

When a Loved One Dies

— P.16 —

The Second Horseman

— P.22 —

TOMORROW'S WORLD

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critical race theory
Gender identity
God is dead
sociali



What Is Your Child Learning?

The Scariest Verse in the Bible

Even before Charles Darwin, many sought an explanation for human existence apart from an all-knowing, all-powerful God. To admit God's existence is to accept a moral authority over our lives—something unnatural to the human mind. "Because the carnal [natural fleshly] mind is enmity [hostility] against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be" (Romans 8:7). Mankind does not want to be told what to do.

Every one of us must make a critical choice. The more we discover about the beginning of our universe—and the complexity and evident design within it—the worse our excuse to reject its Creator:

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse (Romans 1:20).

How about you? Do you believe *in* God? Just as importantly, do you *believe* God?

These are simple questions with straightforward answers, but as the prophet Jeremiah explained, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9). Surely, though, that cannot mean your heart or mine? Don't be too sure.

True Christianity is more than an intellectual exercise; when taken seriously, it changes lives. The conscientious Bible student ought not remain unchanged. Hard decisions must be made.

Tomorrow's World magazine contains biblical content regarding our world and where it is headed. It contains articles covering social trends, history, Bible prophecy, and the purpose of life—all of which, when properly understood, lead to a way of life different from the secular *and* religious courses of our world. In short, *Tomorrow's World* is a call to change.

Our December 2021 issue contained the articles "Uncle George and Christmas" and "Is Christmas Pagan?" Why were they written? Certainly, to pass along historical and biblical perspectives on this popular

holiday—but was that all? Were they merely to educate or entertain? Or were they intended to *change* minds and behaviors?

Jesus' own half-brother admonished, "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22). He then warned that "if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes

himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was" (vv. 23–24).



James went on to explain that benefits come to all who respond appropriately to what they see in the mirror of God's word: "But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not

a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does" (v. 25).

Putting Up with a Counterfeit

Tomorrow's World points to many uncomfortable truths found in the Bible. When God tells us not to worship Him in the way the heathen worship their gods, He means it. There is no wiggle room. Either we honestly assess the situation, change, and obey God, or we continue following man-made traditions that contradict His instructions (Mark 7:1–9; Deuteronomy 12:29–32; Jeremiah 10:2).

Why is it that so few act on the truth revealed? How can they read God's word and walk away from the mirror of His perfect law—the law that brings liberty? Jesus' question is as relevant today as it was

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in the first century: “Why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46).

People may agree with what they hear, but do they *change*? Usually not. It was the same during the times of the great biblical prophets. “So you shall say to them, ‘This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth’” (Jeremiah 7:28).

Mainstream Christianity is a far cry from that of Jesus and His first-century followers; it is a counterfeit that sets aside a different day for weekly worship, observes annual days different from those Jesus kept, holds out a different reward for those who answer the call, and proclaims a different end for the disobedient.

leaders (2 Corinthians 11:13–15). Its ministers were teaching a counterfeit Jesus, coming to them with a different spirit, and proclaiming a different message (v. 4). And, Paul said, the Corinthians “may well put up with it!” (v. 4).

A Requirement for Discipleship

That brings me to what should be the scariest verse in the Bible. It reaches to the heart of why so many

God’s words are, to many, comforting—but not a command to change one’s life, especially if it means rejecting family traditions. God told the prophet Ezekiel, “Indeed you are to them as a very lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument; for they hear your words, but they do not do them” (Ezekiel 33:32).

Mainstream Christianity is a far cry from that of Jesus and His first-century followers; it is a counterfeit that sets aside a different day for weekly worship, observes annual days different from those Jesus kept, holds out a different reward for those who answer the call, and proclaims a different end for the disobedient. The Apostle Paul warned the Church of God at Corinth that it was following the wrong

refuse to change. It explains why some recognize that Jesus is the “Lord of the Sabbath”—the seventh day—yet don’t change from the sun-worshipping first day of the week, consecrated by Emperor Constantine in the fourth century AD. It explains why most who know the true origins of Christmas and Easter would rather hang onto these heathen-originated practices than keep the days Jesus and His followers kept. It explains why so few professing Christians are willing to come into harmony with the book they *say* they believe as the inspired word of God.

What is that scariest of all scriptures? What does it mean for you? Read it. Meditate on it. Here it is:

If anyone comes to Me and does not hate [love to a lesser degree by comparison] his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he *cannot* be My disciple (Luke 14:26).

This is the scripture where the rubber meets the road. It is not an easy requirement for discipleship—and, oh, how some hate the word *requirement*—but it is why Jesus tells us we must “enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it” (Matthew 7:13–14).

Don’t be as the man who looks in the mirror, sees a problem, and walks away. Be strong, be courageous, and do what Jesus said. While there are those trying to do away with the need for a Creator, others create Him in their *own* image, fearing family and friends more than they fear the true God.

Christian discipleship is not easy, and this should be obvious to any who read the Bible. As you, dear reader, continue to read this magazine and watch the *Tomorrow’s World* telecast, it is my prayer that God will open your eyes and give you the strength to live by His word—scary though it may seem at first—because the reward is beyond compare.



5 Education or Indoctrination?

As children learn humanism and materialism, are they missing out on the values that true education provides?

12 Disrupting the Supply Chain

COVID-19 continues to wreak havoc on economies. What can we learn from the shortages that have become so common?

16 When a Loved One Dies

Even in the midst of grief, we can face loss—and even our own mortality—with boldness, courage, and hope.

22 The Second Horseman: Violence and War

We are living in perilous times, but are they just the beginning? What does the Bible say about violence still ahead?

24 The Spider's Woven Wonder

Though they tend to give people the “creepy crawlies,” spiders reveal their Designer's magnificent engineering skills.

10 Britain and the Role of the Stranger

15 In Search of Peace of Mind

21 Will Israel Ever Be Free?

27 Questions and Answers

28 NewsWatch

30 Letters to the Editor

31 Television Log

Circulation: 553,000

Supply Chain Woes

-12-

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Education or Indoctrination?

Today's social engineers are failing to teach students what they truly need to know. How can you be sure that you and your children are being prepared for the future and are learning true and enduring values? The good news is that you *can* find true education for yourself and your loved ones.

By **Richard F. Ames**

Western education is not what it used to be. If you are a grandparent, you can see how different your education was from the schooling your grandchildren receive. From “new math” that encourages self-esteem as much as accurate calculation, to the social engineering that has in many classrooms largely replaced the “three Rs,” education in the Western nations today has fallen far from standards of the past.

Even though most of the United States’ first and most prominent universities were founded in the name of Christianity, most educators today ignore the foundation of truth—God’s word. Students are taught that there are no absolutes and that there is no ultimate authority beyond the self. Instead of learning God’s eternal law, they are learning humanism and materialism.

So, how should you understand all of this? What approach can you take to defend yourself and ensure

that you and your loved ones receive the kind of education that will help you and them survive and thrive in tough times ahead? And how can you understand what it means to gain a true education?

What to Learn?

When the citizens of Loudoun County, Virginia, held a June 2021 rally with the theme “Education Not Indoctrination,” they were expressing a concern that is becoming increasingly common across the United States. Rally organizers opposed what was called “a reckless and divisive agenda that is tearing our community apart, and indoctrinating our children instead of educating them.” This agenda includes “teaching ninth graders about rape, about group sex—things that are totally inappropriate” (“Rally opposing critical race theory,” *The Loudoun Times-Mirror*, June 12, 2021).

And it isn’t just the state of Virginia. Increasing numbers of states and local school districts follow curriculum mandates that are upsetting many classroom teachers as well as parents. Some are told that

they must not teach history in a way that fosters racism—a laudable goal, but subject to so much interpretation that some say it forbids the teaching of slavery-era U.S. history. Others are told that they must teach that their nation is “systemically racist,” yet that “anti-racism” requires them to teach differently based on the color of their students’ skin.

So, how and why did our educational systems shift their emphasis? Many universities, by the 1960s, had become havens of nihilism and anti-God sentiment. Beginning in the nineteenth century, they adopted the structure, and later the ideals, of the German universities and philosophers.

Key among them was Friedrich Nietzsche, who famously wrote, “God is dead; but given the way people are, there may still for millennia be caves in which they show his shadow. And we—we must still defeat his shadow as well!” (*The Gay Science*, 1882). Though he feared that banishing the idea of God would temporarily result in a time of chaos, Nietzsche looked forward to new values mankind could establish in the absence of devotion to a Creator. That anti-God philosophy lives on to this day in the minds of radical academics, liberal social architects, and ever-increasing sections of the general public. Time magazine even asked on its cover in 1966, “Is God Dead?”

Many intellectuals of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries saw correctly that Christianity had strayed from its origins and taken on the pagan customs of the surrounding society. But instead of rebuilding modern education on true Christianity, many intellectuals sought to *destroy that foundation altogether*. They rejected one kind of false religion and its false education, but sought to replace it with *godless* education rather than *godly* education.

While increasing numbers of parents question the values taught in their children’s schools, we should first ask whether “value-free” education is even *possible*. What is the key to determining what children should learn?

Honest Evaluation Needed

Parents who object to the flaws in what their children’s schools are teaching are increasingly being shamed and even penalized. Is this God’s way? *No*. Unlike modern anti-God theorists who bully people into acceptance, God insists that His way is provable



and rational. When the Christians of Berea received new teaching, they did not accept it blindly. We read that they “received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11). Not only were they eager to learn; they proved for themselves that they were learning the truth! Even in the Old Testament, God assured His people that they could prove His truth. After promising blessings to those who obey Him, God urged, “Try Me now in this” (Malachi 3:10).

Today, when bright students remind left-wing instructors that no Marxist state has delivered on its promises, or inform right-wing instructors that human nature has made capitalism ideal for fostering social inequity, they are likely to be ridiculed—and even to see their grades suffer. But God knows that His way can stand up to scrutiny. To the extent that people live God’s way, it *works*.

Of course, Christians understand that no social or educational system without God will truly succeed. They know that until Jesus Christ returns to rule the whole earth, no system of government or education will be perfect. But they also know—from Scripture and from experience—what success looks like, and how they can make the most of it in their individual lives.

And it isn’t just Bible-believers who have seen the inadequacy of materialistic, anti-God philosophies. Scripture tells us that “since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without

excuse” (Romans 1:20). Even without biblical faith, an honest study of the creation will teach us much about our Creator. You may have read about Antony Flew (1923–2010), the British philosopher who shocked his atheistic colleagues when he acknowledged that through rational thought he had arrived at a belief in God. Unsurprisingly, this cost him friends and respect among his fellow academics.

Christians who trumpet Flew’s story often neglect one important part. Despite abandoning his former atheism, Flew never professed belief in the God of the Bible. His rational thought simply led him to acknowledge honestly that there must be a Creator God. Does this show any flaw in Flew’s logic? *No*. Christ told His followers, “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). God is not yet calling most human beings; He will call them in the Millennium and at the Great White Throne Judgment. But even today, honest students of philosophy and science will still do as Flew did and recognize that there is a God whom we can know through His creation. Honest scientists and philosophers will admit that there is much they cannot explain through materialism alone.

What Makes Learning Possible?

Human beings were created to learn. But animals, too, can learn—so, are we just the most advanced of the animals? Most modern educators would agree with this false Darwinian idea. Yet the human brain delivers far more “performance” for its weight than any other species’ brain, and scientists are increasingly coming to consider the importance of *consciousness* as a factor beyond mere brain chemistry. This perspective, though not the prevailing scientific view, agrees with what Scripture reveals. The Apostle Paul wrote, “For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him?” (1 Corinthians 2:11).

This spirit Paul describes is not the Holy Spirit, nor is it an “immortal soul.” It is a spirit essence working with the physical brain to empower human beings far beyond animals (Job 32:8). This understanding harmonizes science and Scripture, and it explains an aspect of the human mind that remains a mystery to most educators. Education based solely

on material and physical knowledge is woefully inadequate. When an educational system rejects the existence of God and of spirit, *it rejects ultimate reality*.

Character Education for Life

Even if our modern educational system is not producing all the answers we seek, should we at least be impressed by the system itself? Certainly, universities can successfully teach some areas of material knowledge. But true education, as Scripture presents it, goes far beyond knowledge production; it must teach the spiritual values that give all other pursuits their ultimate meaning. Can anyone be truly educated without knowing the difference between right and wrong?

The Apostle Paul powerfully condemns those who reject the reality of God: “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.... Professing to be wise, they became fools” (Romans 1:18–22).

Throughout the Bible, indictments of anti-God education are very strong: “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none who does good” (Psalm 14:1–2).

God wants to develop holy and righteous character in His people, and He wants His people to grow in the kind of godly knowledge that will lead them to yield to His Holy Spirit and do good (cf. Matthew 4:4; Luke 4:4). By studying God’s word and applying biblical knowledge in everything we think, say, and do, we can begin to understand the impact of Jesus’ statement, “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

But how does one recognize abundant life? The Greeks searched for wisdom and the Jews searched for miraculous signs of God’s power. The Apostle Paul explained that the Son of God embodied both of those elements far beyond the limits of mortal mankind: “For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness

of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men” (1 Corinthians 1:22–25).

Indeed, God calls very few of those whom the world views as “wise” or “noble”—the rich, powerful, and intellectual. “Not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to

ment in the book of Revelation: “So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him” (Revelation 12:9). This great fallen angel, called “the Devil and Satan,” deceives not just a few human beings, but the vast majority. Simply being part of the third of humanity that calls itself “Christian” is *no guarantee* that one is not deceived.

But just what is this truth about which Satan deceives the whole world? Of course, there is scientific truth that can be tested and verified. Science can, to some extent, describe the “what” and “how” of natural laws—yet it *cannot* explain the “why” of our existence. Such truth can only be explained by the Creator. And what does the Creator say about truth? When Jesus was praying to His Father on the night before His crucifixion, He prayed for His disciples: “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17).

Yes, *the word of God* is truth. You need to prove to yourself that the Bible is the revelation of the Creator God. The Apostle Paul wrote, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Timothy 3:16). The Greek word translated as “inspiration” is *theopneustos*, which means “divinely breathed.” The *World English Bible* translates this as, “Every Scripture is God-breathed.” When Paul wrote this, the books that we call the “Old Testament” were the only canonized Scripture, yet today many Christians wish to ignore the plain teachings of the Old Testament. Even the New Testament itself tells us that *all* Scripture is God-breathed.

God Himself: The Greatest Teacher of All

True education must be based on the truth of God. All other foundations are ultimately worthless. Only a Christian with a willingness to learn from the Great Teacher and follow His example will build a proper foundation on which to receive knowledge. Jesus Christ taught His students, “If you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He then listed several of the Ten Commandments (Matthew 19:17–19).

EDUCATION OR INDOCTRINATION? CONTINUES ON PAGE 26

TRUE EDUCATION MUST BE BASED ON THE TRUTH OF GOD. ALL OTHER FOUNDATIONS ARE ULTIMATELY WORTHLESS. ONLY A CHRISTIAN WITH A WILLINGNESS TO LEARN FROM THE GREAT TEACHER WILL BUILD A PROPER FOUNDATION.

put to shame the wise... that no flesh should glory in His presence” (1 Corinthians 1:26–27, 29).

That is how much God hates vanity. Those who think themselves so wise that they would “glory in His presence” are *not* the ones God will call. Rather, God will reveal His truth to “foolish” Christians if they have a repentant, humble, and teachable spirit. As the Apostle Paul wrote, “If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, ‘He catches the wise in their own craftiness’” (1 Corinthians 3:18–19).

Build on the Proper Foundation

The Christianity taught and practiced by Jesus Christ and the Apostles set an example for all time. It was an example of obedience to God’s spiritual laws—the Ten Commandments—and the way of love taught by Jesus Christ, who said to His followers, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31–32).

Sadly, much of the world remains in darkness and ignorance. Whole cultures, peoples, and nations are blinded by false education. We read a shocking state-

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Signs of Christ's Return

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3/12	Columbia, SC	Richard Ames
3/12	Charleston, WV	Rod McNair
3/13	Bristol, VA	Rod McNair
3/13	Augusta, GA	Richard Ames
3/19	Memphis, TN	Gerald Weston
3/19	Arcadia, CA	Wallace Smith
3/20	Charlotte, NC	Richard Ames
3/20	San Luis Obispo	Wallace Smith
3/26	Lufkin, TX	Jonathan McNair
3/27	New Orleans, LA	Rod McNair
3/27	El Dorado, AR	Jonathan McNair
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Britain and the Role of the Stranger



The United Kingdom is struggling with an unresolved migrant crisis. Thousands are risking the dangerous English Channel crossing from France, often in flimsy and inadequate craft, in a desperate attempt to find a new and better life.

It reminds one of a time more than 80 years ago, when small ships facilitated the miracle of Dunkirk. *Tomorrow's World* presenter Rod McNair talked about it in his telecast "The Miracle of Dunkirk," which you can watch online at TomorrowsWorld.org. Mobilized to rescue the British Expeditionary Forces from destruction on the beaches of France, hundreds of fishing and pleasure boats carried thousands of soldiers safely from the shores of France home to Britain across miraculously placid waters in the English Channel. Today, hundreds of small boats are not bringing soldiers home; they are carrying migrants to new homes in the U.K.

Dangerous Crossings

When our thoughts turn to migrants, it is easy to think first of the southern border of the United States, which the previous U.S. president hoped to close off with a wall. But migrants are prominent throughout Europe, as well.

Separated from Europe by some 20 treacherous miles of water that comprise the world's busiest shipping lane, Britain is having its own migrant crisis. In 2021, more than 27,000 known migrants travelled those waters, sometimes in perilously small boats, ill-equipped to make the crossing from France—and these are only those who have been intercepted and

counted. How many others have successfully made the crossing and slipped into the country is unknown, but the number intercepted is three times higher than that of the previous year ("France says it is up to UK to solve Channel boat migrant crisis," *Financial Times*, December 2, 2021). Add the trucks and trains that ply the Channel from France and are frequently used as a means for migrants to sneak *beneath* the Channel, and Britain clearly reveals a permeable border.

The physical effort made even to reach the shores of the English Channel is unbelievable. People cross the Alps from Italy to France on foot, even in the dead of winter and ill-equipped for the task. The horror stories associated with these journeys are almost equal to those of pioneers crossing the Rocky Mountains as the western U.S. was settled in the nineteenth century. Going on from France, an increasing number of people are unsuccessful in their effort and drown in the turbulent waters of the English Channel. Unscrupulous middlemen provide boats that are far too small to cross the channel even in the best of weather conditions, and the miracle of Dunkirk is not repeated for those whose boats are unable to handle the rough seas or avoid the shipping traffic.

The British government has paid the French government some £54 million to help stanch the flow of migrants. Yet France seems to be unable or unwilling to intervene. French President Emmanuel Macron claims that the French have arrested more than 1,552 human smugglers as well as broken some 44 smuggler networks. If that is so, yet the number of migrants increased in 2021 anyway, this is an indication of the scope of the problem facing Britain.

Why Britain?

Most of these migrants are from the Middle East and Africa, and they seek to escape political, economic, and social problems there (“Migrant crisis: Why do so many people head to the UK and where are they coming from?,” *Evening Standard*, November 26, 2021). The National Audit Office estimates that there are between 600,000 and 1,200,000 migrants currently living in Britain (“Why do migrants cross the Channel to the UK and not stay in France?,” *The Times*, November 26, 2021). The fact that people have travelled through multiple other countries to reach the shores of Britain rules out the claim to asylum, since asylum could have been claimed in whatever country they first reached.

Some migrants have family ties to current residents. Some choose Britain because their rudimentary understanding of English spares them from having to learn a totally unfamiliar European language. Beyond family ties and language, employment in the UK can be found without the need for the identity documentation required in Europe.

The prospect of casual employment in the United Kingdom’s market economy, as well as the ease of obtaining government benefits, add to the incentive to emigrate despite the reputed cost of up to £6,000 per person to cross the Channel (“Why record Channel drownings are unlikely to deter migrants,” *The Week*, November 26, 2021). Though government welfare payments are actually less in Britain than in Europe, the lure of employment makes Britain a prime choice for migrants seeking to create a new life for themselves. Ann Widdecombe, a Home Secretary in prior Tory administrations, noted that British society is the easiest in the Western world into which a migrant can disappear (“Widdecombe lays out list of reasons why asylum seekers prefer UK to France in radio rant,” *Express*, October 11, 2021).



Britain’s current government was elected to get Brexit accomplished. One of the central elements of that goal was to regain control over Britain’s borders and manage immigration so that employment opportunities in the UK were reserved for UK citizens. But the migrant situation is making a mockery of any such control measures.

Where do we find the basis for the equitable treatment of migrants, some of whom have paid tens of thousands of dollars to “fixers” to enable them to travel just to the far shores of the English Channel—fixers who are going to demand even more to enable them to actually reach their promised land?

The Role of the Stranger

God taught the people of ancient Israel to treat strangers with respect, since they had themselves been strangers in Egypt (Exodus 22:21; Leviticus 19:33–34). But strangers were to abide by the law established within Israel rather than bringing their own laws and ideas of worship with them (Leviticus 18:26–29). While there is no record of mass migration then such as we witness today, these ancient conditions were not established just to deal with an occasional individual living among the Israelites. Israel as a nation was warned that, if they failed to obey their God, the stranger among them would rise up and rule over them—indicating that strangers could, in fact, form a sizeable portion of the population (Deuteronomy 28:43–44).

As a descendant of ancient Israel, Britain has for many years pursued policies that have encouraged inward migration, especially from the old Empire and now Commonwealth countries and the EU. With migration has come greater tolerance of religious pluralism, which over time has developed a multicultural society in which Christian values have become ever more marginalized. Today, when all the alternative spellings are added together, Muhammad becomes the most common name for a British boy (“Baby names: Is Muhammad the most popular?,” *BBC*, September 26, 2018).

We should not be surprised to see a fundamental shift in national values, ways of living, and population—just as God foretold. If you wish to know more about this subject, please request our free publication *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*, or read it online at TomorrowsWorld.org.

—Peter Nathan



Disrupting the Supply Chain

By **Dexter B. Wakefield**

Recently, a water main had to be repaired near my home. As a result, the water supply was cut off for a day or so. We expect these disruptions to happen from time to time, so everyone took it in stride. After the water service resumed, we turned our faucets on and some water came out right away—but then the faucets began to sputter and blow out air. Why? Because of the repair, an extended section of the main water pipe was left with no water in it. But as soon as the air cleared out, fresh water again flowed into our home, as normal service was restored.

Our modern world has many pipelines of various sorts, and many products reach their destinations through a combination of freighters on the water, cargo carriers in the air, railroad cars and trucks on land—together creating a figurative “supply chain pipeline” bringing items from manufacturers to consumers. Raw materials begin at one end of the pipeline and go through complex patterns of transportation to be manufactured, assembled, sorted, processed, and delivered at various points along the pipeline before reaching consumers at the other end.

Companies seeking to keep costs down have made the supply chain both fragile and complex, with each step interdependent on the others. This makes the supply chain pipeline vulnerable even to small disruptions. And when disruptions reach the levels

we have seen since the COVID pandemic began, the many factors complicating our modern global supply chain become clear.

Consider:

- Many of the world’s supply lines have a lack of redundancies, and few secondary options are available if the supply line of a particular component is interrupted.
- When there are reliable supply chains, “just-in-time” inventory can achieve efficiencies and lower costs, but—with inadequate stockpiling of essential parts— manufacturing processes become vulnerable to disruption.
- Government policies adopted in the throes of a crisis can make planning difficult for manufacturers, who must respond to large swings in consumer demand and sometimes even to shortages caused by hastily crafted policies.

Each link in the supply chain depends on the previous link. When one supplier cannot do its part, others down the chain cannot do their parts, as they cannot get the necessary components. Ultimately, consumers end up paying more for the fewer items the chain is able to supply. And—like the water pipeline in my neighborhood—once shortages are over and supply is restored, it takes time before goods will reach their destination.

The COVID Pandemic

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit the world in early 2020, many hospitals' intensive care units filled up quickly, and governments around the world implemented lockdowns meant to slow the spread of the disease. Production of many goods and services simply stopped, and demand for some products—such as automobiles, useless to locked-down populations—declined precipitously.

This created numerous interacting disruptions in global supply chains. For instance, computer microchip manufacturers in Taiwan and South Korea account for 83 percent of world microprocessor production and 70 percent of memory chip output. Those microchips are a critical component of many products, including automobiles. When demand for automobiles fell sharply in 2020, semiconductor manufacturers shifted their production to meet other consumer needs. As a result, when demand for automobiles bounced back in 2021, automobile manufacturers could not purchase enough semiconductors to resume enough production to meet the revived demand. This meant shortages of automobiles—and higher prices—for consumers.

Shortages and National Security

Logistics, supply lines, and raw materials can be serious national security issues. Nations will go to war to secure resources critical to their economies. Of particular concern is petroleum, as the world saw in the years before World War II. The U.S. at the time was a major petroleum exporter, but embargoed supplies of crude oil to Japan. Many today do not remember that supply chain issues were a major factor in Japan's decision to attack Pearl Harbor, Malaysia, and Thailand to secure the resources and supply lines critical to its imperial ambitions. Similarly, one key motivation behind Hitler's decision to attack the U.S.S.R. during World War II was the German war machine's need for a stable source of petroleum from the Caucasus.

In more recent times, European leaders are concerned that Russia is “weaponizing” the supply of natural gas to Europe by demanding economic and political concessions. Also of concern is that approximately a third of the world's shipping passes through the South China Sea. China continues to militarize and expand its claims in that region, in

FEW COULD HAVE IMAGINED THE FOOD SHORTAGES, DISRUPTION OF SUPPLIES, AND INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS WE NOW SEE

And there were shortages of many types of products. According to a November 2021 report from Adobe Digital Insights, online shoppers were met with more than two billion out-of-stock messages in October 2021 alone. To recall the analogy of the broken water main, there was “air in the pipeline.”

Worldwide production is ramping up again, and chastened industrial managers hope to implement measures to minimize inventory disruptions in the future. For instance, China is reported to be stockpiling semiconductors ahead of anticipated U.S. sanctions, pushing its annual purchases to \$380 billion—adding to the semiconductor shortage worldwide. Economists hope that the pipeline will restore much of its capacity by late 2022, but some sectors may not be restored until 2023 or 2024.

what are currently recognized as international waters. By gaining military control over those shipping lanes, China would have a powerful economic and political lever over world trade. While China ramps up its naval forces, the U.S. is losing control of the

world's sea gates, increasing concerns about strategic supplies.

Wars and Rumors of Wars

Shortly before His crucifixion, Jesus Christ took His disciples up to the Mount of Olives, which is about a kilometer east of Jerusalem's Temple Mount across Kidron Valley. Today, that area can be visited by tourists, and if you were to look westward across the valley at the Temple Mount, you might remember the prophecy by Zechariah that stated, “For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem.... Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east” (Zechariah 14:2–4).

When the disciples looked out across Kidron Valley at the Temple, perhaps they also remembered this prophecy given through Zechariah. They asked Jesus, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” And Jesus answered and said to them: “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, [that] ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows” (Matthew 24:3–8).

In the last book of the Bible, Christ further describes world conditions just prior to the cataclysmic events that will proceed His return. First, He reveals a white horse, picturing false Christianity that will deceive the world. Next will come wars, pictured as “another horse, fiery red.... And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.” Food will become unaffordable during famine—“[a] black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, ‘A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine.’” Finally come disease pandemics and widespread death, as the text continues, “behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades [the grave] followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, *with hunger*, with death, and by the beasts of the earth” (Revelation 6:1–8).


A few years ago, our world could not have imagined a global pandemic—a “pestilence”—transforming our way of life in just a few months. Few could have imagined the food shortages, disruption of supplies, and international tensions we now see. We are hearing of wars and rumors of wars almost daily in the news, and the possibility of war is a major international concern in Europe, the Middle East, Taiwan, and the South China Sea. These difficulties are *not* necessarily the beginning of the Great Tribulation—which the Bible says will occur just prior to



Christ’s coming—but they give us an idea of what can happen in a very short time in our interconnected world.

Jesus was very clear in His instructions to those living in the end times, when all this would come to pass. He said, “Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!” (Mark 13:35–37).

What are we to watch? Biblical prophecy viewed in the context of current events! In the parable of the fig tree, which was given at the same time on the Mount of Olives, Jesus said, “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away” (v. 28–31). Christ’s instructions are *sure*.

Tomorrow’s World is dedicated to helping you watch by putting current events into the biblical narrative. To learn more about imminent, prophesied events, request free copies of *Prophecy Fulfilled: God’s Hand in World Affairs* and *Fourteen Signs Announcing Christ’s Return*, or read them online at TomorrowsWorld.org. 

IN SEARCH OF PEACE OF MIND

In the “winter of despair,” where can we find a “spring of hope”?

In his famous *A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens described the world of his novel: “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness... it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair....”

Though published in 1859, his words are still playing out all around us. Prosperity exists alongside poverty, opulence next to squalor, productivity alongside wasteful negligence. Every month seems to bring another mass shooting in a place where people should be able to go about their business or leisure in safety. Zealots and extremists carry out acts of terrorism around the world with bloody regularity.

Cultural rot is rampant in substance abuse, gender-bending, abortion on demand, the sexualization of almost everything, and corruption at all levels of government and society. Political leaders, pointing fingers and attributing motives, cannot agree on anything productive. Social media often fan flames of hatred and acrimony. Many people are deeply troubled and anxiety ruins their quality of life. Far too many face the “winter of despair.”

How can one stay positive, upbeat, and cheerful in the midst of adversity? Is there a way to face such intractable problems yet not be overwhelmed by discouragement? Actually, there is—but not many find it because it is found in a book that most do not read or know much about. The way to peace of mind is found in the Bible.

Peace Through Seeking God

The prophet Isaiah gave timeless advice about seeking God and His will: “You will keep him in *perfect peace*, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You” (Isaiah 26:3). Peace of mind can be elusive, but those who seek God and His righteousness can have it (Matthew 6:33). God told Ezekiel, another prophet sent to a troubled nation, to “look with your eyes and hear with your ears, and *fix your mind* on everything I show you” (Ezekiel 40:4). In other words, don’t be distracted, but focus on what God has for you.

How can we “fix our mind”? How can we know that our mind is “stayed” on God? We read, “With my

whole heart I have sought You; oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You” (Psalm

119:10–11). We should consider, appreciate, and remember the words of the Bible: “I will meditate on Your precepts, and contemplate Your ways. I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word” (vv. 15–16).

Another vital key to uncluttering our minds? “Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, and revive me in Your way” (v. 37). As we avoid “worthless things,” we gain time to focus on eternal principles found in Scripture. Finally, we read, “Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to

stumble” (v. 165). *Great peace*—not shallow, passing emotion, but *genuine* peace of mind.

Peace Beyond Understanding

Even while facing great trials, the Apostle Paul—who took blows and had scars for boldly proclaiming Jesus Christ’s message of the coming Kingdom of God—was inspired to write, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the *peace* of God, which *surpasses all understanding*, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6–7).

This may seem too simple to be true, but it is true nonetheless. In times of stress, “fix your mind” on what God has for you and you will have “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding.” For more encouragement and help in finding peace of mind, be sure to check out the *Tomorrow’s World* telecast “Peace of Mind Through Personal Prayer.” You’ll be happy you did.

—J. Davy Crockett III



When a Loved One Dies

Have you grieved the death of someone close to you? Are you still feeling the pain of a long-ago loss? Maybe you have even asked yourself this question: If God is good and all-powerful, why am I suffering so much? The good news is that you can face death—even your own—with boldness, courage, and hope.

By **Rod McNair**

Not long ago, a dear friend and colleague of mine died, and I was asked to say a few words at his funeral. I've always found it challenging but a great privilege to speak in honor of the memory of someone who has died. Life is a precious gift. And, especially if one has lived a long and full life, there are so many things to say. His or her life is like a diamond that sparkles as you turn it. You see experiences, traits, qualities of strength—and, yes, even a few weaknesses. It's the sum of a life; how do you encapsulate it in a few minutes? And yet, what an honor it is to speak in memory of a beloved friend or loved one at such a time.

When a loved one dies, we grieve. And many struggle with how to get through the difficult time of loss. Especially in these times of so many grievous diseases—when death threatens young and old, healthy and infirm—how can we cope?

There are many answers to that question—but regular readers of this magazine know that we hold to the Bible as the truth, the word of God. It is not just a book of history and prophecy; it has the answers to the big questions of life. When we look for guidance about death and the grief that surrounds the loss of a loved one, we ought to put God's word at the center of our focus. So, our first and foundational key to coping with the death of a loved one is:

#1. Look to the Bible for comfort, hope, and answers.

A man named Job lived thousands of years ago. Job was tried severely through many successive ordeals. He lost loved ones—his sons and daughters—tragically in one day. He struggled to understand and even blamed God for his troubles. The loss shook his faith to the foundations. But, in the

end, he put his trust in God and reflected on the hope of the resurrection: “If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait, till my change comes. You shall call, and I will answer You; You shall desire the work of Your hands” (Job 14:14–15).

Job believed in the “change” that would come—the resurrection from the dead. He believed that the time would come for the dead to rise in response to God's call. Indeed, you can read from one end of the Bible to the other, and you'll find the affirmation of life after death. Our present life is *not the end*.

When Jesus was on this earth, He was God in the flesh. What did He say about life and death? Notice: “Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation” (John 5:28–29).

Jesus said there is a future beyond death. Those are the words of the Son of God Himself. And He Himself has already risen from the dead. The Apostle Paul wrote about Christ's life after death: “Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?” (1 Corinthians 15:12).

Despite Jesus' resurrection, many do not believe. In every age, there have been those who doubted. Yet Paul explained that the resurrection of Jesus Christ was witnessed by hundreds of people. Many of them were still alive when Paul wrote the following: “For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was

seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep” (1 Corinthians 15:3–6).

Consider Paul’s words. He was saying that, at the time he was writing, hundreds of brethren were living who had seen the risen Christ and were still around to talk about it. If you are not sure whether you can believe the Bible, consider this testimony. If this had not been true, would Paul have dared make such a bold assertion? If Jesus Christ really hadn’t been resurrected, why would Paul stake his reputation on it? And why would Paul—as well as the other Apostles—later sacrifice his life rather than preach against it?

Paul was even able to say, with great boldness, “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain” (Philippians 1:21). Because he knew that he would be with Christ after death, he lived as one who could preach Christ with confidence in life. Do you and I have that confidence?

We know the Bible gives us truth and hope, but we are still flesh-and-blood mortals who deeply feel

occasion and may shed tears—but on the other hand, remembering the life, accomplishments, and even a humorous anecdote or two about a loved one is healing and therapeutic.

I’m always touched when attending a funeral and learning more deeply about another person’s life. It’s profound to hear what a son, granddaughter, other relative relates about what was important to them or to their loved one. Those memories are precious and especially profound when shared by someone who knew the person well. And they *should be* shared. Though the process is a bit painful, we all benefit by hearing the stories of a child of God who’s finished his or her race.

Sometimes people want to hide during mourning and sorrow, and in doing so, they often pull away from individuals in their life who could help them the most. Being surrounded by people who love us is extremely helpful to working through the grieving process. When death occurs, we need to accept the efforts of others to comfort us. They may not always know what to say, and

there may be awkward moments—but they’re trying to help, and it’s good to accept that help. The pandemic has made isolation more acute and more painful. As human beings, we need one another! And that is especially true

WE KNOW THE BIBLE GIVES US TRUTH AND HOPE, BUT WE ARE STILL FLESH-AND-BLOOD MORTALS WHO DEEPLY FEEL THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES

the loss of loved ones. Some who grieve feel stuck, like they’ll never get over a loss. The Bible is special in that it gives us a glimpse of what happens after death, and when we lose a husband, a wife, a child, or a close friend, we can turn to the Bible for encouragement and comfort—for where else can we get real answers?

Still, we grieve—we are sad. We feel heartbroken and may feel a profound emptiness. Though we may feel tempted to retreat within ourselves, a vital second key to coping with the death of a loved one is:

#2. Reach out to others who care and who can help.

People everywhere have traditions and ceremonies to honor the dead and to comfort the living. Often, family and friends gather to lend support and encouragement. Eulogies about the deceased may be given by those who were close to them. We are saddened by the

during times of distress and loss.

If you are one who wants to comfort someone else, be careful that when you reach out to the one who is grieving, you allow that person the time and space to grieve. Ecclesiastes 3 reminds us that there is a time to mourn, to weep, and to keep silent. There is even a time to die—yet that is not all there is. There is also a time to embrace, to love, and to heal. When you reach out to those who grieve, be sure that you are doing so to help them work through *their* grief and move toward healing, not just to make yourself feel better.

The gospels record that Jesus wept when His friend died. We read, “Therefore, when Jesus saw her [Mary] weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the Spirit and was troubled. And He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’ They said to Him, ‘Lord, come and see.’ Jesus wept” (John 11:33–35).

It is possible Jesus was moved to sadness by the lack of faith around Him (v. 53). Yet, it is reasonable to believe that, since He was a friend of Lazarus (v. 11) and close to his family, He was also moved to share their grief.

Sometimes, as adults, we can forget that children and teens also experience distress when they see a grandparent or other relative dying. They might be confused about what's happening, especially if they are very young. Some may be confused by their own emotions. Others may not even show emotion. They may act out their feelings inappropriately and misbehave. Many websites give advice on helping young people grieve, but their advice may apply to many of us adults, as well. Here's what one site suggests:

1. Express Feelings and Find Support

If you are a young person reading this article, and you have suffered loss, don't be afraid to reach out to others who care. Be strong—you can get through this. Stay engaged, and reach out to your parents, teachers, and other adults you trust.

2. Find Meaning

... Times of sorrow and suffering can prod us to ask the big questions of life: *Why am I here? What is it all about?* Don't shy away from these questions. Searching for answers is itself healing.

3. Take Care of Yourself

It's easy to let down on the habits that keep us strong and healthy. We might lose sleep. We might lose interest in exercising. We might be less careful about what we eat. But taking care of yourself physically is actually vital in working through a time of grief.

(“Death and Grief,” *KidsHealth.org*)

#3. Seek to understand the purpose of life.

The article from which we've just read reminds us to find meaning in life. Truly, to understand death, we first must understand the meaning of *life*. Why are we here? What does human life mean? Are the evolutionists right? Are you the result of billions of proteins that just happened to be zapped by a lightning bolt

and mashed together in a random way, resulting in all working together harmoniously and perfectly?

The truth is, we are children of God. We have been made in His image. In the first chapter of the first book of the Bible, we read that “God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness....’ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Genesis 1:26–27).

Do you realize what that means? It means *you look like God*. Now, understand—in His glorified state, He would be brighter than the sun to us. We could not see Him and live. But if we *could* look at Him in the spiritual realm, we would see someone who looks like us—because we look like Him!

How do we know for sure? Consider this: “And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth” (Genesis 5:3). It's the same phrase—made *in his own likeness, after his image*—that in Genesis 1 described God making mankind. Now, we have no problem understanding that Seth looked like his father Adam, and his mother, Eve. So, why is it such a stretch to believe that we were made in the image of God—that we, if we could see God, would see that we look like Him?

Think about this: It means we are on a totally different level of existence than the animals. We were made to have a connection with God, a connection that gives us a destiny so much greater than that of any animal on earth. There *is* a purpose to this life. This life is a time to grow in character—God's character. We are here to come to understand God and His purpose and turn our hearts to Him. And, ultimately, He is giving us the opportunity to live with Him in the spirit realm, in His Family, forever. “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is” (1 John 3:1–2).

How amazing—we shall *be like Him*, and we shall *see Him as He is*. That's the purpose of life. The purpose of life is not to be snuffed out forever, be reborn

to live physical life all over again, or drift off into nothingness. The purpose of our physical life is to prepare for *eternal* life. “And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure” (1 John 3:3).

So, we don’t just live our lives aimlessly, with no regard for tomorrow. We live for Christ, to be conformed to His character—and if we do that, accept His sacrifice for our sins, and humbly ask Him to guide our lives, we’ll live forever. What an opportunity!

Created to Inherit “All Things”

We read that “one testified in a certain place, saying: ‘What is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You take care of him?’” (Hebrews 2:6). Truly, we are so insignificant compared to the enormous size of this planet, much less the size of the solar system or the universe. Yet God has created us for a purpose:

“You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, and set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet.” For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him (Hebrews 2:7–8).

We don’t yet have “all things” put under our feet, as Paul goes on to explain, because right now we are only in the physical flesh. But when we enter life—real life, eternal life—we will receive our inheritance. What does that mean? If you haven’t already done so, you may want to request a free copy of our powerful and informative booklet *What Happens When You Die?*, written by this magazine’s Editorial Director, Mr. Richard F. Ames. He tells us:

“Nothing” not put under him? “All” in subjection? Yes, this is the promise! The Greek phrase translated as “all” in Hebrews 2:8 is *ta panta*—which literally means “the all.” As Greek lexicons explain, *ta panta* in the absolute sense means “the universe.” God wants

to give you, along with billions of others, dominion not just over the earth, but over the universe! (p. 33).

When you suffer the painful loss of those close to you, don’t despair. There is hope. There is a future. Our whole life has been built around a plan that God is working out. The human family is a miracle. The fact that we can survive on this planet is astounding when we realize how finely tuned our world must be to support life.

We are not here by accident. We are here for a purpose—and that purpose gives us hope. Paul explains, “I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope” (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

Face Life and Death with Confidence

Millions live in fear of death because they have no hope. They believe philosophies that teach them that death is the end, forever. Others are terrified of the afterlife, because they are afraid their loved ones are suffering intense torment right now in an ever-burning hell and they fear that they, too, will meet such a fate.

But regular readers of this magazine know that the vast majority of those living in this age—who never heard the true Gospel preached, who only heard of a false Christ or of none at all, and whom God never called—will have their opportunity at the Great White Throne Judgment (Revelation 20:11–15).

Yes, our God is both just and merciful. Truly, we can say as Paul did, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God” (2 Corinthians 1:3–4).

The pain of losing a loved one is real. But we can take comfort, knowing that there is a purpose for suffering and that death is not the end. As we look to God, walk with Him, and allow Him to guide our lives, we will understand His purpose more and more—and we’ll be able to help others along their journey, as well. TM

**MAY WE
SUGGEST?**

What Happens When You Die? Is death the end of human existence? The amazing truth of the matter is unknown to most people! Request this **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at TomorrowsWorld.org. PDF, ePub, and Kindle are also available.



WILL ISRAEL EVER BE FREE?

A victory recorded in Scripture is a small foretaste of what will come!

Every year, on Adar 14 on the Hebrew calendar—March 17 this year—Jewish people around the world celebrate Purim, a holiday commemorating Persian King Ahasuerus' decision to let his kingdom's Jews defend themselves against their enemies. It was a momentous day when a mighty world ruler—identified as Xerxes I—rejected his own advisor's counsel and forestalled persecution of the beleaguered Jewish minority living in his kingdom.

Esther and the King told the story as a movie musical, and *One Night with the King* focused on an imagined romance. But at its heart the story of Esther—the Jewish maiden who became queen of the Persian Empire—is a familiar story of a Father's love. And what a story, a truly epic drama: a beautiful maiden, Esther, caught in epic circumstances beyond her control; a rags-to-riches tale of an orphan girl made queen; a dastardly plot by a scheming villain, Haman the Agagite, bent on destroying everyone the tragic heroine loves; a loyal cousin and mentor, Mordecai, coming to the rescue of a well-meaning but somewhat naïve young king; and a powerful ruler able to fulfill—or destroy—the protagonists' most desperate hopes with the proverbial scattering glance (Proverbs 20:8).

According to the Bible, and confirmed by other sources, all of this really happened. Almighty God—the Author of prophecy and the rise and fall of nations—delivered a dispossessed remnant of His people from total destruction at the hands of jealous anti-Jewish factions within the Persian Empire. He placed the right pieces at the right time, even using a pagan king to work His will—a precedent He had set at least once before (Isaiah 44:28; 45:1).

Haman, the Persian vizier, lied to King Ahasuerus to manipulate him into authorizing a cruel pogrom to plunder and destroy the kingdom's Jews. However, God orchestrated a masterful intervention using human instruments, leaving Haman and his allies with no support—and reversing his fate by granting the Jews the legal right to defend themselves. The would-be persecutors were thwarted, and Haman was executed for his treachery.

Israel's Future Peril—and Deliverance

What does this mean for today? A great deal, if you consider the circumstances that the tiny nation of Israel now faces. The Jewish people are no less scattered throughout the world today than they were in 500 BC. And they are no less surrounded and beleaguered in their own homeland, considering how many nations and factions of the Middle East are or have been at war with them.

Throughout history, the Jewish people have suffered immeasurably, and anti-Semitism is alive and well to this day. But God, according to His purpose, will continue to preserve their remnant (Isaiah 10:20; Romans 11). Only God can truly try and test His peoples' hearts, and He does so for their ultimate good (Proverbs 3:12). He has the power over life and death, and to set things right—for all souls who ever lived (Ezekiel 37; Jeremiah 12:15; Revelation 20:12).

But, before that happens, a time is coming when deliverance will be needed more than ever, and the Jewish people—and many others—will stand on the brink of total destruction.

The Bible warns that this fate—largely the result of national sin and a great turning away from God to reliance on their own strength and stubborn will—will befall all the scattered children of Israel, not just the Jews. Destruction will only be averted by the intervention of a greater King than the ancient ruler of Persia—a Messiah with unlimited might to stay the hands of Israel's many seen and yet unseen enemies.

Purim is an important holiday to the Jewish people, but there are other annual festivals recorded in the Bible that explain God's plan of salvation—for all mankind! You can find out more about these by reading *The Holy Days: God's Master Plan*. You can also learn more about Israel's place in the exciting and terrible events ahead by studying *The Middle East in Prophecy*. Both of these publications are absolutely free; they can be requested from the regional office nearest you, listed on page 4 of this magazine, or read online at TomorrowsWorld.org.

—William L. Williams



The Second Horseman: Violence and War

By **Douglas S. Winnail**

Many professing Christians have the idea that Jesus Christ could return at any moment—perhaps even tonight. Yet the Bible says something different. Jesus gave His disciples specific prophecies and told them to watch for their fulfillment, because His Second Coming would be preceded by signs—recognizable trends and events.

One of those is pictured by the Second Horseman of the Apocalypse, described in the book of Revelation. Scripture warns that, at the end of this age, this horseman—riding a fiery red horse and wielding a great sword—would “take peace from the earth, and... people should kill one another” (Revelation 6:3-4).

When the disciples asked Jesus, “What will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?” (Matthew 24:3), He told them, “You will hear of wars and rumors of wars... nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom... these are the beginning of sorrows” (Matthew 24:6-8; Mark 13:7-8; Luke 21:8-10). And, while wars have certainly raged throughout history, there is no denying that the twentieth century saw the scope and magnitude of warfare reach unprecedented levels.

Unprecedented Conflict

Historian Philippe Gigantès offers this summary of the twentieth century: “There were two world wars; a cold war; many smaller wars; one great depression; two monster regimes and their fall—nazism and communism; decolonization; mass carnage; warplanes; atomic

bombs” (*Power and Greed*, p. 187). The death toll of World War I was more than 8.5 million; that of WWII was more than 14 million soldiers and 27 million civilians. In addition, Joseph Stalin and Mao Zedong each killed tens of millions of their own countrymen as they established communist states. Never before have wars been fought on a global scale with so many lives lost.

Jesus’ prediction that “nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom” is an accurate description of what is happening today. The biblical Greek word for nation—*ethnos*—refers to a people, race, tribe, or ethnic group. The biblical Greek word for kingdom—*basileia*—means a nation, realm, or empire. Jesus prophesied that ethnic strife and wars between nations would dominate the news at the end of the age.

Harvard University professor Samuel Huntington famously observed that “the central and most dangerous dimension of the emerging global politics [will] be conflict between groups from differing civilizations.... The rivalry between superpowers is being replaced by the clash of civilizations... between peoples belonging to different cultural groups.... Clashes between civilizations are the greatest threat to world peace” (*The Clash of Civilizations*, pp. 13, 28, 321). Religious and ethnic strife is at the heart of many of the violent clashes in recent decades.

Perilous Times Ahead

The Apostle Paul warned that “in the last days perilous times will come: for men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud... unloving [callous], unforgiving [irreconcilable]... brutal” (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

This describes what we have seen in recent years on a global scale. Right now, eyes are focused on the South China Sea, watching as Chinese engineers literally build new Chinese islands to expand the nation's territorial claims. Other eyes are on the Ukraine/Russia border, wondering whether old ethnic tensions will explode into regional war—and wondering whether Western nations will intervene and escalate a local war into a global catastrophe. Will long-standing distrusts between India and Pakistan erupt into nuclear conflagration? Will North Korea assert itself as a world power by launching missiles that can reach population centers? Will Sudan stabilize after the coup that toppled its government in October 2021, or will it lurch into greater destruction and chaos?

And let us not forget ongoing sub-national conflicts across the globe, from Boko Haram terrorists across Africa, to resurgent ISIS cells in Syria, to “drug lord” violence ravaging parts of Mexico—the list could go on and on. Never before have a relatively few individuals armed with the weapons of their day been able to wield an influence far beyond their numbers, putting at risk entire regions—or even our entire planet!

Is it any wonder that the people of the world will be so receptive to a powerful prophesied world leader who will promise to keep the world safe from so much turmoil? But what will come of such promises? In another end-time prophecy, Paul foretold that “the day of the Lord so comes as a thief [unexpectedly] in the night. For when they say, ‘Peace and safety!’ then sudden destruction comes upon them” (1 Thessalonians 5:2-3). In recent decades, we have witnessed peace conferences, prayers for peace, and marches for peace—yet the world becomes more dangerous every day! This is exactly what Jeremiah foretold more than 2,500 years ago. In prophecies that apply to both Jeremiah's time and the future, he wrote that “from the prophet even to the priest, everyone deals falsely... saying, ‘Peace, Peace!’ when there is no peace” (Jeremiah 6:13-14; 8:10-11).


Like the Days of Noah

Jesus warned of other conditions that would prevail just before His return. While cautioning that no one would know “the day nor the hour” of His coming, He warned that “as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (Matthew 25:13; 24:36-39). Scripture reveals that in the days of Noah, “the earth

was filled with violence... all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth” (Genesis 6:11-13).

Our modern society is permeated with violence—in our homes, our schools, our “entertainment,” and everywhere on the world scene. Jesus explained that, because of escalating violence, war, and immorality, “unless those days were shortened [by the return of Christ], no flesh would be saved” (Matthew 24:21-22). Jesus clearly understood the danger of human extinction, which became a real threat with the advent of the atomic bomb in the mid-twentieth century!

And the danger has persisted into the twenty-first century, exploding to new levels after the September 11, 2001 attacks on U.S. soil. “In the two decades since [the 9/11 attacks, the] 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force has been formally invoked to justify counterterrorism (CT) operations—including ground combat, airstrikes, detention, and the support of partner militaries—in 22 countries.... During that same time, the number of terrorist groups threatening Americans and American interests has, according to the U.S. State Department, more than doubled.... The 2001 AUMF has... already been invoked by Biden to cover an unknown number of military missions in 12 countries: Afghanistan, Cuba, Djibouti, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Niger, the Philippines, Somalia, and Yemen” (“The war on terror is going great—for terrorist groups,” *BusinessInsider.com*, January 6, 2022). Peace? There is no peace!

We are living in perilous times, but the news is not all bad! Jesus concluded His prophecies of the end of the age on a positive note, saying that “when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near” (Luke 21:28-33). In the days of Noah, God intervened with a flood to put an end to human corruption and violence, yet He saved Noah and his family to repopulate the earth. In the years ahead, God will intervene again to put an end to corrupt human behavior and global violence. The Second Horseman of the Apocalypse, though he portends terrible ruin on the earth, also will precede the glorious soon-coming reign of the Savior, Jesus Christ! 

Jesus clearly understood the danger of human extinction, which became a real threat with the advent of the atomic bomb in the mid-twentieth century!



THE Works OF HIS HANDS

The Spider's Woven Wonder

Though they are marvels of God's design, that probably isn't your first thought when you suddenly notice one dangling from the ceiling only a few inches from your face.

Beware: We're about to talk about spiders.

While they tend to give people the "creepy crawlies," spiders really do reveal the magnificence of their Designer's intelligence and engineering skills. And that thread from which they dangle—a silken fiber that seems almost impossibly thin—is one of the most remarkable materials in the natural world, earning intense scientific interest and the attention of researchers hoping to duplicate God's handiwork.

Let's allow ourselves, just for a moment, to become wrapped up in the spider's web and see what we can learn of its Creator.

Used in Many Ways

When visualizing a spider's web, it is easy to think only of the beautiful and seemingly delicate cobweb we commonly notice. But, as we'll see, spiders create a silk that is a virtual miracle-material capable of many uses, and the world's spiders use it in an astonishing variety of ways.

For instance, some spiders in the *Cyclosa* family use debris in their webs to create crude spider-shaped decoys, larger than themselves—then shake the web to make the spider facsimile seem all the more like a larger and more dangerous threat to potential predators.

Bolas spiders get their name from weighted and roped weapons, thrown by South American *gauchos*, which capture animals by tangling their feet—an association that becomes clear when you watch these spi-

ders in action. Hanging under a leaf or twig, the bolas spider will dangle from one of its legs a single silken thread, weighted at its end by a drop of specialized sticky fluid. Upon the approach of a moth, the spider will swing its thread like a lasso, hoping to latch the sticky droplet onto the moth. Once captured, the spider reels in its prey and dinnertime commences.

Even more ordinary webs may surprise us with the inventive ways in which spiders apply them. For instance, the "triangle weaver" spider has a remarkable way of taking full advantage of its web's remarkable elasticity and tensile strength. The spider anchors itself on, say, a nearby twig, then pulls its webbed net back tightly—the way a human archer would pull back the string of a bow to launch an arrow. Once prey is within the spider's range, it lets go of its anchor, shooting both spider and web toward the doomed insect.

There are so many ways in which different species use their webs. Spiders deploy their unique webs to build trap doors, create funnels that signal when prey has arrived, bind leaves together to create a hide-away home, craft a net they can grasp with the tips of their legs to snare their victims unawares, or even perform "ballooning"—a means of locomotion in which some spiders use threads of their webbing to take advantage of gentle wind currents and atmospheric electricity to "fly" for hundreds of miles. It seems that with every species of spider comes another application of spiderweb.

A Material Like No Other

None of these amazing and creative accomplishments would be achieved were it not for the ingenious mate-

rials made possible by the spider's versatile silk. While the thin threads of a spider's web may seem fragile and flimsy, they are quite the opposite. Spider silk is the toughest fiber scientists have found in nature—lighter than cotton, yet stronger than steel. The Darwin's bark spider, which creates the strongest silk ever discovered, produces strands with *ten times* the strength of Kevlar. Scientists are still plumbing spider silk's properties and studying its design, hoping to learn how to create new materials and technologies to benefit human life.



A Triangle Orb Weaver Spider in its web

The spider's silk starts out as a liquid in an abdominal gland. Spiders actually have multiple glands, each responsible for creating a different kind of silk designed for a different range of purposes. For instance, an orb-weaver spider—creator of the spoked, spiraled kind of web we often see in our gardens—uses multiple silks depending on the task at hand. One kind of silk creates the temporary scaffolding of its web, while another, stronger silk creates the web's spokes and outer supports. "Rungs" between the spokes are made with another more elastic kind of silk, resulting in threads that can stretch to more than twice their length without breaking. Another silk is used for creating egg sacs, and yet another to wrap its captured prey. Each task requires a different mixture of strength and flexibility, and a different kind of silk specifically engineered to best complement the spider's goal.

Each variety of silk is created when liquid is pressed through valves and spigots that arrange protein molecules into solid strands before leaving the spider's body. These microscopic spigots sit on the ends of small, finger-like organs, called *spinnerets*, protruding from the end of the spider's abdomen. These spinner-

ets expertly wind the strands together to create the silk threads we associate with spider webs.

By varying multiple elements—say, the thickness of the threads that come out of the spigots, the combinations of the silk types that are woven by the spinnerets, or the specific manner in which the strands are combined—the fibers of the spider's web can be assembled in a remarkable variety, each designed to serve a different purpose.

Amazing Potential

Of course, the current big-screen incarnation of comic-book hero Spider-Man has teenaged Peter Parker manufacturing "web shooters" he can use to produce webs at whim. But in the *real* world, scientists aren't quite as successful as young Mr. Parker.

Not that they aren't motivated! Spider silk has an impressive array of uses for humans, but such webs are not easily manufactured. So far, mankind has generally been able to do so only by borrowing the spider's own secrets. Silkworms and bacteria—and, perhaps surprisingly, even goats—have been genetically engineered to produce spider-silk proteins for human manufacturing purposes. But the effort is expensive and produces only small quantities—not nearly the levels of production needed to power wind turbines or tailor mass-produced clothing.

Still, the potential is huge, and researchers continue to pursue this wonder material. The medical industry in particular is intrigued by the fact that spider-silk is biodegradable and does not provoke an immune or allergic response in humans. The prospects of regenerating ligaments and creating better skin grafts for burn victims have doctors intrigued.

But for all our best human efforts, we still cannot produce in mass quantities what a single spider generates effortlessly on a daily basis. The spider occupying a quiet corner of your home is, in a real sense, a materials engineer beyond compare.

So, the next time a spider startles you—and after you've had a moment to catch your breath—you might step back and appreciate what that spider represents: a testament to an ingenious Creator who gives to even the smallest of His creations some abilities mankind cannot yet achieve, asking us to examine the works of His hands and to see His greatness, ingenuity, goodness, and providence.

—Wallace G. Smith

Why are the Ten Commandments the foundation of true education? Because they plainly tell us *what is right and what is wrong*. They reveal the way of peace and prosperity that God intends for all humanity. What happens to those who ignore God's plain laws? As the Apostle Paul wrote, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life" (Galatians 6:7–8).

King David wrote of the education that comes from a sound foundation: "Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients, because I keep Your precepts. I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your word. I have not departed from Your judgments, for You Yourself have taught me" (Psalm 119:97–102).

God taught King David—and He wants to teach all His people. Once you begin to apply the spiritual laws of God as taught in the Bible and magnified by Jesus Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, you can have greater understanding and true knowledge. As we read in Psalm 111:10, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments."

As you seek to obey Him, God will reveal spiritual knowledge to you through the Holy Spirit. Paul goes on to explain the difference between the knowledge of a converted Christian and of an unconverted person: "For who among men knows the things of man, except the spirit of man which is in him? Even so no one has known the things of God, but the Spirit of God. Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God, that we might know the things that God has given us" (1 Corinthians 2:11–12, *Jubilee Bible 2000*).


Just as an animal brain cannot understand the "things of man," neither can the carnal, natural mind of man understand the "things of God." Paul goes on to explain: "But the natural man does not receive the

things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14). Spiritual truth is spiritually discerned; it cannot be acquired by natural human intellect apart from the gift of God's Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).

True Education Can Be Yours

Because it has rejected true education, our modern world does not know the way to true peace. But Christians can know the truth and can look forward to the soon-coming time when all nations will finally become students of the Great Educator. We need not shun the world's schools and colleges, but we must approach them with a proper understanding. We can take advantage of modern educational institutions to learn marketable skills and expertise, or develop our language skills, or study the world's history and sciences—but we must do so with our eyes open, being careful to recognize the difference between helpful education, which gives us skills and knowledge to improve our lives, and harmful indoctrination, which seeks to conform our values to the carnal and secular materialism so common in the world around us.

God's word gives an inspiring description of education in the time of God's Kingdom: "Many people shall come and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; *He will teach us His ways*, and we shall walk in His paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people... nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:3–4).

Such peace will only come to the world through true education, in the coming Kingdom of God—but you as a Christian can have that peace now. A revolution in education will soon come to the whole world, but you can have the same in your own life by making your study of the Bible the foundation of all your other studies. As Jesus Christ said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). That truth will revolutionize your life forever. 

**MAY WE
SUGGEST?**

The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like? Learn the incredible future of true education!

Request this **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at

TomorrowsWorld.org. PDF, ePub, and Kindle are also available.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How will we know when Jesus Christ returns?

Question: I'm confused about the way Jesus Christ is supposed to return. How will we know when He comes back to earth?

Answer: Before His death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven, Jesus Christ promised, "I will come again" (John 14:3). But many who call themselves Christians differ widely in their beliefs about the *manner* of Christ's return. Some think that He will come secretly. Others believe that He will return twice—secretly at first, then more visibly later. A few think that He has *already* returned to Earth. What is the truth?

Only moments after Christ ascended into a cloud (Acts 1:9), the Apostles were startled by the appearance of two divine messengers, who assured them, "This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in *like manner* as you saw Him go into heaven" (vv. 10–11). These angels confirmed Jesus' promise that He would come again—and they explained the *manner* of His return.

Notice what else Scripture reveals about the manner of Jesus' return. Although the Bible does not tell us exactly when Christ will return (Matthew 24:36; 25:13), we are told that He will come unexpectedly to most of the world—just as a thief in the night comes unexpectedly, without prior notice (Revelation 16:15; Matthew 24:42–44). Jesus compared His coming to that of a thief because of the element of *surprise*.

But Christ's return to earth will not be clandestine or secretive. The Bible pictures His return as a very dramatic event (Matthew 24:29–30). There will be a tremendous trumpet blast heard worldwide (v. 31), as well as a great shout, signaling Jesus' return and the resurrection of the dead in Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

We are also told that when Jesus Christ returns, He will be clearly visible to everyone: "For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matthew 24:27). The Greek word *astrape*, used in the verse we just read, can mean "lightning" or any brilliant illumination. Matthew 24:30 further describes Jesus' dramatic return: "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven... and they will see the Son

of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory." The glorified and risen Christ does not look like any mortal human being, but is "like the sun shining in its strength" (Revelation 1:16). As we can see, the Bible plainly describes the visible, loud, unmistakable return of our Savior.

Jesus Christ is prophesied to return to the same Mount of Olives near Jerusalem from which He ascended to heaven almost 2,000 years ago (Zechariah

Although the Bible does not tell us exactly when Christ will return, we are told that He will come unexpectedly, just as a "thief" in the night!

14:3–4). But Christ will not return alone. With Him will be all the resurrected saints. The Bible clearly states that the resurrected saints will be "caught up" to meet Christ as He descends to earth from the clouds. The resurrected dead in Christ, along with living Christians then made immortal, will rise to meet the returning Christ in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:15–17), before coming down with Him soon thereafter to the Mount of Ol-

ives. Will anyone else come with Christ at His dramatic return? Indeed—Scripture shows that an army of angels will accompany Him from heaven, in the glory of His Father (Mark 8:38; Revelation 19:14).

When Jesus Christ comes again, He will return as "King of kings and Lord of lords" to establish the ruling Kingdom of God on earth (Revelation 19:16). He and the resurrected saints will then begin to rule and teach the nations the way that will produce true abundance, joy, and peace (Revelation 20:6; 5:10).

Jesus Christ will indeed come again—this time with great power and glory—and all mankind will witness His return. It will truly be the greatest, most dramatic, and most momentous event in the history of the world!

But will you be ready for it? You can be, and the Bible reveals how! For detailed information on this extremely important topic, request a free copy of *Fourteen Signs Announcing Christ's Return*, or read it online at TomorrowsWorld.org.^{TW}



Nuclear Ambitions in India and China

Defense News reports that India has performed the first trial of an intercontinental ballistic missile designed by the nation's own defense organizations and capable of carrying nuclear warheads (October 28, 2021). The missile has a range of 5,000 kilometers (about 3,000 miles) and represents “a second-strike capability against China.” India's Defense Ministry sees the weapon as a key to establishing “credible minimum deterrence.” The new missile is fast and accurate—capable of reaching its target in fifteen minutes. It can also carry a 1.5-ton nuclear payload.

A U.S. Pentagon report last year revised past estimates of China's nuclear arsenal (*Deutsche Welle*, March 11, 2021). Once thought to have about 200 nuclear warheads with the potential to increase to 400 by 2030, China is now considered capable of possessing more than 1,000 nuclear warheads by 2030. China also recently launched a new satellite “tasked with

demonstrating technologies to alleviate and neutralize space debris” (*Gatestone Institute*, November 1, 2021). The satellite has a robotic arm that can be used to recover “space junk”—a term commonly used to describe the more than 100 million pieces of debris believed to be orbiting the earth. However, some analysts believe this new satellite could also be used to “capture, disable, destroy, or otherwise render unusable other nations' satellites.” The U.S., once the clear leader in the space race, is being aggressively challenged by rivals such as China and Russia. Military developments we see today in India, China, Russia, and other Asian nations could figure into end-time prophecy (Revelation 9:16).

Afghanis Selling Their Daughters

When the United States pulled out of Afghanistan, many warned the departure would severely destabilize that nation. We are now witnessing the terrible aftermath left by a leadership vacuum.

As reported by the *Telegraph* on November 2, the United Nations warns that 97 percent of the Afghan population may soon live below the poverty line as the Taliban takeover continues. As the economy implodes and poverty ensues, families lack money even to buy food. Many Afghan families feel forced to sell their daughters in order to raise money for food and pay debts. Children are being sold for just a couple thousand dollars as servants and wives. Parents are caught in a very difficult situation as they face starvation in their families. “We are eight family members,” one father, selling his nine-year-old daughter, explained to *CNN*. “I have to sell to keep other family members alive.”

Reading about this cruel reality should be sobering to even the most stoic among us. God looks for those who will “sigh and cry” (Ezekiel 9:4) over the atrocities they witness. All of humanity is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26), with the potential to one day become members of His divine Family. When Jesus Christ finally returns, He will usher in a time of “secure dwellings” and “quiet resting places” (Isaiah 32:18). That will be a time of safety, security, and abundance, when no one need go hungry again!

France Before Europe?

A recent court ruling in Poland determined the Polish constitution has precedence over some European Union laws

(*Politico*, October 8, 2021). While some leaders warn that this action is an attack on Europe and risks a “de facto exit” from the Union, such actions are not limited to this independent-minded EU nation.

As France's federal election looms, multiple candidates for the presidency are seizing on Poland's decision and advocating for French legal superiority over EU laws, and rhetoric against the EU comes from French candidates across the political spectrum (*Politico*, October 15, 2021). Former socialist government minister and current presidential hopeful Arnaud Montebourg summarized the position: “France, which doesn't share Poland's political leanings, will nevertheless have to carry out the same affirmation of the superiority of its laws over European decisions.” Another candidate affirmed that “Europe is a Europe of nations.... That means that our constitutional laws, our constitutional identity, each one, each sovereign state, must take precedence over European jurisdiction.”

France is an Israelite-descended nation that until now has been a strong supporter of the “European project” and the EU. Could France step away from the EU and prioritize domestic interests over those of Europe? If so, what would be the consequences? The French national elections are set to occur in April and could have a powerful impact on the future of the nation and the European Union.

Another Coup in Sudan

When the Sudanese military ousted civilian leaders and took over the nation's government in October of last year



Supporters of the Alliance of Sudanese Political Forces protest the government of Omar al-Bashir on October 30, 2021.

(BBC, October 25, 2021), coup leader General Abdel Fattah Burhan used governmental infighting as his justification. Two years ago, the longtime ruler of Sudan, Omar al-Bashir, was similarly overthrown, and the civilian government and military have been at odds ever since. Protests have erupted in cities around the country. Citizens appear confused and are

calling for the reinstatement of a civil government.

General Burhan had been part of a power-sharing agreement between the civilian government and the military, an

agreement intended to transition Sudan to a democracy. He still claims to be working to support the goal of elections in 2023. However, a senior official from the prime minister's office warns that the coup is very likely to incite another civil war. Sudan's last civil war lasted 22 years, ended in 2005, and is blamed for the deaths of nearly two million people.

Mankind has spent thousands of years trying various forms of government based on different philosophies and religious ideologies, but none ever seem to achieve the peace everyone desires. According to the Bible, human beings by themselves simply do not know "the way of peace" (Isaiah 59:8).

Will Debt Destroy America?

Investor Lawrence Kadish has some sobering observations for anyone concerned about the future of the United States. "One suspects," he says, "that historians and economists will consistently agree on one irrefutable fact: nations that allow their economies to bathe in red ink are destined to fail" (*Gatestone Institute*, October 12, 18). Even as Kadish sounded the alarm on the massive and growing U.S. debt and the widespread disregard of the risks associated with that debt, the U.S. Congress increased its debt ceiling to avoid a default and allow for more spending. While some economists believe that nations can spend their way out of financial turmoil, many students of history disagree with that conclusion.

Kadish believes that America's spending spree will lead to national bankruptcy, and notes, "Such an event would destroy the very foundation of our financial system, the savings of every hard-working middle class family, and our country's very ability to defend democracy." His conclusion in one article is chilling: "Our enemies have read their history. We would be wise to do the same and recognize that America's deficit is more than a number. It is a nation-destroying weapon."

Between 1980 and 1990, the United States moved from being the world's greatest lender to the world's greatest debtor. God warned that when the Israelite-descended nations reject Him and His laws, their privileged status will end: "The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail" (Deuteronomy 28:43-44). Unless the nations repent and turn to God, they are prophesied to face serious consequences, and not just in financial matters. TW



LETTERS TO TW

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



Thank you so much for your article “Is Christmas a Pagan Holiday?” This is my first year of completely not celebrating anything to do with Christmas. I have learned so much that I cannot turn back now. So, I now make a copy of this article and give it to my relatives and prayerfully hope they read it with a sincere heart. Blessed are those who worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

—Subscriber in Ohio

Editor’s Note: Thank you for letting us know, and we pray your walk with God and Jesus Christ grows ever closer! If you are interested in finding a congregation of like-minded people who observe the days set aside in the Bible for worship, visit the “Meet the Church Behind TW” section of our website, or contact the Regional Office closest to you from those listed on page 4 of this magazine.

Just a few lines to let you know I have really appreciated the *Tomorrow’s World* magazine. I have been getting your magazine now for some time and watch your *Tomorrow’s World* TV show every week. I just want to thank you so much for your magazine and telecast keeping me updated on worldly events and Bible prophecy and all true Bible doctrines and teachings. I have done all of your Bible courses and have completed all of the booklets. I have learned so many things I never knew about before—all truths of the Bible and not traditions of men. I have truly been blessed.

—Subscriber in Ohio

Thank you for your wonderful magazine. It’s a real treasure to me. I’m 81 years old, soon to be 82 and been a Christian longer than I can count. But I have learned things in your booklets that I have never heard before from any of the Baptist preachers I have had. I just finished reading “Is Christmas a Pagan Holiday?” [in the December 2020 issue]. I was shocked to say the least. But also, reading about Easter, I guess I should not be surprised. Please send me *The Holy Days: God’s Master Plan*. I need to read more now. Thank you.

—Subscriber in Nebraska

I am 35 years of age and am writing in response to one of your books, *The Beast of Revelation: Myth, Metaphor, or Soon-Coming Reality?* I have finished reading and I believe everything it says. I grew up in the Samoan Independent Seventh Day Adventist Church listening to Bible prophecy. I no longer go to church, but I haven’t forgotten about the Sabbath observance and prophecies. I feel the need to study more and would like to request for the publications you have, including the *Bible Study Course*, booklets, and the *Tomorrow’s World* magazine. Thank you.

—Subscriber in Queensland, Australia

I love your subjects on at 8:00 a.m. on CW. I watch every Sunday and learn something new as I repent from old teachings. So glad I found it on TV and I tell the folks I know. I taught Sunday School for 13 years [to] adults. Very hard and set in old beliefs. It’s a great job y’all do.

—Subscriber in Georgia

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TOMORROW'S

WORLD

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BARBADOS

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

JAMAICA

Kingston TVJ SU 7:00 a.m.

NEW ZEALAND

Nationwide TVNZ2 SU 5:00 a.m.
Nationwide TVNZ2 +1 SU 6:00 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.

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.
MO 10:30 p.m.

DIRECTV* (All times Eastern)

World 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

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 KECA-LD/KVIQ (CW) SU 9:00 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Santa Maria KXTU SU 10:30 a.m.

CO Colorado Springs KJCT (CW) SU 7:00 a.m.

Grand Junc. WWLP (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.

CT Hartford WDCA SU 7:30 a.m.

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

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

Gainesville WCJB SU 6:00 a.m.

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

Jacksonville WCWJ SU 6:30 a.m.

Miami WBFS SU 6:30 a.m.

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

Tallahassee WTLF 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 WTLF (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 WQEM 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 Insight Various

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.

Springfield WWLP SU 7:00 a.m.

ME El Dorado WABI SU 8:00 a.m.

Bangor WBPQ SU 8:00 a.m.

Presque Isle WBAE SU 8:00 a.m.

Alpena WLAJ SU 11:00 a.m.

Lansing WBKP SU 8:00 a.m.

Marquette MEDLO SU 8:00 a.m.

MN Cloquet KDLH SU 8:00 a.m.

Duluth MTN TH 12:00 a.m.

Minneapolis NWCT SU 10:30 a.m.

Minneapolis NWCT SU 10:30 a.m.

Minneapolis KTTC SU 7:00 a.m.

Rochester CTV WE 4:00 a.m.

Roseville CTV WE 12:00 p.m.

Roseville CTV SU 8:30 p.m.

St. Paul NBhd. Network SU 7:00 a.m.

MO Columbia KOMU SU 8:30 a.m.

Joplin KFJX SU 7:30 a.m.

Kansas City KPLR SU 6:30 a.m.

St. Louis WXXV SU 7:00 a.m.

MS Biloxi WCBI SU 7:00 a.m.

Columbus WBWO SU 7:00 a.m.

Greenwood Spectrum SU 10:00 a.m.

Jackson Spectrum WE 4:00 p.m.

Jackson Spectrum SU 7:00 a.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 KRTV SU 7:00 a.m.

Great Falls KMTF SU 7:00 a.m.

Helena KPAX SU 7:00 a.m.

Missoula WAXN SU 9:00 a.m.

NC Charlotte WMYT SU 8:30 a.m.

Charlotte WNCN SU 8:00 a.m.

Greenville WHYY MO 7:30 p.m.

Hickory WRAZ SU 7:30 a.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 MO 7:30 p.m.

Albuquerque KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.

Albuquerque KCHF MO 7:30 a.m.

Santa Fe KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.

Santa Fe KCHF SU 8:00 a.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 MO 4:30 p.m.

Brooklyn Finger Lakes SU 11:30 a.m.

Canandaigua WENY SU 8:00 a.m.

Elmira WENY TH 2:00 p.m.

Oneida Access TH 7:00 p.m.

Oneida Access MO 11:00 p.m.

Queens Public Access TU 4:30 p.m.

Queens Public Access SU 7:00 p.m.

Riverhead Cablevision SU 7:00 a.m.

Rochester Finger Lakes SU 9:00 a.m.

OH Cincinnati WSTR SU 8:30 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 KLEN 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 KMTR 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 At. Broadband MO 10:00 p.m.

Philadelphia WPSG SU 7:30 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.

WE 12:00 p.m.

SU 8:30 p.m.

SU 7:00 a.m.

SU 8:30 a.m.

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SU 7:00 a.m.

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WE 4:00 p.m.

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SU 7:00 a.m.

SU 9:00 a.m.

SU 8:30 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

MO 7:30 p.m.

SU 7:30 a.m.

SU 7:00 a.m.

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SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

MO 7:30 p.m.

FR 9:00 p.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

MO 3:00 p.m.

WE 10:00 p.m.

FR 8:00 p.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

MO 4:30 p.m.

SU 11:30 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

TH 2:00 p.m.

TH 7:00 p.m.

MO 11:00 p.m.

TU 4:30 p.m.

SU 7:00 p.m.

SU 7:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

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SU 8:00 a.m.

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SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

MO 10:00 p.m.

SU 7:30 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 11:00 a.m.

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February 24–March 2

Why Does God Use Prophecy?

At least a quarter of your Bible is devoted to prophecy—but why? You need to know!

March 3–9

The Effects of Feminism: 50 Years Later

Is there still a “war between the sexes”? If so, can anyone really claim to be winning?

March 10–16

Amazing Bible Prophecies Fulfilled!

The Bible's remarkable prophetic track record shows us God's hand in world affairs!

March 17–23

How the World Will End

Will it be war, disease, pollution, or something else that ruins us? Your Bible has answers!

March 24–30

Will the Rapture Leave You Behind?

Learn the truth about this misunderstood doctrine and what it means for you!

March 31–April 6

Schedule subject to change

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