

# TOMORROW'S WORLD

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The Dangerous  
**“TIMES OF  
THE GENTILES”**



# The Elect and the Salvation of Mankind

**T**here is coming a day when violence between neighbors, tribes, nations, and races will come to an end and pandemics will cease. I understand this is difficult to believe, given mankind's history, but do you realize that this is the message of the biblical prophets and of Jesus Christ Himself? How can this be?

Jesus said that conditions on earth will become so terrible that unless He returns, no human being will survive. "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). This passage is rich in meaning. We learn that there is coming a time of trouble worse than any that mankind has ever known throughout its history or will ever know again. But there is good news. Something—or, in this case, *someone*—will cut short humanity's headlong rush into oblivion. That someone is Jesus Himself, and He explains why humanity's insanity will be cut short—"for the elect's sake."

So, who are the elect? Most find this question odd, mistakenly assuming that all people have an opportunity to be saved during their lifetime. But neither your Bible nor sound logic support this idea. Consider the billions who have existed prior to, during, and after Christ's first coming without ever hearing His name; yet we are told that there is *no other name* whereby we can be saved (Acts 4:12). Jesus Himself declared, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:44). This statement is repeated in verse 65—do you understand the magnitude of it?

## Crucified with Christ

The Bible also contains many warnings about false Christianity (cf. Matthew 24:4–5; 2 Corinthians 11:4, 13–15; Revelation 6:1–2; 12:9). The elect Jesus mentioned are few indeed compared to the estimated two-and-a-half billion "Christians" of all stripes in the world today. Whoever the elect are, they are not the professing majority; yet they do exist in our world,

and it is for their sake that Christ will intervene. But Jesus did not bring peace at His first coming, so what will be different about His second coming? How will He bring harmony to our troubled planet?

Some 2,600 years ago, the prophet Daniel described two technological developments that will mark the time of the end: transportation on an unprecedented scale and a massive knowledge



expansion (Daniel 12:4). The book of Luke records Jesus' statements on the moral ills that will prompt His return—violence and sexual immorality (Luke 17:26–30; cf. Genesis 6:5, 11; 19). The prophet Zechariah explains the spark that will light the final crisis—trouble centering around the city of Jerusalem (cf. Zechariah 12:1–3; 14).

Dear reader, please do not take my word for any of this. I am citing a lot of scriptures, and I understand that the Bible is a large book with which most aren't very familiar. It may seem hard at first to look up these verses, but you *need* to prove these things for yourself—and you can do so with just a little effort. Use the table of contents at the front of the book if necessary. For your sake, please be as Paul described the Bereans: "These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11). This subject is too important not to prove to yourself.

So, again, who are the elect? The late Dr. Roderick C. Meredith's favorite definition of a true Christian is

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found in Galatians 2:20: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (*King James Version*). The Apostle Paul explains how we are crucified with Christ:

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin (Romans 6:3–6, *KJV*).

Yes, we must put to death the old self and become a new person. We must accept that our goodness will not save us—that we need One greater than us to exchange His life for us. This is what baptism pictures; our acceptance of Christ as our Savior and our turning away from sin are expressed in this simple-but-necessary ceremony. No child can understand this commitment, which is why baptism is for adults only. John describes a true Christian as someone whom God selectively calls, chosen as a result of responding to that call, and willing to remain faithful to the end (Revelation 17:14, cf. Matthew 24:13).

### **A Very Different Spirit**

But the question remains: *How will Christ transform our world from violence and immorality to peace and harmony?* It’s certain that the latter have not characterized mankind’s history. Peace can only come as a result of a change of the human heart, and only God can bring this about. But first, He must and *will* remove the current god of this world, the “prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2) broadcasts into the minds of men negative moods, attitudes, and feelings—attitudes of jealousy, lust, greed, and resentment. After Satan’s influence is eliminated,

Christ will fill the airwaves with a very different spirit (Revelation 20:1–3), removing the hostility that exists in human hearts (Romans 8:7) and replacing that hostility with a love for God’s laws.

This is what the New Covenant is about! The law of God will be in the minds and hearts of men everywhere (Hebrews 8:10–11). That law, of course, is the Ten Commandments, which James rightly describes as “the law of liberty” (James 1:25; 2:12).

Consider what it will be like when humanity respects the law that says, “You shall not murder.” When the spirit and intent of the law are understood and practiced, cities such as Chicago, Pretoria, and Tijuana will be transformed (Matthew 5:21–26). The observance of that single law will put an end to war. And what will the world be like when there is also no more adultery, no more false religion, and no more disrespect from children to parents?

Jesus Christ will not return this time as a Lamb to be led to the slaughter, but as a conquering King (Zechariah 14). He will command all nations to send representatives to keep His Holy Days in Jerusalem. How exciting it will be when mankind learns the very plan of God and the great potential He offers—a potential that is much greater than “rolling around heaven” or experiencing some kind of eternal equivalent to a drug high while staring into the face of God.

Those elect we mentioned earlier—those whose lives are truly transformed by thinking as Christ thinks and acting as He acted when He was here the first time—will be made Spirit beings and assist Christ in bringing about this great transformation, as many passages of Scripture show.

Is this too fantastic to believe? You had better hope not, because the alternative is not very encouraging. Mankind has tried for nearly 6,000 years to find peace, and every generation has failed. Unless the great troublemaker, Satan the devil, is removed, and unless Jesus Christ returns and changes the human heart, self-extinction is humanity’s lot. The message of *Tomorrow’s World* is that intervention from above *will* prevent that. There is hope—and that hope is sure!





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# The Dangerous “Times of the Gentiles”

By **Richard F. Ames**

**T**he Holy Bible outlines the future of the world. Biblical prophecy reveals the sequence of world events leading to the end of this age of human misrule. What global events should you be watching for? Your Bible reveals that in the not-too-distant future, a great world superpower will rise above the declining United States. Will it be China? We have recently seen China asserting its place as a world leader. Or will Russia, successor to the formerly powerful Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, experience a resurgence that puts it again at the center of global geopolitics?

Your Bible reveals the powerful roles China and Russia will play at the end of this present age, right before the return of Jesus Christ. Yet your Bible also reveals a shocking truth that most do not yet recognize—that it is a *resurgent Europe* that will become the world’s top superpower as world history reaches its culmination at Armageddon.

And where is the Middle East in all of this? “Armageddon” is the Greek-into-English rendering of the Hebrew *har Megiddo*—referring to a mountainous area beside the Plain of Jezreel—where the world’s armies will gather in preparation for the prophesied end-time battle that will take place at Jesus Christ’s return. This “Armageddon” is about 55 miles north of

Jerusalem, the city that will be the ultimate center of world conflict.

We read in Scripture that before Christ’s return, “Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (Luke 21:24). To understand biblical prophecy, then, we need to know: Who are the Gentiles? And what are the mysterious “times of the Gentiles”?

## **Danger in the Middle East**

How will we know we are near the end of this present age? The Bible reveals major prophetic events of which we should be aware. Jesus Christ, our Savior, was also the greatest newscaster and prophet who ever lived, and He warned us of a major end-time prophetic sign: “But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation is near” (Luke 21:20). Of course, there has been war in and around Jerusalem for thousands of years. In 1967, the eastern part of the city came under Israeli control, and for the first time in millennia there was a unified Jerusalem under the control of a Jewish state. But even that Six-Day War will pale in comparison to what is ahead.

And that coming assault on Jerusalem will not end so well for the city’s Jewish inhabitants. Christ foretold that “they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times

of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (v. 24). Notice that this is a prophecy for the future, not just a description of something past. When the Greeks and the Roman Empire each entered Jerusalem in previous invasions, the people of Jerusalem were not removed to “all nations.” Even the Babylonian conquest of Judah in 586 BC saw the Jews taken primarily to one nation, rather than being scattered abroad like the northern kingdom of Israel had been.

At this future time, when armies from around the world will converge on Jerusalem, God’s people there

Longtime readers of *Tomorrow’s World* are aware that the northern kingdom of Israel, which went into Assyrian captivity in 721 BC, saw its peoples scatter after their release when the Assyrian Empire was overthrown, many traveling to the northwest and settling in the far reaches of Europe. Throughout their history, as they encountered non-Israelite tribes, they adopted many non-Israelite customs as their own. These peoples include the British-descended nations, ultimately including the United States, as well as the French, Swiss, and Dutch. For a thorough

explanation of these nations’ and others’ descent from Israel, read our powerful publication *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy* online at *TomorrowsWorld.org*, or by requesting your own free printed copy from the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 4 of this magazine).

## “GENTILES” ARE THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD WHO ARE NOT DESCENDED FROM THE ANCIENT PATRIARCH JACOB

are urged to flee because of “great distress in the land” (vv. 21–23). Those who fail to escape will be “led away captive into all nations,” and this devastation will continue as “Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (v. 24).

Understanding this assault on Jerusalem—and recognizing the “times of the Gentiles” that will follow—is vital for our understanding of end-time biblical prophecy. So, what are the “times of the Gentiles”—and, for that matter, what is a “Gentile”?

### Gentiles and Israelites

In the context of your Bible, “Gentiles” are the peoples of the world who are not descended from the ancient patriarch Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel (Genesis 32:28). It is easy enough to recognize that nations such as China and Japan are not descendants of Israel. Russia and Germany are two other prominent Gentile nations.

Many today, however, do not recognize the modern-day descendants of the ancient tribes of Israel. Jacob had twelve sons. His son Judah is patriarch of the tribe of Judah, from whom the modern Jewish peoples are descended. Others of his sons were the ancestors of what are sometimes called the “ten lost tribes,” which constituted the nation just north of Judah that went into Assyrian captivity more than a hundred years before Judah fell to Babylonian invaders.

### Gentile Babylon

Babylon, the nation that took ancient Judah into captivity, was a Gentile nation that rose up long ago in the land of Shinar. Babylon was a wealthy, powerful, and determined nation, and it used its power to challenge and even to oppose the Creator God. Scripture describes Babylon’s prideful attitude, as its people proclaimed, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth” (Genesis 11:4).

You may have seen artistic depictions of the Tower of Babel. Most of you know the story: God confounded the language of the peoples in the area so they were no longer unified. “So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth” (Genesis 11:8–9).

One popular Bible commentary notes of these people that “their own further dispersion from Babel (vv. 8f.) is recorded as a special judgment on their blatant embodiment of the ungodly spirit that again after the Flood characterized human civilization.... The city once more (cf. Gn. 4) becomes the cultural

focus of mounting human arrogance” (*The New Bible Commentary: Revised*, 1970, p. 91).

Can we see that the “mounting human arrogance” of Babylon also describes today’s all-too-common anti-God attitude? God struck that attitude down in the past. Yet we read that it would be revived again in the future. The Apostle John writes:

After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury” (Revelation 18:1–3).

How should we react to such ungodliness? God warns us not to participate in the sins of the coming revival of Babylon. John writes, “And I heard another voice from heaven saying, ‘Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities’” (vv. 4–5).

No, dear reader, you do not want to be part of the Gentiles’ rebellion against God. You do not want to receive the plagues that befell Babylon past and will again befall Babylon in the future. The end-time system called Babylon the Great (cf. Revelation 17; 18) will be an alliance of economic dominance, military-political power, and false religion. You need to watch for the time when the Gentiles “will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months” (Revelation 11:2).

### **Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream**

The history of the nations who have opposed God and His people goes back thousands of years. When Babylon’s King Nebuchadnezzar had a mysterious dream of a great image with a head of gold, only the prophet Daniel was able to interpret what it meant. Daniel told king Nebuchadnezzar, “You are this head

of gold” (Daniel 2:38). Below the head of gold, the image in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream had a chest and arms of silver, a belly and thighs of bronze, legs of iron, and feet of iron mixed with clay.

Daniel explained that Nebuchadnezzar’s empire would be replaced by another—represented by the chest and arms of silver—which we know as the Medo-Persian Empire. That would be followed by the belly and thighs of bronze, which we know as the Greco-Macedonian Empire—the empire that spread powerfully under Alexander the Great. The legs of iron are what we know as the Roman Empire, which spread across Europe, northern Africa, and the Middle East from 27 BC to 476 AD. The feet of iron mixed with clay represent a future revival of that Empire.

All of that may sound interesting—but how can we be *sure*? We can because the Bible interprets the Bible. The book of Revelation reveals the history and future of the Roman Empire: “Here is the mind which has wisdom: *The seven heads are seven mountains* on which the woman sits. There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition” (Revelation 17:9–11). Here we see the heads represent mountains, a biblical symbol of governments or kingdoms. And these seven heads represent seven *successive* kings, each a revival of the original kingdom.

The first head of the scarlet beast (Revelation 17:3) represents the first revival, the 554 AD restoration of the Empire under Justinian. The next revival involved Charlemagne, crowned as emperor in Rome on December 25, 800 AD. Subsequent revivals took place under Otto the Great, Charles V, and Napoleon. The sixth of seven revivals ended in 1945 with the fall of Mussolini.

### **One More Gentile Revival**

Even today, many Europeans hope that the European Union will grow into a new Roman Empire. But where do modern Europeans get this idea? From *previous* revivals of the Roman Empire. Notice the parallels between chapters 2 and 7 of the Old Testament book of Daniel and chapters 13 and 17 of the New Testament book of Revelation. From these, we can begin to understand the sequence of prophesied kingdoms.



History has proved the accuracy of biblical prophecy. Empires have risen and fallen just as the Bible foretold. However, the very last empire has yet to arise. What will it be? Notice this comment on Revelation 17:11 in the margin of the *New Catholic Edition* of the Holy Bible, translated from the Latin Vulgate and also known as the *Douay-Rheims* version: “The beast spoken of here seems to be the Roman Empire, as in chapter 13.”

As other biblical scholars acknowledge, the beasts of both Revelation 13 and 17 represent the Roman Empire. The *New Catholic Edition* makes this comment regarding Revelation 13:1: “The picture of the first beast is based on the seventh chapter of Daniel. This beast is the figure of kingdoms of the world, kingdoms founded on passion and selfishness, which in every age are antagonistic to Christ and seek to oppress the servants of God. Imperial Rome represents this power.”

Yes, even this *Roman Catholic* Bible acknowledges the identity of the beast!

### Forty-Two Months of Gentile Rule

The prophet Daniel reveals a time of worldwide cataclysm: “At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time” (Daniel 12:1). That time is the same time described in Revelation 13, which reveals the evil influence and power of the beast:

Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world (vv. 6–8).

The Gentile beast power will exert its influence over the whole world. But God will limit its time to just forty-two months, or three-and-a-half years. “And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months” (Revelation 13:5).

This is the same time period we read about earlier, in Luke 21, where Jesus describes a time when Gentiles, not Jews, will for a brief time rule again in Jerusalem. Remember that, though much of western Europe consists of descendants of the tribes of ancient Israel, Germany is not among them—nor, to the east of Germany, are the Russian peoples or the Chinese. It is from among the Gentiles that a prophesied 200-million-man army will be amassed to march westward across the Euphrates River to Armageddon, and onward to Jerusalem to fight against the returning Christ (Revelation 9:14–19).

Jesus proclaimed that this will be a time unique in human history—a time so dangerous that only His return could prevent humankind from destroying itself. “And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect’s sake those days will be shortened” (Matthew 24:22).

The Apostle John tells us:

Then I was given a reed like a measuring rod. And the angel stood, saying, “Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth” (Revelation 11:1–3).

During the Gentiles’ three-and-a-half-year control of Jerusalem, dangerous times including the Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21) and the Day of the Lord or “the great day of His wrath” (Revelation 6:16–17) will culminate in the battle of Armageddon, more precisely “the battle of that great day of God Almighty” (Revelation 16:14). To learn more about the dramatic events during this time period, request our powerful and easy-to-read publication *Armageddon and Beyond*.

### War Against Christ

One final revival of the Roman Empire remains to be fulfilled. This future revival will consist of ten kings or kingdoms unified as part of the symbolic beast. Watch

“TIMES OF THE GENTILES” CONTINUES ON PAGE 25



# THE TWO FACES OF NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

## Have you taken an honest look at the traditions behind the revelries?

**A**h, the new year. For millions, it is the traditional time to look forward and back. But why? Where did this concept come from, and why such wild celebrations to see one year end and another begin? And why do people make resolutions to do better than they have during the past year?

*Tomorrow's World* readers may rightly expect that the answer is much the same as for so many other festivities, such as Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, and Christmas: rank paganism. Once again, in New Year celebrations mankind has turned to the creation rather than the Creator, establishing its own traditions, ignoring the commandments of God (Matthew 15:3–9).

### A Long History

New Year observances reach far back to Babylonian springtime fertility rites, associated with the renewal of the land after wintertime. Evidence even suggests that the Babylonians were the first to make New Year's resolutions as part of divination of what the new year was to bring.

The Romans worshiped Janus, their god of doors and gates. He had two faces, one looking forward and one looking back. When Roman emperor Julius Caesar in 46 BC established January 1 as the Roman New Year's Day, he named the first month "January" after the god Janus, setting the month as the "door" to the year.

But is the middle of winter the appropriate door of time to begin the year? When giving Israel the Holy Days, God said His people should begin the year in the spring (Exodus 12:2; cf. Deuteronomy 16:1).

Another widespread tradition, using a baby to signify the new year, began in Greece around 600 BC. They honored Dionysus, their god of wine, by parading a baby in a basket, representing the annual rebirth of that god as the spirit of fertility (Sir James George Frazer, "Dionysus," *The Golden Bough*, 1922). Egyptians also used a baby as a symbol of rebirth.

Ancient Romans believed that loudness, lewdness, and drunkenness at the start of the new year would confuse the god Pan—and other malicious

gods—preventing them from interfering in the everyday lives of mortals for the year to come.

The Scottish people mark the coming of the new year by observing a holiday they call Hogmanay. This celebration emerges from their history of Viking invasions, superstition, and ancient pagan rituals, and is known for heavy drinking and carousing into the early hours of the morning.

### What to Do?

But are wild celebrations, widespread public drunkenness, and perverted behavior appropriate for reasonable, thinking human beings—and especially for those who call themselves Christians? What does the Bible say? "Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:19–21).

No, we do not need to pretend that the civil calendar—often rightly called the "Roman calendar"—does not exist. Christians can make and keep appointments on that calendar. But there is nothing new—or of God—in the world's New Year celebrations. They are as old as the works of the flesh. And God has condemned such works from the beginning.

So, how should we conduct ourselves as Christians? The Bible makes it plain: "Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess" (Deuteronomy 5:32–33).

Learn more about the calendar God Himself established for His people. Read *The Holy Days: God's Master Plan* online at [TomorrowsWorld.org](http://TomorrowsWorld.org), or order your own free printed copy at the Regional Office listed on page 4 of this magazine. You'll be glad you did!

—Gary F. Ehman (1937–2021)

## The Queen: A Royal Vocation



**A**cross the English-speaking world, there is perhaps only one person today known simply as “the Queen.” She is Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom. Whatever one’s view of monarchy and British politics, one cannot fail to admire her lifetime of devotion to her duty as monarch, well past the age at which most people retire. Her personal qualities of courtesy, warmth, and good humour garner respect and love wherever she goes.

Now aged 95, and despite recent health challenges, this indefatigable monarch still possesses remarkable drive and determination to fulfil what she herself sees as her vocation. Thanks to her humility, enduring strength, and selfless commitment to her role, popular respect for Queen Elizabeth II remains high.

### Seventy Years as Queen

February 8, 2022, will represent a truly extraordinary milestone in the Queen’s illustrious reign. No previous British monarch has reigned for 70 years—indeed, Elizabeth six years ago surpassed the 64-year reign of Queen Victoria (1837–1901), and a quarter-century ago surpassed that of her namesake, Elizabeth I, who reigned for 45 years (1558–1603). Only two European monarchs have reigned longer—Louis XIV of France for 72 years (1643–1715), and Johann II of Liechtenstein for 70 years and three months (1858–1929).

Having enjoyed robust good health all her life, her declining energy levels now demand that she take things easier and delegate ever more responsibility to younger members of her family. Yet she continues to do her duty—to pursue what she sees as her vocation as Queen.

So, how does Elizabeth define her vocation—and how did it come about? More importantly, what lessons can we draw from a remarkable life’s story to ponder and apply in our own lives? You may be amazed to learn about the *spiritual* parallels to Queen Elizabeth’s life that can be applied to everyone reading this today.

### A Surprise Accession

According to historic rules of accession, it was unlikely that Elizabeth would ever inherit the throne, or at least not for a long time. Her father, Albert (Bertie) George, was not first in line to be king after King George V. He was not groomed for that role, nor was his daughter. But when Elizabeth’s uncle, Edward VIII, abdicated after just eleven months to marry the American divorcee Wallis Simpson, her father came to the throne as King George VI.

This put the eleven-year-old Elizabeth next in line for the throne and set her on the pathway to a dramatically different future. The shy and stammering King George VI metamorphosed into Britain’s respected wartime monarch, revealing his unshakeable sense of duty. He also set about the mammoth task of preparing Elizabeth for the demanding role she would one day inherit—a role impressing on her the importance of public service and traditional Christian values.

An ordinary girl was about to be transformed into something quite extraordinary. Little did anyone know that the King would die young, only 56 years old, on February 6, 1952, thrusting Elizabeth so soon into global prominence as Queen. Happily, with time, it would become clear to all that Elizabeth’s qualities equipped her to serve as an outstanding monarch.

## A Solemn Act of Dedication

When she was 21 years old, Elizabeth made what she called “a solemn act of dedication” that would frame her entire life. It reveals much about her character and values. In a radio message to the Commonwealth whilst on a tour of South Africa, with the world as her witness, she explained:

If we all go forward together with an unwavering faith, a high courage, and a quiet heart, we shall be able to make of this ancient commonwealth... a more powerful influence for good in the world.... To accomplish this we must give nothing less than the whole of ourselves. There is a motto that has been borne by many of my ancestors—a noble motto, ‘I serve’.... I declare before you that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great Imperial Commonwealth to which we all belong (Joanna Lumley, *A Queen for All Seasons*, 2021, p. 12).

Christianity, such as she understands it, is a bulwark of her life and her work. In 1952, as the Archbishop of Canterbury, Geoffrey Fisher, helped the Queen prepare for her role, he told her that she was “‘God-called’ to exert a spiritual power and lead her subjects by her personal example” (Andrew Marr, *The Real Elizabeth*, 2012, p. 131). The English word *vocation* brings from its



Latin roots the sense of a “calling.” The Queen believes that her role as monarch flows from God’s calling her to that role. Her ideal of service to others is generated by her commitment to serve God and to lead by following what she sees as His example.

During her coronation service on June 2, 1953,

she vowed upon the Bible to uphold all her promises—to judge with law, justice, and mercy; to maintain the laws of God; and to preserve the Church of England. Over the years, the Queen has indeed dedicated herself to the fulfillment of this purpose. She clearly perceives her calling as both a physical vocation and a spiritual one.

The Queen is faithful in maintaining what she understands as her relationship with God. She prays daily. She attends church services every week. She reads her Bible. She so often seems peaceful, serene, and happy, because she strives to rely on God for the faith and strength to cope with each day’s challenges. We can expect her to pursue her vocation until she can do so no more!

## God’s Spiritual Calling

As rulers bear a responsibility before God to lead lives of service and self-sacrifice, God also equips for works of service those He is actively calling into His true Church today (1 Corinthians 1:26; 2 Timothy 1:9; Hebrews 3:1). Every true Christian has a royal vocation to serve as a monarch under the King of kings, Jesus Christ, when He returns to establish the Kingdom of God on planet Earth (Revelation 1:6; 5:10; 20:4–6).

God’s calling is often unexpected when we receive it—and it brings a radical new direction to our lives (Hebrews 10:19–23). It transforms our character to be more and more like God’s holy and righteous character, and we bear more and more of that good fruit as we live by His laws (Romans 12:1–2). We rise to the challenge of living God’s way, relying on Him in faith to direct our lives (2 Thessalonians 1:11). We build new lives on the rock-solid foundation of Christ’s teachings and actions (Matthew 7:24–27). This is what the Queen set out to accomplish—and, with God’s help, it is what each of you who are reading this may do.

Queen Elizabeth II has been widely praised throughout her reign for the example she has set and the good she has done. This is no accident. It is a result of her dedication to what she sees as her Christian vocation, with daily reliance on God for strength.

Is God calling you to His true vocation? Those who respond to God’s call must be willing to dedicate their lives to Him in service to His Church and coming Kingdom (John 4:23–24). If you would like to learn more of what that might entail, request a free copy of *Restoring Original Christianity*, or read it online at [TomorrowsWorld.org](http://TomorrowsWorld.org).

—John Meakin



# Power to Prevail

*Do you want to have more willpower?  
You can—if you rely on the ultimate source of power!*

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By **Rod McNair**

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**M**ost of us would like to have more willpower. But building it, we often think, is about as fun as pulling a tooth or extracting a splinter. As each new year begins, millions make yet another round of resolutions to change their lives: exercise more, eat less, stop smoking or drinking, spend more time with family.

Sometimes, even the simplest goals may seem maddeningly out of reach. In their January 2021 book, *The Power of Bad*, authors John Tierney and Roy Baumeister observe, “In our book on self-control, *Willpower*, we noted that junk food may well be the most difficult of all temptations to resist, but people are learning to do it” (p. 244). Indeed, just as we can learn to keep junk food out of our bodies, we can develop the willpower to resist junk thoughts and junk actions!

Why does willpower matter? Without it, we lack the capacity to make moral choices. Faults and shortcomings can be blamed on genetics, background, parents, environment, or just “bad luck.” The “non-existence of the will” theory is just another way for a confused and deceived mankind to pursue its lusts without the pain of guilt and shame.

What exactly is “willpower”? And why do many social scientists no longer even believe in its existence? Baumeister and Tierney describe this shift: “The will came to seem so unimportant that it wasn’t

even measured or mentioned in modern personality theories. Some neuroscientists claim to have disproved its existence. Many philosophers refuse to use the term... they prefer to speak of freedom of action, not of will, because they doubt there is any such thing as will” (*Willpower*, p. 8).

But willpower is real. The wise king Solomon explained that anyone who aspires to lead others must first learn to rule the self: “He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city” (Proverbs 16:32). He further recorded, “Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls” (Proverbs 25:28).

## **Fight or Flee?**

The Apostle Paul said that we “wrestle” against principalities or spirits trying to deceive us (Ephesians 6:12). So, as Christians, we must always be ready to stand and fight the good fight of faith (2 Timothy 2:3; 1 Timothy 6:12). As the Apostle James wrote, “Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7).

But *fighting* is not the whole answer. Often, we must *flee* temptation. Paul cautions us, “Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body” (1 Corinthians 6:18). Fleeing from temptation does not indicate a lack of willpower—in fact, it keeps our willpower strong. Those who make excuses for staying close to temptation are the ones most likely to give in to it.



There is even scientific research confirming this sound biblical principle. Test subjects were seated in a room to watch a movie. Some were put within arm's length of a bowl of candy; others were seated across the room from the candy bowl. After the movie, those who had been seated closest to the tempting candy were found to have significantly less willpower than the others! Researchers concluded that those seated farthest from the sweets had used less mental power to resist them, and therefore had more willpower "in reserve" saved up for the next exercise (p. 225).

If we are tempted by sexual lust, or covetousness, or a desire for anything unethical, we must get away from it without delay! At a minimum, we must keep the temptation as far away as possible. If you struggle with an addiction to alcohol, do not keep liquor in the house, and do not visit places where you know it is accessible. If you have trouble resisting pornography, put a filter on your computer—and let someone else, whom you trust, set the password. To strengthen our willpower, we must make concerted efforts to flee temptation.

### **Will You Practice Your Willpower?**

Athletes prepare for sporting contests by practicing. They practice—then they practice some more. Merely knowing how to swing a bat, kick a ball, or shoot a basketball does not bring proficiency. It takes hundreds or thousands of repetitions, hour after hour, day after day, before the motions become so natural that they are practically automatic.

Paul described the spiritual journey as a race to be run with endurance (Hebrews 12:1). He emphasized that Christians do this by using God's Spirit, which brings many benefits, including self-control (Galatians 5:23).

Godly self-control is like a muscle, which will atrophy if it is not developed. When we decide to forgive someone who has wronged us, we are exercising spiritual power over our will. When we do this again and again, repeating the pattern, it becomes more natural for us, and even second nature. It is no wonder that Jesus Christ said we must forgive our brother "seventy times seven" (Matthew 18:22). He wants us to develop the habit of forgiving others. He wants our self-control "muscle" to be well-exercised!

Studies have shown that practicing self-control in one area helps us gain self-control in all areas of

our lives. The same discipline that we develop to avoid a bad temper, to resist sexual temptation, to avoid drunkenness, or to resist gorging on unhealthy food has been shown to lead to happier marriages, better jobs, greater health, and sounder finances (*Willpower*, p. 13).

So, commit to taking control of one area of your life, and the benefits will flow to the rest of your life! Paul wrote that spiritually mature people should "by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Hebrews 5:14). Set some goals, however simple. Maybe you want to go to bed earlier, or to be more courteous to other drivers, or to sit up straight and maintain better posture. As you focus on putting into practice even the simplest of goals, the resulting gain in self-control can start to carry over into the more difficult struggles in your life.

### **Feed Your Will to Strengthen It**

Every parent knows that if you want small children to behave better, make sure they have full stomachs. So, feed your body in order to feed your willpower. Nutritionally balanced meals, eaten in moderation, help us make good decisions, function well, and exercise our willpower effectively. If willpower is like a muscle, it needs energy. Our brains, through which we transfer our willpower into physical action, need glucose in order to perform. Without proper fuel in adequate quantity, our brains will not function as they should, and our willpower will be weakened.

Physical fuel, however, is only the beginning—it is necessary, but not sufficient. Jesus Christ cautioned His followers not to place too much focus on life's physical aspects while neglecting the spiritual. He said, "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him" (John 6:27). What is the spiritual food that lasts forever? "For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world....' And Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst'" (John 6:33, 35).

How do we feed on Christ? By surrendering our will to His, and by asking Him to live His life in us (Galatians 2:20). Our physical willpower can be strengthened as we provide fuel to the brain. Our spiritual

willpower can be strengthened as we take in the “fuel” of prayer, Bible study, meditation, and occasional fasting. Christ Himself said, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). We strengthen our willpower by having regular contact with God, and by doing His will in our lives. Jesus said, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work” (John 4:34). Prayer, Bible study, meditation, and fasting are the spiritual “food” we need to draw closer to our Savior.

And don’t neglect the importance of rest. In many areas of the world, modern culture is sleep-deprived culture. It is no wonder that we have less self-control than ever! When we become depleted mentally, our

yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him (Psalm 37:3–7).

Never forget that God Himself exercised perfect willpower in His plan to save mankind from its sins. The night before Jesus Christ died for all mankind, He faced the most difficult choice of His life. To become our Savior, He would have to go through an agonizing death. The temptation to turn back and walk

away must have been enormous.

He went to the Mount of Olives with His disciples, telling them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” He walked on a little farther, and then cried out, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”

Then an angel appeared to Him

from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground” (Luke 22:40, 42–44).

Did Christ just “grit His teeth” and “force” His will to do the right thing? No! What allowed Him to pass this excruciating test was His willingness to surrender to the will and the power of the Father.

This is how we, too, can find the willpower to resist and overcome temptation. As we surrender our lives in true obedience to the One who made us, we can be imbued with His spiritual power. Paul wrote to the brethren in Philippi, “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure” (Philippians 2:12–13).

If we seek and obey Him, God will work through us “to will and to do” His will in our lives. We can overcome; we can direct our spirit and our actions. Through God’s help, we can have all the willpower we need. <sup>[TW]</sup>

## TO BECOME OUR SAVIOR, CHRIST WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH AN AGONIZING DEATH. THE TEMPTATION TO TURN BACK AND WALK AWAY MUST HAVE BEEN ENORMOUS.

strength of willpower will decline. We need to take time to recharge and recuperate. Sometimes that just means taking care of our physical health, getting adequate rest and sound sleep. But physical rest goes only so far in rejuvenating our depleted spirit. Christ promised, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28–30).

### Will You Submit to God’s Power?

Paradoxically, we have the greatest willpower when we submit to the power of God. Living under and by His power is freeing, calming, and settling as we experience the power of His Spirit in our lives. In the final analysis, growing in willpower means totally and unequivocally trusting in God and His power to lead us.

When you are faced with temptation, consider something that King David wrote:

Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight

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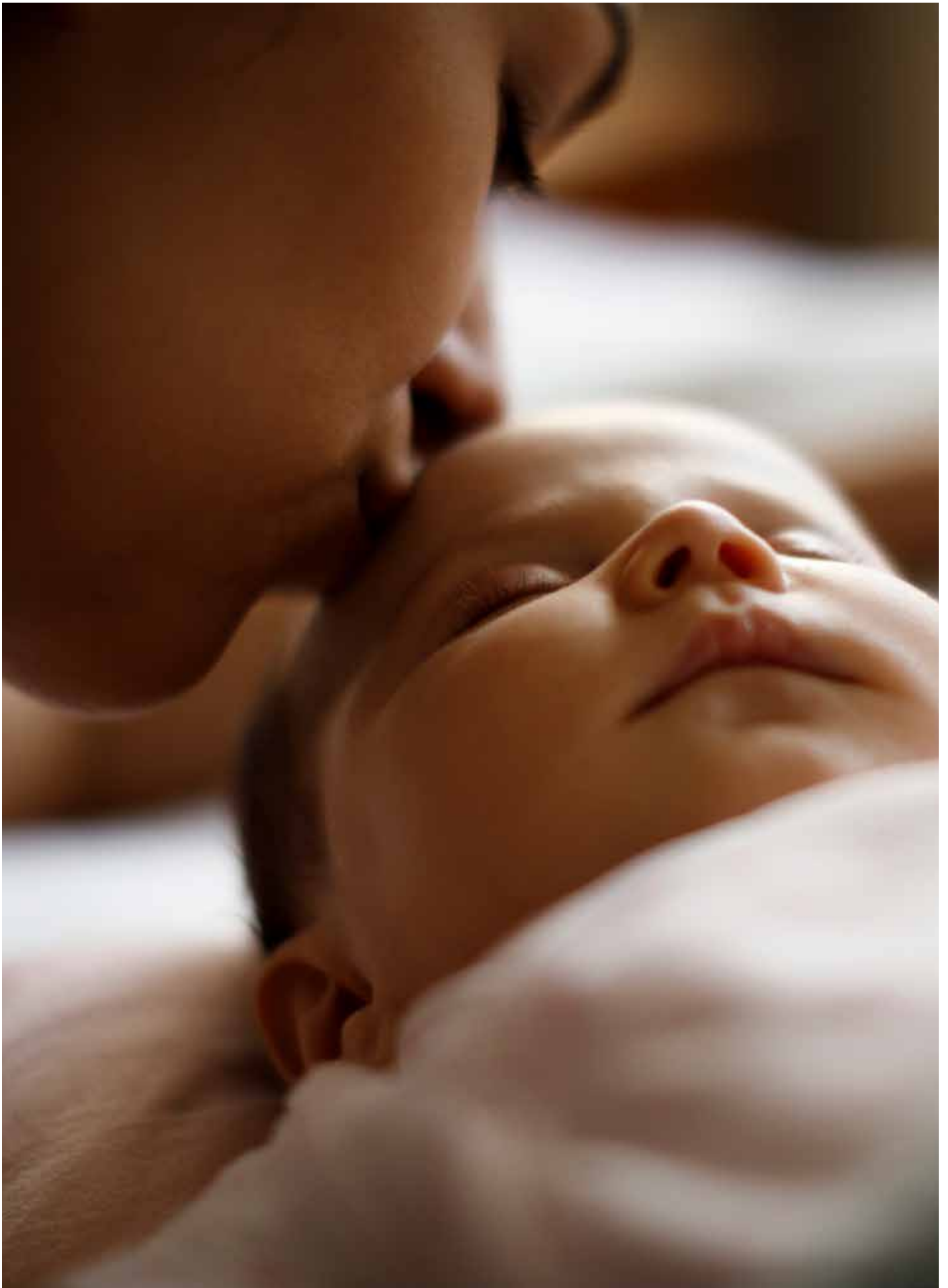


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# Seven Lies About Abortion

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By **Wallace G. Smith**

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**Y**ou would be hard-pressed in recent years to find a topic that has been more hotly debated than the question of abortion.

As Emma Green wrote in January 2018 for *The Atlantic*, “Abortion has always stood apart from other topics of political debate in American culture. It has remained morally contested in a way that other social issues have not, at least in part because it asks Americans to answer unimaginably serious questions about the nature of human life.”

Indeed, abortion touches upon many of the most basic, fundamental concerns of civilization itself. Personal autonomy and freedom. Boundaries of governmental authority. Evaluating competing societal benefits. Rights and responsibilities. Ancient and modern ideas of morality. Gender differences. Family life and structure. Parenthood. Childhood. Personhood. Life and death.

The question of abortion remains divisive and deeply charged, and we need to know the right answers—the truth that counteracts the many lies so widely circulated about this contentious topic.

## **Truth Matters**

Millions of well-meaning people on both sides of the abortion controversy think they are taking a moral stand in a deadly war of conflicting values. Yet others cynically see the abortion controversy as something they can exploit for financial, political, or personal gain. Some who say they oppose abortion are more eager to amass mailing lists of campaign donors than to take the difficult steps that would save the lives of the not-yet-born. And some who support abortion are more interested in personal profit or easy after-the-fact “birth control” than in any moral principle that would justify

their position. With people’s lives and livelihoods at stake, it is no wonder that the abortion controversy can feel less like a discussion and more like a war.

Though its origins are often debated, the old adage remains as true as ever: *Truth is the first casualty in war*. And the warfare over abortion is no exception. When the goal is scoring political points over an opponent or advancing a desired policy, convenient statements don’t get the examination they deserve, and lies—whether purposeful or accidental—often go unexposed. Perhaps some have convinced themselves that the lies they tell are for some “greater good.”

But truth *always* matters. And to deny or ignore the truth about abortion puts the foundation of our civilization itself at risk. No society can long exist founded on lies and falsehoods, regardless of how sincerely they may be presented.

## **Seven Common Lies**

Lies about abortion abound in social debates, political speeches, and the claims of news-show talking heads. And while they generate a lot of smoke and heat, there is little light in them. Many sincerely believe the following lies—but their sincerity does not turn lies into truth. So, let’s tackle seven deceptions and smokescreens frequently put forward by the abortion industry.

**The Lie: Elective abortion must be unrestricted because of rape or incest.**

**The Truth: More than 98 percent of abortions come after consensual sex—and all extinguish a human life.**

In this case, the lie comes in the form of a red herring. Rape and incest are tragedies, indeed, but the abortion industry often weaponizes these tragedies as if they justified abortion on demand *for any*

reason. In reality, statistics show that these incidents are rare. In the United States, for example, the state of Florida tracks abortions, and in November of 2018 reported that of the 70,239 Florida abortions performed that year, just 109—about 0.15 percent—were due to rape or incest. By comparison, 95 percent of the state’s abortions were for “social or economic” purposes and no medical reason at all.

Even a pro-abortion organization like the Guttmacher Institute confirms the low proportion of such abortions. Analyzing two surveys, 20 years apart, that asked women why they sought an abortion, the institute reported that the responses were consistent: “1% indicated that they had been victims of rape, and less than half a percent said they became pregnant as a result of incest” (“Reasons Women Have Abortions: Quantitative and Qualitative Perspectives,” *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, vol. 37, no. 3, 2005, pp. 110–118).

It is nonsense to say that abortion on demand for whatever reason must be allowed due to these rare cases. When discussing the matter with someone making this claim, it can be revealing to ask, “So, if those 1.5 percent of abortions *were* allowed, how would you feel about banning the other 98.5 percent?” One usually finds that rape and incest are *not* the person’s concern, and that maintaining unrestricted access to abortion in *all* instances is the real goal.

Whether the life in the womb is a human being whose life is worth protecting *regardless* of how that life was conceived is a question worth discussing. But don’t be fooled; the misdirection that the “rape and incest” claim represents is often deployed to distract you in the service of supporting abortion on demand for *any* cause.

**The Lie: Restricting abortion means abandoning women in life-threatening situations caused by dangerous pregnancies.**

**The Truth: Abortions to save a mother’s life are rare and already well-accommodated by law and medical science.**

Equating all abortions with circumstances in which doctors are literally seeking to save a mother’s life when pregnancy goes tragically wrong is a common

tactic—a common *misleading* tactic that ignores the facts. Fewer than ten nations—such as the Vatican, Malta, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, and Nicaragua—do not allow abortions to save the mother’s life.

Most nations’ legal systems recognize that treatment to save a mother’s life is not morally equivalent to killing an unwanted child. They allow the treatment of ectopic pregnancies—the 1–2 percent of pregnancies in which a fertilized egg implants somewhere other than the uterus, often in the fallopian tube, which, given current medical technology, generally result in the deaths of both mother and child unless doctors intervene or God provides a miracle.

Parents facing such a tragic situation deserve compassion and support. They do not deserve to be made a distraction from the issue of elective abortions where the mother’s life is in no danger at all. Consider that the same Florida statistics cited earlier note that *only 0.3 percent* of the abortions in the state that year were due to life-threatening conditions for the mother. It is a callous misdirection for abortion advocates to cloud and confuse the issue of elective abortion with these heartbreaking-but-rare circumstances; the vast majority of abortions are performed when both mother and child are healthy, but the child is simply unwanted.

**The Lie: The fetus hasn’t developed enough to feel pain.**

**The Truth: Fetal responses suggestive of pain have been found as early as twelve weeks after conception.**

According to sources such as Cambridge University Press’ *Abortion Care* (2014, p. 178), women seeking abortion commonly ask, “Will the baby feel anything?” They are often told that before 24 weeks of gestation the child has not developed enough neurologically to feel pain—and possibly that the child is “sedated by the uterine environment” and “is not fully conscious.” But those claims no longer hold water—if they ever did.

For instance, in November 2019, the *Journal of Medical Ethics* published a report titled “Reconsidering Fetal Pain,” by neuroscientist and specialist in pain sensation Stuart W. G. Derbyshire and U.S. Army

physician assistant John C. Bockmann. Their conclusion was clearly stated: “Overall, the evidence, and a balanced reading of that evidence, points towards an immediate and unreflective pain experience mediated by the developing function of the nervous system from as early as 12 weeks” (vol. 46, issue 1, pp. 3–6). In

### **that a truly pro-woman stance must include a stand against abortion on demand.**

The debate about abortion is often framed as a “men versus women” issue, or as part of a larger, hypothetical “war on women.” But such framing is objectively false.

## **THE POLITICIZATION OF ABORTION IS SO STRONG THAT SOME PRO-LIFE WOMEN’S GROUPS HAVE BEEN BARRED FROM JOINING IN THE POPULAR “WOMEN’S MARCH” IN WASHINGTON D.C.**

their paper, they recognize that there are outstanding questions, but that, all things considered, “we no longer view fetal pain (as a core, immediate, sensation) in a gestational window of 12–24 weeks as impossible based on the neuroscience.”

The researchers go so far as to state that doctors should consider providing analgesia or anesthesia to the fetus before abortions in later weeks of development, and that acting as if fetal insensibility to pain is a certainty “flirts with a moral recklessness that we are motivated to avoid.”

Before his research, neuroscientist Derbyshire had supported the widespread assumption that a fetus could feel no pain early in its development—even consulting with Planned Parenthood on the subject. While his pro-choice stance remains unchanged, the clear implications of his research led him to reverse his position on fetal pain.

No, the “right and wrong” of abortion does not fundamentally depend on the ability of the developing child to feel pain. But truth is truth—even when it is uncomfortable.

**The Lie: If you are anti-abortion, you are anti-woman.**

**The Truth: Women across the political spectrum, from radical atheist feminists to conservative religious traditionalists, agree**

In 2018, the Pew Research Center published results that made this falsehood abundantly clear: “Organizations that advocate for legal abortion often frame it as a women’s rights issue. But in many European countries and the United States, *women do not differ significantly from men in their views about abortion*, according to a new analysis of Pew Research Center survey data from 34 European nations and the U.S.” (“In the U.S. and Europe, women are about as likely as men to

favor legal abortion,” *PewResearch.org*, December 14, 2018, emphasis added). This trend has not changed significantly over many years.

Indeed, the stance of “leftist” organizations such as Feminists for Life (slogans of which include “Women deserve better than abortion” and “Abortion is a reflection that we have not met the needs of women”) and New Wave Feminists (which states on their website that “we believe every human being should live a life free from violence, from the womb to the tomb”) demonstrate that advocates for “women’s rights” need not adopt a pro-abortion philosophy.

The politicization of abortion is so strong that some pro-life women’s groups have been barred from joining in the popular “Women’s March” in Washington D.C.—even though, as Emma Green reported in *The Atlantic*, “[in] many ways, the pro-life movement is a women’s movement, too: The March for Life is headed by a woman, Jeanne Mancini, and so are many of Washington’s most influential pro-life advocacy groups” (January 19, 2019). Solidifying the wall that keeps out pro-life women, the Washington D.C. “Women’s March” in 2021 was officially titled the “Rally for Abortion Justice.”

The question of abortion transcends gender politics and posturing. It is not a “woman’s rights issue.” It is significant for *every* member of society. In fact, many who claim to be concerned about “erasing”

women are more than happy to wield the eraser themselves when women disagree with them.

**The Lie: The word “killing” doesn’t even make sense in discussing abortion—you’re not really killing anything.**

**The Truth: Abortionists know that desensitized people will more easily accept the procedure, but abortion undeniably kills a human being.**

Like dehumanizing the developing human being—trying to suggest that the words “fetus” or “embryo” mean something unhuman, unlike the clear implications of “baby” or “child”—deceptive language tries to hide the fact that an abortion ends a life, even though facts reveal that it does just that. As Dr. David Molloy of the Australian Medical Association told reporter Madeline Healey, “at the end of the day, the truth is that when you perform an abortion you are killing something” (“Abortion Starkly Depicted in Film,” *News.com.au*, July 22, 2004).

Molloy was reacting to a British pro-abortion documentary, *My Foetus*, by filmmaker Julia Black. To Black’s credit, her documentary did not shy away from this unavoidable truth: abortions kill. Writing for the *Guardian*, Black laments that her fellow pro-choice advocates are too easily repulsed by images of aborted fetuses, too often unwilling to address the real facts of what their philosophy empowers—a philosophy she herself supports. “Rationally, we know abortion ends the life of a potential human being, but why when we see what they look like are we so shocked?” (“My Abortion and My Baby,” April 3, 2004). She argues that pro-choice advocates hurt their own cause by denying the reality of what abortion is.

Some abortion supporters go so far as to describe children in the womb as “parasites” living off their mother’s support—a grotesque and unjustified description of human reproduction. Yet the extreme language can serve to clarify the point: Would anyone argue that parasites are *not* living things? When someone takes medicine intended to kill and remove a tapeworm, no one in their right mind claims that “nothing has died.” How much more is the human life, developing in the womb designed to nurture and care for it, a *living being*?

The claim that an abortion does not really kill anyone has no basis in reality, regardless of the child’s stage of development.

**The Lie: Tens of thousands of women will die each year due to dangerous “back alley” procedures if abortion is restricted.**

**The Truth: Botched legal abortions are a bigger problem than alleged “illegal” abortions ever were.**

This lie in particular has been a powerful talking point since at least the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* case of the United States Supreme Court. However, when abortion is restricted, studies find an increased use of other birth control options. Abortion on demand increases the number of those who ignore means of birth control that would prevent conception. It also increases the number of botched abortions; a 2007 study found that more than 66,000 women die each year because of *legal* abortions.

But what about abortionists’ claims regarding “back alley” abortions? The figures cited in *Roe v. Wade* were later exposed as fraudulent to begin with, according to one of the most prominent figures in that case, Dr. Bernard Nathanson. As one of the founding members in 1969 of the National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws, *Roe v. Wade* was, at the time, a great victory for Dr. Nathanson. Yet, as he later wrote in his famous essay, “Confessions of an Ex-Abortionist,”

We aroused enough sympathy to sell our program of permissive abortion by fabricating the number of illegal abortions done annually in the U.S. The actual figure was approaching 100,000 but the figure we gave to the media repeatedly was 1,000,000. Repeating the big lie often enough convinces the public. The number of women dying from illegal abortions was around 200–250 annually. The figure we constantly fed to the media was 10,000.

When medical advances such as ultrasound imaging began to make the humanity of the life in the womb undeniable, Dr. Nathanson’s conscience did



not let him continue as an abortionist. He turned to pro-life advocacy, and remained, until his death in 2011, committed to the cause of reversing the policies he had helped instate. The lies he once deployed in the service of abortion on demand, however, continue to live on in the public consciousness.

**The Lie: Without abortion, many women would live lives of bitterness, regret, despair, and broken dreams.**

**The Truth: Over time, the vast majority of women denied abortions do not regret it.**

Variations of this make for a common claim: the idea that abortion is all that stands between vast numbers of young women and lives they come to hate and regret, raising children they resent.

Actual studies, however, suggest the opposite. Dr. Diana Greene Foster of the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health at the University of California, San Francisco, addresses such questions in her comprehensive 2021 book *The Turnaway Study*. As a book generally supportive of abortion, the findings are all the more credible:

One week after abortion denial [that is, seeking an abortion but being denied one], 65% of participants reported still wishing they could have had the abortion; after the birth, only 12% of women reported that they still wished that they could have had the abortion. At the time of the child's first birthday, 7% still wished they could have had an abortion. By five years, this went down to 4% (p. 126).

Note that, five years after seeking an abortion but being denied, *96 percent of women* no longer wished they had succeeded having an abortion. As Dr. Foster later wrote, if the numbers are restricted to those who chose to raise their child instead of putting it up for adoption, those wishing they could have had the abortion drop to only *2 percent*.

Dr. Foster is no pro-life advocate, which makes her numbers even more convincing. The notion that

widespread access to abortion on demand is the key to saving women and girls from lives of regret and bitterness is utterly false.

**Bearers of Their Creator's Image**

We have addressed powerful truths in response to just seven of the abortion industry's dangerous lies. Yet, if we had the time and the space, we could list many dozens more. Language-twisting, such as dismissing a fetus as "a clump of cells"—aren't we all "clumps of cells," and does this give anyone the right to kill us?—is a standard tactic the abortion industry uses to desensitize and distract us. And deceptive attempts to gain sympathy from false premises is another tactic that pro-abortion forces use again and again in new and insidious ways.

In all of this, we should appreciate the importance of Jesus Christ's declaration that knowing the truth makes us free (John 8:32). Though He was certainly speaking of truth in the largest sense, the truth about life in the womb is a profound part of that greater truth. Without a sound understanding of the world, we clamor around in darkness, bumping into walls, scraping our knees against furniture, and stumbling over obstacles we can't even identify. If we are ever to come to terms with abortion, lies and misinformation must be set aside.

Once we accomplish that, we will be free to see developing children as what they truly are: individual human beings, made after God's own image, just as Genesis 1:27 declares of us all. All human lives, unique in all of creation as bearers of the Creator's image, are sacred. Their value—at any stage of development—is not determined by whether they are wanted or whether they are convenient.

Ultimately, we cannot treat pre-natal children as anything less than human without the risk of dehumanizing us *all*. Because of this, the questions abortion brings to light are among the most important any civilization can consider. As we consider these issues, casting off lies and devoting ourselves to the truth—even painful and inconvenient truth—is a vital first step. Let us all have the courage to take it. <sup>TM</sup>

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SUGGEST?**

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By **V.G. Lardé**

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**R**obert Schuman (1886–1963) was a French statesman who dedicated his entire adult life to politics. He served in France’s parliament from 1919–1962 as a deputy representing the Moselle region. In the years after World War II, he served under French President Vincent Auriol as Foreign Minister and President of the Council of Ministers.

But, above all, it is Schuman’s commitment to Europe that has preserved his name for posterity. He is considered one of the “fathers of Europe” alongside such notables as Konrad Adenauer, Alcide de Gasperi, Paul-Henri Spaak, and Jean Monnet. Specifically, his “Schuman Declaration” of May 9, 1950, led to the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community, uniting the economic interests of France and West Germany—and, soon afterward, Italy and the three Benelux nations—and setting the stage for the Treaty of Rome in 1957, which marked the founding of the European Economic Community, predecessor of today’s European Union.

### **Schuman’s European Idea**

In the difficult years after World War II, Schuman perceived the need for a Western European political and financial organization—not only to prevent future wars in Europe, but also to prepare for the future as Europe began to feel the effects of the Cold War being waged between the United States and the Soviet Union.

As a member of France’s MRP (Popular Republican Movement)—a centrist, Christian Democrat, and Euro-

phile political party—Schuman saw Europe as a spiritual and cultural community grounded in its Roman Catholic heritage, and in the democracy he felt was born out of that heritage. Historian Georges-Henri Soutou summed up Schuman’s perspective on European civilization:

For Schuman, in fact, this Europe was defined in its deep nature by its history and its civilization, but its effective political construction presupposed a common will respecting the framework of democratic values.... Europe was based on a unity of civilization, on a history shared and henceforth reconciled, and on common values (including democracy, freedom and the rule of law).... We had here a clearly defined Europe, which was certainly based on universal values (or which claim to be such) such as democracy and human rights but which clearly affirmed its specificity as a geographical, historical and civilizing space (*Outre-Terre*, vol. 7, n. 2, 2004, pp. 36–37).

### **A Modern Roman Empire?**

Schuman, who also served as President of the European Parliament from 1958–1960, looked to European history as the foundation of its present and future. Indeed, over the centuries, certain parallels become readily evident. A desire for the federation of smaller states evokes Europeans’ fond memories of the Roman Empire at its best, yet the worst of Rome’s repression and tyranny emerges in the practice of such a federation. Nominal

Christianity—really, Roman Catholicism in particular—is held up as grounds for a common culture, yet in practice we find pre-Christian paganism crowding out the truths Christ taught and practiced.

We should not underestimate the importance of the ongoing connections drawn between the Roman Empire and the European Union. In an article titled “From the Roman Empire to the United States of Europe: The European dream in seven chapters,” the newspaper *Luxemburger Wort* strikingly examines the examples of Charlemagne, Charles V, Napoleon I, and Hitler (March 23, 2017)—men whom Bible students will recognize as leaders of previous revivals of the ancient Roman Empire. These revivals were foretold long ago by the Apostle John in a striking passage of the book of Revelation (Revelation 17:1-10). Though most historians and journalists do not take the Bible seriously as a source of history and prophecy, it is remarkable to see how their secular conclusions parallel biblical prophecy!

But just how important is Roman Catholic interest in Europe’s future? We have seen Europe’s connection to the old Roman Empire, but even as France and much of the rest of Europe believes less and less in God—particularly the God of the Bible—the historical and cultural heritage of Roman Catholicism seems to come to the forefront for its ability to impose a shared civilization, history, and value system on the varied peoples of Europe. Scripture warns of a coming political system that will appear peaceful, like a lamb, yet will deceive millions into following a political figure known as the “beast,” who will carry out Satan’s evil will (Revelation 13:11-15). So, can we expect to see Roman Catholicism play an important role in unifying Europe?

### Saint Schuman?

Author Cédric Burgun wrote that European unifier “Schuman was a layman who worked with all his might to sanctify his time and the society in which he lived.... He saw the two world wars, knew how to be prophetic and tried to make his political mission coincide with the words of the Gospels: the forgiveness of enemies” (*La Croix*, June 19, 2021).

So, can the political unity of Europe be tied to its religious sanctity and even to the “gospel” message? Most of the mainstream media ignored an important event that occurred on June 19, 2021, when Pope Francis approved a Vatican report proclaiming Schuman’s “heroic virtues”

as a Roman Catholic layman. Francis’ approval gives Schuman the title “Venerable” among the Roman Catholic faithful and sets him on the path to “sainthood” in his church. To learn the actual scriptural identity of “saints,” you can read our March 2021 article “Saints and Nations.”

### A Religiopolitical Union?

Is it significant that one of the prime movers behind a unified Europe is also revered for his Roman Catholic virtues? When we look at the lessons of history, we are reminded that the Roman church has long sought to influence European civilization, socially and politically as well as religiously. Historian Michel Meyer has reflected:

So, what was it that kept Rome and its peoples together for so long [approximately 1,000 years from the Republic to the end of the Empire], and imposed its values until they were transmitted to us? [Pagan, then Catholic] religion was above all a matter of rites more than of beliefs, hence the formalism that we will find even in Roman law, which is still the basis of ours.... Europe will only recover thanks to the [Roman] Church which, after only several centuries, will take over (*Qu’est-ce que l’Histoire? Progrès ou déclin?*, 2013, pp. 64-65).

In a world where religious division is creating more and more new varieties of “Christianity” with varying beliefs and practices, Meyer’s insight is significant. By offering common rites that can bring people into unity despite differing local customs and beliefs, Roman Catholicism provides a powerful tool for achieving and maintaining Europe as a single cohesive entity with its own unique identity. But that identity will become a dangerous reality, guided by a religious figure Scripture describes as a “great harlot” whose corrupt teachings will unify Europe under the rule of the prophesied beast (Revelation 17:1-4).

Robert Schuman is perhaps the most striking human emblem of Europe’s envisioned unity, equally “venerable” to the continent’s Roman Catholics and to political forces seeking a Europe united religiously and sociopolitically. And, on the foundation he helped to set, biblical prophecy regarding Europe and its future is continuing to come alive. Keep reading your Bible, and keep reading *Tomorrow’s World*, so you will be prepared as millennia-old prophecies are fulfilled all around you. <sup>TW</sup>

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## Does the Bible really teach that abortion is not a sin?

**Question:** I recently read a newspaper article claiming that in Exodus 21:22, the Bible shows that killing a child in the womb is not considered to be as serious as killing an adult, and that as a result abortion should not be considered a sin. Does the Bible really say this?

**Answer:** This mistaken claim has been around for years and was recently featured in an article in the *Washington Post* (“An Ancient Mistranslation Is Now Helping to Threaten Abortion Rights,” October 12, 2021). It is based on a misunderstanding of the biblical passage in question. Here is the passage as translated in the *New King James Version*:

If men fight, and hurt a woman with child, so that she gives birth prematurely, yet no harm follows, he shall surely be punished accordingly as the woman’s husband imposes on him; and he shall pay as the judges determine. But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life (Exodus 21:22–23).

Some claim that “gives birth prematurely” actually means “has a miscarriage” and that the question of “harm” only applies to the mother. If so, “life for life” would only apply if the mother died; otherwise, the attacker would only pay a fine, even if the child died.

Regrettably, some English-language translations do imply what the *Post* writers propose. In the 1977 *New American Standard Bible*, we read, “And if men struggle with each other and strike a woman with child so that she has a miscarriage, yet there is no further injury....” Most translations, however—including the *New International Version* and *English Standard Version*—follow the *NKJV* in rendering “gives birth prematurely.” Even the *NASB*, revised in 1995, now reads “gives birth prematurely”—highlighting an early birth and not a miscarriage at all.

But which translation is correct? A closer look at the Hebrew makes the answer plain. The Hebrew word *naphal* is used in several places to indicate miscarriages, as in Psalm 58:8: “May they be like a snail which goes along in slime, like the miscarriage [*naphal*] of a woman that never sees the sun”

(*NASB*). We find it, as well, in Job 3:16 and Ecclesiastes 6:3.

The word *naphal* does *not* appear in Exodus 21. Rather, we find the Hebrew word *yatsa*, which can be translated as “bring forth” (Genesis 1:12) or “come from” (Genesis 17:6). *Yatsa* is also used elsewhere in Exodus 21: “And if he does not do these three for her, then she shall *go out* [*yatsa*] free, without paying

money” (Exodus 21:11).

Significantly, the patriarch Job is quoted as using *yatsa* to describe his healthy birth: “Naked I *came from* [*yatsa*] my mother’s womb” (Job 1:21).

So, we can clearly see that Exodus 21:22 is discussing a woman giving birth prematurely as a result of an assault. And the *NKJV* conveys this correct understanding, as do most other Bible translations. In fact, the *Amplified Bible* gives the same translation, adding words in brackets to make the point explicitly: “If men fight with each other

and injure a pregnant woman so that she gives birth prematurely [and the baby lives]....”

The teaching is clear: If the child was born prematurely but generally unharmed, the guilty party paid a fine. But, if the premature child was damaged in some way, the individual paid a proportional price—even “life for life” if the child died. Were this discussing the miscarriage of a stillborn child rather than a premature birth, the Hebrew language had a word for that and could have used it. Instead, Exodus 21:22–23 uses a word more plainly associated with birth.

The biblical teaching against abortion rests on far more than this, such as the fact that human life is sacred and made in God’s own image (Genesis 1:27; 9:6) and is woven together by God in the womb (Psalm 139:13). The clear teaching of Exodus 21:22–23 concerning the value of life in the womb is no exception. TW

**The biblical teaching against abortion rests on far more than Exodus 21:22, such as the fact that human life is sacred and made in God’s own image and is woven together by God in the womb.**





Roman Siege and Destruction of Jerusalem (David Roberts, 1850)

developments in Europe. Consider the rise of the next world superpower. "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast" (Revelation 17:12–13). Notice the time of this final revival. "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful" (Revelation 17:14).

Yes, this end-time military machine will fail in its war against Christ. It will give way to the kingdom that will stand forever—the Kingdom of God, ruled by the King of kings and Lord of lords. He will replace a future deceptive religious leader who will perform dramatic miracles. That leader will excite religious passions all over the world:

Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men (Revelation 13:11–13).

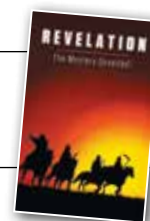
### **Christ's Glorious Victory—and Yours**

How will the times of the Gentiles come to an end? "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). This will be a wonderful time for resurrected Christians, as they receive eternal life and the great privilege of ruling the earth under Christ (Revelation 5:10). This is God's reward for those who obey His command to repent and be baptized, and who receive the Holy Spirit, which helps them overcome sin and develop God's holy and righteous character in their own lives.

At Christ's return, these faithful Christians will be resurrected as "firstfruits"—the first human beings to enter God's Family (James 1:18; 1 Corinthians 15:52). This will include human beings from all nations—not just the tribes of Israel, but also many Gentiles who have become part of *spiritual Israel* as Christians (Galatians 6:16). You do not want to let a false religion and a false religious leader deceive you into missing out on this wonderful future. Stay alert and do as Jesus commanded: "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36). <sup>TM</sup>

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## Your Living Bones

**M**y three-year-old daughter peered into the casket with me. Curious, her pigtailed bobbing, she looked down at the once-familiar face, now just a lifeless mask. We were attending a funeral for a pastor I had known since I was a boy. The body of the vital, active pastor was now still and quiet in his casket, ears unhearing and eyes unseeing. The contrast between it and my energetic toddler was marked. All biological life has its limits, and we all are eventually reduced to a collection of bones in the grave.

Most have seen a model skeleton in school or a doctor's office, and most are aware of the obvious uses of bones in the musculoskeletal system. They give shape to the human body and provide muscular attachment points, levers for movement, and protection to our vital organs and central nervous system. Some are even aware that bones function as a reservoir of minerals and that they manufacture red blood cells. Otherwise, to many they take the form of dried out, hollow objects that might as well be rattling, plastic decorations used in pagan observances for the dead.

Living bones, very different from the lumps of calcium that make up dead skeletons, are an amazing marvel of design and redesign.

### Bone Construction Zone

Far different from lifeless bones in a casket, living bones *change* beneath skin, blood, and muscle tissue. Like demolition and construction crews, cells with specific functions are constantly remodeling bone. Shaped in the womb, bones continue to adapt through life in a very dynamic way, seemingly reactive and awake to the outside world.

Bones remodel themselves in response to loads or impacts placed on them, like starting a new sport or a physically demanding job. In order to remodel, they must demolish old or less used bone through very specifically designed "demolition cells" called *osteoclasts*. Located on the surface of the bone, demolition cells get their chemical instructions from their counterparts, bone-producing "construction cells" called *osteoblasts*.

In response to chemical signals from the construction cells, demolition cells manufacture their own "tools" called enzymes that break down bone. Even one enzyme is incredibly sophisticated—a three-dimensional molecule composed of intricately sequenced, arranged, and folded proteins. The complexity and design of one bone cell's enzyme can make a multi-billion-dollar New York City high rise construction project seem like the result of children playing in a sandbox. Responses to load needs, the creation of blueprints for new bone, communication between crews, and many more factors form a breathtaking interplay.

In nature, dead bones fall apart at the joints as the body decays. However, living bones are held together at the joints with very specifically designed connective tissues: cartilage, ligaments, muscles, and tendons. Joint connective tissues have their own nerve and blood vessels that nourish cells even more reactive and dynamic than those that are found in bone. Joints allow for work and play, enabling us to do everything from build the skyscrapers in New York to type on a keyboard while juggling a cup of coffee.

Less obvious, however, where living bone meets living bone, deep within joints, lie important nerve endings called *proprioceptors*. These nerve endings are fired

by joints moving or the stretching of connective tissue within joints. Signals then fire up the spine through dedicated pathways to the sensory cortex of the brain. Sometimes called the “sixth sense,” proprioception is the sensation of bodily movement and position. It is this feedback that most obviously provides the capacity for accurate execution of complex movements made by our skeletal bones as they organize to help us accomplish our daily tasks.

Would you believe, however, that movement of bone at the joints plays an important part in brain function?

### **The Life Is in the Blood—and the Blood Is in the Bones**

Proprioception is how our joints “talk” to our brains. Famed animal behavioral expert Temple Grandin illustrated the power of proprioception in her use of a “squeeze machine” to calm beef cattle by stimulating nerve endings in their joints and body tissues. Proprioception is also at work when we swaddle babies, get a massage, receive chiropractic care, exercise, and even use weighted blankets, which are increasingly popular.

The reticular activating system processes hyperalert “alarm” activity in the brain. It is moderated and calmed when the body sends signals to the brain regarding position and movement. In several studies, such stimulation has been linked to decreases in blood pressure. Much like a computer reset button, our brain’s fight-or-flight mechanisms are reset to rest-and-recovery mode by proprioceptive feedback. All this results from the stimulation of nerve endings deep within our joints, where bone meets bone.

Scripture tells us that life is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11). Dried-out, hollow bones truly are devoid of blood and blood’s associated life. However, not only do living bones have blood in their inner core; soft, spongy marrow found in that same core actually *manufactures* blood. Red blood cells, white blood cells, and blood platelets are all produced by bone stem cells found in the marrow. Long bones stop producing blood in adulthood, and their marrow is turned into yellow marrow or fat. However, even then, our kidneys can signal the yellow marrow to resume blood production if needed. Within bone marrow, we see refined manufacture of living cells, feedback, and communication that are yet impossible for medical science to accomplish.

### **The Valley of Dry Bones—Dead Forever?**

Eventually, all living bones, no matter how dynamic and vital, will die. Joints decay and bones become disjointed, inanimate white lumps of calcium. Once so beautifully animated, they become mute and still in death. The Creator fashioned and designed our bones so artfully. Yet in death, bones dry out and all blood-producing marrow disappears. The life that seemed to animate these once-living cells fades all too quickly, like a passing breath (Psalm 144:4).

Can dead bones live again? Can our Creator

**Dead bones fall apart at the joints as the body decays. However, living bones are held together at the joints with very specifically designed connective tissues.**

breathe new life into inanimate calcium? Long ago, a priest named Ezekiel was asked that exact question. Ezekiel was shown a vision of a great valley full of “very dry” bones, and he was asked, “Son of man, can these bones live?” Ezekiel deferred, “Oh Lord God, You know.” Then the Eternal spoke: “Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD” (Ezekiel 37:1–6).

Far more than dried out, used-up lumps of minerals, our incredible living bones fulfill numerous functions, woven into other systems in a way that reveals a thoughtful designer. Bones are built, demolished, and rebuilt in response to environmental demands through the marvelous teamwork of living cells. Where bone meets bone in the joints, bones “talk” to the nervous system. Bone marrow produces blood cells that carry nutrients and oxygen and drive immune function.

Living bones inevitably die, and loved ones die all too soon. Yet dead bones will live again when they are called from the grave and clothed once more in flesh—when new life is again breathed into them by the Creator Himself. Familiar, beloved faces lost to the ravages of time will awaken to breathe, smile, and laugh once more. The Creator who made and fashioned our amazing skeletal bones can remake and refashion them again—and one day, He will do exactly that.

—Bryan Fall





## Afghanistan Situation May Spur European Union Army

With the Afghanistan situation continuing to deteriorate and EU leaders feeling betrayed by the United States, the chaotic exodus from Kabul could become a catalyst to bring about the creation of a long-discussed European Union army. Many Europeans appear to be concluding that America no longer “has their back.”

*Euractiv.com* reported, “The fall of Kabul to the Taliban and the chaotic international evacuation effort shows that Europe needs to develop its own military capacity independent of the United States” (August 22, 2021). EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said, “Some countries are going to have to ask themselves questions about an American ally which, as Joe Biden said, doesn’t want to fight other people’s wars for them.” Borrell favors “a 50,000-strong expeditionary force, capable of acting in circumstances like we’re seeing in Afghanistan.”

Biblical prophecy warns of a German-led European beast

power that is not aligned with the U.S. or most other Israelite-descended nations (Revelation 17). In fact, at the end of the age, there will be so much friction between the European beast and these Israelite nations that they will be taken into captivity by the beast! The actions we are watching on the world scene may tie directly to the fulfillment of this biblical prophecy.

## Decline of Vital Insect Populations

According to Dr. Dave Goulson, a professor of biology at the University of Sussex, the insect population of the globe has probably declined by some 75 percent in the last 50 years. He says that, as a result, “our world will slowly grind to a halt, for it cannot function without them [insects]” (*The Guardian*, July 25, 2021). Dr. Goulson has written an informative account of the consequences of this decline in his book *Silent Earth: Averting the Insect Apocalypse*. The widespread use of toxic pesticides and the destruction of natural habitats contribute to this drastic decline.



July 24, 2021 Pride March at the Freedom Bridge in Budapest, Hungary

Why is this decline so important? Insects pollinate flowers and essential food crops. They play important roles in the food chain when they are consumed by fish, birds, bats, amphibians, and other animals. Insects also play vital roles in decomposing dead animals and vegetation, which is important for recycling nutrients in the environment.

What many do not realize today is that God gave mankind the responsibility to manage the earth and its resources, just as Adam was asked to “tend and keep” the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15; cf. 1:28). However, as the precipitous decline of insects and other creatures tragically illustrates, the impact of human activities on the environment has been damaging and very costly. Yet Scripture reveals that there is hope ahead—a time when the whole creation will be restored in the coming Kingdom of God (Acts 3:19–21; Romans 8:19–22). Insects may be tiny creatures, but they were created by God to play vital roles in the ecosystems of the earth.

## Will the EU Expel Hungary?

Britain, by its own choice, is no longer a part of the European Union. Is Hungary in danger of being *ejected* from the Union at some point in the future? “The [European] Commission is launching infringement procedures against Hungary and Poland related to the equality and the protection of fundamental rights” (*ec.europa.eu*, July 15, 2021). Poland transgressed EU ideology by creating “LGBT-ideology free zones,” prompting EU officials to ask for more information. Hungary has passed “child protection” legislation prohibiting the exposure of children under age 18 to homosexual propaganda. This is viewed as a problem by the EU because such legislation violates what Europe believes to be “human rights.”

In a forceful reaction to Hungary’s law, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen stated that “Europe will never allow parts of our society to be stigmatised: be it because



of whom they love, because of their age, their ethnicity, their political opinions, or their religious beliefs.” The Dutch prime minister declared, “Hungary has no place in the EU anymore,” and the foreign minister of Luxembourg openly called for a referendum to be held on whether Hungary should retain its EU membership (*The Conversation*, July 26, 2021).

It remains to be seen what will come of the current friction between the EU and Hungary. Were the EU to eventually reject Hungary or any other EU member nation from remaining in the Union, it would set a powerful precedent. Biblical prophecy states that there will be a final configuration in Europe of “ten kings”—possibly nations—who are part of an end-time beast power. Currently there are 27 member nations of the EU, but this number will likely change in the years ahead.

## Children Face a Hidden Pandemic

British medical journal *The Lancet* reports that, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, “1.5 million children around the globe have lost a parent, guardian or grandparent who helped care for them” (*The Hill*, July 21, 2021). The study authors note, “Orphanhood and caregiver deaths are a hidden pandemic resulting from COVID-19 associated deaths.” According to the study, one child is left behind for every two COVID-19 deaths, because one or more of their caregivers is gone. Sadly, this situation is not unlike that of the “AIDS orphans” who suffer around the globe.

While media reports often focus on the economic impact and deaths of the pandemic, the faces of young, suffering children are often overlooked. Yet the Bible stresses the importance of taking care of orphans: “Pure and undefiled religion before God and the

Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world” (James 1:27). Humanity should be moved by the suffering we see around us and earnestly cry out for Christ’s return and the end of suffering. When Jesus Christ returns, the government of God will put an end to sorrow for all, including children.

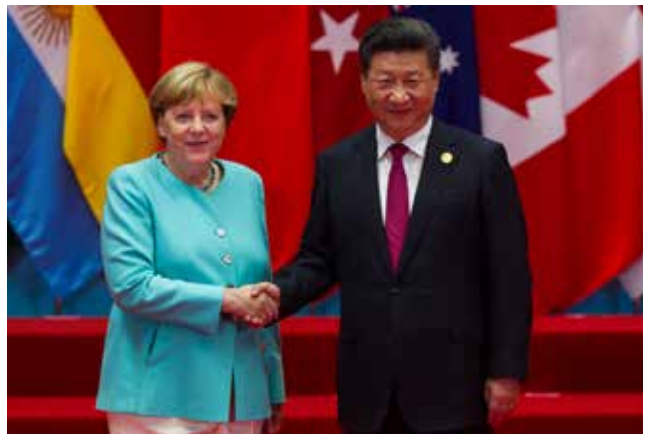
## Europe Responds to Chinese “Belt and Road” Effort

China is developing a vast global infrastructure known as the Belt and Road Initiative, using shipping, port development, railroads, and highways to increase world trade and generate trade revenue for China. In the last decade, China has spent massive amounts of financial and physical resources on this effort. Now, not to be outdone, “EU countries are finally getting serious about their response to China’s Belt and Road Initiative” (*Politico*, July 6, 2021).

The EU Commission is now planning several highly

visible and “high impact” projects to promote its influence and its economy. While China’s initiative now accounts for \$2.5 trillion in global projects to “create opportunities” for trade between nations, Europe is now “vowing to build a ‘globally connected’ EU which would allow the bloc to turn its attention to Africa and Latin America.” Currently, there is no budget for Europe’s effort, but European leaders are very much behind it. German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas observed, “We see China using economic and financial means to increase its political influence everywhere in the world. It’s useless moaning about this, we must offer alternatives” (*Reuters*, July 12, 2021).

Biblical prophecy reveals that a coming European “beast” power will be a dynamic engine of global trade, making merchants of the earth wealthy (Revelation 18:1–3). A future European version of China’s Belt and Road Initiative could factor into this prophecy. 



# LETTERS TO TW

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



I just read your September 2021 issue of *Tomorrow's World* magazine. Thank you for sending it to me. On page 29, in the [NewsWatch item] titled "Brexit Weakening the United Kingdom Ties," I found an answer, perhaps, to a question I've pondered for quite some time. In the article, it was stated that the British are of the tribe of Joseph. Thank you for clearing that up for me.

—Subscriber in California

**Editor's Note:** *We're glad that was helpful! Understanding the biblical identity of modern nations is crucial to understanding prophecy and brings a great deal of understanding to what is happening in the world today.*

*It sounds like you would be very interested in our free booklet The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy. If so, you can request a copy on our website at [TomorrowsWorld.org](http://TomorrowsWorld.org) or from our Regional Office nearest you, listed on page 4.*

I'm very glad to be reading the booklets I received from you recently. They're very informative and explain a lot of things in ways I've never heard presented before. I'm seeking to learn and study as much as I can while we're still in this calm before the storm. Thank you for all that you do.

—Reader in Colorado

Thank you so much for the continued postings of your magazine during these difficult COVID times. I hope your organisation will continue to prosper and that God will bless your efforts.

—Subscriber in New Zealand

I have just finished reading this article ["9/11: Twenty Years Later," September 2021] online and it should be sent to every church in the world. I have been watching and praying since 9/11. When I saw that second plane hit the South Tower of the World Trade Center, the very first thing that came to my mind was that judgment is coming to the United States. If God will utterly punish the "Apple of His eye," how arrogant and foolish we are to think that we can escape our just punishment. Thank you so very much for *Tomorrow's World* magazine; it is greatly appreciated. May God continue to bless your ministry.

—Subscriber in Iowa

I would like to order *The Holy Days: God's Master Plan*. I read twice the book *The Bible: Fact or Fiction?* It is an excellent book, and I am glad I read it twice—and I plan to read it more times. Thank you and God bless you and your Church.

—Subscriber in Australia

**Editor's Note:** *Thank you for your encouragement, and we hope you find the booklet about God's Holy Days helpful! The Living Church of God, which sponsors the Tomorrow's World magazine and television program, has congregations all over the world which meet every Sabbath and on the annual Holy Days of the Bible.*

*If you are interested in more information, you can contact a local minister by visiting [TomorrowsWorld.org](http://TomorrowsWorld.org) and clicking on "Meet the Church Behind TW."*

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# TOMORROW'S WORLD

## TELEVISION LOG



### AUSTRALIA

Nationwide 7two SU 7:00 a.m.

### BARBADOS

St. Michael CBC 8 SU 2:00 p.m.

### JAMAICA

Kingston TVJ SU 7:00 a.m.

### NEW ZEALAND

Nationwide TVNZ2 TH 9:30 a.m.  
Nationwide TVNZ2 +1 TH 10:30 a.m.

### PHILIPPINES

Nationwide TV5 MO 11:30 p.m.

### SOUTH AFRICA

Nationwide CTV/SA SU 11:00 a.m.

### TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Nationwide CNC3-TV SU 8:00 a.m.

### UK & NW EUROPE

WORD (TWN) Sky TV 590 SU 11:00 a.m.  
Sky TV 590 SU 12:30 a.m.  
Sky TV 590 FR 12:00 a.m.



### CANADA

#### Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

Vision SA 3:30 a.m.

The Cowboy Channel SU 8:00 a.m.

FAITH TV SU 5:30 p.m.  
MO-FR 10:30 p.m.  
TU 5:00 p.m.

CHNU MO-FR 10:00 p.m.

CTV (Maritimes) SU 7:30 a.m.

CTV (Alberta) SU 1:30 p.m.

V-Télé (en français) SU 6:30 a.m.

### UNITED STATES

#### Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

Circle TV SU 8:00 a.m.

The CW Plus SU 8:00 a.m.

MO 2:00 a.m.

Binge SU 9:00 a.m.

getTV SU 7:00 a.m.

Impact TV SU 11:00 p.m.

MO 10:30 p.m.

NewsNation (formerly WGN) SU 6:00 a.m.

WE 4:00 a.m.

The Word Network SU 6:00 a.m.

SU 7:30 p.m.

FR 7:00 p.m.

The Walk TV SU 10:30 a.m.

Z Living SU 8:30 a.m.

#### DISH Network\* (All times Eastern)

Impact Ch. 268 SU 11:00 p.m.

#### DIRECTV\* (All times Eastern)

Word Ch. 373 SU 6:00 a.m.

SU 7:30 p.m.

FR 7:00 p.m.

For the most up-to-date listings please go to:

[TomorrowsWorld.org/tune-in](http://TomorrowsWorld.org/tune-in)

AK Anchorage KYUR SU 6:00 a.m.

Fairbanks KATN SU 7:00 a.m.

Juneau KJUD SU 6:00 a.m.

AL Birmingham WABM SU 10:00 a.m.

Dothan WTVY (CW) SU 7:00 a.m.

Huntsville WHDF SU 7:30 a.m.

Huntsville WAMY SU 9:30 a.m.

Montgomery WBMM (CW) SU 7:00 a.m.

Opelika WLIZ SU 7:30 a.m.

AR El Dorado KNOE SU 7:00 a.m.

Fayetteville KHOG SU 7:00 a.m.

Fort Smith KHBS SU 7:00 a.m.

Jonesboro KAIT SU 7:00 a.m.

AZ Tucson KMSB SU 8:30 a.m.

Yuma KECY (CW) SU 9:00 a.m.

CA Bakersfield KGET (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Chico KHSL (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

El Centro KECY (CW) SU 9:00 a.m.

Eureka KECA-LD/KVIQ (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Monterey KION (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Palm Springs KCWQ (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Salinas KION (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Sacramento Sacramento Faith TV SU 3:30 p.m.

San Luis Obispo KSBY (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Santa Barbara KSBY (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Santa Maria KSBY (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

San Francisco BAVC (Public Access) WE 8:00 a.m.

CO Colorado Springs KXTU SU 10:30 a.m.

Grand Junc. KJCT (CW) SU 7:00 a.m.

CT Hartford WWLP (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

DC Washington DC WDCA SU 7:30 a.m.

DE Harrington WMDT (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

FL Gainesville WCJB (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Jacksonville WCWJ SU 6:30 a.m.

Miami WBFS SU 6:30 a.m.

Ft. Lauderdale WBFS SU 6:30 a.m.

Gainesville WCJB SU 6:00 a.m.

Panama City WJHG (CW) SU 7:00 a.m.

Tallahassee WTFL SU 8:00 a.m.

Tampa Bay WTOG SU 8:00 a.m.

GA Albany WALB (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Albany WALB SU 11:00 a.m.

Augusta WAGT (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

Columbus WLTX SU 7:30 a.m.

Thomasville WTFL (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

IA Des Moines KCWI SU 7:00 a.m.

ID Boise KYUU SU 7:00 a.m.

Idaho Falls KIFI SU 7:00 a.m.

IL Chicago WJYS SU 8:00 a.m.

Moline Mediacom MO 5:00 p.m.

Peoria WHOI SU 7:00 a.m.

Quincy WGEM SU 7:00 a.m.

IN Fort Wayne WPTA SU 7:30 a.m.

Fort Wayne Comcast SU 9:00 a.m.

KS Parsons TWPAP WE 7:00 p.m.

Wichita KSCW-TV 33 SU 11:00 a.m.

KY Bowling Green WBKO SU 7:00 a.m.

Latonia PEG WE 6:30 p.m.

Latonia PEG TH 10:00 p.m.

Lexington WTVQ SU 7:00 a.m.

Lexington Various SU 9:30 a.m.

Louisville WBNA SU 9:30 a.m.

LA Alexandria KBCA SU 7:00 a.m.

Alexandria KLAX SU 9:30 a.m.

Baton Rouge WBRZ SU 10:00 a.m.

Lafayette KATC SU 7:00 a.m.

Lake Charles KVHP SU 9:30 a.m.

Monroe KNOE SU 7:00 a.m.

New Orleans WNOL SU 7:00 a.m.

Shreveport KSHV SU 10:00 a.m.

West Monroe KMCT SU 6:00 a.m.

MA Boston WSBK SU 8:30 a.m.

Presque Isle WAGM SU 8:00 a.m.

Springfield WWLP SU 7:00 a.m.

ME Bangor WABI SU 8:00 a.m.

Presque Isle WBPO SU 8:00 a.m.

MI Alpena WBAE SU 8:00 a.m.

Lansing WLAJ SU 11:00 a.m.

Marquette WBKP SU 8:00 a.m.

Minneapolis NWCT SU 8:00 a.m.

Minneapolis NWCT SU 8:00 a.m.

Minneapolis NWCT SU 8:00 a.m.

Rochester KTCV SU 3:30 p.m.

Roseville KTCV SU 8:00 a.m.

Roseville KTCV SU 8:00 a.m.

St. Paul Nhd. Network SU 8:00 a.m.

MO Columbia KOMU SU 7:00 a.m.

Joplin KFJX SU 8:30 a.m.

Kansas City KCWE SU 7:30 a.m.

St. Louis KPLR SU 6:30 a.m.

MS Biloxi WXXV SU 7:00 a.m.

Columbus WCBI SU 7:00 a.m.

Greenwood WBWO SU 7:00 a.m.

Jackson Spectrum SU 10:00 a.m.

Jackson Spectrum WE 4:00 p.m.

Meridian WTKO SU 7:00 a.m.

MT Billings KTVQ SU 7:00 a.m.

Butte KBZK SU 7:00 a.m.

Butte KXLF SU 7:00 a.m.

Glendive KWZB SU 7:00 a.m.

Great Falls KRIV SU 7:00 a.m.

Helena KMTF SU 7:00 a.m.

Missoula KPAX SU 7:00 a.m.

NC Charlotte WAXN SU 9:00 a.m.

Charlotte WMYT SU 8:30 a.m.

Greenville WNCT SU 8:00 a.m.

Hickory WHKY MO 7:30 p.m.

Raleigh WRAZ SU 7:30 a.m.

ND Bismarck KXMA CW2 SU 7:00 a.m.

Fargo KJXB CW SU 7:00 a.m.

NM Albuquerque KBWB SU 8:00 a.m.

Albuquerque KCHF SU 8:00 a.m.

Albuquerque KCHF SU 8:00 a.m.

Santa Fe KCHF MO 7:30 a.m.

Santa Fe KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.

NV Reno KREN SU 8:00 a.m.

NY Albany-Troy Spectrum MO 3:00 p.m.

Binghamton Spectrum WE 10:00 p.m.

Binghamton Spectrum FR 8:00 p.m.

Binghamton Spectrum SU 8:00 a.m.

Brooklyn WBNG SU 8:00 a.m.

Canandaigua BCAT MO 4:30 p.m.

Elmira Finger Lakes SU 11:30 a.m.

Oneida WENY SU 8:00 a.m.

Oneida Access TH 2:00 p.m.

Queens Access TH 7:00 p.m.

Queens Public Access MO 11:00 p.m.

Queens Public Access TU 4:30 p.m.

Riverhead Cablevision SU 7:00 p.m.

Rochester Finger Lakes SU 7:00 a.m.

OH Cincinnati WSTR SU 9:00 a.m.

Cleveland WUAB SU 8:30 a.m.

Fairborn CAC TU 12:00 p.m.

Zanesville WBZV SU 8:00 a.m.

OK Ada KTN SU 7:00 a.m.

Lawton KAUZ SU 7:00 a.m.

Tulsa KQCW SU 8:00 a.m.

OR Bend KTVZ SU 8:00 a.m.

Eugene KMTV SU 8:00 a.m.

Medford KTVL SU 8:00 a.m.

Portland Community SU 12:30 p.m.

PA Erie WSEE SU 8:00 a.m.

Johnstown Atl. Broadband MO 10:00 p.m.

Philadelphia WPSG SU 7:30 a.m.

SC Charleston WCBD SU 8:00 a.m.

Columbia WOLO SU 11:00 a.m.

SA 10:30 p.m.

SU 4:30 a.m.

SU 10:30 a.m.

SU 7:00 a.m.

WE 4:00 a.m.

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## UPCOMING TELECASTS

### 2022 in Bible Prophecy

What does the Bible say about dramatic trends and events that will change our world in 2022?  
December 30–January 5

### The Dangerous Times of the Gentiles

Ancient prophecies are coming alive as our world approaches a turning point in history!  
January 6–12

### Is Jesus a Christian?

Would the Savior of all humanity find any church still practicing His way of life today?  
January 13–19

### Jeremiah's Message for the British and American Peoples

An ancient prophecy for today reveals the rise and fall of the English-speaking nations!  
January 20–26

### What Is the Greatest Reality?

What comes first in life? Are we caught up in trivia, or are we seeking true values?  
January 27–February 2

### Who Decides Right and Wrong?

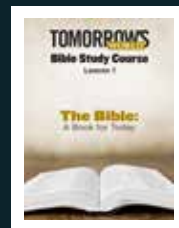
In a world of moral relativism and competing ideologies, can absolute truth be found?  
February 3–9

Schedule subject to change

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Mondays 2:00 a.m. E.T.

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