

TOMORROW'S WORLD

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WHOSE OPINION COUNTS?



ONE WAY



ONE WAY



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

Do You Really Stand for Something?

In this swift-moving, godless society, each one of us had better take the time to decide what we really believe in—what we are willing to “fight” for and, if need be, die for. Today’s materialistic, secular culture is almost overwhelming in its influence on most who call themselves Christian.

Most of our confusion or uncertainty of belief lies in the fact that, generally, we never bother to really define what we *truly* have faith in. Most people are “compromisers”—going along with their friends and family and not worrying very much about what they really believe in or what they stand for. Sure, they are “nice” people. But they do not **stand** for anything.

No doubt, there were millions of “nice” people in Germany as Adolph Hitler began his ascent to power in the early 1930s. Many of them obviously did not like the bestial tactics of Hitler and his storm troopers. But they did **nothing** about it. The result of their lack of conviction was inaction—an unwillingness to struggle against that evil to try to prevent Hitler from seizing absolute power. The sad results we all know: World War II—the largest and most destructive war in history.

The Holocaust took place because of a lack of conviction about extending basic decency and respect toward others who were ethnically different. Once in power, the Nazis fulfilled their openly spoken threats and butchered some six million Jews and millions of others, including Poles, French, Danes, Dutch, Belgians, Slavs and Norwegians. In the aftermath of World War II, most Germans undoubtedly disapproved of such wholesale murder of innocents when they learned about it. But by then it was too late. Again, **why** did that tragedy happen? Because people in Germany and, in fact, people all over the world had not clearly delineated what they stood for—and what they would **not** stand for!

As I note in my article in this issue (“Whose Opinion Counts?,” p. 4), it is increasingly obvious to many that the moral behavior of “good churchgoers” in our modern world is not much different than that of the rest of society. In fact, some who profess the highest level of “Christian” commitment are more likely to divorce than are atheists and agnostics, and are more likely to harbor racial prejudice. People who call themselves Christians are, more and more, becoming **like** the world, instead of becoming **lights** to the world, as they strive to cope in the midst of financial, moral and personal turmoil in these challenging times.

Life is growing tougher for most people in this selfish society—a society that God calls “this present evil world” (Galatians 1:4, *KJV*). But, how should true Christians respond? The troubles all around should drive us to our knees all the more, and make us want to “come out” from that society. And they should spur us to really study the Bible so that we can truly “know” God and be absolutely **sure** of what we believe, what our lives stand for. We need to know—and to know that we know!

Although so many who call themselves “Christian” are willing to accept watered-down doctrines and practices and approaches that are not biblical at all, we who are true Christians must retain our zeal for the full **Truth**. We must let those around us know—actually, not just know, but **see**—that we stand for something. That we will **not** compromise with the basic truths and practices revealed in God’s word. That we will live by this code—and, if need be, die by this code.

God tells us that His true Church is “the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Timothy 3:15). We at *Tomorrow’s World* are resolved to hang on to the Truth—and not to

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WHOSE OPINION COUNTS?



By Roderick C. Meredith

The United States of America is in terminal trouble. Its economy is in shambles. Technically, the nation is *already bankrupt*—as many economists and politicians clearly acknowledge! What was formerly called “Christian morality” has been virtually dismembered in this confused nation. America’s international power and prestige are at all-time lows. And its people are *seriously divided*.

For, across an entire spectrum of basic issues, Americans *do not agree* with each other—and often do not agree with their own government. On homosexuality and same-sex marriage, on abortion, on immigration and “border control,” on the ominous rise of Islamic extremism right in our midst, on the virtual government takeover of major sections of the economy, health care, education—and now even major aspects of the media and “freedom of speech”—the federal government is increasingly beginning to “take over” and run the U.S. in ways that seem to many much more like a socialist or communist state than like the “land of the free” in which they grew up. Concerns about government intrusion

into the private religious and moral lives of Americans are causing increasing unrest and even fear among many average Americans.

What is going on? Who is in charge? In the final analysis, whose opinion counts?

Even as I write, the debate is raging in the media about how one activist judge in California has overturned the will of a majority of California voters on the same-sex marriage issue! This activist judge, and many others like him, are attempting to undermine long-held values by redefining the institution of marriage—an institution that has been the very *foundation* of every decent society for the last 6,000 years.

My local newspaper defined marriage this way: “Marriage is a bond between two people who commit to love each other and be partners in life” (*Charlotte Observer*, August 8, 2010). Is *that* the real definition of marriage?

Indeed, who has the authority to define such a thing? Frankly, this is what the issue comes down to. Who, precisely, has the authority to **define** good and evil, right and wrong, and the true **way** human beings should live and interact?

WHO IS THE REAL AUTHORITY?

For more than 200 years, most Americans have thought of their country as a “Christian nation.” Yet, as hundreds of observers and scores of articles by respected authors have pointed out, we do not “practice what we preach” in the area of religion. We may say that the God of the Bible is the true God. Yet, over and over, we simply “throw out” entire sections of the Bible if the teachings therein disagree with our own personal opinions. Whether you realize it or not, this *complete turning away* from the God of the Bible as the authority regarding decent behavior—both in public and in private—will have a **profound** effect on all of us within the next several years! In fact, it *already is having a terrible effect*.

America is in trouble—and not just because of differences between political parties. Not just because of conflicting philosophical ideas about homosexuality, abortion or government encroachment into more and more aspects of our daily lives. The issue comes down, in the end, to whether or not people’s personal opinions—whether those people be judges, legislators or preachers—are the ultimate authority to decide the basis of a viable society.

History, common sense and practical experience—and the plain words of your Bible—all say, “No!” These human authorities should not arrogantly presume to have the final say. There is a higher, absolute authority from which we must derive our definitions of morality and the correct way of living—whether individually or collectively—if we want to have peace and prosperity in our nations!

The Creator, who gives life and breath, has given mankind about 6,000 years to *write* the lessons of life by going its own way and suffering

the consequences. Most people will not actually *learn* these lessons until later—but that is a different story. Soon, after those 6,000 years are complete, God will send Jesus Christ back to this earth to *rescue* the poor, confused human beings who have individually and collectively turned away from the God of creation and tried out their own ideas—nearly always in opposition to what the Creator has clearly revealed. As inspired Scripture states, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12).

For instance, what is the *true* definition of marriage? Is it just—as my local newspaper’s article stated—a “bond between two people who commit to love each other and be partners in life”? Certainly, that is *part* of the definition. But when you read the entire Bible, it is clear that the Creator Himself instituted marriage, and that He—the great God—*binds* people together in a relationship that *He* has defined to fulfill two main purposes:

1. God said that it is not good that man should be alone. Marriage between a man and a woman—created by their physical and psychological makeup to complement each other in dozens of ways—benefits them and the entire society immeasurably, and gives them greater happiness.
2. God also makes it clear that procreation is a *second* major purpose of marriage. Notice the inspired words of God’s instruction on this facet of marriage: “But did He not make them one, having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? *He seeks godly offspring*. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth” (Malachi 2:15).

So, our very Creator made man in His image and then said, “It is not good that man should be

alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him” (Genesis 2:18). To create the “help” for Adam that would complement him physically, mentally and emotionally, God then created a beautiful *woman*. He took her to Adam and stated, “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh” (v. 24).

Once human beings lose sight of this simple yet basic understanding of *why* we are male and female, and *why* marriage exists in the first place, we drift into all kinds of confusion, sorrow and even sickness. Talking about the resurging AIDS epidemic in the homosexual community may make some uncomfortable. But this dreaded disease is continuing to spread, increasingly among American homosexuals who are practicing “unprotected sex” more than in previous years, as they see more of their fellow homosexuals living on for many years by taking “cocktails” of expensive drugs that stave off many of the symptoms of their AIDS. Emboldened by small advances in medicine, they are taking greater and greater risks of incurring this horrible disease, simply out of a perverted desire to “have fun.”

Of course, when people turn away from the basic laws of God that protect the *right kind* of sexual relations, they ultimately do **not** “have fun.” Rather, they develop an increasing sense of emptiness, frustration, rage and even physical illness. This is because they have **rejected** the very laws of God that govern sexual relationships, which define the correct foundation of marriage and the *whole basis* of any society that truly will endure.

OUR CREATOR DEFINES RIGHT AND WRONG

The Bible is exceedingly clear—from one end to the other—regarding

God's *total prohibition* of homosexual activity. The Eternal God states, in a statute He gave to ancient Israel, "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman. It is an **abomination**" (Leviticus 18:22).

In the New Testament, God inspired the Apostle Paul to make exceedingly plain the perverted reasoning of these "educated fools," with these sobering words: "Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due" (Romans 1:24–27).

When men and women *forsake* asking the Creator for His guidance, and begin using *human reason* as the basis for their beliefs and actions, tremendous suffering will ultimately ensue. As Paul wrote, they will be "receiving in themselves the **penalty** of their error which was due." And in the very next verse, God warned, "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting" (v. 28).

Think!

How *can* a professing "Christian" nation such as the U.S. allow the murder of nearly 50 million unborn children? How *can* such a nation even entertain the idea of "men marrying men"—which the Creator calls an "abomination," and which most of us who have lived for decades recognize as the product of *very confused minds*. How

can a professing Christian nation become dominated by judges, lawmakers and educators who are so "filled with themselves" that they arrogantly reject the very idea of a real God telling them what to do?

The *answer* is that a very real Satan the Devil has a powerful stranglehold on the modern Amer-



icans, Britons, Canadians, Australians—and on millions of other people throughout the so-called "Western" world. We—who have published more Bibles, sent out more missionaries, teachers and doctors, and have endeavored so long, often with great success, to help others—have **turned away** from a genuine belief in and reverence for the God of the Bible.

No, we must **not** turn back to just any "god." The hope of our nation, and our world, is in *the God of the Bible*. For, apart from Him, it can only be "every man for himself." Without Him, our society will increasingly reflect what happened to ancient Israel when its people turned aside from God and relied upon their own human opinions.

The book of Judges described a horrifying situation wherein a man's "concubine" was repeatedly raped and molested by a gang of perverts.

They had originally wanted to rape the man's male guest, but the man of the house was able to entice them to set upon his guest's concubine instead. She was horribly abused, and stayed outside through the night—and he found her dead the next morning. Apparently trying to shock his fel-low citizens of the *enormity* of this situation, the man then "divided her into twelve pieces, limb by limb, and sent her throughout all the territory of Israel" (Judges 19:30).

This "raw" example of what their confusion was leading to finally stirred up the peoples of Israel to act. A civil war against the tribe of Benjamin ensued. When it was finally all settled, most of the male Benjamites were killed. Then, the Bible states, "In those days there was no king in Israel; *everyone did what was right in his own eyes*" (Judges 21:25).

Dear reader, that is *exactly* where our Western nations are headed if we continue on our present course! That is *exactly* the kind of sin and perverted behavior we will be reading about more and more throughout our society. If we do not truly **repent** and turn back to what the true God says in the Bible, *then God help us!*

But, *will we?*

A GENUINE NATIONAL REPENTANCE?

Frankly, our peoples will **not** turn to God *unless* there is a radical shake-up and **national repentance** such as we have *never before experienced* in America or anywhere in the Western world. As a recent article in the *Charlotte Observer* pointed out, "American Christianity is not well, and there's evidence that its condition is more critical than most realize—or at least want to admit. Pollsters—most

notably evangelical George Barna—have reported repeatedly that they can find little measurable difference between the moral behavior of churchgoers and the rest of the American society. Barna has found that [self-identified] born again Christians are more likely to divorce (an act strongly condemned by Jesus) than atheists and agnostics,

and are more likely to be racist than other Americans.... ‘Every day, the church is becoming more like the world it allegedly seeks to change,’ Barna has said” (“Christianity is losing believers,” August 11, 2010).

So, again, we must as a people turn back to the real God—the God who reveals Himself in the Bible! A foundational element in

the definition of *true* Christianity is revealed in Jesus’ direct command, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, *but by every word of God*’” (Luke 4:4). When people begin to substitute their own opinions—whether they be judges, legislators or laymen—we are in big trouble. For the God of the Bible is now warning our nations, *through*

CONVICTION, CORRECTION AND CONVERSION

“A man convinced against his will is of the same opinion still.”

This widely-known saying—attributed to luminaries ranging from Benjamin Franklin to Sir Walter Raleigh to the poet Samuel Butler—has now been verified by modern researchers.

University of Michigan health policy researcher Brendan Nyhan and University of Georgia political scientist Jason Reifler have published a paper documenting that, when people are presented with verifiable facts that contradict their firmly held opinions, the facts often fail to convince them (“When Corrections Fail,” *Political Behavior* 32(2), pp. 303–330). Even more surprisingly, the researchers found that when people were given facts that should change their opinions, many people actually held more firmly to their incorrect views.

Most people do not seek information that challenges their beliefs. As Nyhan explains, “Studies have shown that people tend to seek out information that is consistent with their views; think of liberal fans of MSNBC and conservative devotees of Fox News. Liberals and conservatives also tend to process the information that they receive with a bias toward their pre-existing opinions, accepting claims that are consistent with their point of view and rejecting those that are not. As a result, information that contradicts their prior attitudes or beliefs is often disregarded, especially if those beliefs are strongly held” (“Myths About Health Care Reform Remain,” *New York Times*, March 25, 2010).

However, not only do people tend to disregard information that conflicts with their prior attitudes; they often become more convinced of a falsehood after hearing the truth. As Nyhan explained in a National Public Radio interview, “People were so successful at bringing to mind reasons that the correction was wrong that they actually ended up being more convinced in the misperception than the people who didn’t receive the correction. So the correction, in other words, was making things worse” (*On the Media*, July 3, 2009).

Nyhan reached his conclusion using the tools of modern social science. In doing so, he confirmed what students of Scripture have understood for millennia. Jesus Christ saw this phenomenon firsthand when He corrected the Pharisees. “Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?” (John 8:46). No source of facts could be more credible than the Logos—the Word—made flesh. Yet the Pharisees would not accept the truth from Jesus Christ. Their carnal human nature kept them in a state of self-deception. As the prophet Jeremiah warned, “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9).

In the ultimate analysis, as both modern science and ancient Scripture confirm, most people believe what they want to believe. Even when people hear God’s Truth, they receive it according to their own inclinations, as Christ explained in the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:3–9). The Apostle Paul explained that spiritual truths are spiritually discerned (1 Corinthians 2:14)—so, we can understand that unless God opens people’s minds, they will remain blinded by Satan, whom Scripture calls “the god of this age” (2 Corinthians 4:4).

What does this mean for you? If you are beginning to understand the truths being presented in the *Tomorrow’s World* magazine, and on the *Tomorrow’s World* telecast and Web site, it is no small matter—it means that God is working with you to help you correct your old misunderstandings. He may even be calling you to conversion—to repentance and baptism! God is not calling many in this present age to be among His “little flock” (Luke 12:32) who will rule under Jesus Christ in the soon-coming Millennium. So, if He is calling you, do not take His call lightly!

—William Bowmer

this very Work, about what lies ahead. And it is coming *very soon!*

In their public actions, and even in their very words, many of our professed “leaders” in politics and in the judiciary certainly despise the God of the Bible! It is that very God—who is “the same yesterday, today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8)—who told our forefathers, “But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it” (Leviticus 26:14–16).

Even now, we are becoming increasingly used to the dangers of “terror”—or terrorism—throughout our Western society. And it is going to grow much worse, unless we repent and turn to God. Soon, as God’s word states, terrible “wasting disease”—maladies such as the horrible AIDS epidemic—will come upon our peoples with increasing ferocity. Then, as the above passage states, we will sow our seed in vain, as our enemies will eat it. We will run out of food, and—as many Americans do not fully realize—much of our food will have already been committed to other nations on the commodity futures exchange. Nations like China, India and others have bought, and will buy, billions of dollars worth of our food—which will then not be available to Americans in a time of crisis.

Increasingly, as God said, “I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze” (v. 19). Our weather patterns will continue to be disrupted—more than ever before in human history! Finally, many thinking people will begin to wake up and

realize that—perhaps, after all—the Creator may actually be intervening!

Will you wake up and turn to the real God—the God of the Bible? Individually and collectively, we can do just that. Regardless of the society around us, we can have God’s blessing if we are willing to humble ourselves and cry out to our Creator.

As the great God, who is basically the same in the way He treats all nations, stated to ancient

just read the Bible for sentiment or to reinforce what you already believe. Learn to study the Bible deeply and genuinely, to see what it clearly and repeatedly says about the real nature of the Creator God, of eternal life, and of the true way to eternal life.

If you are genuinely interested and willing to prove these things, please also contact the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 30 of this magazine) to request one of our most

Wherever you are—whoever you are—I urge you to genuinely study the Holy Bible, the inspired revelation God gave to each and every human being. For your sake, please, do not just read the Bible for sentiment or to reinforce what you already believe.

King Solomon, “When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:13–14).

Wherever you are—whoever you are—I urge you to genuinely study the Holy Bible, the inspired revelation God gave to each and every human being. For your sake, please, do not

helpful and fundamental booklets: *Restoring Apostolic Christianity*. You may also order it online at our Web site, www.tomorrowsworld.org. Do not neglect to gain this important understanding!

May God grant each of you the understanding and the humility to be willing to turn to the God of heaven in this way! In His time, may God wake up all the peoples of America and the nations of the world to turn again to the true God—the Creator of heaven and earth. In the end, only the Creator can give us eternal life. In the end, it is only His opinion that truly counts! ■

RESTORING APOSTOLIC CHRISTIANITY



Much of modern society is confused about its values and even the meaning of life. God’s Word reveals the true values by which the world can live in harmony. Do you know what they are?

Write for our FREE booklet, *Restoring Apostolic Christianity*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.TomorrowWorld.org.

Questions & Answers

Question: “Where do you get the idea that mankind has been appointed 6,000 years of self-rule, to be followed by a 1,000-year reign of Jesus Christ?”

Answer: The first two chapters of Genesis show that in a six-day period God re-formed the earth and created the progenitors of all its present life. He then rested on the seventh-day Sabbath. This began a weekly cycle in which man is to work for six days and rest every Sabbath (Exodus 20:9–11). In Hebrews 4:3–11, the Apostle Paul explained that the seventh-day Sabbath pictures the wonderful era of peace and rest that will follow this current age of mankind’s activity. The Apostle John was inspired to write that this coming era, beginning with Christ’s return to set up His Kingdom, will last 1,000 years (Revelation 20:1–4)—a time often called, simply, the Millennium.

As the seventh day represents a 1,000-year period in God’s plan, it follows that the previous six days of the week also represent 1,000-year periods. The Apostle Peter brought out this principle in discussing the anticipation of Christ’s return: “But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8, KJV).

This concept was well known to the Jews of Peter’s day. About 200 years before Christ, Rabbi Elias wrote, “The world endures six thousand years: two thousand before the law, two thousand under the law, and two thousand under Messiah.” The famed historian Edward Gibbon wrote that “the tradition was attributed to the prophet Elijah” (*Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, p. 403). *The Encyclopedia of the Jewish Religion* (“Millennium,” Adama Books, 1986, p. 263) reports that the *tannaim*—rabbis of Christ’s day—based such an interpretation on Psalm 90, written by Moses: “For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it is past, and like a watch in the night” (v. 4). The *tannaim* said that, as there were six days of creation, the world would last for 6,000 years. The seventh “world day” would be 1,000 years of the Messiah’s rule (Sanhedrin 97a; Avodah Zarah 9a).

According to Gibbon, the 7,000-year plan of God was “carefully inculcated” in the early Church. The “church father” Irenaeus had been taught by Polycarp (disciple of the Apostle John). Sadly,

Irenaeus departed from Apostolic teachings, but he apparently retained some truth. In *Against Heresies* (ca. 150AD), he related a belief of the early Church: “This is an account of the things formerly created, as also it is a prophecy of what is to come. For the day of the Lord is a thousand years; and in six days created things were completed; it is evident, therefore, that they will come to an end at the sixth thousand years.”

To further illustrate the prevalence of the belief that the Millennium would begin 6,000 years after Adam’s creation, many more writings by other early rabbis and “church fathers” could be examined: Rabbi Ketina, Lactantius, Victorinus, Hippotylus, Justin Martyr and Methodius, among others. Though these men may not always be relied upon for biblical truth, they certainly do attest to how widespread this understanding was in the early centuries after Christ’s death. This, in fact, has been the respected opinion of most professing Christian scholars throughout the centuries, up to our present day.

As a final scriptural point, God told Adam that in the “day” he ate of the forbidden fruit, he would die (Genesis 2:17). Yet Adam lived to be 930 years old (Genesis 5:5)! How is that possible? One way is just as Methodius and other early church commentators explained: since a day with God was a thousand years, Adam had to die before the first 1,000-year day was complete—and he did.

What is the purpose of this 6,000 years of human self-rule? God is now allowing human beings to “write” through human suffering the lessons they need to learn as a result of going against God. In the Millennium, people for a thousand years will be able to contrast the peace and harmony of living God’s way with the previous 6,000 years of war and contention. Finally, in the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11–13), those whom God had not previously called will be able to experience the difference between having lived mankind’s way, and living God’s way. To learn more about God’s plan for humanity, request your free copy of our booklet, *The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like?*



PEACE ON EARTH?

By Rod McNair

blessings and prosperity. Store placards wishing for “Peace on Earth” hang side-by-side with “50 percent off!” banners, as Christmas shopping goes into high gear. Even amid the frenzy of a consumer-driven Christmas, the hope of “Peace on Earth” taps into a deep human yearning for harmony in our world.

WHAT DOES CHRISTMAS HAVE TO DO WITH IT?

But how did the angel’s message come to be associated with December 25? It is interesting that in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* article entitled “Christmas,” we read that “as late as 245 Origen repudiated the idea of keeping the birthday of Christ, ‘as if he were a king Pharaoh’” (14th Edition, Vol. 5, p. 642). Even the *Catholic Encyclopedia* admits that “Christmas was not among the earliest festivals of the Church” (“Christmas,” p. 724, Vol. III, 1908). If Christmas was “not among the earliest festivals of the Church,” why are so many professing Christians keeping it?

It is common knowledge that not until the fourth century AD was December 25 officially recognized by the Roman Catholic Church as the authorized date to celebrate Christ’s birth. As authors Albert and Shirley Menendez point out, the December 25 tradition came about not for biblical reasons, but because of a “political decision to counter already established and popular ‘pagan’ (or ‘pre-Christian’) festivities” (*Christmas Songs Made in America*, p. 3.). The “Christian” church absorbed the Roman festival of Saturnalia and renamed it “Christmas.”

What kind of festival was Saturnalia? “During Saturnalia, normal life turned upside down. Gambling was declared legal, courts were closed, and no one could be convicted of a crime. Slaves dressed in their masters’ clothes and were served by their masters. A mock king was chosen to

What is the Holy Day that promises true world peace? The answer might surprise you!

At the occasion of Jesus Christ’s birth, a mighty angel spoke words that are among the most famous and recognizable in the Western world: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” (Luke 2:14).

The angel’s words were accompanied by a blinding light, and by the powerful, ringing voices of an angelic choir. How amazing this must have been for the shepherds to witness! So moved and frightened were they by the power of this pronouncement that the angel had to comfort them, saying, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10–11).

Today, most people associate the angel’s announcement with the Christmas holiday. Millions use the occasion to send greeting cards with seasonal wishes of

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rule the festivities: He would turn up at Christmas again, centuries later, as the Lord of Misrule” (*The Pageantry of Christmas*, p. 10). Typical norms of decent behavior and societal restraints turned upside down? This does not sound like a peaceful way to honor the great Law-giving God; it sounds more like license to engage in misbehavior. Saturnalia—or, rather, “Christmas”—celebrated a temporary break from responsible, self-restrained conduct.

This was the nature and character of Christmas for hundreds of years. Author Stephen Nissenbaum explains that Christmas in America in the 1700s and 1800s was not about snowy “Norman Rockwell” scenes and breathtaking rides through the countryside on horse-drawn sleighs! More often than not, Christmas in early America meant “riotous disorder, racial violence, and jolly foolery... [it was a] noisy, drunken, threatening period in the eyes of the respectable” (*The Battle for Christmas*, p. 24). It was a true descendant of its parent, the debauched Roman festival of Saturnalia!

CHRISTMAS CRIME?

In the last 150 years or so, Christmas traditions have largely been domesticated and “sanitized,” losing much of their ribald past. Only traces of Christmas’ rowdy roots exist, such as the yearly costume “mummers” parade televised across the United States from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Yet, although millions enjoy “Christmas vacation” each year as a time to spend with family and friends, it often fails to live up to the ideals of peace and domestic tranquility that it purports to bring. For many, Christmas has a dark and even dangerous side. In their book, *Unplug the Christmas Machine*, authors Jo Robinson and Jean Coppock

Staehele explain that at one children’s workshop, a number of youths were asked to describe significant Christmas memories. Astonishingly and tragically, *six out of ten* associated Christmas with unpleasant memories of parents abusing alcohol (p. 81).

Statistics actually show that certain crimes—even domestic incidents—sadly *increase* on this supposed day of “good cheer.” Australian researchers found, in a study from 2002–06, a trend of “between one-quarter and one-third more incidents of domestic violence-related assault recorded on Christmas Day than the daily average over the period considered” (“Does crime increase over Christmas and New Year?,” *New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research*). The same study revealed that non-domestic violence-related assault showed a spike in the week before Christmas. The report explains that this was “probably due to the large number of social activities and increased alcohol consumption around this time.” Even instances of “malicious damage to property” go up in the days just before Christmas (*ibid.*). Thankfully, not everyone has such negative experiences. But the question remains—why does Christmas fail to deliver on its supposed promise?

Scripture describes God as the “God of peace” (Romans 16:20; Philippians 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:20). Jesus Christ promised to give “peace” in the midst of the world’s dangers and frights. He told His disciples, “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (John 14:27). Even if we are buffeted by problems and trials, God wants us to have the deep inner peace that comes from the indwelling of His Holy Spirit, facilitating profound obedience

to Him (Acts 5:32). He wants us to have peace that “surpasses all understanding” (Philippians 4:7).

Not only does God want Christians to experience inner peace, He wants peace to spread to all mankind! How will that happen? Christmas does not have the answer. Yet, “God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints” (1 Corinthians 14:33). So, where can we look to find God’s actual plan for peace? We can find it in God’s word—in particular, in His revelation of His annual Holy Days, which picture His plan of salvation for all humanity!

WHAT WOULD JESUS KEEP?

What were the festivals Jesus and His disciples kept? Should we be following their example? Should you be keeping the festivals of the Bible today? What might these Holy Days teach us about the overall plan of God for man? *And what do they tell us about the coming reign of Christ—about peace on earth and goodwill toward men?*

Most professing Christians today have been taught that they do not need to keep the Holy Days that Jesus and the Apostles kept. Maybe you have been taught that these days are “Jewish” or that they have been “done away.” But what does your Bible really say? True followers of Jesus Christ are to “follow in His steps” (1 Peter 2:21) and “walk just as He walked” (1 John 2:6). To do that, we need to discover how He lived, and which Holy Days He kept when He walked the earth.

Scripture clearly shows that Jesus kept the seventh-day Sabbath as a way of life (Luke 4:16). From His youth, He observed the seven annual Holy Days, including the Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread (Luke 2:40–43). Later we read that, during His ministry, Christ went up

to Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7:2, 10).

So, are the Holy Days just a historical curiosity—an obscure and no-longer-relevant detail about Jesus' life? No! In fact, the Holy Days depict the full panorama of God's plan of salvation for humanity! For a complete explanation, please request our free booklet *The Holy Days: God's Master Plan*. Observing the Holy Days is not only part of doing what Jesus did; it allows us to understand what He taught, and why!

The annual cycle of God's biblical Holy Days begins with Passover, which comes in the first month of God's sacred calendar, corresponding to March or April on the Roman calendar (Exodus 12:2). Passover is an annual reminder of Christ's sacrifice to pay for our sins. First-century Christians kept the Passover by a solemn observance (1 Corinthians 11:23–26), as do true Christians to this day.

During the seven Days of Unleavened Bread, also in the spring, Christians remove physical leaven and leavening agents from their homes, conveying the lesson of putting sin out of their lives. Paul taught this fundamental truth in 1 Corinthians 5:7–8. The first and last days are “high days,” kept by the cessation from work and by worshiping with God's people.

Next comes the Day of Pentecost, which the disciples were observing when God poured out His Holy Spirit on the Church (Acts 2:1–4). This day is also called the Feast of Harvest or Firstfruits. It represents the small harvest of those whom God is calling out of the world now (1 Corinthians 1:26–28). Most professing Christians do not realize that God is only working with a small group of firstfruits today (Revelation 14:1–5), preparing them for a special purpose in the future—to reign under Christ in His

Kingdom on earth (Luke 19:17, 19). On each Pentecost, true Christians abstain from customary work, and congregate together for worship.

The Feast of Trumpets is the next Holy Day in the annual calendar, coming at the start of the seventh month of God's year (September or October on the Roman calendar). This Holy Day represents an event



yet in the future—Jesus Christ's triumphant return to earth! The day is associated with the “blowing of trumpets” or a ram's horn—an ancient instrument for calling men to arms—to symbolize that Christ will return during a time of widespread violence and war. The trumpets are a warning to prepare for the calamity ahead (Matthew 24:13). God's Church is

to be a “watchman” (Ezekiel 33:7), “blowing the trumpet” to warn the world—including the modern descendants of ancient Israel—of God's impending judgment. This Holy Day is also a day of rest from work, and of gathering for worship (Leviticus 23:24–25).

Coming just ten days later, the Day of Atonement is a solemn observance that represents the binding of Satan the Devil for a thousand years (Revelation 20:1–2). In addition to coming together for worship, God's people fast on this day (Leviticus 23:27).

THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES: TRUE FESTIVAL OF PEACE!

The next Holy Day, the Feast of Tabernacles, comes five days after the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 23:33–35). When the children of Israel sojourned in the wilderness, God dwelt with them in a “tabernacle”—a portable or temporary dwelling place. The Feast of Tabernacles pictures the soon-coming Millennium of Jesus Christ's rule on planet Earth, when physical human beings will for a thousand years live under the benevolent and just reign

Continued on page 29

THE HOLY DAYS: GOD'S MASTER PLAN



Do not be fooled by man-made holidays that deny the truth of God's Word. Jesus Christ taught His followers to observe a series of annual Holy Days that reveal His wonderful plan for our world!

Write for our **FREE** booklet, *The Holy Days: God's Master Plan*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.TomorrowsWorld.org.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When I am finished reading the *Tomorrow's World* magazines, I take them to the doctor's office and put them on the table so others can learn the truth about what is going on in this world. After reading your articles, I have made changes in my life and my thinking. It seems to me that the churches in America are not really teaching God's word as it was intended to be taught. We watched your program until the Houston station that carried it moved it to 11:30 p.m. Thank you for all you are doing.

P. L., Galveston, TX

Editor's Note: The *Tomorrow's World* television program in Houston—and many other cities nationwide—has moved from its former 11:30 p.m. time slot to 5:30 a.m. every Wednesday. Viewers who used to see the program at 12:30 a.m. Thursday can now find it at 6:30 a.m. every Wednesday.

Please discontinue my free subscription to *Tomorrow's World*. I appreciate your quest to provide warning signs to the world of the nearing second coming of Christ; however, I need more messages of hope instead of the constant reminding of the terrible things we will endure if our spiritual preparations are not made now. I need more positive reminders regarding His second coming rather than being constantly reminded of the dismal state of affairs that are currently underway and that will worsen in the near future.

J. J., Wichita, KS

I have come to value *Tomorrow's World* as I allow God to open my eyes to the real truths of the Bible. I am so amazed that so many of the previous teachings I have been persuaded to believe and even taught as a Sunday school teacher as a child and young man past the age of 50, were so wrong and misleading. I can't thank you enough for your booklets you have been so willing to send to many and at no cost. I said that to explain that I personally know of the great

cost you have chosen to bear to get these great truths out to the people that they may be exposed to the real truths of the Bible. I can't encourage you enough to keep doing what you are doing to enlighten as many as possible until that great and wonderful day of the Lord's soon coming to take his rightful place as our Lord and King to all nations of believers and non-believers alike. May God richly bless your efforts!

J. M., Bieber, CA

I have read your booklet, *Who or What Is the Antichrist?*, and I have come to realize that there are a lot of people who pose as preachers but are doing the work of Satan. What baffles me is that people find it difficult to see through the wrong teachings and misdeeds of these charlatans. I am very grateful to have had my eyes opened, and I hope and pray that others will also see the truth.

D. A., Kanye Kanye, Botswana

I try to catch your program on Sunday mornings. Your teaching is exceptional and easily understood. You make Bible prophecy come out of the scriptures so interesting, plus I can hardly wait to receive my next *Tomorrow's World* magazine after I finish reading the latest one. Thank you for your efforts in attempting to reach the world for Christ. How can anyone not see that time is running out as we know it? I appreciate what you do. Continue, and thanks always.

L. B., Montgomery, AL

I received your booklet entitled, *Does God Heal Today?*. I could not stop reading it until I read the last page. My life, at 60 years old, has been changed by your ministry. I have found my purpose in life—to serve the Lord. It's all about Him! Y'all will never know what you have done for me in my life but now all I want to do is serve Him. Thank you for changing my life!

M. H., Grove City, OH

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.

LONDON CA

Mary's Dowry

Exactly 60 years ago this November, Pope Pius XII declared as a dogma of the Roman Catholic Church the teaching that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken bodily to heaven at the end of her life. Each August 15, Roman Catholics celebrate a holiday known as the “Feast of the Assumption” commemorating this belief—which remains one of the most notable “sticking points” dividing Roman Catholic and Protestant believers.

As in the doctrine of the Assumption, Roman Catholic believers in many nations honour Mary to a degree that makes most Protestants uncomfortable. Yet, unique among all the nations, **only** the Roman Catholics of England have the concept that their nation is in a special way the “Dowry of Mary.”

English speakers commonly associate the word “dowry” (from the Latin *dos*, meaning “donation”) with the donation accompanying a bride. In medieval English law, however, the meaning is reversed—a husband would set apart a portion of his estate designated for the maintenance of his wife, should she become a widow. Those who consider England “Mary’s Dowry” take it in that sense—that, historically, England has been “set apart” for Mary in a way that no other country has been.

How did this devotion originate? King Richard II, in 1381, formally dedicated England to Mary in a ceremony at Westminster Abbey, but tradition places its origin hundreds of years earlier, even back to one of the last Anglo-Saxon Kings, Edward the Confessor, who reigned from 1042–1066.

Until the Protestant Reformation, many kings of England perpetuated this devotion to Mary—including Henry V, who supposedly raised the battle cry at Agincourt, “Our Lady for her Dowry; St George and St Edward to our aid.”

After rebellious King Henry VIII renounced Catholic authority in England, and established the Church of

England—the Anglican Church—as the sole ecclesiastic authority under his rule, the Papal See has tried different methods of bringing a recalcitrant daughter back to her mother. One of the most famous was Pope Sixtus VI’s blessing of the Spanish Armada in 1588. The Archbishop of Lisbon said a special Mass for the Armada’s success in battle against the forces of the “heretic” Queen Elizabeth I, and pronounced a blessing on all those in the Spanish fleet, absolving them in advance for any deaths that they would inflict on their English enemies.

God, however, must have been unconvinced by the archbishop’s blessing. As most history students will remember, the Armada’s mission was a disaster, with an estimated 11,000 Spanish mariners and soldiers losing their lives.

Still, English Catholics and their leaders in Rome have maintained a fervent devotion to Mary. In 1893, though Roman Catholicism had long since become a minority religion in Anglican England, Pope Leo XIII requested that England’s Roman Catholic bishops re-consecrate their country to Mary, giving the popular devotion an official stamp of Vatican approval. Back then, however, this must have seemed like an empty gesture in the face of a powerful Anglican-led England.

Today, however, England has lost most of its former economic and military might. The Anglican Church, beset by internal controversies for several decades, is in even greater disarray after a decision made at the Anglican General Synod held in York in July 2010. At the enclave, “The Church of England’s ruling body has said that women bishops should be allowed, paving the way for these ordinations despite objections from traditionalists... Providing most approve the idea, the legislation would return to the General Synod in 2012 for further drafting and final approval” (*Agence France-Presse*, July 13, 2010, “Women Bishops Should be Allowed”).



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LLING

CROSSING THE TIBER?

Pope Benedict XVI recently established new protocols to make it easier for Anglican clergy and their congregations to convert, en masse, to Roman Catholicism—even allowing married Anglican priests to remain married while functioning as Roman Catholic priests. In the present environment, with as many as a third of the Anglican clergy unhappy with the decision to ordain female bishops, this option may be more tempting than ever to some conservative clerics and parishioners.

However, there are degrees of conservatism among the dissatisfied clerics. Some who object to women's ordination still find certain Roman Catholic doctrines a stumbling block, including the degree to which Roman Catholicism mandates a veneration of Mary beyond what they can justify from Scripture and the tradition of the early Church. After all, what was perceived as "Mary worship" was well and truly renounced by the Reformers, especially Oliver Cromwell and the Puritans.

It is in this environment that Benedict's September visit to England took on special significance. Around the world, Roman Catholicism is being battered by charges not only that its priests are guilty of widespread sexual misconduct, but also that a culture of cover-up encourages its bishops to hide, deny and suppress evidence of misconduct. Although the scandal first gained attention in the United States, bishops around the globe have resigned in scandalous circumstances, including Roger Vangheluwe, bishop of Bruges, Belgium.

Will the current scandals ruin the Roman Catholic Church? Benedict knows that his church has endured far worse storms over the centuries. And he has his eye on the long-term future of Roman Catholicism. Some perceive that his visit to England gave him a rare opportunity to strike at an opponent in its moment of weakness.

A recent report speaks of a new department being created by Pope Benedict that plans to stem the decline in church attendance across the Catholic world—especially in the West. "The new department to be called 'The Pontifical Council for New Evangelisation' will try

to reinvigorate belief among Catholics in rich, developed countries—or in the Pontiff's words, 'find the right means to re-propose the perennial truth of the Gospel'" (*The Daily Telegraph*, London, June 30, 2010, p. 17).

Many in the English Catholic community would like to see their country truly become Mary's Dowry, with a resurgence of Marian devotion that would have seemed unthinkable to the Protestant reformers. Roman Catholics make up only 10 percent of Britain's population. Though only one-tenth of them attend Mass regularly, those who do are usually ardent about their belief.

MARY: ICON OR OBSTACLE?

At a time when Anglicanism is in crisis in its mother country, Benedict is reaching out to Roman Catholics and disaffected Anglicans alike, hoping to fulfil the dream of "Mary's Dowry"—of an England religiously united with Rome, under Mary. Yet Mary herself may be one of the greatest obstacles. Protestants acknowledge that Scripture calls her "blessed" to have the privilege of giving birth to Jesus Christ. Yet where Roman Catholics revere Mary as "ever-virgin," Protestants insist from Scripture that she did not remain a virgin in giving birth to Jesus' siblings (Matthew 12:46; Mark 3:31). Roman Catholics see Mary as a sinless near-equal of Jesus, a "Mediatrice of Graces" in spite of the clear biblical statement that only Jesus is Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5).

Will Roman evangelisation foster a revival of the *Dowry of Mary* as a concept of English religious identity? Will the adoration of Mary gain greater acceptance in England amongst the conservative elements of the Church of England? Or will Rome's emphasis on Marian devotion keep Anglicans within the Protestant fold? Scripture reveals that the Roman church will play an increasingly prominent role in end-time events. That role appears likely to come into conflict with long-standing Protestant sensibilities. Watch world events, and keep reading *Tomorrow's World*, for news of the coming religio-political entity that will bring England—and all of Europe, and indeed the world—to a prophesied time of unprecedented crisis just before the return of Jesus Christ.

—Rod King



WILL ISLAM TRANSFORM EUROPE?

By Dexter B. Wakefield

From Caesar, to Constantine, to... Caliphate? What can Scripture and history teach us about Europe's future and the rise of Islam in the West?

Will radical Islam transform Europe? In the last two decades, Europe has gone through far-reaching changes, with the formation of the 27-nation European Union and the institution of a common currency, the euro. But the European Union is now in danger of fragmenting, and the future of its once-powerful currency has been questioned.

A number of EU nations' economies have been strained by runaway deficit spending. They have needed the other EU nations, chiefly Germany, to bail them out. But Germany has agreed to help only if a stronger central European government can have power over the fiscal purse strings of the profligate countries. The Germans do not want the fruits of their hard-earned productivity spent to support the fiscal excesses of other EU nations.

As a result, the EU continues to be divided along cultural, economic and nationalistic lines, causing great stresses within this

remarkable community of nations. Europe is at a crossroads.

Forming the European Union was a long and arduous task, and Europeans accepted great changes in order to come together as the EU. But achieving their common destiny will require much more. What will it take to bring these quarreling nations together as a powerful federal union?

Against this backdrop, Europe is experiencing an unprecedented demographic change. Long a bastion of professed Christianity, the continent is becoming the home of increasing numbers of Muslim immigrants, who have fled the nations of their birth in the hope of sharing in Europe's prosperity.

What do these changes portend for Europe? Scripture tells us that even greater transformation is ahead in the relatively near future. But what is that transformation, and how will it occur?

HISTORY MATTERS!

Today's European culture did not appear out of thin air. A nation's culture comes largely from its history. The nations of Europe share a foundation dating back to the 4th century AD, when the emperor Constantine "Christianized" the Roman Empire. Since then, many European states have held Roman Catholicism as the state religion, though church-state relations have often been complex and contentious.

It would be difficult to overstate the influence of the Roman Catholic Church on European history. Pope John Paul II, who regarded the Roman Catholic Church as the glue that binds all of the diverse cultures of Europe together, proclaimed: "The history of the formation of the European Nations keeps abreast with their evangelization. Consequently, despite the spiritual crises that have marked the life of the Continent in our day, *its identity would be incomprehensible without Christianity...* Only a Europe that does not eliminate but rediscovers its Christian roots, will be able to take up the challenges of the third millennium: peace, intercultural and interreligious dialogue, the safeguarding of creation. All believers in Christ of the European West and East are required to make

their own contribution through open and sincere ecumenical cooperation” (*Regina Caeli*, May 2, 2004).

Ecumenical cooperation? Not surprisingly, in the Vatican’s vision of the ecumenical movement, all roads lead to Rome!

Pope Benedict XVI has magnified his predecessor’s theme, asserting that the *very idea of Europe* would not exist in history or now except for professing Christianity. Before Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger was elevated to the papacy, he wrote, “Europe is not a continent that can be comprehended neatly in geographical terms; rather, it is a cultural and historical concept.” (*Europe Today and Tomorrow*, p. 11). Benedict sees the roots of the *idea of Europe* as going back to the establishment of the Holy Roman Empire under Charlemagne in the 8th century AD. Charlemagne is often called “The Father of Europe.”

AN ANCIENT DREAM

The Book of Daniel recounts King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon having a dream of a great statue, and calling for Daniel to interpret it. Daniel, informed by God, obliged. “You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. This image’s head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces... You, O king... are this head of gold. But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours [Medo-Persia]; then another, a third kingdom of bronze [Greece], which shall rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom [the Roman Empire and its revivals] shall be as strong as iron... And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will

set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed... Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure” (Daniel 2:31–45).

Interestingly, Cardinal Ratzinger has some awareness of the significance of this imagery. Writing about the Europe of the Middle Ages, he noted: “The conceptual continuity ... was assured by a theological interpretation of history: in connection with the Book of Daniel, the Roman Empire—renewed and transformed by the Christian faith—was considered to be the final and permanent kingdom in the history of the world in general, and therefore the association of peoples and states that was taking shape was defined as the permanent *Sacrum Imperium Romanum* [Holy Roman Empire]” (*ibid.*, p. 13).

His analysis, of course, does not express the full meaning of this imagery. Yet in referring to the two iron legs of the Daniel 2 statue, the current pope shows that even the Roman Catholic Church has in the past recognized that the Roman Empire and its successor, the so-called “Holy Roman Empire,” are pictured in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream.

He also refers to the statue’s two legs as constituting the *idea* of Europe, *apart* from its geography: “We can consider the rise of the Carolingian [Charlemagne’s] Empire, on the one hand [the western leg], and the continuation of the Roman empire in Byzantium and its mission to the Slavic people, on the other [the eastern leg], as the true and proper birth of the *continent* of Europe...” (*ibid.*, p. 17). In his analysis, the two “legs” of the empire constitute the foundation of the *geographic idea* of Europe. And he has a point.

Furthermore: “The two halves of the old Europe, before the modern era, had known essentially only one opponent that it had to confront in a life-or-death battle, namely, the Islamic world” (*ibid.*, p. 22). Resisting Islamic conquest contributed significantly to the common identity of Europe, because it helped Europeans to think that “the continent of Europe” *had a common fate* in opposing the Caliphate that for more than a thousand years sought conquest in Europe.

Benedict also reminds us that this Roman Catholic monasticism, “had remained the essential guarantor not only of cultural continuity, but above all of fundamental religious and moral values, of man’s awareness of his ultimate destiny; and *as a force prior to and superior to political authority*, it became the source of the *rebirths* that were necessary again and again” (*ibid.*, p. 15).

To Benedict, “Europe” is inseparable from “Christianity”—the institution that, in his view, defined, developed and protected the continent, making it what it is today. He argues that Europe cannot long exist without it. Today, as the continent faces renewed challenge from Islam, many powerful Europeans are coming to the same conclusion, and they want the European Union to be defined constitutionally as “Christian.”

THE CRISIS OF SECULARISM

But there is an opposing movement in Europe: *secularism*. The French strongly favor a purely secular society, and they have a word for it: “Laïcité.” The word corresponds to “*Laicism*” in English and both are derived from the Greek, *laikos*, meaning “of the people.” A society organized under this model relegates religion strictly to private life, such that religious perspectives on conduct and morality must not be expressed in

the public sphere. The laicist model is increasingly familiar to Americans, who see their courts restricting public displays of the Ten Commandments, and prohibiting prayer in public schools. Far from being religion-neutral, laicism sometimes manifests as an outright hostility to expressions of Judeo-Christian principles and practices that for centuries were taken as normative in the U.S. and Great Britain and other Western nations.

In Benedict's critique of laicism, he notes that the state, lacking any claim of religious authority, "claimed to be founded solely on reason and on its own intuitions. When confronted with the frailty of reason, these systems have proved to be fragile and have easily fallen victim to dictatorships; they survive, actually, only because parts of the old moral consciousness continue to exist, even without the previous social foundations, making possible a basic moral consensus" (*ibid.*, p. 26.).

A state's laws express its understanding of morality. If a society judges it "wrong" to rob banks or run red lights, it establishes laws to punish those activities. A laicist state by definition cannot legislate religious morality, so the question becomes, "Whose morality will its laws reflect?"

The EU is officially a secular state. But, in a new religious environment where more and more Europeans seek to practice their Muslim faith, can all faiths be accommodated in a secular framework? Or will accommodating Islam undermine centuries of European values?

ON THE ROAD TO FEDERAL UNITY

The tension between secular and Catholic impulses in Europe seems intractable. What can unite these two adversarial views? Can the EU ever be truly unified politically and

economically with a central federal government? Before full unity can come, two barriers must be broken down.

The first issue is economic control. Until recently, EU nations have enjoyed fiscal autonomy within the EU framework. Individual nations' governments decided how they would tax their people and how they would spend the revenue. Because of the common currency, lenders assumed that there was an implicit EU guarantee of the sovereign debt



of the various EU nations. As a result, economically weak nations such as Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain (collectively called the "PIIGS" nations) provided more generous social services and pension benefits than they could actually afford—which led to unsustainable deficits and debt levels. The impending sovereign defaults threatened not only the viability of the euro, but of the EU as well, until Germany—"the strongman of Europe"—pushed through a plan to finance a bailout in exchange for greater German influence over EU fiscal policy. Henceforward, there will be much more central review and control of the various EU nations' spending. The economic independence of the EU nations is being effectively broken down. Their common currency, the euro, is establishing a *common economic fate* for those within the Eurozone. But it took a major economic crisis to

accomplish this. Further crises may accomplish more.

The second issue is nationalism. If you live in Paris, France, do you think of yourself as a Frenchman or a European? Should residents of Milan consider themselves Italian first and European second? The vast majority of EU citizens still cling to national identity above their identity as Europeans. The EU is a fiscal and political entity, not a national identity. This is not a new phenomenon. Before the U.S. Civil War of 1861–65, for example, many citizens thought of themselves first as residents of their own state (e.g. "Virginians"), and only secondarily as "Americans." It took a devastating war to convince millions of Americans that the individual states shared a common fate as one nation, and that their identity as Americans must come first.

What could overcome the nationalism and self-interest of the individual EU countries and unite them into a world-shaking powerhouse? What could spur the advocates of a "Christian Europe" to find common cause with the laicists who have sought a secular Europe? What can give the diverse peoples of the EU a sense that they share a common interest and a common fate?

THE ISLAMIC THREAT

After Muhammad's death in 632AD, the Islamic Caliphate spread its rule across the Middle East and Northern Africa. Then, in 711AD, Islamic forces invaded Spain, conquered it and continued into much of France. Pillaging towards Paris, al-Rahman's Muslim army was finally stopped in France in 732AD by the Roman Catholic army of Charles Martel at the Battle of Tours, and European Catholicism was preserved.

Despite this setback, the Caliphate conquered and ruled large

parts of Western Europe for centuries, including southern Italy and Sicily, as well as Spain and parts of France. Later, Muslim armies invaded Europe from the east, reaching as far as Vienna, Austria—seat of the Holy Roman Empire—which was attacked three times but never fell. Catholic forces at Granada, Spain, defeated the last Muslim stronghold in Europe in 1492. But not until 1718, upon Hungary's independence from Ottoman rule, did the Caliphate finally retreat from Eastern Europe, ending more than a thousand years of wars.

For nearly 300 years, Europe has not faced the threat of Muslim invasion—a threat that was instrumental in the formation of a shared European identity throughout the Middle Ages. Now, however, there is again a perceived threat from Islamists, as Muslim extremists call for “holy war” and restoration of the Caliphate. Pope Benedict, like many other European leaders, believes that Europe will not survive without a return to the continent's cultural and religious roots. *Is there any other threat, besides radical Islam, that can unite Europe's secularists and religionists?*

A LOOK AT THE FUTURE

The history of Europe can help us understand current events, but today's events can be illuminated further by the “future history” revealed in Bible prophecy. God tells us the news **before** it happens. As a result, people of faith can understand current events in the context of the completed panorama of history.

With a thousand years of invasions and occupations going back to the eighth century, Islam has a long history as a strategic threat to Europe. Unlike Americans, Europeans have suffered—*on European soil*—centuries of wars with Muslims. Europeans are slowly starting to realize that, given the history of *jihad* in Europe, a restored

Islamic Caliphate in the Middle East would again pose a strategic threat to the continent.

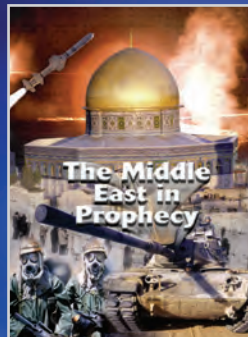
Indeed, Islamists are openly reminding Europeans of this threat. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad shocked the EU in 2006 when he publicly announced, “We have advised the Europeans that the Americans are far away, but you are the neighbors of the nations in this region. We inform you that the nations are like an ocean that is welling up, and if a storm begins, the dimensions will not stay limited to Palestine, and you may get hurt. It is in your own interest to distance yourself from these criminals [Israel]. This is an ultimatum” (“Ahmadinejad Does Europe,” *Wall Street Journal*, October 24, 2006, p. A18). There is no evidence that President Ahmadinejad has changed his mind, and he may soon have nuclear weapons. To Ahmadinejad's south, many Muslims across the Arabian Peninsula and in North Africa are demanding a return to Islamic law. Ahmadinejad, a Shi'ite Muslim of Persian ancestry, is unlikely to galvanize the vast majority of Muslims, who profess the Sunni branch of Islam and share Arab ancestry. But the threat Ahmadinejad proclaims is real, portending a

growing trend toward Muslim unity that Scripture reveals will lead to an end-time confederation of nations.

The prophet Daniel foretold that a conflict would heat up just before the return of the Messiah. In chapter 11 of Daniel, the prophet begins by recounting the history of ancient rulers who warred for control of the area around Jerusalem. Kings of the north contended against kings of the south. Then, from verse 40 on, Daniel's prophecy emphasizes “the time of the end”—our immediate future—in which a ruler to the south of Jerusalem will arise and become powerful. *He will attack or “push” against a northern power, which Bible prophecy shows to be a European power—a successor to the Roman Empire.*

Millions of Europeans are now fearful that Islam will transform their nations from within. As we have seen, however, Bible prophecy reveals that Islam's role will be to transform Europe from without—bringing it together to play a prophesied role in end-time events leading up to the return of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Keep reading *Tomorrow's World*, as we watch these developments unfold and explain them in the light of Bible prophecy (Matthew 24:42).■

THE MIDDLE EAST IN PROPHECY



Will there ever be peace in the Middle East? Will that war-ravaged region ever overcome centuries of hatred and contention? Scripture reveals the answer—and what it means for end-time prophecy!

Write for our FREE booklet, *The Middle East in Prophecy*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.TomorrowsWorld.org.

Oceans in Trouble!

Long ago, the God of the Bible warned that *human disregard* for the natural laws that govern the earth's ecosystems would result in catastrophic damage on a global scale. Those ancient prophecies are now *coming alive* in scientific findings and news reports today! We need to be aware of what is happening in the oceans of the world, and of what ancient Bible prophecies have long foretold—and what the future holds.

DEATH IN THE OCEANS

Over the last several decades, scientists who monitor the state of the world's oceans have documented a number of disturbing trends that *continue to worsen*. Coral reefs that ring the islands and border the continents of the world, providing a home for one-fourth of all marine fish species, are increasingly showing signs of *widespread damage*. Studies reveal that 20 percent of the world's coral reefs have been destroyed, that another 25 percent are facing imminent collapse, and that 70 percent could be destroyed by 2050 if present trends continue. The most seriously threatened reefs are found along the shores of nations bordering the Red Sea, the Indian Ocean and in the Australasian region of the world. Factors such as pollutants, sediments from erosion, algal blooms, overfishing, rising water temperatures and carbon dioxide-induced acidification of the oceans—all related to expanding coastal populations—are destroying coral reefs *around the world!*

Marine biologists have also compiled disturbing data about the extent of overfishing and its destructive effects on fish populations. Overfishing is simply harvesting more fish from the oceans than are being replaced by natural means, and it is seen as what the environmental organization Greenpeace has called, "the single biggest threat to marine ecosystems today." Studies indicate that 70 percent of the world's fish stocks are now

overexploited or declining. Scientists estimate that 90 percent of large food fish have been depleted, and are no longer commercially available to fishermen. Numerous fishing industries—cod fishing in Newfoundland, sole fisheries in the Irish Sea, anchovy fishing off Peru and grouper fishing in the Caribbean—have *collapsed* or are seriously threatened because of unregulated overfishing. Not only are important species of fish lost as a food source, thousands of jobs also disappear! Industrialized fishing methods, which harvest huge numbers of fish, have



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in recent decades decimated many fishing grounds. Concerned biologists have warned that current practices *cannot continue*, and unless real changes are made, we could see "the collapse of all world fisheries by 2048" (*Scientific American*, November 2, 2006). This would *eliminate* the major source of animal protein for about a billion people!

Now comes another report—of a "food chain crisis in the world's oceans" (*Spiegel Online*, July 29, 2010). Canadian scientists have found that "stocks of phytoplankton have decreased 40 percent since 1950"—on a global scale. One marine scientist stated, "A retreat of 40 percent in 60 years, that is *so serious* that it is almost *unbelievable*" (*ibid.*). Phytoplankton are tiny microscopic organisms that are the first link in the oceanic food chain. If the ocean's total productivity declines, the numbers of fish will also decline! The oceans' rising surface temperatures appear to be a factor in killing off these essential organisms. Phytoplankton also contribute about one-half of all the oxygen generated by plants, and they absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide that can trap heat. So, the decrease in phytoplankton could not only lead to a reduction in the number of fish the ocean can produce, it may *increase* global temperatures (*Nature*, July 29, 2010).

MES ALIVE

ANCIENT PROPHETIC WARNINGS

But just what do these disturbing changes in the world's oceans have to do with Bible prophecy? Long ago, the God of the Bible revealed a fundamental concept: obedience to His laws will bring blessings, but ignoring or violating those laws will bring curses (Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28). Marine ecosystems operate on fundamental principles that must be understood and respected if they are to be maintained in good condition. However, today, the over-exploitation of marine resources—combined with the damaging effects of human-generated pollutants (as was seen earlier this year in the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico)—works to disrupt and destroy the natural function of ocean ecosystems, with serious implications for human populations!

The prophet Isaiah foresaw the global consequences of this human selfishness. “The earth mourns... The earth is also *defiled* under its inhabitants, because they have *transgressed the laws*... Therefore the curse has devoured the earth” (Isaiah 24:4–6). The prophet Hosea foretold of a similar situation in which “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*” (Hosea 4:1–3). What is the cause? “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge... because you have *forgotten the law* of your God” (Hosea 4:6). The Apostle John reveals that God does not look lightly on the exploitation and destruction of His creation. When Jesus Christ returns to this earth, one of His first acts will be to “*destroy those who destroy the earth*” (Revelation 11:15–18).

But why does the Bible insist on such strong punishments for exploiting and polluting the earth and its resources? Scripture reveals that God gave human beings dominion over the earth's living creatures, including “the fish of the sea” (Genesis 1:28). Human beings were

instructed to “tend and keep” the earth, and its creatures, *as wise stewards of God's creation* (Genesis 2:15). Sadly, by exploiting the earth and its creatures for commercial gain and defiling the planet and its ecosystems with human-generated pollutants, mankind instead is systematically destroying the environment and resources that God created to support human life—in *direct defiance* of our God-given responsibility to care for the earth.

The all-wise God of the Bible designed the earth and its ecosystems to function according to natural laws (Proverbs 3:19–20). When those laws are violated, there will be consequences. Scripture reveals that God will allow these *increasingly global consequences* to teach human beings important lessons. God inspired Hosea to warn, “I will punish them for their ways, and reward them for their deeds” (Hosea 4:9). Jeremiah recorded similar prophetic warnings: “Have you not brought this on yourself, in that you have forsaken the LORD your God... *Your own wickedness will correct you, and your backslidings will rebuke you*” (Jeremiah 2:17–19).

Although God will let human beings reap the results of their unbridled exploitation and pollution of the oceans, He also has a plan for the *restoration* of the earth and its resources (Acts 3:19–21). Bible prophecies reveal that when Jesus Christ returns to the earth to establish the Kingdom of God, the deserts of the world will “blossom as the rose” (Isaiah 35), the troubled waters of oceans will be healed (Ezekiel 47:8) and “the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you” (Isaiah 60:5). Some of these restorative changes will come about through God's supernatural intervention, while others will come about as human beings in the Millennium learn to manage the earth according to the laws of God that were designed to allow ecosystems to support life on this planet (Isaiah 2:2–4). To learn more about how the earth will be restored, request our free booklet, *The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like?*

—Douglas S. Winnail





SIGNS OF CHRIST'S SECOND COMING

By Richard F. Ames

Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus' disciples asked Him what would be the sign of His coming and the end of the age. What signs and prophetic trends did Jesus mention in response? We need to know what the Bible says!

Over the centuries, many have made predictions and set dates, anticipating Jesus Christ's return. So far, all have failed. But does this mean Jesus will not return? No, it does not! Ever since Adam and Eve, human beings have believed false prophecies proclaimed by deceivers and pretenders. But the prophecies in your Bible have proven to be valid, time and time again!

More than 100 prophecies in the Old Testament foretold Jesus Christ's first coming. Among them is Isaiah's prophecy that the Messiah would be a descendant of King

David, the son of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1), that the Messiah would be born of a virgin (7:14), that He would live in Galilee (9:1–2), that His mission would include the Gentiles (42:1–4) and that He would die with the wicked (53:9). Other prophecies foretold that He would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), that He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12–13), that He would enter Jerusalem on a donkey (9:9) and that He would be like a smitten shepherd (13:7).

Those prophecies were fulfilled. And the same Bible that foretold Jesus' first coming also foretells His second coming. Dozens of passages in both the Old and New Testaments prophesy of Jesus Christ's second coming. Look at what Jesus Himself said: "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:1–3).

JESUS' OWN WORDS

Why do so many fail to believe Jesus' own words? He said: "I will come again." The prophet Zechariah even tells us where He will return: "And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south" (Zechariah 14:4).

The Mount of Olives is just east of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. On the southeast slope is an old road that leads to the village of Bethany. Jesus spent time there

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with Mary, Martha, Lazarus and His disciples. My wife and I have walked that same road from Bethany to the Mount of Olives. It took us just about a half-hour.

When Jesus returns to the Mount of Olives, there will be a massive earthquake, and the mountain will split in two. Notice the time setting. “Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem” (Zechariah 14:1–2). The world’s armies will gather at Megiddo and come down to Jerusalem to fight Christ at His coming. Revelation 16:14 calls it “the battle of that great day of God Almighty”—more popularly called “Armageddon.”

The book of Acts also confirms Christ’s return. In Acts 1, the disciples witnessed Jesus’ ascension. “And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.’ Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey” (Acts 1:10–12).

Here we have seen three plain scriptural references to the second coming of Christ—and there are many more. Remember the announcement of the seventh trumpet: “Then the seventh angel sounded: and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!’” (Revelation 11:15).

Note also this passage from Revelation 19: “He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: King of kings and Lord of Lords” (Revelation 19:13–16).

Jesus said that, preceding His return, there would be false religions, and false signs and wonders that will deceive many. He stated: “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders

How can you know what is true and what is false? You need to check up on us—and all preachers—by reading your Bible! In praying to the Father, Jesus said: “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17). God’s word, the Bible, is truth! Many carelessly assume that their minister or priest is preaching from the Bible. But many doctrines commonly “taken for granted” are not in your Bible! You need to prove for yourself what the Bible says.

to deceive, if possible, even the elect” (Matthew 24:24). There will be powerful religious deceptions. Not just the few, but the many will be deceived by false religions—even false Christianity.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE?

How can you know what is true and what is false? You need to check up on us—and all preachers—by reading your Bible! In praying to the Father, Jesus said: “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17). God’s word, the Bible, is truth! Many carelessly assume that their minister or priest is preaching from the Bible. But many doctrines commonly “taken for granted” are not in your Bible! You need to prove for yourself what the Bible says. Remember: “Test [the KJV says “prove”] all things; hold fast what is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

You need not be deceived. Jesus Himself gave the prophetic trends and signs that would precede His second coming. You need to know what they are. One of the signs preceding Christ’s return will be the ascendancy of a powerful false religion with immense influence. You can read about that system, which Revelation 17 labels as “the great harlot.” The false prophet, about whom the Apostle Paul wrote will lead that system. You can read about the “man of sin” in 2 Thessalonians 2:3. For more detail on this prophetically significant matter, contact our Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 30 of this

magazine) to request your free copy of our booklet, *Who or What Is the Antichrist?*

Another specific sign Jesus told us to watch for is a future profaning of the holy place in Jerusalem. Jesus said: “‘Therefore when you see the “abomination of desolation,” spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place’ (whoever reads, let him understand), ‘then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains’” (Matthew 24:15–16). Notice that the great false prophet, the man of sin, will profane the temple of God. This “abomination of desolation” is one of the signs Jesus said would precede His return.

What other signs will precede Christ’s second coming? Jesus warned us in Matthew 24:7 that there would be “earthquakes in various places.” How powerful can earthquakes be? The historic Mississippi Valley earthquake on

December 16, 1811, near New Madrid, Missouri, actually reversed the course of the Mississippi River! The Tangshan quake in China, in July 1976, killed as many as 779,000 people. Earlier this year, on January 12, a powerful earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter Scale killed more than 220,000, injured more than 300,000 and left as many as a million Haitians homeless. Hard as this may be to imagine, Scripture reveals that there will be even more severe earthquakes in the future—even affecting regions that have not previously experienced them.

The book of Revelation mentions several powerful earthquakes. After two-and-a-half years of the Great Tribulation spoken of by Jesus in the Olivet prophecy, the heavenly signs—the sixth seal of Revelation—introduce the Day of the Lord. Notice what happens: “I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood” (Revelation 6:12).

This earthquake, along with the astronomical phenomena, introduces the Day of the Lord—the year that precedes Christ’s second coming. “And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?’” (Revelation 6:13–17). Yes, the earth will be in turmoil during the Day of the Lord,

described here as “the great day of His wrath.” This will be a time of God’s judgment on the nations.

GOD’S WARNING

Notice what God says will happen to the earth and the heavens. The writer of Hebrews instructs



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us: “See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven, whose voice then shook the earth; but now He has promised, saying, ‘Yet once more I shake not only the earth, but also heaven.’ Now this, ‘Yet once more,’ indicates the removal of those things that are being shaken, as of things that are made, that the things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire” (Hebrews 12:25–29).

Our Father in heaven wants the best for each of us. He is giving carnal humanity 6,000 years—and giving each of us individually a lifetime—to learn. If we heed God’s warnings, we can escape the most horrendous judgments yet to be executed on our

Western nations, and eventually the whole world.

Another trend the Bible warns us about is drought. World temperatures are shifting in dramatic ways. Australia recently came out of its worst drought in more than 100 years, and some experts forecast a continuing recurrence of droughts over the next 20 to 30 years. “Droughts could hit the country twice as often as now, cover an area twice as big and be more severe in key agricultural production areas” according to a report issued by Australia’s



Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Research Organization).

“Is water the new oil?” asks writer Juliette Jowit. She points out that 1.4 billion human beings now live in areas “exposed to water stress.” Demand for water is forecast to rise 50 percent by 2030. And this is not just a “Third World” problem; Jowit reminds us that in November 2007, the Red Cross was called in to provide water to the town of Orme, Tennessee. “I thought, ‘That can’t be the Red Cross. We’re Americans!’” resident Susan Anderson told a reporter” (*The Guardian/UK*, November 2, 2008).

Meanwhile, other parts of our planet are ravaged by flood. Flooding in Pakistan this year began on July 22 and continued through September,

making more than 20 million Pakistanis homeless, and exposing as many as six million, according to World Health Organization estimates, to the risk of life-threatening diseases borne by dirty water.

Unless we wholeheartedly turn to God, our world will experience even more severe weather extremes. The Creator God gave this warning through the prophet Amos: “I also withheld rain from you, when there were still three months to the harvest. I made it rain on one city, I withheld rain from another city. One part was rained upon, and where it did not rain the part withered. So two or three cities wandered to another city to drink water, but they were not satisfied; yet you have not returned to Me,” says the LORD” (Amos 4:7–8).

Incredible as it may seem, some denominations now teach that the “last days” mentioned in scripture might continue on for “two years or two thousand years or two million years.” Often the implication is: “Don’t study Bible prophecy; it’s just a distraction.” Such statements ignore the very instructions of our Savior. Just after Jesus speaks of His second coming, He states: “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, *know that it is near*—at the doors!” (Matthew 24:32–33). Jesus expects His true followers to be knowledgeable about these signs.

WAR AND COSMOCIDE

Jesus foretold that before His return, there would be “wars, and rumors of wars” (v. 6). Skeptics and scoffers may point out, “There have always been wars!” Indeed, mankind has rarely known peace; historians Will and Ariel Durant famously determined in their 1968 book, *The Lessons of History*: “In the last 3,421 years of

recorded history only 268 have seen no war” (p. 81). But in our modern day, there is a difference—only in the last 70 years or so have human beings had the technology, through nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, to destroy all life on planet Earth. When you read the descriptions of end-time war in the book of Revelation, you see that in the end-times, wars are not just regional concerns; they envelop the whole globe.

Yes, there have always been scoffers, but **now** is the time to wake up and heed what is happening around the world. God spoke to the prophet Ezekiel about the skeptics and scoffers. “Son of man, what is this proverb that you people have about the land of Israel, which says, ‘The days are prolonged, and every vision fails?’” (Ezekiel 12:22). What does God say about man’s skepticism? “Tell them therefore, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “I will lay this proverb to rest, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel.”’ But say to them, ‘The days are at hand, and the fulfillment of every vision’” (Ezekiel 12:23).

The time is coming when God will intervene even more dramatically than ever before. Scientists, statesmen and world leaders have warned us about the

many dangers that can end life on our planet. Those warnings have not come from religious people, but from experts familiar with the realities of our modern weapons of mass destruction and the history of human nature. But the most important warning comes from the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ. He stated: “For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. 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).

Thank God that those days will be shortened. Jesus Christ will return to save humanity from self-destruction. He will usher in the Kingdom of God on earth. All nations will ultimately learn the true way to lasting peace, prosperity, and reconciliation. Jesus tells us to “Watch... and pray always” (Luke 21:36). May we all be spiritually alert for the signs of Jesus Christ’s second coming. Then we can look forward to His return with confidence, hope and faith. Thank God that His Kingdom is coming. Thank God that Jesus Christ will soon return to save us! ■

FOURTEEN SIGNS ANNOUNCING CHRIST’S RETURN



As the fulfillment of end-time prophetic events speeds up, do you know what to watch for? Your Bible reveals key signs that will precede the return of the Savior of the world, the King of kings!

Write for our FREE booklet, *Fourteen Signs Announcing Christ's Return*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.TomorrowsWorld.org.

TOMORROW'S

Facing Teen Bullying

The last months of 15-year-old Irish immigrant Phoebe Prince's life at a Massachusetts high school were filled with "relentless activity directed toward Phoebe designed to humiliate her and to make it impossible for her to remain at school" ("Phoebe Prince, South Hadley High School's 'new girl,' driven to suicide by teenage cyber bullies," *New York Daily News*, March 29, 2010). According to the article, "On January 14, Phoebe was harassed and threatened in the school library and in a hallway. As she walked home, one of the 'Mean Girls' drove by and threw a can of Red Bull at her. Phoebe walked into her house and hung herself in a stairwell. The nastiness didn't even end there. Her tormentors posted vicious comments on the dead girl's Facebook memorial page."

Some may dismiss bullying as "a normal part of growing up" that helps kids negotiate the complexities of social interactions. However, while good-natured teasing is a part of many healthy relationships, bullying is far different and more serious. "Bullying is aggressive behavior that is intentional, repeated over time, and involves an imbalance of power or strength. A child who is being bullied has a hard time defending himself or herself" (www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov). Such behavior has undoubtedly always been a part of the human experience, but should it be accepted as normal?

WHY DO TEENS BULLY?

It is important to understand the reasons for bullying in order to appropriately address it. "Bullies go for admiration, for status, for dominance," says René Veenstra, a sociologist at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands ("Behind Bullying: Why Kids Are So Cruel," *LiveScience.com*, April 9, 2010). "Despite their aggressive behavior, bullies also want affection, Veenstra said. His work has shown that bullies care about the approval of

their own in-group, so they strategically pick victims they know few other classmates will defend" (*ibid.*).

In addition to the lack of resistance many bullies receive, their behavior is often excused or encouraged by adults. The mother of one of the teens charged as a juvenile in the death of Phoebe Prince excused her daughter's behavior and blamed the victim ("Mom of teen charged with bullying South Hadley H.S. student Phoebe Prince into suicide blames victim," *New York Daily News*, March 30, 2010). Young people also witness aggressive and disrespectful everyday conduct in the world all around them, whether through tailgating drivers or arguments between parents. It is little wonder that bullying continues.

The advent of "social media" has taken the problem of bullying to a whole new level. Bullying in past generations was primarily associated with certain *places*, but technology now makes it possible almost *anywhere* and *at any time*.

Aggressive, intentional and repeated acts using cell phones and computers are known as cyberbullying, and have become a way to intensify the onslaught of abuse. Cyberbullying can involve:

- Sending mean, vulgar, or threatening messages or images
- Posting sensitive, private information and/or lies about another person
- Pretending to be someone else in order to make that person look bad
- Intentionally excluding someone from an online group

Important ways in which cyberbullying is different from traditional forms of bullying include:

- It can occur any time of the day or night.
- Its messages and images can be distributed quickly to a very wide audience.





- Children and youth can be anonymous when cyberbullying, which makes it difficult (and sometimes impossible) to trace. (Source: stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov).

For teens who use technology as a primary form of social interaction, cyber-attacks can be as damaging as physical abuse. John Palfrey, author of *Born Digital: Understanding the First Generation of Digital Natives*, observed: "I think it's somewhat more explosive to spread a rumor on the Internet. Because it spreads so quickly, and the scale, the scope of it can be much greater. One of the things you hear from people who have been the victim of a malicious rumor is that the hurt is more, because so many people could have seen it so quickly and it's so hard to respond to it" ("Q&A with David Pogue: Rumors, Cyberbullying and Anonymity," *New York Times*, July 22, 2010). One thing is sure: with the increased availability of technology, the problem of teen bullying is growing. What can you do if you are a victim of bullying?

WHAT TO DO

If you are a teen being bullied, you know how hard it can be to know what to do. But help is available, and there are steps you can take, however difficult they may seem:

- **Pray:** This is the place to start, because you want God's help. When he was still young, David faced bullying from King Saul, the most powerful man in Israel. Jealous Saul was intent on physically harming David. His persecution lasted for years. During this time, David recorded many of his prayers for us to read in the Bible. Notice: "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from my enemies" (Psalm 18:2-3).
- **Tell a trusted adult:** As much as you may fear this step, you need to let someone in authority know what is happening. It is normal to feel overwhelmed when you are bullied, which is why someone with more

experience needs to be involved. If you have already done this and nothing has changed, tell another adult. When you do find someone who is able and wants to help, let him or her know everything: who is bullying you, where it has happened, how long it has been going on, and how it makes you feel. This applies to cyber-bullying, too. Ask the adult to help you deal with the problem.

- **Use available resources:** Many people are committed in the battle against bullying. Many schools and law enforcement agencies have instituted bullying prevention programs. Do not overlook ministers and parents as potential sources of help. Remember, there are helpful Web sites that can give you suggestions as to how to handle the problem; another such site is www.pacerteensagainstabullying.org.

Help is available. There is a way out, and no one needs to face bullying alone.

If you are one who intimidates others through bullying, you need to stop! This is not just for the sake of your victims, but also for you. According to *Teens Against Bullying*, 25 percent of young people who bully have a criminal record by the time they are 30 years old. Is that what you want for your life? Some bullies strike out at others as a reaction to abuse they themselves are receiving. If this is your situation, take the same steps suggested above for those who are being bullied. There are more productive ways to deal with your problems than to ruin someone else's life.

Ask yourself: "What kind of person do I want to be?" Although it may sound trite, the best reason to stop bullying can be found in a principle Jesus Christ taught nearly 2,000 years ago: "Treat others the same way you want them to treat you" (Luke 6:31, *New American Standard Bible*). Consider how you would feel if you were the victim of bullying. Pretty miserable, right?

Whether you are the bully or the bullied, look to Jesus Christ for His example and His help. Use the resources He has made available around you, and let Him change your life.

—Phil Sena

BROKEN CISTERNS

“Going green” is all in vogue, as struggling economies and fragile ecosystems around the world face the need to conserve and recycle. Nowadays, people in wealthy Western nations often repurpose or recycle items that they once would have thoughtlessly discarded. At every level, more energy-efficient means of meeting our basic daily needs are being sought. Careless wastefulness just does not make good sense.

Recently, as I was helping friends install rain barrels to catch the rainwater runoff from the gutters of their home (a practice that was very common in earlier years before modern urban plumbing was routine), my mind turned to a Scripture that can hold much meaning for those who will pause to ponder it.

In about 635–605BC, the ancient prophet Jeremiah—sometimes called the “weeping prophet”—wrote a stern warning to the “house of Jacob and all the families of the house of Israel” (Jeremiah 2:4). He outlined the sins of the nation, and prophesied of terrible consequences if the people refused to change from their sinful ways. He wrote: “Has a nation changed its gods, which are not gods? But My people have changed their Glory for what does not profit. Be astonished, O heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid; be very desolate,” says the Lord. “For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water” (vv. 11–13).

What is a cistern? It is a receptacle for storage of water, usually underground. In using this analogy, what was Jeremiah saying to those people long ago? Does he have a message for us today?

Clearly, the people of Jeremiah’s age were ignoring God’s plain instructions on how to live their lives. They were not keeping God’s commandments; they were not concerned for each other. Their leaders were leading them astray, and they willingly went along with it.

Their loving God was richly providing them with “living waters”—spiritual truths and blessings—but those living waters were not being retained. Rather, they were being kept in broken

cisterns, where they leaked away and did no one any good.

We still have that expression today, in a common English-language idiom. When we hear about some unfounded scheme or some unworkable idea—sure to fail—we may say, “Why, that just won’t hold water!”

What about you? Will your beliefs, values and actions “hold water” under the scrutiny of God’s words, as found in the Bible? Are you storing up God’s truth, and His blessings, through faithfulness and obedience as a repentant follower of Jesus Christ? Or have you, through neglect or rebellion, failed to focus on what is most important in life, and hewn out for yourself “broken cisterns that can hold no water”?

God’s word to ancient Israel, delivered through the prophet Jeremiah, still has meaning for “spiritual Israel” today. In Jeremiah’s day, God lamented, “My people have forgotten Me days without number” (v. 32). How much

more this is true today, when most of the “Lost Ten Tribes” of ancient Israel have entirely forgotten their roots! (For more on the modern-day identities of the ancient Israelite tribes, write for our free booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*).

But you as an individual can remember, and can reap the blessings God intends. You can learn the life-changing truths of Scripture. You can practice a Way of life that does “hold water”—the living water, which pictures the Holy Spirit. With the Holy Spirit, repentant Christians have God’s help in bringing genuine change to their lives, as they begin to live God’s Way and receive not only the blessings that come in this life, but also those that will come in the Kingdom of God, at Christ’s return.

We at *Tomorrow’s World* want to help you learn and grow. All of our literature is provided absolutely free of charge. Have you considered enrolling in our *Tomorrow’s World Bible Study Course*, available in print or online at absolutely no charge? Contact the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 30), or go to www.TWBibleCourse.org to learn more. Check it out today!

—J. Davy Crockett, III



Peace on Earth?

Continued from page 12

of the Kingdom of God. Unlike the past 6,000 years of mankind's mis-rule, this will be a time when wrongs will be righted and the oppressed will be oppressed no more!

Notice some of the prophecies concerning the millennial time that the Feast of Tabernacles symbolizes: "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains" (Isaiah 2:2). That is a reference to Jesus Christ setting up a kingdom that will be superior to every other kingdom that has ever been on earth (Daniel 2:44). What will be the result of the righteous reign of this King of kings? "He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:4).

Jesus Christ will govern from Jerusalem. He will correct and re-train those who have learned to settle differences with the knife, gun or spear. He will teach them a new and different way. War will be a thing of the past. "Peace on Earth" will no longer be an empty slogan—it will really occur! The Feast of Tabernacles pictures it!

Jesus Christ's government will care for those who are oppressed and suffering: "But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth... They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:4, 9). Resurrected Christians from our present age, the "firstfruits," will rule under Jesus Christ,

administering His government (Jude 14–15; 1 Corinthians 6:2). These glorified firstfruits will govern cities (Luke 19:17, 19) on the earth for a thousand years (Revelation 5:10; 20:4–6). They will have a part in teaching this new way of peace. As Isaiah foretells: "And though the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore, but your

When you really understand it, the Feast of Tabernacles is an eye-opening look into the glorious future of humanity! It promises a time of relief from the pain and suffering of this age. It shows that hatred, violence, and war will come to an end. Jesus Christ will personally stamp it out when He comes to rule!

eyes shall see your teachers. Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left" (Isaiah 30:20–21).

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Instead of the "Lord of Misrule" associated with the deceptive traditions of Christmas, Jesus Christ will rule as the "Prince of Peace!" We read, "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). God speed that day!

GOD WILL "TABERNACLE" WITH MANKIND

During the ancient Israelites' sojourn in the wilderness, the

Tabernacle reminded them that God was dwelling with them. It also pointed toward the Messiah who would come to the earth to live and die for all humanity. But, there was more! It also looked forward symbolically to Christ's second coming! When Jesus Christ returns, He will "tabernacle"—live—among mankind, reigning as King of kings (Revelation 17:14). Is the promise of Christ's

second coming real to you? Is it a reality you are excited about and anticipating (Luke 21:28)? Do you want to be one of those whom Christ will use to teach the world a better way? If so, keep the Feast—it will help you picture, understand and prepare!

Jesus and His disciples never observed Christmas. But they **did** observe the Feast of Tabernacles. Bible prophecy says nothing about the whole world keeping Christmas. But it **does** give us a promise that, in the Kingdom of God, all nations will keep the Feast of Tabernacles together. "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" (Zechariah 14:16).

"Peace on earth, goodwill toward men" is not a fantasy or abstract idea. It is a reality that will come, as surely as Jesus Christ will return. God's Church keeps the Feast of Tabernacles each year, gaining a small foretaste of that soon-coming time when the whole world will experience the peace that "surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7). Will you keep the Feast? ■

Do You Really Stand for Something?

Continued from page 2

participate in watering it down. We, along with our faithful supporters, are in a **crusade** to proclaim that Truth to all the nations of the earth (Matthew 28:18–20).

In this crusade, we are in a sense “Christian warriors.” The Apostle Paul said, “You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier” (2 Timothy 2:3–4).

Although “Christian warriors” do not fight with the arms of this world, we can learn many lessons from outstanding worldly warriors who were of great ability and good character, as far as they could understand. One of the greatest of these warriors of modern times was General Douglas MacArthur. If you know much about American history, you know that General MacArthur was an outstanding patriot and leader of men—because he was a man who truly stood for something.

Near the end of his illustrious career, returning to West Point Military Academy for the last time, he gave what is still regarded as one of the most eloquent speeches of the 20th century. After being greatly honored at West Point, General MacArthur spoke to the assembled Corps of Cadets and many high-ranking dignitaries:

“No human being could fail to be deeply moved by such a tribute as this, coming from a profession I have served so long and a people I have loved so well. It fills me with an emotion I cannot express. But this award is not intended primarily for a personality, but to symbolize a great moral code—the code of conduct and chivalry of those who guard this beloved land of culture and ancient descent.

“Duty, honor, country—these three hallowed words reverently dictate what you want to be, what you can be, what you will be. They are your rallying point to build courage when courage seems to fail, to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith, to create hope when hope becomes forlorn.... But these are some of the things they build. They build your basic character. They mold you for your future roles as the custodians of the nation’s defense. They make you strong enough to know when you are weak, and brave enough to face yourself when you are afraid....”

Further on, General MacArthur concluded his historic address: “The shadows are lengthening for me.

The twilight is here. My days of old have vanished—tone and tints. They have gone glimmering through the dreams of things that were. Their memory is one of wondrous beauty, watered by tears and coaxed and caressed by the smiles of yesterday. I listen, then, but with thirsty ear, for the witching melody of faint bugles blowing reveille, of far drums beating the long roll. In my dreams I hear again the crash of guns, the rattle of musketry, the strange, mournful mutter of the battlefield. But in the evening of my memory I come back to West Point. Always there echoes and re-echoes: duty, honor, country. Today marks my final roll call with you. But I want you to know that when I cross the river, my last conscious thoughts will be of the corps, the corps, and the corps. I bid you farewell.”

Of course, unlike General MacArthur and the West Point cadets, true Christians are engaged in a **spiritual** warfare. But **war** it is, nonetheless! Many of us at *Tomorrow’s World* are—like General MacArthur in his day—“old-timers”! We have witnessed many a battle scene of spiritual blood and carnage. We have seen and resisted Satan’s withering attacks—on ourselves, on our friends and on God’s Work—again and again.

We know and deeply understand that “our citizenship is in heaven” (Philippians 3:20). That—not America or Britain or any other physical nation—is the “country” we are fighting for! We know that our warfare is not participation in the “Corps” of West Point, but in the Work of the Living God!

So we can, in that light, deeply relate to General MacArthur’s words: “Duty, honor, country.” With this in mind, let us **never** forget why we are here. Let us hold our heads high as we charge on day and night to support the Work of God with zeal, with dedication, with courage and with sacrifice.

No military mission was ever so vital. No warfare was ever so important. And no reward was ever so magnificent as the one we will receive if we overcome ourselves and Satan, and if we are zealous and faithful in proclaiming Christ’s message to a world that has truly lost its way.



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TOMORROW'S WORLD TELEVISION LOG



INTERNATIONAL:

AUSTRALIA:

QLD Brisbane QCTV 31 SUN 9:00 a.m.
 SA Adelaide Access 31 SUN 9:30 a.m.
 SA Adelaide Access 31 TUE 11:00 p.m.
 VIC Melbourne MCTC 31 SUN 11:30 p.m.
 WA Perth WTV SUN 9:00 a.m.
 FRI 12:00 p.m.

BARBADOS:

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

CANADA:

BC Vancouver CHNU SUN 1:30 a.m.
 SUN 5:00 p.m.
 BC Victoria CHEK SUN 8:00 a.m.
 NS Halifax CIHF SUN 8:30 a.m.

JAMAICA:

Kingston TVJ SUN 7:00 a.m.

NEW ZEALAND:

Nationwide Prime TV SUN 8:30 a.m.

SOUTH AFRICA:

Cape Town CTV SUN 11:00 a.m.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:

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

UK & NW EUROPE:

Gospel Sky TV 590 MON 7:00 p.m.
 London, UK KICC-TV 594 SUN 8:00 p.m.
 TUE 4:30 p.m.
 WED 3:30 p.m.
 WORD (TWN) Sky TV 591 MON 12:30 a.m.

UNITED STATES:

AK Anchorage KIMO SUN 6:00 a.m.
 Fairbanks KATN SUN 6:00 a.m.
 Juneau KJUD SUN 6:00 a.m.
 AL Birmingham WPXH WED 5:30 a.m.
 Dothan WTVY SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Montgomery WBMM SUN 7:00 a.m.
 AL Opelika WLGA SUN 7:00 a.m.
 AR Fort Smith KHBS SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Jonesboro KJOS SUN 7:00 a.m.
 AZ Phoenix KPPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 CA Bakersfield KGET SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Chico KHSL SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Eureka KUVU SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Monterey KION SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Palm Springs KESQ SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Redding KHSL SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Sacramento KSPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 San Bernardino KPXN WED 6:30 a.m.
 San Jose KKPX WED 3:30 a.m.
 CO Denver KPXC WED 4:30 a.m.
 Grand Junction KJCT SUN 7:00 a.m.
 CT Hartford WHPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 DE Wilmington WPPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 FL Gainesville WCJB SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Jacksonville WPXC WED 6:30 a.m.
 Miami WPXM WED 6:30 a.m.
 Orlando WOPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Panama City WJHG SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Tampa WXPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 W. Palm Beach WPXP WED 6:30 a.m.
 GA Albany WBSK SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Atlanta ION WED 6:30 a.m.
 Augusta WAGT SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Brunswick WPXC WED 6:30 a.m.
 Columbus WLGA SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Macon WBMN SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Rome WPXA WED 6:30 a.m.
 HI Kailua-Kona KLEI WED 12:30 a.m.
 Kaneohe KPXO WED 12:30 a.m.
 IA Cedar Rapids KPXR WED 5:30 a.m.

Des Moines KFPX WED 5:30 a.m.
 Ottumwa KWOT SUN 9:00 a.m.
 ID Boise KNIN SUN 9:00 a.m.
 Idaho Falls KPFI SUN 7:00 a.m.
 IL Bloomington WHOI SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Chicago WCPX WED 5:30 a.m.
 Chicago WGN SUN 5:00 a.m.
 Peoria WHOI SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Quincy WGEM SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Fort Wayne WPTA SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Indianapolis WIPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 KY Bowling Green WBKO SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Lexington WUPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 LA Alexandria KBCA SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Lafayette KLWB SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Lake Charles WBLC SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Monroe KNOE SUN 7:00 a.m.
 New Orleans WPXL WED 5:30 a.m.
 MA Boston WBPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Vineyard Haven WDPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 ME Bangor WABI SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Presque Isle WBPQ SUN 8:00 a.m.
 MI Alpena WBAE SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Detroit WPXD WED 6:30 a.m.
 Grand Rapids WZPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Lansing WLAJ SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Marquette WBKP SUN 8:00 a.m.
 MN Duluth KDLH SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Mankato KWYE SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Minneapolis KPXM WED 5:30 a.m.
 Rochester KTTC SUN 7:00 a.m.
 MO Columbia KOMU SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Joplin KOAM/KFJX SUN 8:30 a.m.
 Kansas City KPXE WED 5:30 a.m.
 Springfield KSFX SUN 6:30 a.m.
 MS Biloxi WBGW SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Columbus WCBI SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Greenwood WBWD SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Hattiesburg WBH SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Meridian WTKO SUN 7:00 a.m.
 MT Billings KTVQ SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Bozeman KXLF SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Butte KBZK SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Glendive KWZB SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Great Falls KRTV SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Helena KMTF SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Missoula KPAX SUN 7:00 a.m.
 NC Charlotte WAXN SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Fayetteville WFPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Greensboro WGPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Greenville WEPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Greenville WNCT SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Hickory WHKY MON 7:30 p.m.
 Jacksonville WPXU WED 6:30 a.m.
 Raleigh WRPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 ND Bismarck KWMK SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Fargo WDAY SUN 7:00 a.m.
 NE Lincoln KCWL SUN 7:00 a.m.
 North Platte KWPL SUN 7:00 a.m.
 NH Concord WPXG WED 6:30 a.m.
 NV Reno KREN SUN 8:00 a.m.
 NY Albany WCWN SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Albany WYPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Binghamton WBNG SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Buffalo WPXJ WED 6:30 a.m.
 Elmira WENY SUN 8:00 a.m.
 New York WPXN WED 6:30 a.m.
 Syracuse WSPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 OH Cleveland WVPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Lima WBOH SUN 8:00 a.m.
 OK Oklahoma City KOPX WED 5:30 a.m.
 Oklahoma City KSBI SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Tulsa KTPX WED 5:30 a.m.
 OR Bend KTVZ SUN 8:00 a.m.

Eugene KMTR SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Medford KTVL SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Portland KPXG WED 6:30 a.m.
 PA Erie WBEP SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Philadelphia WPPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Wilkes-Barre WQPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 RI Providence WPXQ WED 6:30 a.m.
 SC Charleston WCBF SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Myrtle Beach WWMB SUN 8:00 a.m.
 SD Rapid City KWBH SUN 7:00 a.m.
 TN Jackson WBJK SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Knoxville WPXK WED 6:30 a.m.
 Memphis WPXX WED 5:30 a.m.
 Nashville WNPX WED 5:30 a.m.
 TX Abilene KTXS SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Amarillo KVIH SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Beaumont KFDH SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Corpus Christi KRIS SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Dallas KPXD WED 5:30 a.m.
 Harlingen KSEF SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Houston KPXB WED 5:30 a.m.
 Laredo KGNS SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Lubbock KLCW SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Lufkin KTRE SUN 6:30 a.m.
 Midland KWWT SUN 7:00 a.m.
 San Antonio KPXL WED 5:30 a.m.
 Tyler KLTV SUN 6:30 a.m.
 UT Salt Lake City KUPX WED 4:30 a.m.
 VA Charlottesville WVIR SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Manassas WPXW WED 6:30 a.m.
 Norfolk WXPV WED 6:30 a.m.
 Roanoke WXPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 WA Seattle KWPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Spokane KGPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 WI Eau Claire WXOW SUN 7:00 a.m.
 Milwaukee WPXE WED 5:30 a.m.
 Wausau WTPX WED 5:30 a.m.
 WV Bluefield WYVA SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Charleston WLPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Clarksburg WVFX SUN 8:00 a.m.
 Martinsburg WWPX WED 6:30 a.m.
 Parkersburg WCWP SUN 8:00 a.m.
 WY Casper KTWO SUN 10:00 a.m.
 Cheyenne KLWY SUN 10:00 a.m.
 Riverton KGWC SUN 7:00 a.m.

■ Nationwide Cable

WGN—SUN 6:00 a.m. ET
 WORD—SUN 7:30 p.m. ET; WED 1:00 a.m. ET
 (TUE 10:00 p.m. PT)
 ION—WED 6:30 a.m. ET/PT
 CW-PLUS—SUN 8:00 a.m. ET/PT

■ DirecTV

WGN—CH 307, SUN 6:00 a.m. ET
 WORD—CH 373, SUN 7:30 p.m. ET;
 WED 1:00 a.m. ET (TUE 10:00 p.m. PT)
 ION—CH 305, WED 6:30 a.m. ET/PT

■ Dish Network

WGN—CH 239, SUN 6:00 a.m. ET
 ION—Ch 216, WED 6:30 a.m. ET/PT

■ Canada

VISION, Toronto—SUN 5:30 p.m. ET;
 MON 1:30 a.m.; MON-FRI 3:00 a.m. ET
 ON, Toronto: Grace Television—Cable,
 SUN 4:00 p.m., WED 9:00 a.m. ET

TOMORROW'S WORLD TELEVISION LOG

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WGN: SUN 6:00 a.m. ET

WORD (TWN): SUN 7:30 p.m. ET; WED 1:00 a.m. ET (TUE 10:00 p.m. PT)

VISION, Canada: SUN 4:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. ET; MON 1:30 a.m. ET
MON-FRI 3:00 a.m. ET

NEW U.S.A. TELEVISION STATION:

OK, Oklahoma City: KSBI, Sun 7:00 a.m.

NEW CANADA TELEVISION STATION:

ON, Hamilton: CHCH, Sun 7:30 a.m.

UPCOMING TOMORROW'S WORLD TELECASTS



Your Ultimate Destiny

Airs December 2-8

What will you be doing for all eternity?

Who Is Jesus?

Airs December 9-15

How well do you know the Savior of the world?

Prophets and Pretenders

Airs December 16-22

How can you recognize a false prophet?

The Missing Message

Airs December 23-29

What do people overlook when they celebrate Christmas?