kingdom” (*The Church’s Debt to Heretics*, Rufus M. Jones, pp. 15–16).

But what is *wrong* with Jesus’ own teaching and “His” way—the entire *way of life* Jesus and the original Apostles taught and lived? It was “too Jewish” for the early Roman Catholic bishops and monks to accept. They were prejudiced against the Jews, and were also trying to “win over” the pagans around them. They thought that by **changing** many biblical teachings and practices they would make it “easier” for the Gentile world to become “Christian.” What these misguided theologians apparently failed to realize was that their changed and watered-down “Christianity” was **not true Christianity at all!**

As another noted author admits: “As long as the church was mainly Jewish, the Hebrew Sabbath was kept; but as it became increasingly Gentile the first day gradually took the place of the seventh day” (*The Story of the Christian Church*, Jesse Lyman Hurlbut, p. 45).

Where did all of these changes lead? Again, Hurlbut sadly acknowledges: “The services of worship increased in splendor, but were less spiritual and hearty than those of former times. The forms and ceremonies of paganism gradually crept into the worship. Some of the old heathen feasts became church festivals with change of name and of worship. About 405AD, images of saints and martyrs began to appear in the churches, at first as memorials, then in succession revered, adored, and worshiped” (p. 79).

The early Catholic bishops indeed got “the world” to come

into their church. But what was the result? Hurlbut answers: “As a result of the church sitting in power, we do not see Christianity transforming the world to its own ideal, but the world dominating the church” (p. 79).

It should be obvious, dear reader, that “another Jesus” began to be presented to the world—a Jesus *vastly* “different” from the Jesus of the New Testament! So what was the Jesus of the Bible *really* like? What was His real

What exactly was Jesus’ perfect example—His perfect “way of life”? If Jesus were to return to earth in the human flesh, on *what day* of the week would He worship? This may shock some of you, but every honest Protestant or Catholic scholar *knows* that Jesus Christ kept the seventh-day Sabbath right along with the rest of the Jews!

Luke 4:16 describes Jesus’ customary way of worship: “So He came to Nazareth, where He

observe it, clear up to the end of the Apostolic Age—long after everything was “nailed to the cross.”

Think about that.

The Biblical Holy Days

If Jesus were on earth again in the flesh, which *annual* Holy Days or religious festivals would He observe? Would He be observing Christmas and Easter, as professing Christians do today?



This may shock some of you, but every honest Protestant or Catholic scholar *knows* that Jesus Christ kept the seventh-day Sabbath right along with the rest of the Jews!

teaching—His “way of life” and His *example*?

Jesus’ Actual Example

The Jesus Christ of your Bible grew up as a Jew in Israel, yet He was “Immanuel”—“God with us”—in the human flesh. And He set us the perfect *example* that we should “follow in His steps” (1 Peter 2:21). The Apostle John was inspired to tell us: “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to **walk just as He walked**” (1 John 2:6).

So true Christians are to **live**—or walk—just as Jesus walked. And we are definitely to **follow His example**.

“Okay,” you say, “that sounds very simple.”

Right.

But will you actually **do** this—even though it may cause you to be shunned, or perhaps even vilified, by “mainstream Christians?”

had been brought up. And *as His custom* was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.” When challenged about His disciples *violating* the Sabbath day, Jesus did *not* tell His accusers that the Sabbath was changed, or that it would later be changed to Sunday! Rather, Jesus said: “The Sabbath was made for *man* [not the Jews], and not man for the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27). Then Jesus proceeded to show *how* to **keep** the Sabbath and that it was proper to supernaturally **heal** and to “do good” on the Sabbath (Mark 3:1–5).

Jesus said: “The Sabbath was made for **man**.” Remember, the Sabbath was made *when man was made*, back at the very creation of man (Genesis 2:1–3)—**long before** there ever was a Jew! So the Sabbath was made for **all** of mankind as a day of rest and worship. Scripture proves that all true Christians *continued* to

Perhaps many of you do not realize this, but Christmas and Easter are **never** mentioned in the Bible! But there were seven *biblical* Holy Days set aside for annual observance—and Jesus did observe these, setting us an example. Remember: “Jesus Christ is the **same** yesterday, today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8).

As a 12-year-old, Jesus “grew and became strong in spirit, **filled** with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him.” Therefore, being guided by God’s Holy Spirit, what did He do? What was His *example*? “His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem” (Luke 2:40–43). Along with His parents, Jesus observed the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened

Bread—religious festivals long observed by the Jews.

Later, we find that Jesus—the *perfect example*—went up to observe the Feast of Tabernacles. As Jesus preached during this biblical festival, He told the people: “My doctrine is *not* Mine, but His who sent Me” (John 7:16). Jesus did **not** come to “change” the basic spiritual laws and teachings that He and the Father had given Israel. He came, rather, to “magnify” those laws and to bring out the full spiritual *meaning* of God’s commandments and laws (Isaiah 42:21).

For instance, Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount: “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Matthew 5:27–28). Did Jesus “do away” with God’s law against adultery? *Of course not!* He “magnified” it and made it all the more binding!

Near the end of His life, Jesus kept the Passover. “Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, ‘Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat’” (Luke 22:7–8).

Please read carefully Zechariah 14, which answers the question: “When Jesus Christ returns to earth, which religious festivals will He and true Christians observe?” We read that Christ is coming to this earth to bring the rebellious nations into submission. He will then be “King over all the earth” (v. 9). Now notice verse 16: “And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem

shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.”

Then, Zechariah 14:17–19 shows that God will withhold the rain and even bring a “plague” upon *all the nations of the earth* which do **not** come up to “keep” the Feast of Tabernacles! As King of kings, Jesus will *absolutely ensure* that **all** humans learn to keep the Feast of Tabernacles and the annual Holy Days, given by Him and the Father for Christians to keep for *all time!*

And we read in the book of Isaiah that in Christ’s coming Kingdom: “It shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one **Sabbath** to another, **all flesh** shall come to worship before Me,” says the LORD” (Isaiah 66:23).

You and I can be “pioneers” in humbly following Christ’s example and keeping God’s weekly Sabbath and His annual Holy Days now. In doing this, we will learn more about the great **plan** of God—the great **purpose** He is working out here on earth. For the weekly Sabbath is given as a reminder that the true God is the **Creator**. And God’s annual Holy Days show us—*step by step*—how God’s plan for the salvation of all humans who are willing is to be worked out.

Most professing Christians do **not** remotely understand God’s plan. This is, *in part*, because they have been deceived into keeping pagan, *non-biblical* religious festivals which came right out of the ancient worship of the various “gods” of the heathen world. This is strong language, but it is *absolutely true!* If you would like to learn the *truth* about God’s Sabbath and the biblical Holy

Days which Christ and the Apostles observed, which picture God’s great **plan**, please call us or write us immediately and request your copies of our “eye opening,” fully documented booklets *Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?* and *The Holy Days—God’s Master Plan*. Remember, *all* of our literature is absolutely free upon your request.

Jesus’ Example, Day by Day

As God in the flesh, setting us the *perfect example*, what was Jesus’ life like all during the year, day by day?

Every honest biblical scholar knows that, in the flesh, Jesus was obedient to the Father. Jesus said: “I have *kept* My Father’s commandments” (John 15:10). And, obviously speaking of the Ten Commandments, Jesus said: “Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:19).

So Jesus was zealously following the spiritual principles of the Ten Commandments, which show us *how* to love God and *how* to love our neighbor! Jesus *constantly prayed* and communed with His Father. He did not wait until late in the evening and make a brief “bedtime prayer.” Rather, as the gospel of Mark explains: “Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed” (Mark 1:35).

All day long, Jesus was loving, serving, healing and teaching

His fellow man God's way (Matthew 4:23). Jesus had total out-flowing concern for others. He was kind and patient. He was constantly *merciful*—even to the woman taken in adultery (John 8:3–11).

Jesus was a “giver.” He said: “It is more blessed to **give** than to receive” (Acts 20:35). He was **not** trying to gain fame or fortune. Rather, He “emptied” Himself of the divine glory He had possessed with the Father in order to serve and then **die** for all humanity (Philippians 2:5–8).

Jesus said: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to **serve**, and to give His life a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). All through His life, Jesus exemplified the second great commandment: “*You shall love your neighbor as yourself*” (Matthew 22:39).

To *really* understand what Jesus would do, you must understand that Jesus Christ was *God's Law Personified*! For the Apostle John was inspired to tell us: “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome” (1 John 5:3).

God's love runs down the “channel” or “riverbed” of the Ten Commandments! God wants us to express **His** love and follow His way of life, by *keeping* His commandments. Today, however, many psychologists, sociologists and “authorities” try to come up with various human “value systems” or standards of behavior, even though our Creator *already did this*—thousands of years ago! For the Ten Commandments, as magnified by Christ's life and His teaching, *perfectly* set forth a way of life that would bring *love, joy and peace* to all human kind if truly followed.

Many “religious” people—*especially* theologians—spend much time and energy searching for excuses to claim that God's spiritual Law need **not** be obeyed. If they would devote even *one-tenth* of that time and energy to studying the Ten Commandments in a *positive* way, and meditating on how to obey them fully, the human race would experience a depth of *peace* and *joy* that it has never experienced in all its history! If living again in the human flesh, Jesus would confront *every situation* with two eternal principles in mind:

How can I show **love** to God with all my heart, soul and mind?


How can I show **love** to my neighbor even as I would wish others to do for me? (Matthew 22:36–40).

Jesus would try to help, encourage and inspire all those around Him to fulfill their human potential. He would exercise patience, kindness, wisdom and self-control in all of this. If necessary, He would *correct people strongly* if they had rebellious or self-righteous attitudes—just as He did the religious leaders of His day (Matthew 23:15). Though God is **love**, the Bible tells us: “For whom the LORD loves He **chastens**, and scourges every son whom He receives” (Hebrews 12:6).

What would Jesus do?

Remember: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). If Jesus were living today in the human flesh, He would be the *perfect exemplification* of the Ten Commandments. He would face every situation with total, out-flowing concern for fellow man and with deep love, worship, adoration and obedience toward God the Father.

When Jesus Christ returns—this time as King of kings—the entire world will begin keeping God's true Sabbaths (Isaiah 66:23) and annual festivals (Zechariah 14:16–19). Out of Zion—then Christ's earthly headquarters—will go forth God's spiritual Law to the entire world (Isaiah 2:2–3). All nations will at last learn the *way of peace* and “neither shall they learn war anymore” (v. 4). If you would like more in-depth knowledge of what *true* Christianity is all about, call or write and request your *free* copy of our vital booklet: *Restoring Apostolic Christianity*.

You *can* know what Jesus would do in nearly every situation. But you have to be willing to *obey* His instruction: “**Study** to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, *rightly dividing the word of truth*” (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV). May God grant you the zeal and the courage to do just that—and to imitate the *real* Jesus Christ of the Bible! 

To Learn More...



Jesus' example shows us what we should do as

Christians. To learn more, please request our **FREE** booklet *What Is a True Christian?* or download it from the Literature section of our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org.

Questions & Answers

Q Most professing Christians believe that the saved will go to heaven at death. But they have little or no idea about what they will do in heaven. What does the Bible teach is the reward of the saved?

A The belief in “going to heaven” at death is not only held by most professing Christians. People all over the world, of many religions, cling to a belief in some kind of afterlife—some type of “reward” or blissful life after death.

Surprising as it may seem, neither Jesus nor the Apostles taught that the righteous go to heaven when they die! The “reward” Jesus promises His faithful followers (Revelation 22:12) is not heaven; it includes ruling with Christ on the earth. Note the admission of this secular encyclopedia:

“The dominant view in the early church seems to have been that until the return of the Lord upon the clouds of heaven to raise the dead, those who had died were asleep, and that they would be suddenly awakened to be given their new bodies, after which they would reign with Him on earth for a thousand years” (“Heaven,” *The New International Encyclopedia*, 1st edition).

The early Church of God, which Jesus Christ established, did not teach the concept of “going to heaven”—an idea that did not become accepted until long after the Apostles had died. Rather, Jesus plainly told His disciples: “No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man” (John 3:13). The Apostle Peter said that obedient King David, a man after God’s own heart (Acts 13:22), “is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day... For David did not ascend into the heavens” (Acts 2:29, 34).

Righteous King David did not go to heaven! He, like all the righteous men and women of God who have died, are still dead. They are awaiting a resurrection from their graves, when they shall receive spirit bodies that can never die again (1 Corinthians 15:50–53; 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17).

Eternal life is the gift of God (Romans 6:23), which Spirit-begotten Christians are to receive when resurrected or changed. But what is the “reward” Jesus will bring with Him?

Christ said that at His return He will reward all overcomers—all who grow in the spiritual character of God. Some will overcome and grow more than others, and Jesus said that He “will reward each according to his works” (Matthew 16:27; cf. Revelation 22:12).

God’s saints will not be strumming on harps up in heaven for eternity. Their destiny is infinitely more glorious and exciting! The Bible reveals that the “reward of the saved” will be rulership of the earth with Jesus Christ after He returns (Revelation 2:26; 3:21; 5:10). Jesus Christ and the resurrected Christians shall rule for 1,000 years (Revelation 20:4–6). They will teach the nations God’s way of life, which shall bring lasting peace, prosperity and joy to all mankind.

Scripture tells us that after God’s great Master Plan of salvation for mankind is complete, the surface of the earth will be purified by fire (2 Peter 3:10–12). A new earth and new heavens will emerge (2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:1). And the glorious new capital of the earth—the “New Jerusalem” sparkling with precious stones and with streets of transparent pure gold (Revelation 21:18–21)—will descend from heaven (Revelation 21:2, 10; 3:12). God the Father will then come and dwell *on the earth* in person, and will make the New Jerusalem the location of His glorious throne (Revelation 21:3, 22–23; 22:3–5), from where He and His immortal saints will go on to rule the entire universe!

To learn more about this amazing plan that God has in store for His faithful saints, please write for your free copy of our booklet *Your Ultimate Destiny*. The surprising and breathtaking truth is that “heaven” is coming to the earth—the very headquarters from which the God Family will rule the universe forever!

We all desire to have a secure, predictable and peaceful world. But when tragedy strikes, we awaken to new realities. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 shocked us. We suddenly realized our society's—and our own—vulnerability. Thousands died as a result of those attacks, and thousands more lost loved ones.

Most of us have lost loved ones at some time in our lives, whether through tragic accidents, disease or violence. How can we cope with such loss? Those who have lost loved ones need comforting. They need hope and reassurance. As Scripture says: "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). If you know someone who needs reassurance, give comfort. Let that person know you care. Give a hug or place a phone call. Provide help as you are able. When a loved one hurts, we suffer with that loved one. The Apostle Paul wrote that "there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suf-



By Richard F. Ames

When a nation faces a tragedy, how can it cope? And how do we work through the grief individually when we suddenly lose a loved one? There is hope for the future. You can find comfort and assurance!

rt in Times of Tragedy

fer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.” (1 Corinthians 12:25–26).

We can identify with those who suffer because we, most likely, have also suffered at one time or another in our own lives. We can empathize with their pain and with their loss. A widow or widower can find comfort in supportive friends and family. You can help others by giving comfort in times of tragedy. Our tears can demonstrate a deep concern for our friends and the victims of tragedy.

If you personally need comfort, there is a greater power in Heaven to give you that comfort. The Creator God, our Father in Heaven, Himself gives spiritual comfort. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God” (2 Corinthians 1:3–4).

God’s very name is “the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.” When we share our sorrow with our Father in Heaven, He gives comfort. Several of the Psalms express King David’s sorrow as he shared his intimate feelings in prayer. You, too, can pray using the Psalms. David cried out in prayer to his God: “Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; do not be silent at my tears; for I am a stranger with You, a sojourner, as all my fathers were” (Psalm 39:12). God answers prayer. David begins the very next Psalm exclaiming, “I waited patiently for the LORD; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry” (Psalm 40:1). God will hear your cry as well. Notice this encouraging promise: “Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him” (Psalm 126:5–6).

When we are honest with our feelings, and share them with God in Heaven, He promises to comfort us. Some of us struggle with the problem of evil in the world. We do not understand how an all-powerful God, who is love, can allow such evil in the world. God’s long-term plan of salvation takes this into account. There is a real devil who is out to destroy all humanity, and he uses human instruments to perpetrate death and destruction. Satan the

Devil is out to thwart God’s plan. But he has failed—and will yet utterly fail. We read in Revelation 20 that Satan will be cast into the great abyss at the beginning of the millennium, when Jesus Christ returns to establish the Kingdom of God on earth (Revelation 20:1–3).

There will be peace and harmony on Earth under Christ’s rulership! That is the good news—the gospel of the Kingdom of God. In the meantime, humanity must understand the realities of good and evil, and of cause and effect! Once mankind learns those deeper lessons through experience, pain, and suffering, it will ultimately choose to follow the only way to world peace—the way of life taught by your Bible and by Jesus Christ. There is hope! There is hope in the coming Kingdom of God, which will bring genuine and lasting world peace, reconciliation among nations and hope for eternal life.

There is hope in the resurrection of the dead. As the Apostle Peter wrote: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

When tragedy strikes, we can help others. We can encourage, serve and comfort. We know that God is the “Father of mercies and God of all comfort.” We can express our grief and we can share our tears as King David did in the book of Psalms. We can come before our High Priest and Intercessor, Jesus Christ, to receive the comfort and help we need: “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:14–16). Our loving Savior and High Priest is willing to give us mercy and grace in time of need, and He can sympathize with our tragedies, because He has been there. He suffered for us, as the Apostle Peter stated in 1 Peter 2:21.

How do you cope with tragedies? Pray with your whole heart! Share your sorrow and pain before the

throne of Grace—and God will give you comfort. When our society feels safe and secure, we often follow after the pleasures of this world. Certainly the world itself follows after vanity, as the book of Ecclesiastes reveals. But when disaster strikes, we can be shaken from our light-hearted world to think more deeply about the realities of life. Then, we must find comfort and courage in our relationship with the Creator God who has all power in the universe. Recent fears of terrorism and war have given many a “wake-up call” regarding the fragility of their safety and their physical lives. But more importantly, this wake-up call should move us spiritually. Perhaps we have been living immoral and selfish lives. We need to ask: “What is life all about? Why am I living? What is the ultimate des-

the world was—“Repent.” Repentance and faith are the very beginning steps in the awesome and comforting relationship that we can have with God the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ!

That relationship will reveal God’s love and His promises to those who seek Him and surrender to Him, far more than we can now imagine. Paul wrote that God “is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us” (Ephesians 3:20). God Almighty has all power in the universe. His is omnipotent, all powerful. And He is love. He can bless you above all that you ask or think. He can even protect you in dangerous times.

Bible prophecy is moving ahead, and we need to know the timetable of future events that God has

Recent fears of terrorism and war have given many a “wake-up call” regarding the fragility of their safety and their physical lives. But more importantly, this wake-up call should move us spiritually. Perhaps we have been living immoral and selfish lives. We need to ask: “What is life all about? Why am I living? What is the ultimate destiny of mankind?” The answer lies in the Bible, and gives us hope.

tiny of mankind?” The answer lies in the Bible, and gives us hope. Jesus Christ is still alive! Scripture shows us that we are saved by His life: “For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life” (Romans 5:10).

We need to seek our Savior with all our heart. We need to be awake and alert spiritually. In emphasizing the Ten Commandments, the Apostle Paul wrote: “Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed” (Romans 13:10–11). We need a spiritual wake-up call! Tragedy in our lives can often help us realize our need for spiritual truth. But what is that truth to which we must awaken? Paul continues in this passage, exhorting us to “cast off the works of darkness” and “put on the armor of light” (v. 12), and he urges us: “Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts” (Romans 13:13–14).

Are you willing to change your life? Christ told His disciples: “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel” (Mark 1:15). The very first admonition Jesus gave

revealed, leading up to His glorious Kingdom. But many today do not have a clue as to the framework of prophecy. They are like the lady, quoted in the *New York Times* last October 18, who said: “I think what happened was a wake-up call, but I’m still struggling to figure out what it all means.” Yet prophecy explains what it all means! God can accomplish His purpose even through tragic events. We need to respond to that wake-up call, and claim God’s awesome promises. We need to change our lives and follow the instructions of the Bible. Jesus admonished us: “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:33–36).

God loves His children. He promises escape or protection for those who are watching and praying. We need to be more vigilant, more spiritually awake. We need to pray always, as Jesus said. Some of you may need help in learning to pray. Read the prayers expressed so emotionally in the Psalms. During your prayers, try reading Psalm 91—a wonderful psalm of protection:

“He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust.’ Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look, and see the reward of the wicked. Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place. No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling” (Psalm 91:1–10).

In Matthew 24, Jesus’ disciples asked Him what would be the sign of His coming and the end of the age. Jesus outlined the turmoil and tribulation that would precede His Second Coming. So we know that we will face more trials and troubles in the future. How will we cope with them? The Bible shows us how. First of all, we need to give comfort to others in time of tragedy. We should contribute to their physical, spiritual and emotional needs. We ought to pray for the victims and their families, because we know our prayers can make a difference. “Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16). Are you praying for the victims of terrorist attacks and other tragedies?

Not only do we comfort others and pray for others, but we ourselves can find comfort and assurance from our Father in Heaven who is called “the Father of mercies and God of all comfort” (2 Corinthians 1:3).

We also find hope and assurance in the coming Kingdom of God. Jesus Christ, as the Prince of Peace, will stop all terrorism and ensure peace and prosperity all over the world. The Kingdom of God will rule on this earth. Scripture also assures us that Satan the Devil, the spirit perpetrator behind the scenes, will be cast into the bottomless pit for a thousand years, during which he will not be able to incite hate, evil and terror (Revelation 20:1–3).

When disasters affect us, we can be motivated to think more deeply about the world, the future, and the meaning of life. We can seriously consider changing our own way of living and heed the biblical admonition for a spiritual wake-up call. If we do, we can call

on God our Creator in prayer. Scripture exhorts us: “Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah 55:6–7).

Finally, we can be comforted by anticipating our own resurrection, confirmed by the Bible in Paul’s inspiring words: “But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep [have died], lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 4:13–14). This great event—the “first resurrection”—will occur at Christ’s return. Paul continues: “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words” (1 Thessalonians 4:16–18).

Paul reminds us that we can take comfort in Scripture, and that we should give this comfort to others. The truth of the Bible can bring comfort in times of tragedy. We all need this inspiring, hope-filled truth. TW

To Learn More...



God has a plan for ALL human beings—even those who never knew of Him or served Him while they lived.

The Bible teaches that your “unsaved” friends and relatives are probably not “lost.” Please request our FREE booklet *Is This the Only Day of Salvation?* or download it from the Literature section of our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org.



America's Protective Shield

By Raymond F. McNair

In the wake of acts of terrorism against the World Trade Center's Twin Towers and the Pentagon, we need to ask: "Has God's protective shield over America been removed?" Have Americans forgotten their true Source of protection?

Who can deny that we live in a very dangerous world? Truly, "perilous times [have] come" (2 Timothy 3:1)! On September 11, 2001, the United States received a horrific wake-up call—a "911 call!"—when, in a few minutes, fanatical terrorists snuffed out the lives of more than 3,000 victims by cold-blooded acts of terrorism against the Twin Towers in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC! Soon afterward, frightened citizens learned of mysterious attacks of deadly anthrax.

Many Americans somehow believed that their gleaming "alabaster cities" would never suffer such a devastating attack as was witnessed when the Twin Towers came crashing down. Yet during the 20th century many nations suffered widespread acts of terrorism—not to mention the horribly destructive wars, which claimed the lives of more than

100,000,000 victims! For centuries, America's unique geographical position caused many to feel relatively insulated and secure, sheltered by the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Many looked upon America as an impregnable "fortress of strength."

Now, millions are deeply worried, fearful of the future, realizing that the age of indiscriminate bombings and bioterrorism has arrived on America's shores. They wonder: "Why do so many people in this world hate America?" Is the

terrorists' hatred and envy the result of America's great wealth and power? Are terrorists expressing their hatred of U.S. foreign policy—its support for Israel and for certain Arab regimes that Al Qaeda terrorists believe are governed by corrupt leaders? Or is this foreign resentment the result of the "Americanization" of much of the world, which has become dependent upon the U.S. dollar and a flood of American-made products? Have resentments been deepened by the export of American culture, imposing its corrupt "moral" values on other nations through the emphasis on sex and violence in entertainment?

America—the Only Superpower

What caused the U.S. to become the world's top nation? Speaking at a dinner held in his honor in New York City on May 25, 1949, Sir Winston S. Churchill said that the U.S. had "arrived at the summit of the world." But what had brought it to the very pinnacle of world power and prestige by the end of World War II? And how did the U.S. recently become the world's *only* superpower? Were its Founding Fathers gifted with the vision to establish an enduring, prosperous, powerful nation? Or did the Creator-Ruler of the universe have a Hand in causing it to attain its greatness? The prophet Daniel says that "the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, [and] gives it to whomever He will" (Daniel 4:17). And God's Word assures us that "His kingdom rules over all" (Psalm 103:19; cf. Isaiah 40:15, 17). Did the Great God, thousands of years ago, foreordain the rise of the U.S. as a great superpower?

In 1787, as its Founding Fathers diligently searched for a workable governmental system by which to govern the newly independent, fledgling U.S., 81-year-old Benjamin Franklin reminded the delegates attending the Continental Convention that they had been "groping as it were in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, Sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights, to illuminate our understandings?" Franklin then recommended that they open each session with prayer: "In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain

[1776–1781], when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayer in this room for the divine protection. Our prayers, Sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who are engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending Providence in our favor.... And have we now forgotten that powerful Friend? Or do we imagine that we no longer need His assistance? I have lived, Sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid...? I therefore beg leave to move—that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business...."

Do Americans—their leaders in particular—really look to God for His guidance, blessings and protection in this modern age of computers and space travel (Psalm 85:11; 145:18)? Have they forgotten the true Source of America's blessings and its protection (144:1–2)? Many of the U.S.'s 285 million citizens do not realize that God was behind their nation's meteoric rise to the pinnacle of riches, power and prestige.

A Gigantic Melting Pot

America has often been called a gigantic "melting pot" of nationalities. And to a certain extent that is true. But the acknowledged core of immigrants which made up the fledgling nation at the time of its founding was comprised mainly of peoples from northwestern Europe—from the British Isles,

Holland, Germany, France and Scandinavia. After the U.S. was established (1776–1783), peoples from many other nations began immigrating and making valuable contributions to that “melting pot.” The U.S. today contains descendants from more than 200 nations. Each year, more people seek to immigrate to the U.S. than to all other nations combined!

Amazingly, most who read the world’s bestseller, the Bible, are ignorant of this important fact: God Almighty decreed that the descendants of the patriarch Abraham’s son Isaac, and of Isaac’s son Jacob were to become the chief recipients of the fabulous blessings that God had promised to Abraham (Genesis 12:1–3; 17:1–8, 15–16). Clearly, God caused the chief blessings to be passed on to Abraham’s son Isaac, and through him to Jacob (later named “Israel”—Genesis 32:28), and thence to Jacob’s 12 sons. God gave the choicest blessings to Isaac’s son Israel, who became the patriarch of the 12 tribes that later formed the nation called “Israel.” Today’s ethnic “Arabs” in the Middle East trace their lineage back to Abraham, through his son Ishmael. The Bible and history also reveal that Abraham’s grandson Esau became the father of a number of peoples who are now dispersed throughout the Middle East—in Iraq and Syria—as well as comprising many of today’s Palestinians living in Israel, Kuwait, Lebanon, Yemen and Jordan.

Ancient Anglo-American Roots

During the 20th century, millions of Anglo-Americans learned that their ethnic roots go back to the peoples of ancient Israel. In

about 930BC, the Kingdom of Israel was divided into two kingdoms called “Israel” and “Judah.” Nearly 210 years later, the Assyrians carried the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel into captivity in 721BC. Israel then had a population of “six to eight million” (*Halley’s Bible Handbook*, 24th ed, p. 188). The Southern Kingdom of Judah, however, remained intact as a nation until about 586BC, when the Babylonians carried most of the Jews captive to Babylon. Seventy years later, approximately 50,000 Jews returned to their homeland in Palestine, to begin rebuilding their nation and temple (Ezra 2:1–64). When Jesus Christ established true New Testament Christianity during the 1st century AD, Judea was then ruled by King Herod, an Edomite vassal of Rome.

What do the above facts have to do with the modern nations of America and Britain? Much indeed! Very few seem to realize that the core peoples who founded these modern nations were, in fact, descendants of the dispersed Israelites (of the ancient Kingdom of Israel), who never returned to the land of Israel following their 8th century BC captivity! The Bible reveals that the descendants of those dispersed Israelites would be “sifted” through many nations, as foretold by the prophet Amos: “Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are on the sinful kingdom [Israel], and I will destroy it [in 721BC].... For surely I will command, and will sift the house of Israel among all nations, as grain is sifted in a sieve; yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground” (Amos 9:8–9). Ancient history clearly reveals that descendants of those “lost Israelites” migrated from the

area of the Caspian Sea in Southwest Asia into Northwest Europe during the centuries following their captivity in 721BC. Many of those widely dispersed (“sifted”) descendants of the Lost Ten Tribes later settled in Britain, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Scandinavia, Switzerland and certain parts of Germany.

Solving a Great Mystery

The mystery of why the U.S. has become the wealthiest and most powerful nation the world has ever seen—the world’s sole superpower—can only be understood if we follow the footsteps of the ancient peoples of Israel from the lands of their Assyrian captivity, into their modern lands in Northwest Europe, and from there into those lands which were later settled by their descendants, including America, Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. God’s infallible Word makes it clear that He would greatly bless Israel’s descendants, causing them to become “like the stars” and as the “sand”—comprising “thousands of millions” (Genesis 22:17; 24:60, KJV). The Almighty also said He would “bless” those nations who blessed His people Israel, and “curse” those who cursed them (Genesis 12:2–3; 22:17–18; 28:14; 48; 49).

Genesis 48 reveals that God gave Jacob’s son Joseph and his descendants a double blessing—a far greater blessing than He promised to the descendants of Jacob’s other eleven sons (Genesis 48:22; 1 Chronicles 5:1–2). Here is the blessing that God gave to Israel’s two grandsons, Joseph’s sons Ephraim and Manasseh: “Then Israel stretched out his [hands and said]... Let my name [Israel] be

named upon them.... And let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.... He [Manasseh] also shall become a people, and he also shall be *great* [i.e. a great nation]; but truly his younger brother [Ephraim] shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a *multitude of nations*" (Genesis 48:14–19). The "core" peoples of the U.S. (the "great" nation), and Britain, along with its former Commonwealth partners Canada, Australia and New Zealand (the "multitude of

Joseph: "And of Joseph he said, 'Blessed of the LORD is his land, with the precious things of heaven, with the dew.... Let the blessing come on the head of Joseph.... His glory is like a firstborn *bull* [England is often called "John Bull"], and his horns [symbol of military might] are like the horns of the *wild ox*; together with them He shall push the peoples [aggressive Gentile nations] to the ends of the earth; they are... Ephraim, and... Manasseh" (Deuteronomy 33:13–17). This remarkable

ism, it was primarily the "Yanks" and the "Brits" who supplied the military power to fight the Taliban and Al Qaeda in Afghanistan, which Osama bin Laden and his fellow terrorists have used as a base of power for spreading international terrorism to the rest of the world!

"All Your Enemies Shall Be Cut Off"!

The prophet Micah also reveals that the modern descen-

The mystery of why the U.S. has become the wealthiest and most powerful nation the world has ever seen—the world's sole superpower—can only be understood if we follow the footsteps of the ancient peoples of Israel...

nations"), are comprised primarily of British-descended peoples.

Almighty God's choicest blessings of national wealth and power were granted to the birthright tribe of *Joseph* and his sons Ephraim and Manasseh: "Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a well.... The archers [enemy nations] have bitterly grieved him, shot at him and hated him. But his bow [military power] remained in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob.... by the God of your father who will help you, and by the Almighty who will bless you.... They shall be on the head of Joseph..." (Genesis 49:22–26). This promise included great material wealth, and tremendous military power.

The World's Dominant Power!

Notice also Moses' prophecies concerning the descendants of

prophecy shows the power that the English-speaking people would wield during the latter days (cf. Numbers 23:23–24; 24:8–9).

Britain and America have exercised paramount power among the nations of the world for three centuries. It was primarily America, Britain and their allies who defeated (i.e. "pushed") the armies and navies of the "Central Powers" in World War I, and 25 years later vanquished the "Axis Powers" during World War II. Truly, the Anglo-Americans "pushed" their enemies "to the ends of the earth" (Deuteronomy 33:17)—defeating their armies and navies, scattered over much of the globe. It was, in great measure, American and British military might that held the Communists at bay during the Korean War of 1950–53; and it was in great part they who pushed the forces of Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait in 1991–92. And in the ongoing fight against international terror-

dants of ancient "Israel" would wield great military power at the end of this age—just before the Messiah sets up His millennial reign of universal peace on earth: "Then the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many peoples like dew from the LORD, like showers on the grass.... And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles, in the midst of many peoples like a *lion* among the beasts of the forest... who, if he passes through, both treads down and tears in pieces, and none can deliver. Your hand shall be lifted against your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off" (Micah 5:7–9)!

But what does God reveal will happen to these powerful peoples not long after they attain superpower status? Dozens of biblical prophecies reveal that these "remnant" peoples will suffer defeat by Gentile nations at the time of the end (cf. Jeremiah 30:1–24; Psalm 83:1–8; Leviticus

26:14–45)! Micah then says: “And it shall be in that day... that I will cut off your [war] horses from your midst and destroy your chariots. I will cut off the cities of your land and throw down all your strongholds.... Thus I will destroy your cities....” (Micah 5:10–14). This text reveals that military defeat will follow closely on the heels of military greatness.

Building a Nuclear Shield

Many government leaders are now clamoring to build a “nuclear shield” (the so-called “Star Wars” missile defense shield) to protect the U.S. against enemy missiles that might later be targeted to rain down upon its cities. Government officials warn that fanatical terrorists may even seek to employ so-called “dirty nuclear bombs,” concealed in suitcases, attempting to destroy entire cities, in addition to their threats against military targets, government buildings, nuclear power plants, airports, bridges and tunnels. Many Americans are feeling very vulnerable and unprotected.

But where, or to whom, should people look for protection? God’s Word says: “No king [or nation] is saved by the multitude of an army; a mighty man is not delivered by great strength. A horse is a vain hope for safety; neither shall it deliver any by its great strength. Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the LORD: He is our help and our shield” (Psalm 33:16–20).

The Bible plainly reveals that a nation’s real security is not to be

found in its soldiers, guns, tanks, planes, missiles and ships. Rather, real security depends on God’s protective shield around a person or nation. “Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God” (Psalm 146:5). God has




Nations often look for security through weapons, or through protection from their enemies’ weapons. God’s Word shows that true protection, ultimately, comes only through Him. ©MasterClips

charged the mighty “guardian angel” Michael to watch over His people “Israel”—which includes the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic peoples, along with the Jews (Daniel 12:1; cf. 10:13, 21). Prime Minister Winston Churchill certainly believed that Britain had a “Guardian” during World War II; speaking to British mine workers’ delegates on October 31, 1942, he explained: “I have a feeling sometimes that some Guiding Hand has interfered. I have a feeling that we have a Guardian because we have a great cause, and we shall have that Guardian so long as we serve that cause faithfully.”

If God does not keep His protective shield over us as individuals, or over us as nations, then we

have absolutely no guarantee of safety or security: “Unless the LORD guards the city [or nation], the watchman stays awake in vain” (Psalm 127:1). Do U.S., Canadian and British citizens regularly pray for God’s guidance and protection over their nations and leaders, as His Word commands (1 Timothy 2:1–2)? We cannot thumb our noses at God and expect Him to protect and deliver us: “And what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).

Does God promise deliverance to those who “fear the LORD”? “Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him” (Psalm 33:8, 18). Furthermore, God’s Word says: “The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them” (34:7). Real security is only in God Almighty (Psalm 91:1; 144:1–2)!

After Jesus described catastrophic events to occur at the end of this age (Luke 21:5–35), He then commanded His people to pray that they might be worthy of escaping those horrifying events: “Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things” (v. 36; cf. Zephaniah 2:3; Revelation 3:10; 12:12–17). Those catastrophes will spring suddenly upon an unsuspecting world: “For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on... the whole earth” (Luke 21:35; cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:2–3). May a merciful God grant that all who have “ears,” will really “hear” (Matthew 13:9, 43)—so they may be kept secure under the protective shield of Almighty God during the terrifying days ahead! 

Letters to the Editor

BOOKLETS

I looked at one of your programs two days ago, and saw you advertise a booklet titled *Restoring Apostolic Christianity*, which I am asking for. Every time I read the book of Acts, I see a different church than what I see today all around me, and I have the conviction that the churches today fall far short of the glory with which the Church was first established. I think there may be some answers for me in your book, and I sincerely thank you for the offer.

M. B., East Meten Meer, Guyana

TOMORROW'S WORLD

Wow! Your "Wake Up, America!" article (in the January-February 2002 *Tomorrow's World*) was powerful, and made me realize how the United States and other Western countries are declining because of their own sins, as prophesied in the Bible. Thank you for your strong voice against this decline!

B. R., Springfield, IL

The "Principles of Prophecy" article in [the January-February 2002] *Tomorrow's World* magazine stirred me to pick up my Bible and study it afresh. Thank you also for the booklet *What's Ahead for America and Britain?* that you offered in the article.

T. S., Chicago, IL

Thank you for *Tomorrow's World* and the *Bible Study Course*. I can tell you as one who was preparing for monastic life in my former denomination, and also being a little while with another group, how many use Scripture wrongly to prop up their own interpretation, or that of some "saint" or "prophet." The courses I receive from you, however, are both revealing and inspiring, and are really thoroughly (as I have researched) biblical.

L. H., Georgetown, Guyana

I was just thrilled to read the article "Does God Heal Today?" by Dr. Meredith in the November-December 2001 *Tomorrow's World*. It was so inspiring. I have been studying the subject of healing for the past couple of years, and this article agrees completely with what I have been finding in my own Bible.

C. P., Tacoma, WA

Recently, a for-profit adult day care center in South Texas chartered a bus to Louisiana in order to take more than 20 elderly Medicaid program clients to gamble. I would deeply appreciate your opinion on such a matter; I believe that gambling is a problem and morally wrong.

E. V., LaSara, TX

Editor's Note: This very matter was addressed in our July-August 2001 Tomorrow's World, in Mr. John Ogwyn's article "Legalized Gambling: Economic Boom or Social Bust?" If you would like a reprint copy of this article, please write to us at the address nearest you listed on page 2 of this magazine.

BIBLE STUDY COURSE

I just received the fifteenth *Bible Study Course* lesson, and I am so thrilled. These lessons give me so much guidance in Bible study, as well as understanding. Thank you so much for them, and for the *Tomorrow's World* magazine.

M. M., Zanesville, OH

Thank you for lessons 5-8 of the *Bible Study Course*. I also want to express my appreciation of the article "Does God Heal Today?" in the November-December 2001 *Tomorrow's World*. It was extremely focused and enlightening, revealing the truth of God's Word.

C. W., Newton Ground, St. Kitts & Nevis

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

The illustration features a walrus in the upper left, a leopard in the lower right, and a dolphin in the lower left. The background is a soft-focus natural scene with trees and a blue sky. The title 'How Will the Earth Be Restored?' is written in a large, white, serif font across the top half of the image.

How Will the Earth Be Restored?

By Douglas S. Winnail

An environmental crisis of global proportions is threatening the continued existence of life on this earth. New laws, new technologies and international treaties will not solve the problem. While governments dither, mankind is running out of precious time to make the necessary changes. Experts estimate that, if present trends continue, we have only 30 to 50 years before major areas of the world could become *uninhabitable*!

Sadly, the *true* cause of our environmental crisis is either ignored or unrecognized, and the real solutions are overlooked. We need to understand *why* this global environmental crisis has developed, *how* it will be resolved, and the role we can play in restoring the earth.

A Real Crisis!

Cries of an environmental crisis have echoed through our modern societies for the last 50 years—yet life goes on. While skeptics like to believe warnings of an eco-crisis are generated by alarmist

fanatics and tree-hugging “eco-freaks,” this is not the case. Major environmental trends are building inexorably toward a dramatic climax. These trends have steadily worsened in the last 50 years, and serious disruptions in our current lifestyles lie just ahead.

The world’s population continues to explode. It took from the beginning of human history until 1940 for the world population to reach two billion. However it took only 35 years to add another two billion, and only 25 years to add yet another two billion! At the present doubling rate (40 years) the world could have 12 billion people by 2040AD—twice as many people as we have on earth today! Considering that most of this growth will occur in developing countries that are already and suffering the effects of environmental degradation, the world of the next several decades will be a “*world without*: without sufficient food to eat, without clean water to drink, without adequate shelter, without sanitation, without education, without the basic necessities of life” (*Redeeming Creation*, van Dyke, 1996, p. 17). Robert McNamara, former president of the World Bank, commented that “rampant population growth more certainly threatens humanity than has any catastrophe the world has yet endured” (*Environmental Science*, Cunningham & Saiga, 1995, p. 126).

This burgeoning population will have a devastating impact on the environment. As populations grow, so does the rate of consumption of natural resources. Strategic planners estimate that, in the next century, per person consumption rates will increase between 400 and 800 percent (*Laboratory Earth*, Schneider, 1996, p. 123). This only spells trouble when we realize that currently, “a third of the world’s cropland is losing topsoil at a rate that is undermining its long-term productivity... 50 percent of the world’s rangeland is overgrazed... two-

thirds of oceanic fisheries are being fished at or beyond their capacity” (*The Ecologist*, November 2001, p. 37). Additionally, fresh water supplies around the world are dwindling, and “by 2050, fully two-thirds of the world’s population could be living in regions with chronic, widespread shortages of water. *Water wars*, predicted for more than a decade are becoming an imminent threat” (*The Futurist*, Jan–Feb 2001, p. 41). It is a sobering picture.

For the last several centuries, we have burned fossil fuels—coal, oil and gasoline—to meet the energy needs of our industrial and automobile-based societies. This has released into the atmosphere increasing amounts of greenhouse gases (e.g. carbon dioxide and methane), which have contributed to global warming and violent weather changes. Glaciers around the world are melting, and polar icecaps are thinning and shrinking. In the last 40 years, the earth has lost 10 percent of its snow cover. Scientists predict that *rising sea levels* will inundate large areas of America’s Atlantic and Gulf coasts, coastal Mediterranean areas and much of Holland, Denmark and eastern Britain. Many islands will disappear. Prime agricultural land will be lost, and large-scale population displacements will occur, as two-thirds of the world’s largest cities lie in vulnerable coastal locations.

Add to this the thinning ozone layer that shields the earth from dangerous ultraviolet radiation, damage to forests and freshwater systems from acid rain, polluted air and water, growing mountains of solid waste from our throw-away society and rising rates of species extinctions, and it should be obvious to even the most casual observer that we are facing a *real eco-crisis* of global proportions. Britain’s Prime Minister, Tony Blair, recently stated that “we would be irresponsible to treat these predictions as scare mongering. They are the considered opinions of some of the world’s best scientists. We cannot afford to ignore them” (*The Futurist*, July–Aug 2001, p. 7).

The Fundamental Cause

To solve any problem, we must identify and address the cause. Overpopulation, overgrazing, overfishing, soil erosion, deforestation, pollution, habitat destruction and extinctions all contribute to the eco-crisis. But the real cause is much more fundamental, involving our value system and our attitudes toward the natural world—the creation. Attitudes and actions stem from our values, which are largely determined by *religion* and our philosophy of life.

Historian Lynn White, Jr. made this point in 1966, in a landmark lecture to the American Association for the Advancement of Science. White asserted that: Human ecology is deeply conditioned by *beliefs* about our nature and destiny—that is by *religion*... more science and technology will not get us out of the present ecological crisis until we find a new religion, or rethink our old one” (*The Care of Creation*, Berry, 2000, pp. 40–41). According to White, “our science and technology have grown out of Christian attitudes toward man’s relation to nature” and as a result “Christianity bears a huge burden of guilt” (*ibid*). White *wrongly* blamed God’s instruction to “subdue the earth and have dominion over it” (Genesis 1:28) as giving mankind a prerogative to exploit the earth’s resources. He then reasoned that “we shall have a worsening ecologic crisis until we reject the Christian axiom that nature has no reason for existence save to serve man” (*ibid*, p. 42).

White’s scriptural understanding was flawed, but his conclusion was on target (although not in the sense that he intended) when he said that “since the roots of our trouble are so largely religious, **the remedy must also be essentially religious**... we must rethink and refeel our nature and destiny” (*ibid*, p. 42). In essence, what is needed today is an environmental ethic that will provide human societies with a belief system that provides guidelines to help preserve the earth and its resources. That ethic should promote human activities that function in harmony with the ecological laws that sustain life on this earth.

Regrettably, as a result of White’s widely circulated paper, many are probing the depths of pagan religions and Eastern philosophies for guidelines to build an ecologically sustainable civilization, even though such belief systems have *not* prevented massive environmental destruction in their native lands. These individuals fail to realize they have been *prejudiced against* looking into the Bible for guidelines that the Creator has revealed, which show mankind how to relate to the environment. However, the guidelines have been there for thousands of years!

Biblical Guidelines

In stark contrast to the religions of this world, the Bible contains the framework of a comprehensive environmental ethic that would enable mankind to live in an ecologically sustainable society. Scripture reveals that the earth belongs to God (Psalm 24:1), and what He created He views as *very good* (see Genesis 1). God’s

instruction in Genesis 1:28 *does not* give mankind the right to ruthlessly exploit the natural environment. The Hebrew word translated *subdue* actually means “to tread upon” and implies having “sovereignty, control, and direction over nature” (*KJV Bible Commentary*, 1994). The Hebrew word translated “dominion” means “to rule, manage, make useful, develop or beautify.” But *how* does God intend human beings to rule the earth?

God instructed mankind to “dress and keep” the environment (Genesis 2:15, KJV). These words carry the connotation of “working and cultivating” or “serving and preserving” the environment. Human beings are given the awesome responsibility of being *wise managers* and *careful stewards* of God’s creation. They are to rule as God would rule, according to His instructions. Moses admonished the kings of Israel not to greedily amass possessions for themselves, but spend time studying and learning how to apply the laws of God (Deuteronomy 17:14–20). Jesus told His disciples that anyone who aspired to a position of leadership must first learn how to serve others (Matthew 20:25–28). But what guidelines does God provide in His Word that would enable human rulers to serve and to wisely develop the creation?

The first task that God gave to Adam, in the context of dressing and keeping the garden, was to name the animals (Genesis 2:19). To be a wise manager or steward, Adam was required to conduct an environmental inventory of his new domain. As he talked with God about the different plants and animals, Adam would come to understand that God created different habitats for different creatures (Psalm 104:5–26), and that God designed the earth to function according to definite laws and cycles (see Proverbs 3:19; Ecclesiastes 1:5–7). To manage the earth wisely we must understand, and learn to live in harmony with, the physical laws that God designed to sustain life on this earth.

Scripture provides basic guidelines revealing how human beings should manage the earth’s resources and function in harmony with its ecological laws. The Bible promotes the wise use and conservation of forest resources (Deuteronomy 20:19–20). God’s instructions on wildlife management permit us to harvest animal populations but not ruinously exploit these renewable

biologic resources (Deuteronomy 22:6–7). Animals entrusted to human care were to be treated humanely (Deuteronomy 22:4; 25:4; Luke 14:5). This would discourage the cruel caging of birds and animals that occurs in many factory farm operations today. Biodegradable waste was to be disposed of in a sanitary manner, in harmony with natural cycles of decomposition (Deuteronomy 23:12–14). This would prevent polluting the environment and the spread of disease. To harvest timber, fish and wildlife populations above their capacity to replace themselves—or to use up non-renewable resources and thus deprive future generations the use of that resource—is to break the spirit of the commandment: “Thou shall not steal” (Exodus 20:15). Agricultural lands were to be rested every seven years to help restore fertility (Leviticus 25:1–4). Human settlements were not to be crowded and unsanitary (Isaiah 5:8), but were to allow space for gardens (Micah 4:4) and contact with the natural world (Genesis 2:15) to provide enjoyment and inspiration (Psalm 23:1–2).

Parents were not to have more children than they could support (1 Timothy 5:8) or adequately train (Proverbs 22:6).

Vital Knowledge Lost

But *how* did our modern, enlightened world lose sight of such important guidelines that are capable of molding fundamental attitudes toward the environment? *Why* have theologians not understood or explained how to apply these God-given laws? *Why* are these practical guidelines not followed by most who call themselves Christian today? Part of the answer is that civil and religious leaders in ancient Israel chose to reject God’s instructions, and followed instead the greedy, self-centered, exploitive and environmentally destructive ways of their pagan neighbors. The ancient Greeks deforested and destroyed the topsoil of much of their country. The voracious appetite of the Roman Empire ravaged the resources of much of North Africa, and large animal species were nearly destroyed to supply beasts to fight in arenas. Other empires around the world inflicted similar damage on the earth’s environment.



Scripture explains that we must rule wisely over the earth. We are failing as stewards of our environment when we continue to pollute it contrary to God’s instructions.
©PhotoDisc

The influential ideas of pagan Greek philosophers like Plato did little to promote wise stewardship of the earth. For Plato, the supreme good and major focus was on the mind and the intellect. The physical and material (including the natural world) were purely secondary—an abstraction—a necessary evil. It is from Plato that we get the idea that the soul is *imprisoned* in a physical body. These ideas had a powerful influence on intellectuals in the early Roman Catholic Church, and explain why medieval theologians spent so much time debating intellectual issues—the nature of God, the Trinity and how many angels could sit on the head of a pin—but *ignored the practical* aspects of Scripture. Anti-Jewish sentiments in the early centuries of the Roman Catholic Church also led to a rejection of the Old Testament and its vitally important environmental guidelines.

Modern theologians have been influenced heavily by this anti-biblical baggage. As a result, what most today call “Christianity” often reflects Greek philosophy more than it does the thoughts of God. For many today, religion has become a self-centered quest for personal salvation instead of a way of life focused on learning to live “by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). In addition, “many people have the mistaken idea that the Bible is only concerned with spiritual things, by which they mean things that are either sentimental or unreal” (van Dyke, p. 125). As one biologist wrote: “We have so personalized the Christian experience... so described the commitment to Christ as a state of mental introspection... so defined faith as a quality of the intellect, that we have created one-dimensional Christians” (*ibid*, pp. 36–37).

The modern world has lost vitally important, divinely revealed information, because theologians have not been prepared by their training to explain the environmental dimensions of Scripture. They simply do not know what is actually in the Bible! Studies also reveal that “people who claim to know the Lord well often have little knowledge or concern for the creatures He made” and “those with the highest [church] attendance... had the lowest knowledge of environmental concerns” (van Dyke, pp. 112, 132). This is tragic considering the first instructions God gave to mankind had to do with the care of the environment. Because of theologians’ failure to faithfully explain our responsibilities as stewards of God’s creation, modern environmentalists are left to comb through pagan religions in search of an environmental ethic in their efforts to save the earth. New Age heresies and the worship of the earth as our “sacred mother goddess”

have developed in “the vacuum left by the church’s failure to address the creation” (*ibid*, p. 133).

Truth or Consequences

But does it really matter whether or not we follow Old Testament guidelines that tell us how to use the environment, if Christianity is about love and grace and praising Jesus? The Bible indicates plainly that Jesus Christ will return to this earth (John 14:3; Acts 1:11). While it is commonly assumed that everyone who loves the Lord will be taken off to heaven, the Bible reveals that Jesus will come back to *judge* the nations (1 Chronicles 16:33; Matthew 25:31–46). As part of that judgment, the returning Messiah will “reward [His] servants the prophets and... **destroy those who destroy the earth**” (Revelation 11:18). Scripture indicates clearly that God does not take lightly the environmental devastation human beings have wrought on the earth. God’s instruction that we are to be wise stewards of His creation carries heavy responsibilities. We will be held accountable. Those rejected by Christ at His coming will be the ones who did not follow the instructions they were given (Matthew 7:21–23)—including instructions about caring for God’s creation. That is the importance of understanding and learning how to apply these biblical guidelines. But what about the future? Will all life eventually perish? Is there anything we can do to rectify the environmental crisis that threatens our planet? Is there a role we can play in restoring the earth?

Times of Restitution

Bible prophecy indicates that God will intervene before human activities destroy all life on this planet (Matthew 24:22). When Jesus Christ returns, He will reward the saints with the opportunity to rule on this earth as kings and priests (Revelation 1:6; 5:10; Daniel 7:18, 27). As the civil and religious leaders in the kingdom of God, the saints will explain the laws of God—including the environmental dimension of Scripture—to all mankind (Isaiah 2:2–4). As a result, the whole world will come to understand the way of life God has outlined in His word (Isaiah 11:9).

In this coming kingdom of God, vital missing dimensions of knowledge will be restored in all fields of human endeavor: religion, science, education and the arts. People will see their teachers who will clearly and

Continued on page 30



Eco-crisis—the Real Significance!

Modern skeptics assert that the Bible is a collection of ancient myths, irrelevant to our modern world. Misguided religious teachers proclaim that we cannot understand Bible prophecy, or that Bible prophecies are mere allegories meant to reveal deeper spiritual lessons. Nothing could be further from the truth! Fulfilled Bible prophecy is one of the proofs that an all-powerful God is able to bring to pass what He inspired in His Word (Isaiah 46:9–10). Incredible as it may seem, major events that threaten the continued existence of life on earth were predicted thousands of years ago—for a reason!

Earth in Peril!

As the 21st century dawns, the realization has heightened that human beings, the earth and its creatures face a perilous and uncertain future. After thousands of years of relative stability, four global “megatrends” have suddenly undergone dramatic and unprecedented increases—rising population, rising consumption, rising rates of extinction and rising concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. World population has doubled since 1970, thus “placing unprecedented pressure on land and water resources” (*Worldwatch News Release*, March 1, 2000). As a result of urban sprawl, the amount of cropland per person has been cut in half, and increased plowing and overgrazing of marginal lands (to produce food) have spread deserts in Africa and generated the largest dust storms ever recorded in China. Seventy percent of world fisheries are exploited at or beyond their sustainable limits. Water tables around the world are dropping dangerously. Forests of the world that recycle water and carbon dioxide and protect against flooding have been reduced by 50 percent since the introduction of agriculture. One half of the world’s wetlands that filter and recharge ground water have been lost in this century (*The Futurist*, Jan-Feb 2001, pp. 12–13). In spite of grow-

ing concern about the environment “we have failed to reverse the trends that gave rise to Earth Day 30 years ago” (*Worldwatch*, March 1, 2000).

Global warming is a serious concern. In 1997, more than 1,500 scientists, including 104 of the 178 living Nobel Prize winners in the sciences, signed the World Scientists’ Call for Action at the Kyoto Climate Summit. Their statement “urged all government leaders to: act immediately to prevent the potentially devastating consequences of human-induced global warming.” When mankind burns fossil fuels, this releases greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, etc.) that trap heat from the sun. These gases have increased in our atmosphere more than 30 percent in the last 250 years. In the last century, the earth’s temperature rose nearly 1 degree centigrade—the largest rise in the last thousand years. The 1990s saw six of the warmest years ever recorded. Scientists fear that this trend could accelerate faster than previously anticipated, leading to even greater weather disruptions, more violent storms and more intense droughts (*The Ecologist*, November 2001, pp. 3–11). The increasing severity of “natural disasters” is *unnatural* and is related to human-induced climate change, deforestation and settlement in flood plane areas (*Worldwatch News Release*, October 18, 2001).

A recent BBC special on the *State of the Planet* asserted that “we are in the midst of a *global environmental crisis*, and if we don’t do something substantial about it, it is going to get a lot worse... human beings are destroying other species and their habitats at a speed and on a scale that is *unprecedented*” (*The Ecologist*, April 2001, p. 34). The chairman of two United Nations conferences on the environment has stated: “If we destroy the favorable conditions we now enjoy on earth... adverse environmental processes will accelerate out of control and *destroy us*” (*The Futurist*, p. 30, Sept–Oct 2001). Scientists recognize that what is at stake is nothing less than *human survival*, and that we have only about 30 to 50



years to reverse these ominous trends. They conclude that “we must act now to minimize those runaway impacts that could make our planet *uninhabitable*” (*The Ecologist*, November 2001, pp. 9–11). But just what does all this mean? What is the real significance of this emerging ecocrisis?

End-time Prophecies

Two thousand years ago, Jesus was asked: “What will be the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?” (Matthew 24:3). He replied that just before His return, the world would be concerned about “wars and rumors of wars... famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places” (Matthew 24:6–7). The Apostle John records that three of the symbolic four horsemen of the Apocalypse who ride at the end of the age will have *ecological consequences*—war, famine, disease and disasters (Revelation 6:3–8). Scripture reveals that in the last days “there will be *great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world... and unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened*” (Matthew 24:21–22).

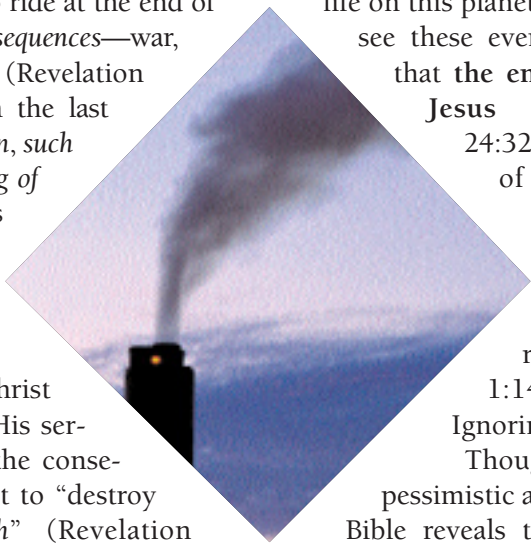
The Bible states that Jesus Christ will return not only to reward His servants and save mankind from the consequences of our own actions, but to “destroy those who *destroy the earth*” (Revelation 11:17–18). He is going to return in judgment. The prophet Hosea explains the reason. “Hear the word of the LORD, you children of Israel, for the LORD *brings a charge against* the inhabitants of the land; there is no truth or mercy or knowledge of God in the land... *therefore the land will mourn*; and everyone who dwells there will waste away with the beasts of the field and the birds of the air; even the fish of the sea will be taken away... My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:1–6).

These verses reveal how God views human activities that destroy habitats and animals that God created for the enjoyment and service of human beings (see Psalm 104:14–18). The prophet Isaiah records a similar message: “the *earth mourns* and fades away... The earth is also *defiled* [polluted] under its inhabitants, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore *the curse has devoured the earth*, and those who dwell in it are desolate [held guilty]... and few men are left” (Isaiah 24:4–6).

The Bible indicates that human activities, polluting the earth, exploiting and depleting natural resources and violating ecological laws that God designed, will ultimately threaten the existence of life on this planet! Scripture explains that when we see these events occurring, we should realize that **the end of this age and the return of Jesus Christ are near** (Matthew 24:32–35). This is the *real significance* of the ecological crisis facing mankind today! Bible prophecies are recorded to *warn* us about the future so we can *repent* and *believe* what God has recorded in His Word (see Mark 1:14–15; Matthew 24:42–44). Ignoring God’s warnings will be costly.

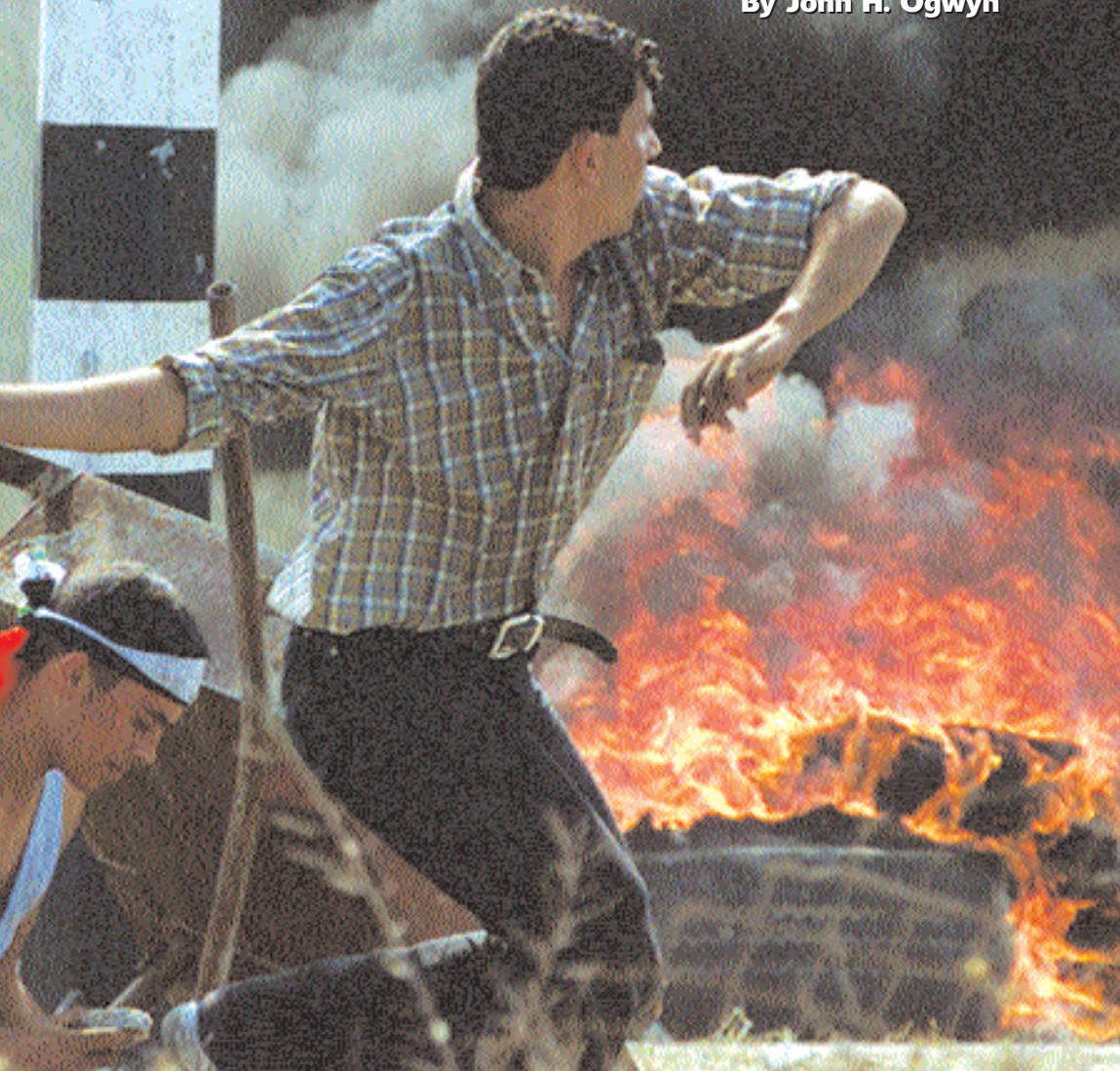
Though ecologists and forecasters are pessimistic and uncertain about the future, the Bible reveals that a Millennium of peace and prosperity is about to dawn. The immediate future is sobering, but the long-term future will involve a restoration of the earth that will surprise the most hardened skeptic, as explained in the article “How Will the Earth Be Restored?” on page 20 of this issue. For more information on this important topic, request our booklets *The Real God* and *Who Controls the Weather*—and keep reading *Tomorrow’s World* magazine, where *prophecy comes alive!*

—Douglas S. Winnail



Conflict Over the "City of Peace"

By John H. Ogwyn



Whether we look at last fall's terrorist attacks in the United States, the subsequent war in Afghanistan, continuing strife in the Middle East, or the ongoing war against terrorism, there is one clear common denominator. It is a small piece of property in the heart of Old Jerusalem. Traditionally called the Temple Mount, this 40-acre plot rises above surrounding streets and dwellings.

Much of the current news that you are hearing and reading traces back, in a

modern sense, to a series of events that began 85 years ago, in March 1917. The events of the last 85 years are not simply the result of accident or chance. Rather, they are part of a grand design that was declared millennia ago.

The Reshaping of the Middle East

By March 1917, World War I had already been raging in Europe for 2 1/2 years. While the war in Europe was stalemated, events in the Middle East

were taking a different turn. In March, British troops from the Anglo-Indian army occupied Baghdad and set the stage for British control of Iraq. At the same time, British forces began advancing north from Egypt, toward Gaza and eventual conquest of Palestine.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, the Ottoman Turks had spread an empire across the Middle East, North Africa and parts of southeastern Europe. Since the 1700s, that empire had been in a state of gradual decay. By 1900, Britain and France had carved out spheres of influence for themselves in this area of the world. Additionally, there was unrest across much of the Arab world fed by rising Arab resentment of their treatment by Turkish overlords. Various Arab leaders and movements were vying for control and influence.

In the spring of 1917, when British troops began advancing from bases in Egypt toward Gaza, they set in motion a

series of events that shaped the modern Middle East. In early November, prior to the actual British taking of Jerusalem on December 9, but with that objective clearly in sight, British Foreign Secretary Lord Balfour sent his famous letter to Lord Rothschild announcing that the British government would look with favor on the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. A mere 31 years later, the independent state of Israel was created.

In the aftermath of World War I, establishing peace and stability in the Middle East proved far more difficult than simply defeating the Turks. Two of the main Arab leaders who had supported the British war effort became locked in a struggle for the leadership of the Arab world. One of these leaders was Hussein, Sherif of Mecca, and the other was Abdul Aziz ibn Saud, king of Nejd. Hussein was the leader of the Hashemite family, which traced its descent from Muhammad. He was headquartered in the Arab holy city of Mecca, and ruled the western part of the Arabian Peninsula. His rival was located in the eastern part of Arabia, bordering on the Persian Gulf. Hussein had proclaimed himself King of the Arabs in 1916, and summoned all of the Arabs to go to war against Turkey. However, by 1919 he was engaged in a losing struggle with ibn Saud. He abdicated in 1924, and by 1926 ibn Saud had united most of the Arabian Peninsula and ruled the territory that was thereafter known as Saudi Arabia. His son, King Faud, rules the country today.

The Hashemite dynasty still had its supporters in the Arab

world, whom the British sought to placate by installing Hussein's son Faisal as king of Iraq, and his son Abdullah as emir of newly created Trans-Jordan. Abdullah's great-grandson, King Abdullah II, reigns as king of Jordan today. Between the world wars, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt were nominally independent, but closely tied to Britain by treaty arrangement, while Kuwait, the Persian Gulf sheikdoms and Aden were directly a part of the British Empire. Palestine was ruled by Britain under the terms of a mandate issued by the League of Nations. The French controlled Lebanon and Syria as their sphere of influence in the Middle East.

Several of these governments proved unstable from the start. But as difficult as the circumstances in Iraq or Syria might have been, the British found themselves in an impossible situation when they tried to mediate a long-term solution between the Jews and the Arabs regarding the future of the Palestine Mandate. As early as 1921, there were serious anti-Jewish riots rocking the country. The first large-scale Arab attacks on the Jews occurred in 1929, following a dispute involving Jewish use of the Wailing Wall. Such terrorist violence continued throughout the 1930s, but subsided during World War II when the British arrested several of the chief Palestinian Arab leaders because of their pro-Nazi sympathies. Strife flared anew following the war's end, culminating in May 1948. In that year, the British returned responsibility for the Palestine Mandate to the United Nations, which then authorized the establishment of an independent Jewish state. At

this point, the Jews proclaimed the birth of the modern state of Israel.

The Arab states immediately responded with an attack on Israel. The combined populations of the Arab League nations outnumbered Israel many times over. But in a dramatic series of events, the Jews fought the Arab League to a standstill and established an independent state. Nevertheless, when the war ended, the "Old City" of Jerusalem was in Arab hands. Jews were then barred from access to the Temple Mount. Nineteen years later, in June 1967, all of this changed during one of history's most remarkable weeks. Surrounded by hostile states, and fighting against overwhelming numbers, the Jewish state expanded its borders eastward to the Jordan River, re-taking Jerusalem and conquering Egypt's Sinai Peninsula and Syria's Golan Heights. The Arabs, who had previously rejected Israel's right even to exist—and therefore all attempts at partition of the land—now demanded that the international community make Israel give back all of the territory conquered during the June 1967 "Six Day War," and return to the status quo.

Transition in the Arab World

Dramatic changes have taken place in the Arab world since the end of World War II. In 1952, the Egyptian monarchy headed by King Farouk was overthrown. This led to the emergence of a man who became the world's most visible symbol of Arab nationalism until his death in 1970—Gamal Abdel Nasser. He

seized control of the Suez Canal from the British in 1956, and nationalized it. Additionally, he fought and lost two wars with Israel, in 1956 and 1967. His implacable hatred of the Jewish state, and of the Western powers, never cooled. His rise to power was a harbinger of things to come. In the years following Nasser's rise, other younger Arab leaders overthrew monarchies and embraced the concept of socialist dictatorship, as well as the goals of the destruction of Israel, the banishment of British and American influence from the region, and the establishment of some type of pan-Arab union.

Egypt and Syria in 1958 actually formed a union called the United Arab Republic, which lasted for about three years. In 1963, under Nasser's leadership, another failed attempt at union occurred, this time including Iraq along with Egypt and Syria. These attempts at an Arab union represented the second of what have been three approaches to restoring the glories of a pan-Arab empire.

The first efforts started in the waning days of Turkish rule, and were carried out by two men who began their careers as traditional Arab sheiks, but who each aspired to be king over an independent Arab empire. Neither Hussein nor his rival, ibn Saud, were able to bring such plans to fruition in the 1920s. In the years after World War II, a different type of Arab leader appeared on the scene—rising to power through coups while still junior army officers. These men came of age in the final years of the Western colonial empires, and benefited from a Western-style military education. They resented

the Western powers, blaming them for Arab impotence, and generally admired the Soviet Union as a model for development. While they remained Muslim, they were more secular in outlook than Hussein and ibn Saud. Men like Nasser in Egypt, and later Muammar Gaddafi in Libya and Saddam Hussein in Iraq, have each aspired in his own way to dominate the Arab world and punish the West.

This “second wave” of Arab leaders had sought to overthrow their predecessors, disillusioned with the failed attempts to restore Arab glory. Today this pattern is repeating itself, as a “third wave” of leaders is sweeping across the Middle East. Rejecting both the capitalism of the West and the discredited Marxism of the former Soviet Union, these would-be “third wave” leaders have emphasized a fundamentalist brand of Islam that leaves no room for compromise. Looking back to the glory days of Arab conquest and dominance in the first centuries after Muhammad, they also dream of a pan-Arab union. This will not be a union under a monarch from one of the old Bedouin dynasties, or a secular-educated army officer turned dictator, but rather a new Caliph who will unify the Faithful under the banner of purified Islam. This, they reason, is the only way that Western influence can be expelled from their region, and that Israel can be subjugated.

The appeal of militant religion resonates with the younger generation, partly because of a stagnant economy and partly due to growing disrespect for leaders perceived as ineffective and corrupt. A burgeoning youth population, seeing little hope for the

future, provides militants ample recruits for their cause—the restoration of Arab glory and supremacy. These militants blame Arab ills on the machinations of the Jews, the British and the Americans. The militants' model is the 12th-century Arab ruler Saladin, who re-conquered Jerusalem for the Arabs and defeated the invading Western armies of the Third Crusade. Once again, it comes down to a 40-acre spot in old Jerusalem. Control of Jerusalem, as in the days of Saladin, is viewed as a symbol of Arab glory, and of triumph over the infidels.

What the Future Holds

The yearnings across much of the Middle East for a new Saladin—one who will restore Arab glory by conquering the Jews and expelling Western influence—were foreseen by Bible prophecy. In Daniel 11:40, we read of a future “King of the South” who will ultimately “push at” a coming European superpower at the time of the end. This individual, called in Bible prophecy the King of the South because his center of power is south of Jerusalem, will undoubtedly be a charismatic person who will whip up much of the Muslim Middle East into a frenzy against Israel and Europe.

The ancient prophet Zechariah foresaw that Jerusalem would be like a bubbling pot in the end times (Zechariah 12:2). Notice the comment of *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*. “Jerusalem is pictured as a cup 'round which all nations gather, eager to swallow down its inviting contents'.... But as they drink from her, they become intoxicated

and reel... In v. 3 Jerusalem is compared to a heavy, 'immovable rock' that the nations attempt to move but only hurt themselves in the process" (vol. 7, p. 681). Truly, the world does not know how to resolve the issue of what to do with Jerusalem. More than 2,500 years ago, Zechariah wrote that at the end-time, just prior to the return of the Messiah, world attention would be focused on Jerusalem. What an astounding and unlikely prediction for an ancient writer to simply "guess" so many centuries in advance!

The strife over the "city of peace" occurs because the nations of the world are unwilling to accept that the Creator God is the final arbiter of what belongs to whom. Orthodox Jews assert that Jerusalem was given to them by God, to be the eternal and undivided capital of Israel. The Arab world sees Israel's Jews as infidels in their midst, and sees a Jewish-controlled Jerusalem as an affront to rightful Arab glory and dominance. Additionally, the Vatican has put forth its own plan calling for an international city under papal oversight. Most of the secular world does not really care who gets Jerusalem, but just wishes that the problem would go away. However, this problem will remain in the forefront of world affairs—until the feet of Jesus Christ stand on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4), and He settles the issue once and for all.

Many writers have described the conflict in the Middle East as strife between two brothers, Isaac and Ishmael, but this is only partially true. While it is true that much of the Arab world claims

descent from Ishmael, the son of Abraham and Hagar, there is another component in the Middle East mixture. Isaac also had two sons, Jacob and Esau. While Ishmael may have taunted and picked at Isaac (Genesis 21:9), we are told that Jacob and Esau *struggled* from the time they were in their mother's womb (Genesis



25:22). Esau deeply resented and hated his brother and planned to murder him (Genesis 27:41). The Amalekite descendants of Esau launched a terrorist attack against the descendants of Jacob shortly after Israel left Egypt, sneaking up from the rear to attack the elderly and the children (Deuteronomy 25:17–18). Centuries later, it was again the Amalekite descendants of Esau who launched a terrorist attack on Ziklag when David and his men were elsewhere, burning the city to the ground and taking captive the women and children (1 Samuel 30:1–3). It was Edomites, descendants of Esau, who rejoiced when Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians and urged them to totally destroy it (Psalm 137:7).

Where are the descendants of Esau today? Most are still in the Middle East. The modern nation of Yemen, for instance, takes its name from Teman, the grandson of Esau, and is still called by that name in Hebrew today. Many of

the remnants of the Amalekites are found among the Palestinian population, as well as in parts of Libya. Yet another Edomite colony is centered in the Basra region of Iraq, which takes its name from ancient Bozzrah, the capital of Edom.

The story of the Middle East is the story of ancient hatreds and modern intrigues. Jerusalem remains both the center and the symbol of the ongoing conflict—and remains the reason that the problem is beyond human solution. Bible prophecy shows that a European army will eventually invade the Middle East, subjugate portions of the Arab world, take Jerusalem and

seize control of the Temple Mount (for more on this aspect of prophecy, please write for our free booklet *The Beast of Revelation*).

While there remains much blood to be shed over Jerusalem, the "city of peace," Bible prophecy also shows that, ultimately, Jerusalem will be safely inhabited, no longer in fear of terrorist attacks or invading armies (Zechariah 8:3–8). A new world government, administered by the glorified Christ assisted by the resurrected saints, will be headquartered in Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:2–4; Daniel 7:18). Prejudice against the Jews will then vanish, and formerly antagonistic nations will come up to Jerusalem as pilgrims to worship the God of Israel, to do homage to the Messiah and to observe God's festivals (Zechariah 8:22–23; 14:16).

Then, and only then, will the conflict over the "city of peace" finally cease forever. ☐

HOW WILL THE EARTH BE RESTORED?

(continued from page 23)


carefully explain God's way of life—including biblical guidelines of environmental stewardship (Isaiah 30:20–21). Cities will be rebuilt in a manner that blends with the environment (Isaiah 11:6–9; 61:4), and the ecosystems of the earth will be restored (Isaiah 35:1–6). The New Covenant to which many Christians look forward will also include the creatures of this earth (Hosea 2:18).

The Bible refers to this exciting future, when Jesus Christ returns to earth to establish the kingdom of God, as “times of refreshing” and “the times of restoration of all things” (Acts 3:19–21). When we consider the

environmental destruction and extinction of species carried out by human beings, perhaps we can more fully understand the Apostle Paul's comments that “*the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now... the creation eagerly awaits for the revealing of the sons of God*” (Romans 8:22, 19). What must we do? Learn what is causing the environmental problems facing mankind. Become familiar with the ecological laws by which God designed the earth to operate. Study and learn how to apply the biblical guidelines that God has given to mankind to govern our relationship to the earth, its creatures and its resources. We can become the sons and daughters of God, and have the opportunity to reign on this earth as

kings and priests in the kingdom of God, if we take seriously what is revealed in Scripture. ^{EW}

To Learn More...



You can prepare now to help others become stewards of God's creation. The Bible reveals that *you* can have an important role in restoring the earth. Please request our FREE booklet *Your Ultimate Destiny*, or download it from the Literature section of our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org.

LOYALTY TO OUR LEADERS

(continued from page 3)

ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29). We must all have the faith and courage to obey the *highest* authority, Almighty God, no matter what the consequences! But in the normal course of human events, the examples cited above would definitely be *exceptional*. Obviously we should not come up with silly excuses to break the traffic laws or fail to pay our taxes.

In fact, God instructs us very directly to obey or show honor to all those in authority. Notice carefully Romans 13:1–2: “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.” As these verses make very clear, God is the *ultimate* Authority. So when we disobey or show blatant disrespect to any constituted authority, we are, in fact, showing disrespect to God Himself.

Then Paul states in the above passage: “For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to

whom fear, honor to whom honor” (vv. 6–7). Therefore, true Christians will not “cheat” on their taxes. They will obey all reasonable laws, honor the flag and give honor and respect to their constituted leaders. Christians will try to be good citizens in every way, except as obedience to any particular law or decree would cause them to violate the *higher* laws of God.

While living in Great Britain for four years of my adult life, I was pleased to honor Queen Elizabeth II and to show respect to the British flag and to the nation in which I was residing. When their national anthem, “God Save the Queen” was played, I stood at attention and had chills go up and down my spine just as when I heard “The Star Spangled Banner.”

All Christians should be grateful for what God has given us—including the help and at least partial protection afforded by our governments. We should be happy to pray that God will guide *all* those in authority. And we should sincerely honor the *offices* of President of the United States, Prime Minister of Britain and *all* those legally constituted offices of any nation on earth. For these offices are of God.



Tomorrow's World

Television and Radio Log

INTERNATIONAL:

—AUSTRALIA

Adelaide: ACE—Ch 6/31, SUN 11:30 am, THUR 8:30 pm
Brisbane: BRIZ—Ch 31, SUN 8:30 am
Melbourne: MCTC—Ch 31, TUE 11:00 pm
Perth: CETL—Ch 31, SUN 9:30 am

—BARBADOS

St. Michael: CBC—Ch 8, SUN 9:30 am

—GUYANA

Georgetown: CNS TV—Ch 6, SUN 2:30 pm

—JAMAICA

Kingston: CVM TV—Ch 4, 8 & 9, SAT 7:00 am; SUN 7:00 am

—PHILIPPINES

Bansalan: Metro Cable—Ch 31, SAT 10:00 am
Borongan: Borongan Cable—Ch 17, SAT 3:00 pm
Kidapawan Mindanao: Kidapawan Cable—Ch 19, SAT 8:30 am
Naval, Leyte: Naval Cable—Ch 11, SUN 9:00 am
Nabunturan: Nabunturan Cable—Ch 21, SAT 10:00 am
Maasin City: Maasin Cable—Ch 13, SUN 12:00 pm
Naval Biliran: Bilinet Cable—Ch 11, SUN 10:00 am
Ormoc City: Ormoc Cable—Ch 3, SAT 12:00 pm
Sogod Leyte: Sogod Cable—Ch 13, SUN 12:00 pm

—TRINIDAD

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

UNITED STATES:

AL, Birmingham: Cable—Ch 4, WED 1:30 pm
AL, Troy/Montgomery: WRJM—Ch 67, SUN 7:30 am
AR, Fayetteville: Access TV—Ch 8, SUN 8:30 pm
AR, Little Rock: KASN—Ch 38, SAT 8:00 am
AZ, Phoenix: Access—Ch 22, TUE 11:30 am
AZ, Prescott: Cable—Ch 13, SAT 5:30 pm; SUN 6:30 am
AZ, Tucson: Access—Ch 73, SAT 4:30 pm; SUN 11:30 am
CA, Anaheim: Adelphia—Ch 3, WED 6:00 pm
CA, Buena Park: Adelphia—Ch 55, SUN 5:00 pm
CA, Eureka: Cox—Ch 10, FRI 5:30 pm
CA, Garden Grove: Time Warner—Ch 6, SUN 10:30 am
CA, Modesto: AT&T—Ch 8, TUE 3:00 pm
CA, Norwalk: Public Access—Ch 55, THUR 5:00 pm
CA, Oceanside: KOCT—Ch 18, SUN 5:30 pm
CA, Sacramento: RCCTV—Ch 75, MON 5:30 pm
CA, San Andreas: MediaOne—Ch 4, TUE 4:00 pm
CA, San Diego: Cox—Ch 18 & 23 THUR 6:00 pm
CA, San Francisco: Access TV—Ch 29 THUR 5:00 pm
CA, San Jose: Community TV—Ch 15A, SAT 11:30 pm
CA, Sonora: TCCCA—Ch 8, SUN 8:00 pm
CA, Turlock: Charter—Ch 2, MON 8:00 pm
CT, Enfield: Comcast—Ch 15, THUR 2:30 pm & 7:00 pm
CT, Naugatuck: Tele-Media—Ch 10, TUE 9:30 pm
FL, Gainesville: Cox—Ch 55, SUN 8:00 pm
FL, Ocala: Cox—Ch 71, SUN 10:00 am
GA, Atlanta: AIB—Cable, THUR 6:30 pm; SAT 1:30 am
GA, Macon: Cox Cable—Ch 18, SUN 5:00 pm; TUE 7:30 am; FRI 2:00 pm
HI, Hilo: Na Leo—Ch 14, TUE 10:30 pm; FRI 9:30 pm
HI, Honolulu: OIelo—Ch 52, THUR 2:00 pm
HI, Kailua-Kona: Na Leo—Ch 14, TUE 10:30 pm; FRI 9:30 pm
HI, Kauai: Ho'ike—Ch 12, MON 1:30 pm
HI, Lanai: Akaku—Ch 3, 12 & 13, WED 8:30 pm
HI, Maui: Akaku—Ch 44, SAT 9:30 pm

HI, Molokai: Akaku—Ch 3, 12 & 13 WED 8:30 pm
IA, Des Moines: Mediacom—Ch 15, SAT 10:00 am; SUN 11:00 am
IA, Dubuque: TCI of Iowa—Ch 45, THUR 7:30 pm; MON 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm; TUE 10:00 am & 10:00 pm; WED 2:00 pm
IA, Waterloo: Cable—Ch 2, WED 9:00 pm
ID, Pocatello: Vision—Ch 12, SUN 7:30 pm; FRI 1:00 pm
IL, Bloomington: AT&T—Ch 10, SUN 8:30 am; MON 9:00 pm
IL, Chicago: WGN—Cable, SUN 6:00 am (ET)
IL, Peoria: Insight—Ch 20, SUN 7:30 pm
IL, Springfield: TCI—Ch 4, TUE 6:00 pm
KS, Chanute: Cablevision—Ch 5, SUN 7:30 am; TUE 5:30 pm
KS, Parsons: Time Warner—Ch 21, WED 7:00 pm & 9:30 pm
KY, Paducah: Public Cable—Ch 2, WED 3:30 pm
LA, Lafayette: KATC—Ch 3, SUN 9:00 am
LA, Monroe: Time Warner—Ch 49, WED 10:00 pm
MA, Cambridge: CCTV—Ch 22, TUE 4:00 pm
MA, Malden: Access TV—Ch 3, SUN 11:00 am
MD, Baltimore: TCI—Ch 5, SUN 4:00 pm, WED 4:00 pm
MD, Westminster: Adelphia—Ch 19, TUE 10:30 am, THUR & FRI 10:00 am
MN, Duluth: Public Access—Ch 24, SAT 11:00 am; SUN 7:00 pm
MN, Minneapolis: MTN—Ch 5, SUN 4:00 pm, WED 4:00 pm
MN, Minneapolis: NW Community—Ch 19, SAT 10:30 pm; SUN 4:30 am, 10:30 am & 4:30 pm
MN, Roseville: CTV—Ch 15, SUN 7:30 pm; MON 3:30 & 11:30 am
MN, St. Paul: SPNN—Ch 34, SUN 8:30 pm
MO, Joplin: KOAM—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am
MO, Kansas City: KCWE—Ch 29, SUN 8:00 am
MO, Springfield: KSPR—Ch 53, SUN 8:30 am
MO, St. Louis: AT&T—Ch 3, THU 6:00 pm
MO, St. Louis: Double Helix—Ch 22, MON 4:00 pm
MS, Jackson: Time Warner—Ch 11, WED 4:00 pm; SUN 10:00 am
MT, Billings: BSC—Cable, SUN 8:30 am
MT, Great Falls: BSC—Cable, SUN 8:30 am
MT, Great Falls: Public Access TV—Ch 7, TUE 6:00 pm; FRI 6:00 pm
MT, Helena: BSC—Cable, Daily 8:30 am
MT, Missoula: BSC—Cable, SUN 8:30
NC, Greensboro: GCTV—Ch 8, SAT 10:30 am; SUN 11:30 am
NC, Wilmington: Time Warner—Ch 4, WED 10:00 pm
ND, Bismarck: CATV—Ch 12, SUN 3:00 pm
NE, Omaha: KPTM—Ch 42, SUN 8:00 am
NH, Hanover: CATV—Ch 6, SUN 5:00 pm & 11:00 pm; MON 5:00 am & 11:00 am
NJ, East Windsor: Comcast—Ch 27, WED 5:30 pm
NJ, Oakland: Cablevision—Ch 71 & 72, SUN 6:00 pm
NJ, Trenton: Comcast—Ch 81, MON 10:00 pm
NM, Albuquerque: CCC27—Ch 27, SUN 9:30 pm
NM, Rio Rancho: CABLE ONE—Ch 51, THUR, 7:00 pm
NV, Carson City: Access TV—Ch 10, SAT 9:00 pm
NV, Gardnerville: Community Access—Ch 26, SAT 3:00 am & 3:00 pm; SUN 3:00 am & 3:00 pm
NV, Reno/Sparks: SNCT—Ch 30/16, SUN 7:30 pm
NY, Batavia: Time Warner—Ch 19, WED 6:30 pm
NY, Binghamton: Time Warner—Ch 6, FRI 5:00 pm
NY, Brooklyn: BCAT—Ch 56/69, SUN 3:00 pm
NY, Canandaigua: FLTY—Ch 12, SUN 11:30 am
NY, Delmar: TV 18—Ch 18, WED 3:00 pm
NY, Elmira & Corning: Time Warner—Ch 1, SUN 9:30 am
NY, Hauppauge: Cablevision—Ch 70, FRI 9:30 pm
NY, Irondequoit: ICAT—Ch 15, SUN 7:00 pm, TUE 9:30 am & 7:00 pm
NY, Ithaca: Pegasys—Ch 13 & 78, SUN 8:00 pm, TUE 7:00 pm, WED 4:30 pm

NY, Oneonta: Time Warner—Ch 23, WED 8:30 pm
NY, Port Jefferson: TCI—Ch 1/99 FRI 10:30 pm
NY, Queens: OPTV—Ch 35, check local listing
NY, Riverhead: Cablevision—Ch 27, MON 4:30 pm
NY, Rochester: Community TV—Ch 15, SUN 7:00 pm
NY, Schenectady: Community TV—Ch 16, MON 8:30 am
NY, Utica: Adelphia—Ch 3, MON 9:00 pm
OK, Tulsa: KTFO—Ch 41 SAT 12:30 am
OR, Beaverton: Community Access—Ch 51, SUN 4:30 pm; MON 4:30 am & 8:30 pm
OR, Portland: MCTV—Ch 11, SUN 12:30 pm
PA, Johnstown: Charter—Ch 9, MON 10:00 pm
PA, Sayre: Time Warner—Ch 18, MON-FRI, 5:00 pm
RI, Providence: WPXQ—Ch 69, MON 7:30 am; WED 7:30 am; FRI 7:30am
TX, Austin: Community Access—Ch 11, MON 5:30 pm
TX, Corpus Christi: TCI—Ch 10, THUR 2:00 pm; FRI 10:30 am; SUN 11:00 am
TX, Dallas: Community Television—Ch 14b, FRI 2:00 pm; SAT 1:00 pm; SUN 11:00 am
TX, Lufkin: KTRE—Ch 9, SUN 6:30 am
TX, Midland: PTCB—Cable, THU 6:00 pm
TX, Temple: KPLE—Ch 31/46, SUN 7:30 pm
TX, Tyler: KLTW—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am
VA, Chesterfield: Comcast—Ch 6, THUR 6:30 pm
VA, Fredericksburg: COX—Ch 25, MON 8:00 pm
VT, Barre: Ch 7, SAT 9:00 pm; SUN 2:00 pm & 11:00 pm
VT, Montpelier: Adelphia—Ch 15, TUE 9:00 pm; WED 3:00 pm
WA, Kennewick: Charter—Ch 13, SUN 8:00 pm; TUE 8:00 pm
WA, Seattle: TCI—Ch 29, SAT 7:00 pm
WA, Vancouver: Clark/Vancouver—Ch 49, SUN 9:30 am
WI, Wausau: Charter—Ch 10, THUR 9:00 pm; FRI 7:30 am

RADIO STATIONS:

Argentina, Ameghino—94.9 FM, SAT 1:00 pm
Martinique, Radio Banlieue-Relax—103.4 FM, SUN 6:15 am
Martinique, Radio Campêche—98.3 & 101.6 FM, TUE 8:00 am; SAT 8:00 am
Martinique, Radio St. Pierre—88.7 FM, SAT 8:00 am; SUN 8:00 am
Martinique, St. Luc, 98.3 FM
Mexico, Mexico City, XEEST—1440 AM, SUN 9:30 am
Northern Ireland, Portadown, Radio Star—98.1 AM & 101.2 FM, THUR 9:00 pm
Philippines, Manila, DWBL—1242 kHz AM, THUR 10:30 pm; SUN 3:30 pm
Philippines, Ozamiz City, DXOC—1494 kHz AM, SUN 5:00 am

• Television Superstations

- CANADA (nationwide)
ON, Toronto: VISION—SUN 3:30 am & 5:30 pm (ET)
- NEW ZEALAND (nationwide)
Auckland: PRIME TELEVISION—SUN 8:30 am
- IL, Chicago: WGN—National Cable, SUN 6:00 am (ET)

Join us weekly for

Tomorrow's World

www.tomorrowsworld.org

TELEVISION SUPERSTATIONS:

WGN: SUN 6:00 am ET

VISION: Canada: SUN 3:30 am & SUN 5:30 pm ET

PRIME TELEVISION: New Zealand, Auckland: SUN 8:30 am

NEW TELEVISION STATIONS:

AR, Fort Smith: CableMart—Ch 31, SUN 7:00 pm

CA, Los Angeles: KDOC—Ch 56, SAT 7:00 am

MO, St. Charles: Charter—Ch 47, SUN 9:30 am & 9:00 pm

MS, Jackson: WAPT—Ch 16, SUN 8:30 am



FREE Bible Study Course

The Bible is full of detailed prophecy that can help you understand your future—and the future of the world. It reveals God's plan for you, and how you can live a happy and successful life. To enroll in the *Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course*, absolutely **FREE**, please return the subscription card in this issue, or write to the regional office nearest you.