

TOMORROW'S WORLD

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**A New World
Is Coming!**



Could You Be Deceived?

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

You have probably heard the saying attributed to circus magnate Phineas T. Barnum, “There’s a sucker born every minute.” Nearly all of us have been deceived at least a few times in our lives. Upon careful research, even Barnum’s famous “quote” turns out to be a deception invented by one of his rivals. Usually, we are deceived about relatively minor matters, often because of our own carelessness. But it would be far more serious if we found we had been deceived about the *major issues* of life. For example, most of us just **assume** that our parents’ religion is “good enough for us.”

Why?

If there is a real and personal God, and if He has a plan and purpose for us, then fulfilling that supreme **purpose** is infinitely more important than figuring out how to make more money or how to be “happy” in the few short years of our lives. Is understanding your right relationship with the Creator the most important issue *by far* in *your* life—more important than anything else? Or do you just **assume** that everything is fine?

A very wise man once told me, “*Don’t assume anything!*” Yet most people can very easily be fooled or “deceived” in religious matters because they assume they know what is right, and spend so little time or mental effort actually **proving**—or trying to prove—what they believe. As we have reported to you many times before, the various religious surveys and polls *all* indicate that most Americans, Canadians and Britons are, in effect, “biblical illiterates.” Even most churchgoers cannot name the four Gospels, the Ten Commandments or most other key facts and figures in the Bible. It is obvious that most professing Christians in our Western society have *no idea whatsoever* why they really believe what they believe. They usually just adopt the religion of their parents or friends.

Also, I have noticed that many Americans **assume** that the majority of people on this earth are Christian. They seldom focus on the fact—a fact *easily provable* with almost any encyclopedia or world almanac—that most people on this earth **are not** and **never have been** professing Christians. Most Americans *assume* that the “majority is always right.” Yet Christianity is definitely a “minority” religion!

So, again, **why** do you believe what you believe?

Is it because you have earnestly *studied* and **proved** to yourself the existence of a real God? Have

you also **proved** to your own satisfaction that the Bible is the inspired word of God—the revelation from our Creator to help us understand the real purpose of life and how to fulfill that purpose?

Then, if you believe that the Bible is inspired by the Creator, do you genuinely **study** the Bible to see what it actually says? For without actual *Bible study*, you could be a “sitting duck” for *Satan’s deceptions*! As Jesus Christ said, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by *every word* of God” (Luke 4:4).

Think!

How can you possibly “live” by *every word* of a book that you have not deeply studied? *How easy* it would be for misguided or false ministers to mislead you as to what the Bible actually says! Since most of you reading this certainly *do* feel that the Bible is inspired, notice what the Apostle Paul was inspired to tell us, “**Study** to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, *rightly dividing* the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV).

So, for your *own sake*, I would like to strongly encourage **all** of you to start **taking the time** and putting forth the **mental effort** to genuinely **study** the Bible! This may sound trite, but I truly believe that doing so could *revolutionize your life*!

But *how* should you study?

Successful Bible students use several different methods. The two that I most strongly recommend—and you can alternate between them both—are *subject study* and *simply reading the book*. Subject study would involve using a concordance, and going through various topics in the Bible such as “heaven” or “hell” or “eternal life” or “commandments,” and reading the passages that have to do with those particular topics. This is an *excellent* way to learn about various topics in an organized fashion, and to see what the *Bible actually says* about whatever topic you choose. This approach certainly should be used regularly.

The *second method* of Bible study, which I use most often, is the “reading straight through” method, which—just as it sounds—involves simply reading right through books in the Bible, as you would a book on history or any other topic. This is now my *favorite* method of study, since in decades past I have gone over most of the major topics in the Bible extensively using the first method. Simply reading the Bible in this manner gives you the “feel” of exactly how a particu-

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A NEW WORLD IS COMING!

By Roderick C. Meredith

Is there a “better world” coming? Can you visualize the glorious future just ahead?

There is genuine *suffering* and *agony* all over the earth today. Sadly, it will grow much worse over the next several years. But, as they say, “it is always darkest just before the dawn.”

And what a *glorious* “dawn” is surely coming!

But today, we constantly read and hear about *hundreds of thousands* of people slowly dying in the Sudan and other parts of the world. We hear of countless thousands of women being beaten, raped and utterly humiliated. Often, we read of how the

police and other authorities just “look the other way” at these human tragedies.

Regularly, we read and hear of untold thousands in Africa coming down with AIDS. Entire cities and villages are being decimated by this modern plague—spread especially by the loose sexual practices of those infected. Meanwhile, vast areas of our planet are experiencing *serious drought*. This will soon begin to affect the crops and the food supply of many nations. And the United States is still reeling from

last year's devastating Hurricane Katrina—just one of several deadly hurricanes to have wracked the U.S. in the last couple of years. Around the world, the deadly earthquake and tsunami in South Asia is still affecting millions of lives. The full scope of last fall's terrible earthquake in Pakistan, which took more than 80,000 lives, is still not yet known.

And now the “experts” are warning of a potential worldwide *pandemic* of avian flu, which some experts say could take the lives of anywhere from 150 to 360 million people worldwide!

Our present society is in *terminal* trouble! After nearly 6,000 years of recorded human history, our civilization is beginning to encounter “unsolvable” problems. These problems range from weather disasters to horrifying wars, large and small, with barbarous acts being perpetrated on untold thousands of men, women and children. Our world is now facing seemingly insurmountable ecological disturbances, economic dislocation and terrible ethnic strife.

What Is the ANSWER?

Many eminent leaders and politicians have for years realized that only a *genuine world government* can bring true peace and stability to our planet. But humanity's puny efforts in this regard have always failed—and will *continue to fail*. For human beings do not know the way to world peace and prosperity. This should become increasingly evident to all who truly understand.

As Sir Winston Churchill stated before the U.S. Congress, “There is a great *design* and *purpose* being worked out here below.” Thankfully, there *is* a real God who guides the affairs of

men and nations—**far more** than even most religious people realize. *If* you can prove to yourself that the God of the Bible is real, and that the Bible is *His inspired word*, this can *revolutionize* your life. You can begin to *understand* and see the **purpose** in the horrific events that are beginning to happen with increasing frequency, and that will continue to worsen over the next decade or two.

The Apostle Peter was inspired to write in his last letter, “And so we have the **sure word** of prophecy, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Peter 1:19–21, KJV). The great God who gives us life and breath has **not** left us without a “witness” of His purpose, and of why world events are working out the way they are. For, throughout the Bible, there are hundreds upon hundreds of specific prophecies revealing what lies ahead—especially at what God calls “the time of the **end**.”

In fact, though most have been very confused about this, the true “gospel” of Jesus Christ is *not* just about the person of Christ, but is about God's *way of life* and about preparing for the coming Kingdom of God, which will soon be manifested as a *genuine world government* to be set up on this earth!

In Mark 1:14–15 we read: “Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom

of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.’” The word “kingdom” certainly means *government*—though this part of the definition is often neglected. Yet, throughout the Bible, we find that this is *exactly* what is indicated by the “Kingdom of God”—the soon-coming *wonderful future* under Christ's rule!

This is often described in Jesus' parables. In one such parable, Christ described how He would go to heaven to receive a kingdom, then would return. The first “servant,” who had multiplied his money ten times, was then told, “Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, *have authority over ten cities*” (Luke 19:17). This shows that Christ's faithful servants will be given **rulership** over cities on this earth. Later, Jesus tells His apostles: “But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on **thrones** judging the twelve tribes of Israel” (Luke 22:28–30).

Can all of this be “spiritualized” away? That is what most so-called “Christian” ministers do—and most churchgoers seem to just “go along” with forgetting about or “doing away with” the **scores** of verses that tell us of Christ's plain intent—often in *very direct* language! At the very *end* of His life, Jesus told His followers: “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen” (Matthew 28:19–20). Does that

sound like Jesus was “doing away with” all the teaching He gave His disciples about the coming government of God?

After His resurrection, the disciples asked Jesus, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6). Here

was Jesus’ *perfect opportunity* to let them know that all of His teaching about a coming government was only *spiritual*, and not to be taken literally!

Instead, Jesus answered them: “It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father

has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:7–8). Jesus did not want to discourage His apostles by

A New EDUCATIONAL System

When you read the *dozens* of passages about Christ’s coming government, it is obvious that an *entirely different* educational system will **soon** be set up over this entire world! The *basis* of this educational system will be the *true* knowledge of God and His way of life! The modern “intelligentsia” of this world may sneer at this, but in Tomorrow’s World the schools will disseminate *genuine* knowledge that will bring about *peace* and *joy*. Certainly students will be taught the “three R’s”—reading, writing and arithmetic. They will also be taught true science—and we should note that much of “modern science” is absolutely correct and extremely helpful. But they will also come to understand that behind this magnificent and intricate creation is the “Supreme Mind”—the God who is the Creator of heaven and earth, and who created us for a purpose. They will learn not only the physical laws that give order to our world, but also the spiritual laws that regulate human happiness and wellbeing.

It is often more difficult to **un-learn** untruths and wrong concepts than it is to learn the pure truth in the first place. So it may take a generation or two to help people truly understand the **awesome** and wonderful ways of God that affect every phase and facet of life. As part of this way of life, people will enjoy the right kind of music, art and literature. There will be no more vile and pornographic scenes in whatever entertainment may be available.

God *created us* male and female. Notice His first command to Adam and Eve, “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it” (Genesis 1:28, *KJV*). So God is **not** against sex! Rather *He created* it as a wonderful and beautiful thing to draw a young man and woman together and to help solidify their relationship in marriage and also, obviously, bring about the begetting of

children. For God is a family—and wants the *human family* to learn lessons of giving, sharing and serving so we can later serve in *His Family* throughout all eternity. So, in Tomorrow’s World, there will be **none** of the vile emphasis on sex as merely a mechanical thing apart from genuine love and outflowing concern in marriage.

You may be thinking, “*That sounds old-fashioned.*” Maybe it does in our present circumstances. But the *result* of this pure teaching, pure entertainment and a pure *way of life* permeating our entire culture will be happy families, happy children and a depth of joy and peace—and even financial prosperity—beyond what humanity has ever before known.

Throughout our present society, in America and elsewhere, we constantly behold the spectacle of dishonest politicians, businessmen and other leaders. But in Tomorrow’s World, there will be *no such thing* as a “WorldCom scandal” or an “Enron scandal.” People will not be taken advantage of by corrupt leaders in government, business, or our vain and corrupt educational system. Rather, as we have seen, Christ will set up a Kingdom and decide with **equity** for the benefit of the meek of the earth!

Part of this new teaching will also involve *racial relations*. For God commanded His people to be fair and equitable to the “stranger” in ancient Israel—and *how much more* under the New Covenant! God told His people in Israel: “And if a stranger dwells with you in your land, you shall not mistreat him. The stranger who dwells among you shall be to you as one born among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God. ‘You shall do no injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, weight, or volume’ (Leviticus 19:33–35). Racial and ethnic “minorities” will no longer be oppressed by the majority in any part of the world under Christ’s coming government!

telling them it would be another 2,000 years before His earthly kingdom would be set up. But He certainly did not disabuse them of the idea that there will be a **real** kingdom here on earth!

Indeed, Christ tells genuine Christians: “And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—‘He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’—as I also have received from My Father” (Revelation 2:26–27). And notice: “Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, ‘The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!’” (Revelation 11:15). Since Christ will **rule** over the “kingdoms of this world,” how can we “spiritualize” this away and say that we will “float off to heaven” with **nothing** to do?

Rather, as Jesus tells His faithful servants: “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall **reign** with Him a thousand years” (Revelation 20:6).

These are only a *very few* of the scores of verses throughout *your Bible* indicating clearly that a **literal government**, under Christ, will be set up *on this earth*, and that His government will bring about genuine *peace, prosperity* and lasting *joy* beyond anything our world has ever experienced.

That is the real **answer** to the overwhelming problems faced by a confused humanity that has been deceived by a very real Satan the Devil! Can we *believe* what God’s word clearly says? Can we be *inspired* and *encouraged* by the

tremendous revelation from our Creator given clearly and repeatedly in His inspired word?

What Will It Be Like?

Prophecy after prophecy describes the *real* Jesus of the Bible as a coming King who will set up a world **government**. Although this is generally “spiritualized away” by most mainstream religionists, it is, in fact, the **focus** of most of the prophecies of the Bible. Isaiah tells us: “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the **government** will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His **government** and **peace** there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this” (Isaiah 9:6–7). If you read your Bible carefully, you will notice that God does indeed mean “government” when He talks about a coming “Kingdom.” Most Bible scholars understand this, but apparently most “mainstream” believers think very little about it.

In the book of Isaiah, God specifically describes end-time events that will soon occur—likely within *your lifetime* in the next ten to 25 years: “Now it shall come to pass in the **latter days** that the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. 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; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any-more” (Isaiah 2:2–4).

Notice that the coming Messiah was prophesied to “teach” the people of “His ways.” Throughout the Bible, God shows us that His true saints are now in *training* to become *kings* and *priests* in the coming Kingdom of Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:6). Throughout the Old Testament, God’s priests were shown to be the

The Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments will be the law of God’s Kingdom. But you can live by those precepts today and experience the blessings they bring!



Write for our **FREE** booklet, **The Ten Commandments**, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org.

“teachers” as well as those who offered sacrifices. Certainly the *primary duty* you and I ought to be focusing on *right now*, if we plan to be in Christ’s Kingdom, is to learn *His ways*, knowing that we are to become the “priests”—the teachers—in Tomorrow’s World!

Notice what the Apostle Paul was inspired to tell us in the New Testament: “Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How

much more, things that pertain to this life?” (1 Corinthians 6:2–3).

Are you now, personally, learning to properly “teach” God’s ways and to properly “judge” vast numbers of people *according to*

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One TRUE Religion

In Tomorrow’s World, there will be **one true religion**—the religion Jesus Christ explained during His ministry. Jesus told the Gentile woman: “Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:22–24, *KJV*).

People today have all kinds of feelings and emotions about their concept of God. However, the God of the Bible—and the true Christ revealed in the Bible—taught a specific *way of life*. That way is based squarely on the Ten Commandments. As Christ inspired John to write, “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who *keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus*” (Revelation 14:12).

The Apostle James, Jesus’ physical brother, was inspired to tell us: “For whoever shall keep the **whole law**, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all. For He who said, ‘Do not commit *adultery*,’ also said, ‘Do not murder.’ Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. *So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the law of liberty*” (James 2:10–12). It is the *Ten Commandments* that tell us about murder and adultery—that should be clear, for *that* is the law James is describing! And he calls it the “Law of Liberty.”

Yet many modern ministers have tried to somehow twist the Bible around completely and imply to people that it is a “harsh” way of life and need not be kept. That terrible *fundamental error* is going to be completely **obliterated** in Christ’s Kingdom. God’s wonderful “Law”—the *Ten Commandments*—will be the *basis* of life at that time.

Speaking of Tomorrow’s World, the Bible tells us, “And it shall come to pass that from one New

Moon to another, and from one **Sabbath** to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me” (Isaiah 66:23). So “all flesh” will learn to observe God’s *true Sabbath*—**not** the ancient pagan “day of the sun.” We read in Zechariah 14 that Christ will return with great power and “in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives” (v. 4). In that day, Christ will not simply rule in heaven. “The LORD shall be King over *all the earth*” (v. 9)!

Then God’s inspired word continues: “And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain. If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles” (Zechariah 14:16–19).

Representatives of the entire world—*all nations*—will soon be coming up to Jerusalem, world headquarters, to observe God’s wonderful festivals. There will be magnificent processions, awesome beauty, beautiful music with huge choirs and other instruments in these processions. The eyes of men and women will glisten with tears, as they behold their **Creator**, Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:9), right there *in person* to lead some of the awesome religious services during God’s festivals. There will be a wave of *peace* and *joy* beyond anything humanity has ever experienced. For there will be **one true world religion** and **one King** and High Priest, *Jesus Christ!* At that time, people will not “mess around” with *His* clear teachings and His way of life, trying to “sentimentalize away” His Law, His Holy Days and His entire way of life by substituting their pagan ideas and pagan traditions instead.

Questions & Answers

Question: What did the Apostle John mean when he warned that “many antichrists have come”? What is *an* antichrist?

Answer: To understand the term “*antichrist*”—which is found only in 1 John and 2 John, it is helpful to examine the scriptures that use the term. The phrase “many antichrists” occurs in 1 John 2:18: “Little children, it is the last hour, and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now *many antichrists* have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.”

The word *antichrist* in this verse means “against Christ” or “instead of Christ,” or refers to a false Christ who “opposes” the true Christ (*Vine’s Expository Dictionary*). The Apostle John warned that many opponents of the true Christ and His message had already come. Some had infiltrated God’s true Church. John continued, “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us” (v. 19). John goes on to confirm this, providing more details.

Notice what John wrote in the very next epistle: “For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist” (2 John 7). Here, John describes an antichrist as a **deceiver**. During the apostles’ ministry, a proliferation of false teaching arose. One such deception included the Gnostic **denial** that Jesus Christ came in the flesh as the only begotten Son of God. The Gnostic heresy concluded that Christ only **seemed** to take human form (*New Testament Introduction*, by Donald Guthrie, p. 870). Gnostic teachers, therefore, were among the many antichrists who rejected Christ’s coming in the flesh as the incarnate Son of God. The consequences of such doctrines water down Christ’s sacrifice, and inadequately define sin—turning grace into

license to sin (Jude 4). John wrote his letter to combat these false ideas and to strengthen God’s people in the truth. Notice how John wrote that these deceivers denied Christ “**as coming** in the flesh.” The casual reader may understand this in the sense of Christ’s first coming in the flesh, but there is an additional meaning.

Williams New Testament Translation clarifies this verse by rendering it “**continues to come.**” In other words, Jesus Christ not only had come in the flesh to become the perfect sacrifice for sin, but He **is continuing** to come in the flesh of Christians by living His life in us. We read: “Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us” (1 John 3:24). Jesus Christ abides or lives in us through His Holy Spirit (Galatians 2:20). He stated, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word: and My Father will love him. And We will come to him and make Our home with him” (John 14:23).

In stark contrast, the spirit of antichrist “does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh” (1 John 4:2–3). This lying spirit denies the reality of Christ’s first coming, and the wonderful truth that through the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ can live His life in us—the very same life He lived when He was on earth—a life of obedience to the law of God! Therefore, an antichrist is one who is against Christ—against His law, and against His way of life. This spirit of antichrist or lawlessness, so common today, was already widespread in the Apostle Paul’s day: “For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work” (2 Thessalonians 2:7). For more information, please send for our free booklet, *Who or What Is the Antichrist?*



Who Is Burning In Hell?

By Richard F. Ames

Do you have friends and loved ones suffering right now in fiery torment?

Millions of people around the world believe that some of their loved ones—and many of their enemies—are right now burning in the flames of hell! Others who consider themselves “sophisticated” condemn such belief as superstition. What is the truth? And, if there is a hellfire, is anyone *right now* suffering its torments?

It is interesting to note what most Americans believe about hell. The Barna Research Group reported:

“While there is no dominant view of hell, two particular perspectives are popular. Four out of ten adults believe that hell is ‘a state of eternal separation from God’s presence’ (39 percent) and one-third (32 percent) say it is ‘an actual place of torment and suffering where people’s souls go after death.’ A third perspective, that one in eight adults believe, is that ‘hell is just a symbol of an unknown bad outcome after death’ (13 percent). Other respondents were ‘not sure’ or said

that they do not believe in an afterlife (16 percent)” (October 21, 2003).

What does the Bible teach? The Bible certainly tells us that there is a judgment. Notice: “it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment” (Hebrews 9:27). But does this mean that there is an ever-burning hellfire, where the unsaved dead will go to suffer torment forever and ever?

Every human being on earth *will* be judged. In fact, God is *right now* judging His Church (see 1 Peter 4:17). But He will also judge the whole world in a final judgment, also known as the White Throne Judgment, a thousand years after Jesus Christ’s second coming (see Revelation 20). What will be the fate of the wicked after that judgment? Will they burn forever in hellfire? Or are the departed souls of the wicked suffering torments—perhaps somewhere under the earth—right now?

The Resurrection of Judgment

Will judgment take place immediately after you draw your last breath, or will it occur at some future time before the end of our present world? Notice what Jesus Christ said: “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 [judgment]” (John 5:28–29).

Yes, there will come a judgment for every human being. “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad” (2 Corinthians 5:10). Yes, *all* human beings must stand before the judgment seat of Christ. Each of us will receive either reward or punishment. And, as we shall see, a lake of fire will be the ultimate punishment for unrepentant sinners.

What happens in that lake of fire? Most people have the idea that souls in the lake of fire will writhe in agony for all eternity. As a minister, I have seen the distress felt by people who spend their whole lives saddened by the belief that the soul of a friend or relative is right now suffering in agony, and will suffer forevermore. I have also seen the self-righteous pleasure that some people take, believing that the soul of someone they dislike—maybe a member of a different denomination—is suffering eternal torment.

Would it shock you to learn that the souls of your dead friends and loved ones are not suffering, because they are not immortal? Contrary to much popular opinion, the Bible does not teach that human beings have immortal souls. The phrase “immortal soul” never appears in your Bible! Certainly there is a “spirit in man” which sets us apart from the animals (1 Corinthians 2:11). That human spirit, and human brain, constitute the human mind. But this is not an immortal soul; it can be destroyed. Remember what Jesus warned us: “And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matthew 10:28). God can

destroy the soul. The “soul” is not immortal!

Dante Describes Hell

Where did we get the concept of souls burning in eternal fire? The fourteenth-century Italian poet Dante Alighieri is perhaps most responsible for modern misconceptions of hell. His famous poem *The Divine Comedy* is divided into three sections: Paradise, Purgatory and Inferno. The latter section describes the ancient Roman poet Virgil guiding Dante on a journey through hell. At the entrance to Dante’s hell is the foreboding sign: “Abandon All Hope, You Who Enter Here” (*Inferno*, A New Verse Translation, Dante Alighieri, ed. Elio Zappulla, Canto III, p. 39). Virgil tells Dante about his tour of hell, “I’ll be your guide, and you will follow me, and I will lead you through a world of pain where dead souls writhe in endless agony and clamor, as they cry, to die again.” (Canto I, p. 24).

Dante continues his journey through various compartments of hell and writes, “So in the ditch, far down below the arch on which we stood, there bubbled viscous pitch... I only saw the bubbles rise and burst, the huge mass heave, contract, heave, and contract repeatedly” (Canto XXI, pp. 189–190).

The poet then sees someone consigned to hell, “The sinner plunged into the pitch... They pricked the sinner with a hundred prongs” (Canto XXI, pp. 190–191).

Dante wrote *The Divine Comedy* as an allegory, to teach certain principles and lessons. The content also reflects the politics and history of Dante’s contemporary Italy. His poem is *not* a literal reflection of the Bible’s teaching on hell! Sadly, many

have come to believe Dante’s descriptions are more or less accurate. They are not!

Bible and Afterlife

What, then, does the Bible teach about hell and the afterlife? You may be familiar with some of the important scriptures on this topic. You may even have read right over them, taking for granted what your church taught you, or what your parents taught you as a child. Notice one very basic, yet fundamental, scripture: “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

Notice the sobering contrast Paul describes in this verse. Sinners earn *death*, not eternal life. By contrast, God’s *gift* is eternal life through Christ, our Savior.

The wages of sin is *what*? *Death!* Not “eternal life in torment.” Your Bible makes this plain. Yet some Bible teachers try to confuse this simple truth. They want you to believe that up means down, right means wrong, and death means eternal life. But you do not have to believe their confusing tales. You can find the truth for yourself, in the pages of your own Bible.

Another much-misunderstood verse was written by the Apostle John. It is a famous verse; so famous that it is sometimes called the “golden verse” or the most precious verse in your Bible. What is it? “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Could John’s words be more plain? Without Jesus’ sacrifice, mankind would perish—not live eternally. To “perish” means to be destroyed, or “to come to noth-

ing.” But Jesus came so that we might not be destroyed forever. If we already had immortal life, He could not give it to us as a gift!

The book of Ezekiel also confirms the truth of what John wrote. Here, God is speaking through the prophet Ezekiel. “Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is Mine; the soul who sins shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4). God repeats this truth a few verses later, “The soul who sins shall die” (v. 20).

The books of Ezekiel and John agree: the soul that sins shall die.

What Is Hell?

But what is this “hell” where souls can be destroyed? In Matthew 10:28, the Greek word translated as “hell” is *gehenna*, derived from the Hebrew expression *ge hinnom*—a reference to the valley of Hinnom to the south of Jerusalem. Anciently, the valley of Hinnom was used as a place to dump Jerusalem’s trash. Fires burned continuously and fed on the city’s garbage, which included the dead bodies of condemned criminals. As a result, “Gehenna” became a symbol of judgment associated with fire. This same word was also used

in Matthew 5:22, when Jesus said: “But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca!’ shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of *hell* fire”—*Gehenna* fire.

Yes, unrepentant sinners will be cast into a lake of fire. Gehenna fire is a reference to this final fate of the wicked.

Does this mean, then, that hell is a valley to the south of Jerusalem? Yes, in one sense the valley of Hinnom is “hell” as described in the Bible. But in another sense the word “hell” can be misleading, because there are actually three Greek words, and one Hebrew word, which your English-language Bible translates as “hell.” Gehenna is just one of the four. Many Bible students become confused by the different references to “hell” and their different meanings. There are four words for “hell” in your Bible, with three different meanings. To properly understand the Bible’s teaching about hell, you must first ask, “Which hell are we talking about?”

The Hebrew word that your *King James Version* often translates

as “hell” is *sheol*—which simply means “grave” or “pit.” It does not denote a place of ever-burning fire. This word occurs 65 times in the Old Testament, and is translated 31 times as “grave,” another 31 times as “hell” and three times as “pit.” The *New International Version* of the Bible always translates *sheol* as “grave”—never as “hell.” The word *sheol* simply means a “pit” or a “grave.”

So, if we ask, “Who is burning in *sheol* (the pit, or the grave)?” the answer is: No one!

In addition to *gehenna*, which we discussed above, two other Greek words are translated as “hell” in your Bible. The Greek word *hades*, like the Hebrew *sheol*, simply means “grave” or “pit.” It does not mean a place of ever-burning fire. If you have a copy of the *New King James Version*, or the *New International Version*, you will see that the translators often leave the word *hades* untranslated.

The fourth word translated as “hell” in your Bible is based on the Greek word *tartarus*. This word denotes a condition of restraint, and it applies not to human beings, but rather to fallen angels. Notice: “God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell

Many professing Christians have been unable to reconcile God’s mercy with the idea of an ever-burning hell fire for those who never heard the message of Jesus Christ. As a result, even some evangelicals have come to believe the truth that God will destroy the wicked forever. For example, a *Christianity Today* magazine article, “Is Hell Forever?”, states the following: “Since 1960, several prominent British evangelicals, as well as Canadian theologian Clark Pinnock, have embraced this [annihilationist] view. John Stott has likewise expressed sympathy for

annihilationism while choosing to remain ‘agnostic’ on the question” (October 5, 1998).

The Evangelical Alliance UK sponsored an extensively researched report titled “The Nature of Hell.” *Christianity Today* magazine wrote: “the report, *The Nature of Hell*, produced by five experts, also acknowledges a growing belief among evangelicals in ‘conditionalism,’ according to which, after judgment, sinners will be annihilated—something that is seen as a more merciful fate than the pit of unending torment” (April 17, 2000).

and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment” (2 Peter 2:4).

As one scholarly source explains: “The verb *tartaroo*, translated ‘cast down to hell’ in 2 Pet. 2:4, signifies to consign to Tartarus, which is neither *Sheol* nor *hades* nor hell, but the place where those angels whose special sin is referred to in that passage are confined ‘to be reserved unto judgment’; the region is described as ‘pits of darkness.’” (*An Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*, W.E. Vine, p. 300).

So, as we have seen, “hell” can describe three very different places or conditions. It can describe a pit or grave (*sheol* or *hades*). It can refer to a place of fiery judgment (*gehenna*). It can indicate the confinement of fallen angels (*tartaroo*). As you can see, using the one word “hell” to convey all three of these meanings can cause confusion, and does not accurately communicate the truth of the Bible.

Who Goes There?

Do you think God is unfair? Has He predestined some human beings—made in His image—to burn in hell, with no genuine opportunity for salvation? Shockingly, this idea of a cruel and capricious God is commonly taught in the name of “Christianity.” But it is wrong! God’s plan will give every human being a genuine opportunity to be saved.

Many who call themselves Christian have been unable to reconcile God’s love, mercy and justice with the idea of eternal hellfire for those who have never heard the message of Jesus Christ. Yet the Bible plainly teaches, “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

How can we reconcile this apparent contradiction between God’s mercy and His justice? Your Bible reveals that billions of people will have their very first opportunity for salvation in the White Throne Judgment, described in Revelation 20:11–12. God’s plan of salvation may be difficult for some to believe. But it is very encouraging when you understand the hope it brings to all of humanity. Those who have suffered from their own sins in ignorance, and those who have been innocent victims of war, oppression and genocide will be resurrected to understand the Bible—the Book of Life. They will have their first true opportunity to understand God’s love for all humanity. In the White Throne Judgment, billions of human beings who were previously spiritually blinded will finally learn from the pain of the past, and they will be given the opportunity to truly repent, believe the gospel and eventually inherit the Kingdom of God. As Peter wrote, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

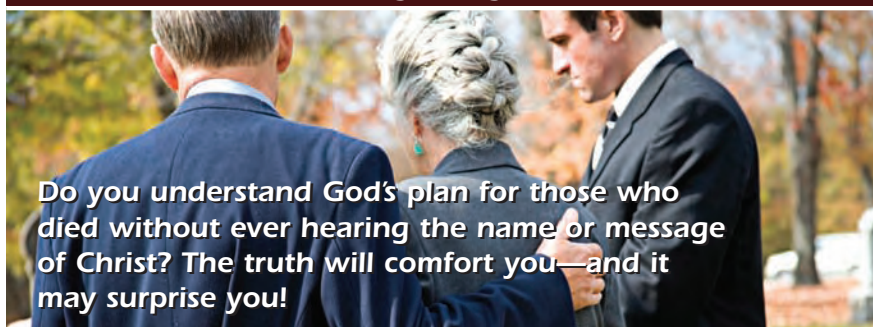
But what about those who have seared their consciences, and knowingly rejected God’s truth, love, knowledge and forgiveness in favor of rebellion, hatred and sin? These willful sinners will be burned up in a lake of fire! Notice: “Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:14–15).

Here is the second death—the eternal death penalty from which there is no resurrection! Those who have sealed their minds never to repent or surrender to Jesus Christ will be *totally burned up—destroyed!*

In Luke 16, the parable of Lazarus and the rich man illustrates the torment unrepentant sinners will experience before they are totally burned up. Notice that the rich man is about to be thrown into the lake of fire. Notice also that he is in *hades*—he is in the grave, not in Gehenna fire. He is resurrected for final judgment, as described in Revelation 20. So what does he ask for? A drop of water to cool his tongue. He did not ask for buckets of water to be poured over him. The rich man was in deep mental

(Continued on page 29)

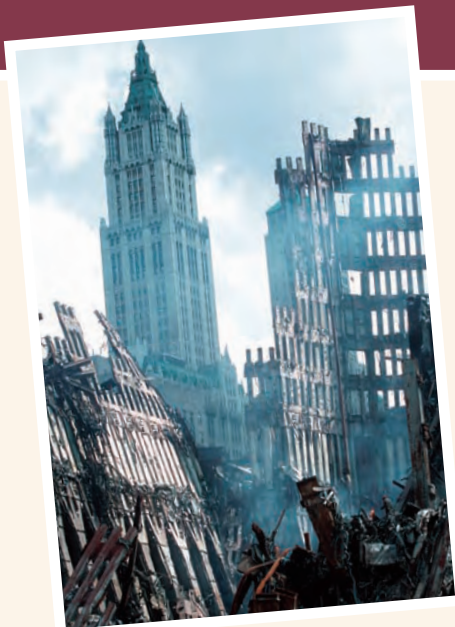
Is This the Only Day of Salvation?



Do you understand God’s plan for those who died without ever hearing the name or message of Christ? The truth will comfort you—and it may surprise you!

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Prophecy Com



Disaster upon Disaster!

In the last decade, the world has witnessed an *unprecedented series* of calamitous events! Many are beginning to ask: **Why** are these events occurring? On

September 11, 2001, a new era of global terrorism exploded on the world stage when self-described Muslim jihadists struck at prime symbols of Western power—the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. These attacks were preceded by the bombing of United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, and an attack on the American warship Cole in the Persian Gulf. Subsequent bombings targeted Australian tourists in Bali. The terrorist bombings in Madrid and London targeted U.S. allies.

During this same decade, devastating record-breaking droughts, storms, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes and tidal waves have occurred around the globe. These severe weather conditions and geological events have struck particularly hard at the U.S., Great Britain and other European countries. England, Scotland, and Wales were ravaged by severe storms and flooding in recent years, right on the heels of the “mad cow” disaster that nearly wiped out the once-proud British cattle industry. Parts of Western Europe have suffered from severe heat waves, droughts, fires and floods. The longest droughts in a century have plagued vast areas of America, Australia and South Africa. In 2004, the state of Florida was hit by an unprecedented four hurricanes in just a few months. In 2005, two powerful hurricanes in a row pounded the coastal areas of Louisiana and Texas, destroying much of New Orleans and inflicting on refineries “the most widespread damage” the Gulf Coast has ever experienced—100 percent of crude oil production and 80 percent of natural gas production was knocked offline, and it will take months to recover. Gasoline prices have soared, curtailing travel.

Scientists and politicians argue about “global warming,” and dispute the exact degree of mankind’s role in creating the conditions that have led to recent weather disruptions. But nearly all of these “experts”—and even most religious people—are unaware that the Bible provides *additional information* about the *real significance* of the unprecedented calamities that have afflicted the world—and *why specific nations* (including the U.S., Great Britain, Australia, South Africa and the nations of northwestern Europe) have been hit so hard. Few today realize that *more than one-fourth of the Bible is prophecy*—most of which relates to the *end of the age*—the period preceding the return of Jesus Christ to this earth. We are watching these end-time prophecies *come alive* today!

Blessings and Cursings

Scripture reveals that *there is a God* who is able to predict the future and make it happen. The prophet Isaiah was inspired to write: “I am God, and there is no other... Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done” (Isaiah 46:9–10). The God who inspired the Bible formed the nation of Israel by calling Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. As a result of their obedience, God promised great blessings to their descendants—the twelve tribes of Israel (Genesis 12:1–3). The Bible reveals that the ultimate fulfillment of the promised blessings would be in the “last days” (Genesis 49:1–28), with the greatest blessings falling on the descendants of Joseph’s two sons—Manasseh (prophesied to become a *great nation*) and Ephraim (prophesied to become a *company* [or commonwealth] of nations). These important prophecies have been fulfilled in the United States and Great Britain, and in the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic peoples of northwest European descent that have spread around the globe (request our free booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*).

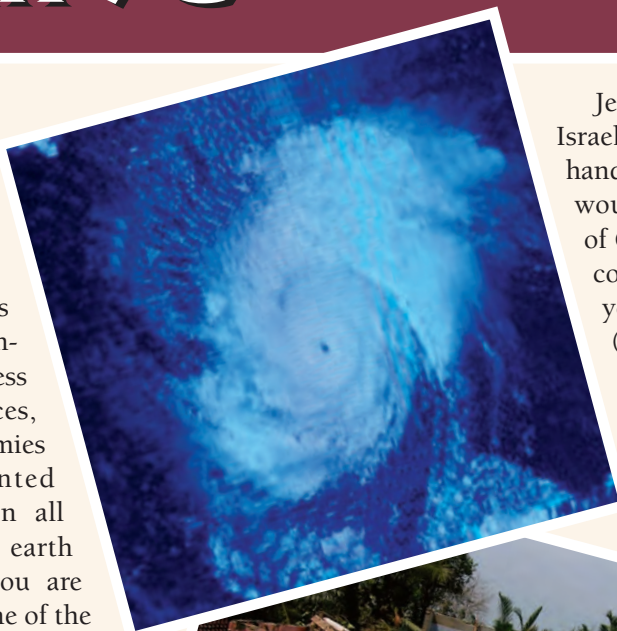
However, God not only promised blessings for obedience to His laws; He also foretold that there would be *serious consequences* if the descendants of these nations forgot God and disobeyed His laws. In the parallel chapters of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy

28, God instructed Moses to advise the Israelites that obedience would bring “rain in its season” and abundant crops, access to vital resources, the defeat of enemies and unprecedented prosperity, “Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you” (Deuteronomy 28:10). Yet Moses also warned that the *consequences of disobedience* would include drought, famine, disease, loss of prosperity, defeat by enemies and eventual captivity (Deuteronomy 28:15–68).

When mankind violates environmental laws that govern the earth’s ecosystem, it should be no surprise that severe weather disruptions occur. Although the consequences of environmental disruption are global, it is worth noticing that *severe* catastrophes are now affecting nations that God had previously blessed abundantly—nations that have turned their backs on the real God of the Bible, and have ignored His laws and instructions.

Prophetic Warnings

In the days of ancient Israel, God sent prophets to warn His people that their disobedience would bring increasingly severe consequences. These prophecies are “dual”—the same warnings hold true today for the modern descendants of ancient Israel. Jeremiah foresaw a future time of great trouble for those nations: “For, lo, the days come... it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble... All thy lovers [allies] have forgotten thee; they seek thee not: for I have wounded thee with the wound of an enemy, with the chastisement of a cruel one, because thy sins were increased.... In the latter days ye shall understand it” (Jeremiah 30:3, 7, 14, 24, ASV).



Jeremiah describes how religious leaders of Israelite nations would deceive people and mishandle the laws of God, and how their rulers would lead people in ways contrary to the word of God. He records: “Your own wickedness will correct you... you have forsaken the LORD your God, and the fear of Me is not in you” (Jeremiah 2:19).

Today, many Israelite nations *pride* themselves on their *secular* culture. In the United States, where the Ten Commandments have been banned from public buildings by order of the Supreme Court, adultery and abortion are rampant and perverted sexual relationships are commonplace.

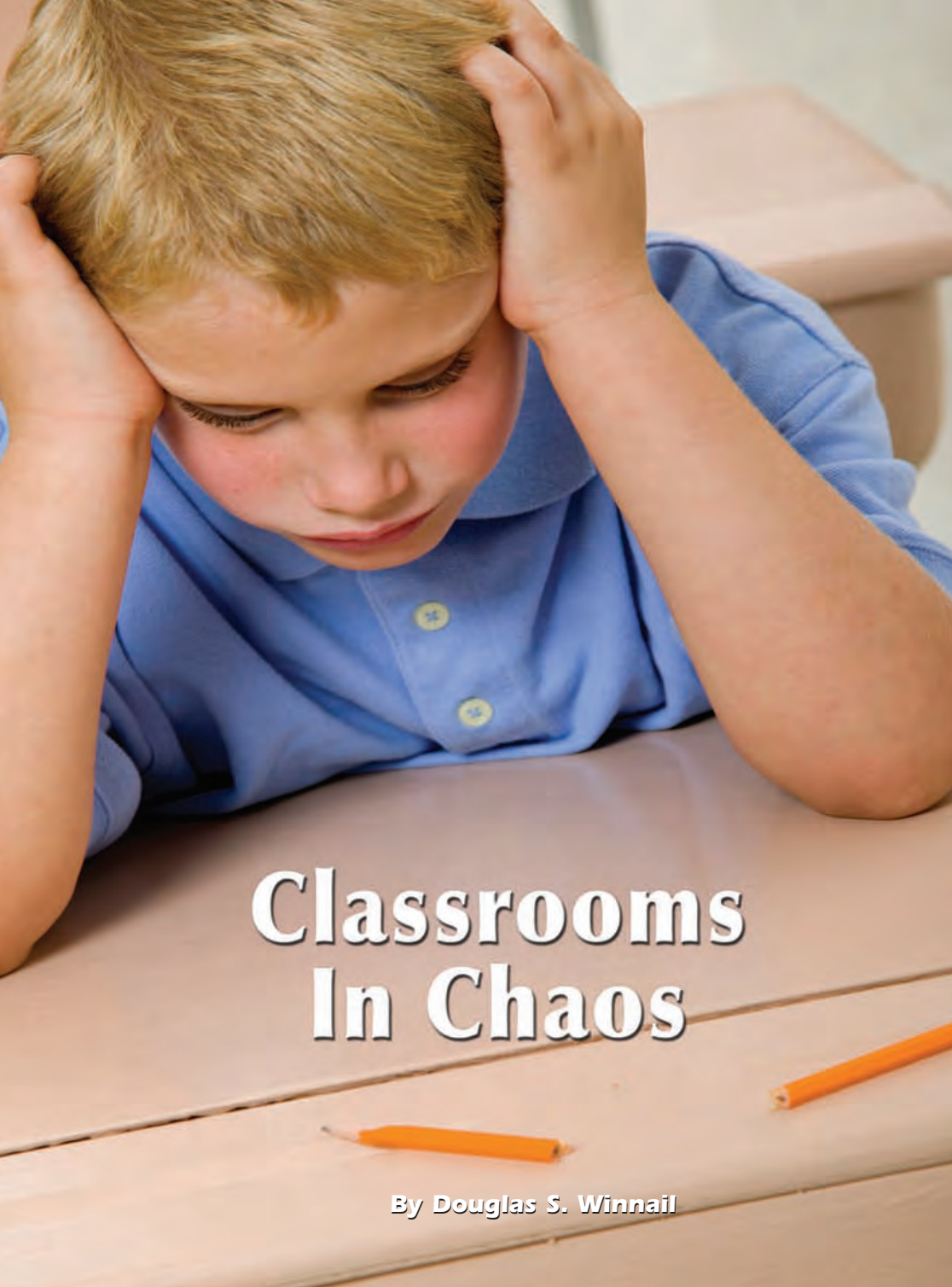
Centuries earlier, Moses recorded God’s warning: “But if you do not obey Me... I will even appoint *terror* over you... you shall be defeated by your enemies... Those who hate you shall reign over you... *I will break the pride of your power*; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze... I will...

destroy your livestock... and your highways shall be desolate... I have cut off your supply of bread... I will lay your cities waste... I will scatter you among the nations” (Leviticus 26:14–33).

The prophet Ezekiel was sent to the rebellious houses of Israel and Judah with the warning: “Now the end has come upon you... I will judge you according to your ways... Doom has come to you... A day of trouble is near... The sword is outside, and the pestilence and famine within... Destruction comes; they will seek peace, but there shall be none. *Disaster will come upon disaster*... Then they shall know that I am the LORD” (Ezekiel 7:1–27).

These are exactly the kinds of events that are making news headlines today! God has recorded and preserved these warnings for His people, whom He has chosen to be lights to the world. Their failure to live up to this calling has made these ancient prophecies *come alive* as we approach the end of this age and the return of Jesus Christ.

—Douglas S. Winnail



Classrooms In Chaos

By Douglas S. Winnail

What is the real significance of the growing problems afflicting our schools and our children?

In the last 30 to 40 years, *startling changes* have *dramatically transformed* schools in America and other Western countries. In many classrooms, discipline and order have vanished, and learning simply does not take place. British television recently screened footage taken secretly by a substitute teacher showing students wandering into class late and intentionally disrupting and distracting other students. Most students were uninterested and unwilling to do assignments. Some hurled obscene insults and threats at the teacher, physically or

verbally assaulted other students and stomped out of the room when challenged or corrected by the teacher. After her first day on the job (after a 30-year gap from the classroom), this teacher returned home and “sobbed her heart out,” wondering, “Is this what education has come to?” (*The Daily Telegraph*, April 27, 2005).

Another article described a couple from New Zealand who came to Britain to teach, yet left the country after less than two months in the classroom. The wife wrote, “In six weeks, I had more abuse hurled at me than I had encountered in 25 years back home...”

[Students] showed no respect for authority, no respect for adults... reason, pleasantness and courtesy were wasted on these insolent arrogant children... girls were obsessed with their looks... and sex... pregnancies... were frequent... boys talked only about football and sex. Few of them had any ambitions; most were totally disaffected” (*The Daily Telegraph*, June 12, 2005). Similar reports of chaotic classrooms and turned-off students surface regularly in the English and American press.

In recent years we have watched play-

grounds become killing fields as disgruntled students systematically shot teachers and other students. Drug dealing is rampant on many school grounds, and bullies—both boys and girls—intimidate whomever they please. Each day a growing number of children take knives and guns to school—for protection. Uniformed policemen patrol the hallways of many schools to keep order—and to protect children from other children. Twelve-year-old girls prance about like miniature streetwalkers with skimpy clothes, tattoos and nose rings, while boys with dyed and spiked hair shuffle about in baggy jeans that are in the process of falling off. Many children in their “bizarrely cool” outfits look like they have arrived from another planet!

What is happening to schools in our modern Western world? Why have discipline, order and respect disappeared from an increasing number of classrooms? Why are sexually transmissible diseases skyrocketing among teenagers, and why is suicide a leading cause of death among young people? While parents and educators bemoan these sobering developments, few understand the *real causes* of the troubles so evident in today’s schools. Fewer still grasp the *real significance* of the dramatic changes we are witnessing among today’s youth. However, the Bible and history provide *important insights* on our present state of affairs—and *the Bible alone* reveals where these startling changes are taking our youth and our society. Chaotic classrooms and disrespectful students are *symptoms* of powerful

forces building to a climax that will surprise and shock the world in the years just ahead!

The Crisis in Education

Today’s schools offer a sobering case study of what is wrong with modern culture. The United States spends more money on education (more than \$350 billion per year) than any other nation on earth—yet its students rank *near the bottom* in math, sci-



ence and geography. Many students emerge after twelve years in public schools as *functional illiterates*—unable to read or spell properly and unable to solve simple problems. This has led to the “dumbing down” of education and society (*America in Crisis*, Bohannon, p. 20). Why is this happening in one of the most affluent nations on earth? Why are many children not learning anything solid in school today? Why is almost everything about school *boring* to young people today? What has generated this crisis in modern education?

It used to be that schools *supported and reinforced* the moral and intellectual values promoted by churches and taught by parents in the home. However, in recent decades, schools and educators have been

leading the attack on traditional Bible-based ideas, moral values and behaviors. Recently in Massachusetts, a parent was hauled into court for challenging a school’s attempts to promote ideas about homosexuality and same-sex marriages to children in kindergarten! Twenty or 30 years ago, this episode would have been unheard of, yet today schools assert that it is *their right* to expose children to such ideas. What caused this dramatic change? Why are children taught how to have “safe sex” yet remain unable to do simple math? Why have classrooms become a battleground for promoting alternative lifestyles and aberrant ideas?

Contributing Factors

When children are unruly in classrooms, lack motivation and are unable to learn, the blame often falls directly at the feet of their *parents*. Though many parents are conscientious and dedicated to transmitting solid values to their children, others fail to *understand* or *fulfill* their role as parents. Many *abdicate* their responsibilities to schools, relatives or social workers. Today, many children grow up in single-parent homes where discipline is scarce and respect for authority is never taught. With the explosion of teenage pregnancies, we have a burgeoning phenomenon of *children rearing children*. The insecurity created by rampant divorce, parental alcohol and drug abuse, the endless parade of live-in lovers, and the constant use of foul language by violent and abusive adults, saddles children with mental and behavioral problems

that seriously interfere with the learning process.

When both parents work outside the home, there is little supervision of children. Television and video games are used as babysitters, and children become



accustomed to entertainment and constant stimulation instead of learning to enjoy reading and thinking creatively. The rapid scene-shifts on television and videos foster a *short attention span* that severely inhibits a child's ability to concentrate long enough to learn effectively in a classroom. Academic classes are *boring* to children who have grown accustomed to being *entertained* and who have not learned to *think*. Parents who spend hours watching sports, soap operas and bizarre characters on talk shows are unlikely to rear children with high aspirations toward academic achievement and excellence. Many children are *unable to learn* at school because they have not developed the prerequisite skills necessary for learning—self-discipline to sit quietly, respect for older people who teach them, the ability to follow directions and

finish a task and the ability to concentrate long enough to begin the learning process. Many parents have *failed* to transmit these fundamental values and skills to their children, who then contribute to the chaos in today's classrooms.

Popular culture has also contributed to the crisis in education. Modern mass media exert a powerful and negative influence on children today. Television programming, the lyrics of rap music and the content of pulp fiction novels *attack and ridicule* traditional Judeo-Christian values of decency, honesty, faithfulness, chastity, beauty, compassion, sacrifice and hard work. Instead, children are exposed to a constant barrage of angry, vulgar and obscene song lyrics, while films and television glorify violence, promote immediate self-gratification and constantly portray divorce and illicit sex as normal and exciting! With such trash filling the minds of young people, there is little room for academic learning. Sadly, parents who desire to equip their children with sound, Bible-based values must do so in a *hostile environment* created by our secular culture, which is simply not conducive to the development of Judeo-Christian values.

Governments and churches have contributed to the crisis in modern education, and to the moral chaos that pervades many schools and classrooms. Historians recognize that in America, court decisions banning the Ten Commandments from public places and “the court-mandated removal of prayer, devotionals, and any exposure to religious values from our schools [have] been the major contributing cause of the moral breakdown

of our society” (*When Nations Die, Black*, p. 87). Permitting violence and sexually explicit entertainment under the guise of freedom of speech, and allowing discussions about witchcraft and homosexuality in classrooms—then claiming that talk about God and religious values in school is *illegal indoctrination*—is one of the *grand illusions* of our modern age! Court decisions that legalize abortion—the murder of unborn children—do not foster a respect for human life. Churches that condone adultery, same-sex “marriages” and the ordination of homosexuals—all of which the Bible labels as sin—contribute to the erosion of basic moral values in today's youth and society. It is amazing how liberal educators, politicians and theologians are reluctant to make a connection

To enable young people to reach their goals and reasonable living standards and how they can avoid being misled by the world, the flesh, and the devil are relative are being s

between these laws and trends and the crisis in the classrooms. This kind of *episodic thinking*—the inability to see cause and effect—is actually a symptom of mental retardation and an indication of a sick society (see Isaiah 1:2–6).

Teachers and educators enthralled with misguided ideas have fanned the crisis facing schools today. Well-meaning individuals have mistakenly reacted to child abuse cases by banning nearly all methods of discipline. Instead of issuing firm guidelines and using discipline wisely, liberal educators try to *negotiate* and *reason* with unruly children, which

only adds to classroom chaos. Today, students clamor about their rights, and threaten to sue if



they are corrected or dismissed from school. Parents even threaten teachers who attempt to discipline their children. Not surprisingly, many teachers fail to report assaults, and school administrators cringe in fear of lawsuits as discipline and order evaporate!

prised by an explosion (see “This is the mother of all failures,” Mary Kenny, *The Times*, June 13, 2005). Researcher Valerie Riche has observed, “Sex education bears the same relation to education as voodoo bears to medicine. It rests on faith, not facts.”

Many educators have swallowed the politically correct yet naïve notion of *multiculturalism*—that all cultures are of equal value. Yet cultures that condone oppression, murder, rape, ritual killings, voodoo, mysticism, ignorance and corruption *are not of the same value* as a culture that prizes honesty, reason, freedom, progress and informed faith in a real God. Terrorist bombings in London have alerted the British public that “multicultural Britain

any solid moral foundation for making decisions or guiding their lives. This leaves today’s students without any direction or purpose in life. Students who are not given a solid foundation in the lessons of history will repeat the mistakes of history. Young people who see no purpose in life, and find that living in the “fast lane” turns out to be empty, are prime candidates for suicide, unless they can see there is a better way.

Teachers of Good Things

The Bible admonishes parents, “Train up a child in the way he should go” (Proverbs 22:6; see also Deuteronomy 4:1–9; 6:1–9). Children are commanded to “honor” their parents (Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:1–4). When children are given this fundamen-

e to develop and thrive, parents and teachers need to set clear limits. Young people need to know where the danger zones are, and serious consequences. Children who are told that all values are shortchanged.

For decades, liberal educators have tried to stem the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and teen pregnancies by reasoning with kids, teaching increasingly explicit sex education classes in ever-lower grades, and providing free birth control devices and confidential advice about abortion to children. Yet sexual activity, disease and teen pregnancy have continued to increase! Statistics show that these “progressive” methods simply *do not work*. Trying to discourage sexual activity in 13-to-16-year-olds with classes that show them “How to be Good at Sex” is like pouring gasoline on a fire, then being sur-

is not working” (*The Daily Telegraph*, August 3, 2005). Teachers who claim that all values are relative—that there are no absolutes and no right or wrong, and that people create their own truth—are simply spouting nonsense! Long-time educator Vincent Ruggiero bluntly states, “When young people are denied meaningful moral education, the consequence is moral illiteracy” (see *Warning: Nonsense Is Destroying America*, Ruggiero, p. 132). Teachers who ridicule, refuse or are prohibited from teaching religiously based moral values actually create a *moral vacuum* that leaves students without

tal preparation at home, they will behave and learn in the classroom.

The Bible explains that adults should be “teachers of good things” (Titus 2:1–8) who clearly explain the “right” way (Isaiah 30:20–21). *Teachers* also have a vital role to play in the education of children. To enable young people to develop and thrive, parents and teachers need to set clear goals and reasonable limits. Young people need to know where the danger zones are, and how they can avoid serious consequences. Children who are told that all values are relative are being shortchanged. Young people

who never learn to respect authority wind up in prison. Those who treat promiscuous sex as fun without consequences eventually contract diseases that can be fatal, or can prevent them from ever having children. Parents and teachers, if they truly care, set limits and provide consequences so valuable lessons can be learned. These are biblical concepts that are still valid today (see Proverbs 13:24; 22:15; 23:13–14). Discipline is a vital aspect of the educational process and it must be administered with consistency and with love (Proverbs 22:10; Ephesians 6:4).

Governments can have a powerful effect on the education and development of children through laws affecting what messages are conveyed through the media. Educator Vincent Ruggiero comments, “If we are ever to solve this country’s social problems, we must acknowledge the moral bankruptcy of our time and the culpability, not only of the parents and teachers, but most of all the media. We must take responsibility for *creating an environment that nurtures morality in children and adults*... To pretend the Ten Commandments are somehow irrelevant to moral living is a *violation of common sense*” (Ruggiero, p. 152). When the laws of government support the biblical laws of God, the positive results will soon be evident in our schools and in our children!

Religion also has a crucial role to play in shaping the educational environment—a role that needs to be explained without apology. The Bible contains divinely revealed laws of morality, and answers to life’s big questions. Historians understand that “religion is *necessary* to morality” and that, “There is no significant

example in history... of a society successfully maintaining moral life without the aid of religion” (*The Lessons of History*, Durant, pp. 50–51). The values of true biblical religion (that we must not lie, kill, steal, commit adultery, etc.) are *absolute*, not relative, and they are universally applicable. The Bible *reveals* the true purpose of life (see Genesis 1:26–28; Romans 8:14–17; Revelation 5:10). When young people are deprived of an understanding of the purpose of life, they often see no reason to live. The Bible reveals that God has predicted, and is guiding, the outcome of history (Isaiah 44:6–7). Dr. Carl Henry points out that when educational institutions “forsook God as the integrating factor in history” they lost the Christian worldview of life (*Twilight of a Great Civilization*, Henry, pp. 88–89). This loss of essential knowledge is why many today have no idea *why* we exist, *why* our children are so angry and confused, *why* we are awash in social problems and *where* we are heading as a society.

The Real Significance

The chaos we are witnessing in classrooms today is no great mystery. Unruly, disaffected, self-centered and over-sexualized students are *the direct result* of policies pursued in the last 50 years by liberal educators who have attempted to discredit and discard the traditional Judeo-Christian values that provided the moral foundation of Western civilization. This liberal secular agenda has had *disastrous consequences* and underlies a myriad of social problems that now confront our culture. Misguided educators have removed the religious foundation

that underlies morality, and have abandoned education’s traditional emphasis on building character and developing the intellect. In doing so, they have succeeded in producing a generation of students who have *no* morals, *no* character, *no* aspirations toward excellence, *no* respect for law or authority, *no* respect for adults and *no* real hope in the future. While intellectuals puzzle over what has gone wrong, the Roman

Religion also has a crucial role to play in shaping the educational environment—a role that needs to be explained without apology.

scholar, Pliny the Elder, observed nearly 2,000 years ago, that “*what we do to our children, they will do to society*.” Liberal educators have discarded the foundational values of western civilization and created a rebellious and amoral generation that *now threatens to destroy* what is left of western culture! We have forgotten the warning of the Roman philosopher Seneca who said, “the time will come when our successors will wonder how we could have been ignorant of things so obvious” (Ruggiero, p. vii). All this has a sobering *historical* and *prophetic* significance!

In recent decades, historians have pointed to the disturbing parallels between the signs of decadence that appeared in the declining stages of ancient empires and the growing signs of decadence in our own culture. These *signs of decline* include rising crime and lawlessness, growing immorality, rising materialism, the declining influence of religion, “a preoccupation with self... the rise of ‘liberal opinion’... the loss of economic discipline and self-restraint... the decline in quality and relevance of education... a

weakening of the foundational principles that contributed to the greatness of the nation” (*When Nations Die*, Black, xviii). Focusing on America, Professor Black writes, “America has turned its back on its fundamental beliefs and its civic virtues... we are confronted by a level of social disintegration that exceeds anything we have ever experienced in this nation... we are being pressured by educators,

that after my death you will become utterly corrupt, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you. *And evil will befall you in the latter days*” (Deuteronomy 31:29). The Bible explains that God gave His laws to Israel so the nation could be a “light to the world” (see Deuteronomy 4:1–9). God said that if the Israelites obeyed His laws they would be blessed, but if they rejected His laws, they

the way of your paths” (Isaiah 3: 4–12). Hosea foretold, “My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge... *because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children*” (Hosea 4:6).

The moral chaos in disorderly classrooms today is a *consequence* of erroneous ideas that have permeated Western culture. In schools across our nations, *we are reaping what has been sown*,

cial role to play in shaping the educational environment—a role ned without apology.

intellectuals, and political elites into experimenting with new ideologies that are not only revolutionary but alien to our fundamental beliefs” (Black, pp. xix, 3). He continues, “We have every reason to worry about such things as multiculturalism, diversity, and political correctness... rising immorality and the signs of growing disrespect for human life... the collapse of law and order... **Conditions like these have contributed to the demise of nations throughout history...** Once, America was a beacon of integrity and virtue... the envy of the entire world... Today America is more of an object lesson to the world—an example of what happens to great nations *when they lose their vision and moral restraint*” (Black, pp. 3, 5). The same could be said of Britain and other nations of the western world.

What many do not realize is that these very conditions *were prophesied* long ago in the pages of the Bible. Just before the Israelites entered the Promised Land, God inspired Moses to warn the elders of Israel, “I know

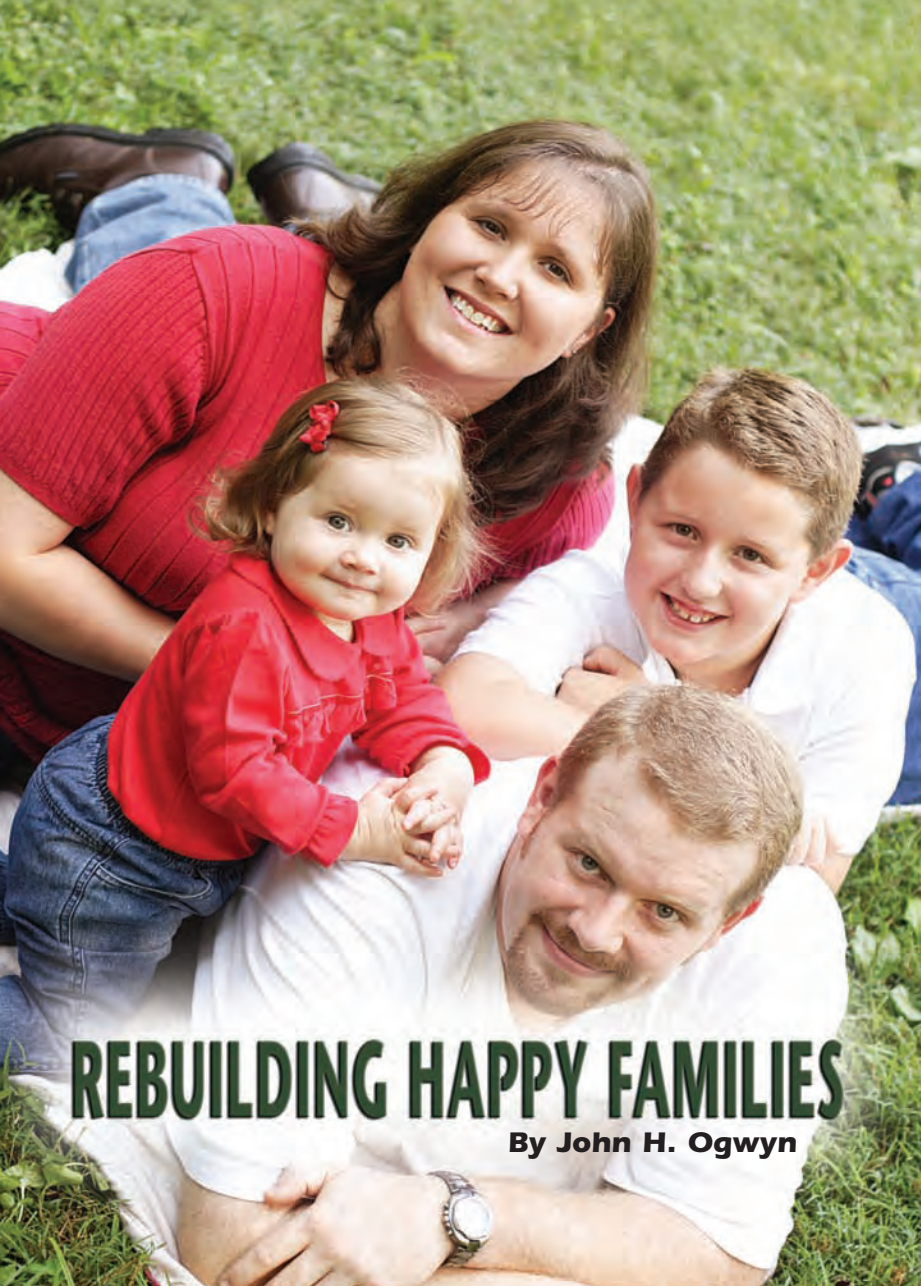
would suffer serious consequences (Deuteronomy 28). Regrettably, the Israelites repeatedly sinned and turned from God and His laws. The prophets catalogue their sins: forsaking God, despising His laws, drunkenness and debauchery, corrupting justice, and calling “evil good and good evil” (Isaiah 5:18–25). God warned that as a consequence of rejecting His laws, “I will give children to be their princes... the child will be *insolent* toward the elder... *children are their oppressors*, and women rule over them. O My people! Those who lead you cause you to err, and destroy

because we have *forgotten the real God* and drifted away from our Judeo-Christian foundation. Bible prophecies warn that God will correct His backsliding peoples severely in the years just ahead. Chaos in classrooms is the *hand-writing on the wall* for our degenerating culture, because we have followed the *wrong path* laid out by misguided educators who despised the word of God. The challenge facing Christian parents and educators today is to *recapture true values* that will provide the moral foundation for building Tomorrow’s World in the coming kingdom of God. ■

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REBUILDING HAPPY FAMILIES

By John H. Ogwyn

A family's health and happiness can be broken by alcoholism, physical abuse, sexual abuse—and even by wrong ideas about child-rearing. But broken families can be rebuilt, and Scripture provides a blueprint to show how this can be done!

Bob and Barbara seemed to have an ideal family. Their friends at church knew them as a handsome young couple with four attractive children. Bob was a skilled tradesman, and Barbara was a full-time homemaker. They lived in a nice home in a nice subdivision. All in all, they seemed to personify the “American dream” to most who knew them.

There was a darker side, however. Much of what their friends thought they knew about Bob and Barbara was an illusion. Though the couple kept up a good front for years, eventually cracks began to

appear in their façade. You see, Bob had a drinking problem—and it was growing steadily worse. It was the family secret.

As Bob's drinking increased, Barbara became more resentful, and the fights between them grew more frequent and intense. By the time Bob finally acknowledged that he had a problem, and sought help, Barbara was so overcome with bitterness, resentment and hurt that she no longer cared. Over the next several years, this “ideal family” came apart—with tragic results for each member. Their lives went from dream to nightmare.

This, of course, is not an isolated situation. A United States government report on alcoholism classified almost 18 million adults in the United States as problem drinkers. Of course, it is not merely the drinkers who have a problem. As in Bob's case, the problem drinker directly affects the lives of others, especially the children who grow up in that environment.

The patterns of how we function in life are developed in childhood. The most important aspects of what we believe about ourselves—and about the world around us—are formed by the lessons learned at home. There are millions of adults who grew up in alcoholic homes. Millions more grew up with other scars. According to Susan Froward, coauthor of *Betrayal of Innocence*, at least ten million American women have been incest victims. While these particular statistics are based upon the United States, similar rates are found in Britain, Canada and Australia.

As we look around our hurting world, we should recognize that no one comes from a perfect background. However, millions have grown up in circumstances that have left *particularly deep scars*. These scars will, if not addressed and healed, simply perpetuate the sins of the fathers onto the children—even to the third and fourth generations (see Numbers 14:18).

With so many coming from unhealthy family backgrounds, does

that mean that all of these millions have no chance for future happiness? Are you *automatically* doomed to repeat the problems of the family in which you grew up? Is it really possible to break the cycle and rebuild a healthy family?

Honestly Facing the Past

The problem, of course, is not that people set out with a goal of being unhappy. They simply do not know how to do the things that produce happy results! So many times, growing up in a deeply troubled family environment, children promise themselves that they will not put their own children through such traumas in the future. Yet just the opposite is usually the case. Problems are perpetuated. Why?

Much can be traced to the lessons and survival strategies we learn as children. The hurt, the fear and the resentments accumulated during childhood are carried into adulthood. Those feelings are all too often carried into new relationships. Those who, as children, never learned to trust will find it hard, if not impossible, to enjoy true intimacy in adulthood. Often, the source of this problem is that their parents never taught them how to relate to others (Proverbs 22:6).

To change, one must first face the past honestly, looking into the mirror of God's law (James 1:23–25). Truth is the gateway to real freedom. While we cannot choose our past, we can make choices about our future. Before we can go forward, we must face where we are in life and how we got there. By understanding the dynamics of our family system, we can come to understand things about ourselves—why we think and feel the way we do.

When a child grows up believing that his best will never be good enough, or that he must struggle to earn love, or that he is responsible for everyone else's happiness, he will have real problems in establishing healthy adult relationships.

Facing the past is not about blaming Mom and Dad—it is about becoming honest with ourselves. We can never work on a problem that we do not see or will not admit. Taking inventory of our own lives, including our feelings and the beliefs that underlie them, is crucial. If we want the future to be different from the past, we must specifically identify what we intend to do differently. Good intentions of “doing better” are not nearly enough. What *exactly* will we *do* differently? None of us can change in generalities, only in specifics!

Pretending that nothing is wrong does not make it so. We must not deceive ourselves (Jeremiah 17:9;

James 1:22). However, when we honestly face an issue, we can see it for what it is, and we can make choices. This is a first step in dealing with childhood wounds.

Forgiving and Letting Go

Terrible events leave terrible, deep scars. One of the hardest ways for us to respond to hurtful and unfair events is to let go of them. We often try to feel justified in holding on to resentments, blaming life's unfairness. In the long run, however, resentments cause the most hurt to *those who harbor them!*

The Bible is the world's best psychology book. The Creator, the one who designed the human heart and mind, authored it. In its pages are the stories of many real-life men and women, the choices they made, and the consequences of those choices.

One of the most tragic episodes recorded in scripture is the series of incidents that culminated in the rebellion of Absalom, son of King David. The story did not start with Absalom's rebellion, of course. It started almost ten years earlier when Absalom's sister Tamar was raped by her half-brother, Amnon. In the wake of this incident, Absalom seethed with a deep inner rage. He was furious about what had happened to his sister (2 Samuel 13).

After two years of holding this bottled-up rage, Absalom invited all of his brothers, including Amnon, to join him at his home for a meal. Having coaxed Amnon away from Jerusalem, Absalom killed him and fled the country. King David was devastated by the news. He had now lost two sons—one dead, and the other in self-imposed exile. For three years, there was no contact between the king and his estranged son. Then a ruse by Joab, who was a nephew as well as a close aide to King David, prompted the king to ask Absalom to return to Jerusalem. But even after Absalom's return, David would not spend time with his son, or even see him face to face. King David was so hurt by what Absalom had done that he could not bring himself to reconcile completely. Several more years passed, and Absalom grew increasingly resentful of his father.

Finally, Joab succeeded in breaking the logjam once again, and King David invited his son Absalom to visit him (2 Samuel 14:21). There was an outward reconciliation, but Absalom was now so consumed with resentment that he began to plot a revolution to seize his father's throne. When he thought the time was ripe, he struck. At first it seemed that he would be successful, but in the end his army was defeated in battle. Before the armies had clashed, King David had

instructed the soldiers not to hurt Absalom, but to “deal gently for my sake with the young man.” Those instructions were ignored, and Absalom was killed. David was devastated. “O my son Absalom—my son, my son Absalom—if only I had died in your place!” he cried. “O Absalom my son, my son” (2 Samuel 18:33).

This whole tragic account shows what can happen when we hold on to deep hurts and resentments. Were those hurts real and understandable? Of course they were! However, we can see how they had a *devastating effect* on those who held on to them.

Jesus Christ emphasized, again and again, the importance of forgiveness—of letting go of the resentment and hurt. Even as Christ was taken to be executed, He exercised unilateral forgiveness. Speaking of the soldiers who were carrying out His crucifixion, He said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Luke 23:34).

If you have come out of a painful background and have experienced deep hurt, one of the most important decisions you can make is to *let go* of the hurt and resentment. This is often hard to do, since we may consider ourselves entitled to those feelings because of what happened. Yet resentment is the source of most spiritual maladies and, when retained, is the root from which bitterness grows.

Face the past honestly. Acknowledge the hurt and loss. It is okay to grieve a loss, but then let it go. Whether to hold on to past hurts or to release them is your choice. Choose to forgive and to go forward.

Trust and Respect

Trust and respect are elements at the heart of healthy relationships. Hurtful experiences in a sick family environment undermine proper respect and damage the ability to trust. But why are these elements so vital, and what can be done to rebuild them?

In healthy families, good communication is one of the most important tools. Knowing others’ thoughts, ideas and feelings allows problems to be addressed and resolved. Using negative and hurtful words, and not listening attentively, will stifle attempts at communication. “But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife” (2 Timothy 2:23). Failure to show respect to other family members will undermine their willingness to express what is really on

their minds. No one wants to be held up to ridicule or belittled. We only really open up to those with whom we feel safe. A dysfunctional family is not a safe emotional environment. As a result, its members do not learn healthy communication skills.

If you grew up in such an environment, then you must learn new and different skills if your current family is to have a different atmosphere than your family

of origin. Much of this hinges on building an atmosphere of trust and respect (1 Peter 2:17; Hebrews 12:14). Trust is built up by consistently carrying through in many little things. People feel respect when they are paid attention to and treated with courtesy.

Your mate will never open up to you until he or she feels safe in doing so. How do you create this safe environment? First, you must

ensure that private comments are never repeated in a way that embarrasses the person who confided them to you (Proverbs 25:9). Also, confessions of inner fears or insecurities must never be saved up as ammunition to be thrown back in the face of the one who said it the next time there is a disagreement.

Where there are people, there will inevitably be conflict from time to time. But when an atmosphere of trust and respect prevails in the home, that conflict will be resolved in healthy ways. Concentrate on building trust and showing respect by both your actions and your words, even in times of conflict (Philippians 2:3). With time, there will be tangible results. None of us can make someone else change, but we can choose to make changes in our own lives.

Achieving Balance

“Balance,” it has been said, “is a razor’s edge!” Overcompensating—going from one extreme to another—seems to be the human tendency. Substituting different extremes does not promote balance.

Some family systems are so rigid and controlling that they stifle family members. Others are so loose and permissive that they produce a sense of chaos. Neither of these is a healthy balance. If one mate is too strict, lenience from the other mate does not produce balance. A structured environment, on the other hand, produces proper balance in the home, in which each family member is still able to flourish as an individual.

In unhealthy families, the leader either abdicates his responsibility to guide or else seeks to control all



the other members. What is a healthy leadership style? The early New Testament Church provides an interesting example. After all, the Church is called the “household of God” (Ephesians 2:19) and has many of the characteristics of a family.

From Acts 6:1 we learn that the number of the disciples in Jerusalem had multiplied greatly. Next, we learn that problems arose with certain ones feeling that their needy were being neglected. How did the leadership respond? They could have called everyone together and “chewed them out” for voicing complaints. They could have become defensive, responding that they were doing the best that they could, and putting a guilt trip on those who complained. They did neither.

Instead, they listened to what was being said! After listening, they called everyone together and established the parameters of a solution. They next delegated, to those closer to the situation, the responsibility for filling in details. In this case, the problem was resolved by preparing a list of individuals who met the qualifications the apostles had enumerated. The result was received positively, and the Church grew even more (v. 7).

The apostles avoided making several of the most common mistakes that cause people to be frustrated with their leaders. They did not stifle communication by becoming angry with those who brought them unwelcome news. Neither did they frustrate the Church by going to extremes of either failing to respond and provide leadership or else trying to micro-manage and control every facet of the solution.

This is a clear picture of how healthy leadership works, and how it applies to the home just as much as to the Church or to other contexts. Listening, establishing parameters and guidelines, and then giving people room to work out specifics are all-important keys to balanced leadership.

A dysfunctional family is an unbalanced environment. Rebuilding healthy families that function properly always involves a restoration of balance. Children must be given guidelines and parameters of acceptable behavior. However, within those boundaries, they should be allowed to develop their own individual tastes and interests.

Families should neither be disconnected and uninterested in one another's lives, nor enmeshed and entangled in each other's lives. There is a healthy balance in maintaining interest and involvement

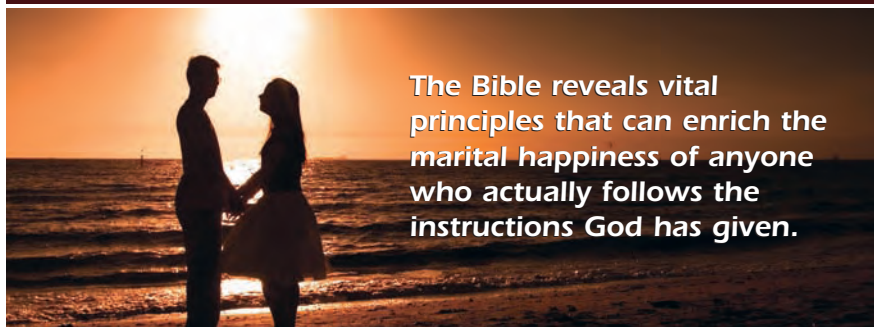
while still giving others room to be individuals and resolve problems. The Creator God said, “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh” (Genesis 2:24). A new family unit was to be created. Of course, loving children will continue to honor and respect their parents, and loving parents will remain deeply interested in the welfare of children and their new families.

Unhealthy, dysfunctional families perpetuate themselves—but not because people consciously seek them. They persist because people lack the knowledge, the skills and the will to build something better. How, then, can you guarantee that your future will be different than your past?

First, you must choose to acknowledge the past honestly, and then to *let it go*. You can make a choice to turn loose your hurt, and replace it with forgiveness. Forgiveness, after all, is a choice! Instead of being controlled by fears and insecurities developed over a lifetime, begin to develop a deep, personal relationship with your Creator. When you choose to be guided by trust in God, rather than fear of people and circumstances, you will find whole new vistas of life opened to you. Seek to build trust and respect into all of your relationships by giving respect and showing yourself trustworthy. Finally, seek balance by learning how to be involved without being enmeshed.

We live in a world of hurting and broken family relationships. Yet, regardless of your background, it is possible to rebuild a healthy family. Your Creator has provided the instruction book, but you must put His instructions into practice to gain new knowledge and new skills. Seek help and go forward. The result will be worth all of the hard work ahead! ■

God's Plan for Happy Marriage



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Business as Usual on Bourbon Street

The rebuilding of New Orleans, called “the greatest urban renewal project in American history,” is currently underway. New Orleans mayor Ray Nagin and other leaders are faced with an unprecedented task—and opportunity—of rebuilding a whole city from the ground up.

Public officials are admirably trying hard to take input from many different community sources, such as developers, preservationists, businessmen and government and neighborhood leaders. But there is one source many are overlooking—the great God who created all, and gave every human being life and breath. What does God say? What would God’s blueprint for a rebuilt New Orleans look like? Would God really want to resurrect those features of New Orleans that made it such a symbol of decadence and self-indulgence?

Already, while much of New Orleans remains uninhabitable, the “French Quarter”—symbol of the city’s unsavory reputation—has made a remarkable comeback. As one newspaper reported: “Each night, there’s a little more beat to the bawdy heart of New Orleans, the stretch of bars, restaurants, strip clubs and stores specializing in T-shirts with X-rated messages that is one of the city’s strongest tourist lures... If such merry-

making seems incongruous in a city hit by one of the nation’s worst natural disasters, one that took hundreds of lives, those who are trying to kick-start a revival welcome any signs of comeback” (“Bourbon Street survives storm,” *Appeal-Democrat*, October 2, 2005).

Is the “comeback” of commercialized fornication and lust really a step in the right direction? The Bible foretells of a Great Tribulation, in which the United States will be conquered and its major cities destroyed as a result of its people’s sins. The prophet Isaiah warns: “Cry aloud, spare not; lift up your voice like a trumpet; tell My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. Yet they seek Me daily, and delight to know My ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and did not forsake the ordinance of their God” (Isaiah 58:1–2). Adultery, fornication and trafficking in sexual sins are the scourge of any nation, and a source of its internal decay and eventual fall. Though many in the U.S. think of their country as a “Christian nation,” a tribulation of unprecedented scale is coming unless people repent of their sins (Jeremiah 30:7).

But what about those who *do* repent now—who respond to Isaiah’s warning?

What about *you*? When Christ returns to establish His kingdom on the earth, one role He will give to the converted, changed and Spirit-led saints will be to rebuild those cities that were destroyed in the Great Tribulation! Notice what Isaiah wrote: “The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. Those from among you shall build the old waste places; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, the Restorer of Streets to Dwell In” (Isaiah 58:11–12). Those cities will be built based on God’s blueprint!

Many heroic efforts to rebuild New Orleans are taking place. How tragic it will be if a rejuvenated New Orleans just reappears as another tribute to human lust and uncontrolled desire. Without national repentance, more destruction and devastation will surely come. Sadly, most will not repent, but *you* can heed the warning and escape the curses yet coming on this world’s sin-filled cities. In fact, if you obey God, genuinely commit your life to Him, and turn to Him with all your heart, you can have a part in rebuilding those cities!

—Rod McNair



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I recently ordered online some of your booklets and a free subscription to your *Bible Study Course*. One of the booklets deals with the Christian Sabbath, an issue which has deluded me for quite some time, as I knew something was wrong somewhere. I could not find any instruction in the Bible which supports the present Sunday Sabbath except the common attribution to the Day of Jesus' resurrection. I am very grateful to you and *Tomorrow's World* for opening the eyes of people like myself to the truth of God's word.

R. T., Manchester, United Kingdom

Thank you very much for your interesting and informative literature. I really enjoy receiving *Tomorrow's World*, and look forward to receiving each and every issue you send me.

V. R., Tacarigua, Trinidad & Tobago

We want to thank you for your magazines and the free literature you send to us. We have just finished the *Bible Study Course*. We are now in our early eighties, married for sixty years this month. Your literature and your ministry on television have really helped to study Revelation and see how much it is connected with the prophets of the Old Testament.

J. M., San Augustine, TX

The *Bible Study Course* has been great. It is a good learning tool. I have also read your booklets and magazines from cover to cover. It is hard to wait until the next one arrives! I have learned so much.

C. B., Chicago Heights, IL

I had been given two of your magazines and thoroughly enjoyed them. I since passed them on and am asking now how I may obtain further copies. I have the booklet, *How God Intervenes in World Affairs*. Wow! I have been through it several times and learn more each time. I would not think of passing it on as it really hits exactly what is going

on in our world today and makes Revelation, at last, easier to understand. I would be interested in any reading material you may have to send.

V. C., Boise, ID

I take three other Sabbath-keeping magazines, and your magazine is the best one of all, especially on the end-time prophecies.

P. V., Benton, IL

I am writing to thank you for the *Bible Study Course*, the booklets, and the magazines I receive. The learning experience has been great. All your material has brought me closer to God with more understanding of the Bible and of the world. Your work has truly helped me see families, friends, problems and the life of others in a different way.

J. J., Farmville, NC

Thank you for sending me the reprint article "Is God Really a Trinity?" by John H. Ogwyn. It was very helpful. I shared the article with a couple of my friends, and they thought it to be more believable than believing in the Trinity. I appreciate your literature very much, as not too many people talk about prophecy these days. Everybody is just concerned about the present, and they miss out on seeing the real truth. Keep up the good work, informing us of the good news of things to come.

D. A., Niagara Falls, ON, Canada

Thank you so very much for your publications and information on the Holy Bible. I have studied for a long time, and have always wanted to find those who feel as I do, and lo and behold, I have finally found you! I love the way that your teachings are so bold, and that you stand behind what you say by using the Bible as your reference. It is a shame that mankind has been led astray these many centuries because of Satan. I want to thank you all for your faith in God.

J. F., Zeeland, MI

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

A New World Is Coming! (Continued from page 8)

God's laws? Please be honest with yourself and *think about it!* What kind of "Christianity" have you been practicing?

As we have seen, Jesus Christ will be the coming King over a literal **government** to be set up on this earth. Under Him, as noted above, the *Twelve Apostles* will also be judging or **ruling** over the twelve nations of Israel. Directly under Christ, supervising the Twelve Apostles, will be King David of Israel, the "beloved" servant of God who will be restored to his old position as **king** over the entire twelve nations of Israel. "David My servant *shall be king* over them, and they shall all have one shepherd; they shall also walk in My judgments and observe My statutes, and do them" (Ezekiel 37:24).

Note also that under Christ's and David's direction, the people will walk in God's judgments and observe His "statutes." Are you *familiar* with God's statutes? They reveal the "*way of life*" that the saints will be teaching the entire world in a few years. These "statutes"—as *magnified* by Christ and the apostles in the New Testament—will be the basic laws of the government of God that will be set up under Jesus Christ. They are all based upon, and magnify in detail, the Ten Commandments. In this way, as we have seen, the "law" will go forth from Jerusalem—where Jesus Christ will have His **world headquarters** in the coming government!

The prophet Micah basically repeats this point: "Now it shall come to pass in the *latter days* that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of

the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it. Many nations 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 the **law** shall go forth, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and rebuke strong nations afar off; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Micah 4:1–3).

A WAY of Life

So an entire *way of life* will be taught and practiced in Tomorrow's World. It will certainly be based squarely upon the Ten Commandments—God's great spiritual **law**. Nation will not be fighting nation anymore, for people will no longer "**learn**" war—nor even the *attitude* of harming or killing one another.

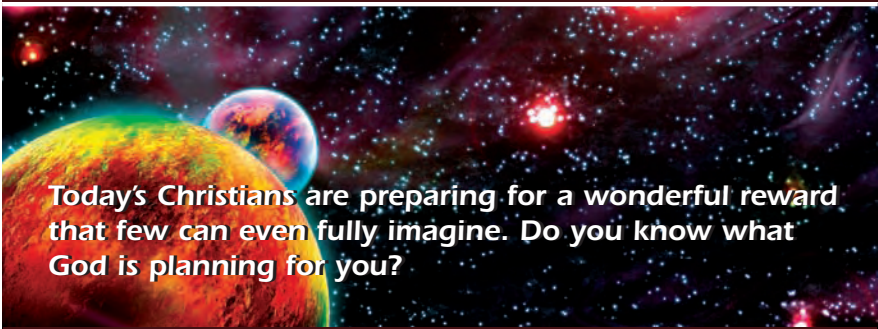
Eventually, as Christ's Kingdom comes fully into force over the rebellious nations, world **peace** will break out in a way that has never been experienced in human history! *No more war!* No more **huge**

government taxes to support immense military and police establishments, for people will not be robbing, raping or killing one another anymore! Under His rule, after the *suffering* endured through the coming Tribulation, God will give His people "teachers" who will help them and guide them *in person* to learn His ways: "And though the LORD gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, *yet your teachers will not be moved into a corner anymore, but your eyes shall see your teachers*. Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left" (Isaiah 30:20–21).

Will you be among these divine teachers—a resurrected "saint"—in the coming Family of God, assisting Jesus Christ in ruling this world and bringing *peace* and joy?

The *blessings* of Christ's coming government are described in some detail in Isaiah 11: "There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.... But with righteousness He shall judge the

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poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked” (vv. 1–2, 4). Later in this passage, God describes how “the wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them” (v. 6). Here we find described a magnificent society where the great God has intervened to put a peaceful nature *even into the animals*! So God tells us, “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the **knowledge** of the LORD as the waters cover the sea” (v. 9).

God will modify the earth’s “natural laws” at that time so that *good weather* prevails, so that people are able to *prosper* and so that a sense of deep inner *peace* and *security* will prevail. Isaiah 35:1 tells us, “The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them; and the

desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.” Later: “Then the eyes of the **blind** shall be opened and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert” (vv. 5–6). At that time, God will supernaturally *heal* all kinds of sickness and disease. Therefore, the **billions** of dollars spent—and the constant worry, suffering and quiet agony suffered by the peoples of the world because of continuing sickness and disease—will come to an **end**.

God will even change the “wild” nature of the animals. “No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it; it shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there, and the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with **singing**, with everlasting **joy** on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (vv. 9–10).

Will you be willing to understand these **scores** of verses making clear the *way of life* and the **truth** about God’s coming Kingdom? When Jesus Christ instructed us how to pray, He said: “In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. *Your kingdom come*. Your **will** be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:9–10).

In Tomorrow’s World, all people on the earth will finally begin to learn God’s *true* religion. For it is a *way of life* they will need to **understand**. And it will bring, as we have seen, “everlasting **joy**” when it is finally and truly established.

When you get down on your knees, and pray, “Your **Kingdom** come,” you need to understand the *meaning* of that Kingdom—Christ’s coming government and its **reality**. Then you can begin to do your part to **prepare** yourself to enter that Kingdom, become a full son of God, and in doing so fulfill the **purpose** for which you were born! ■

Who Is Burning in Hell?

(Continued from page 13)

torment and anguish just before his destruction. The incorrigibly wicked will suffer the torment of knowing their fate before their final execution. But a loving and merciful God will put them out of their misery for all eternity. They will be totally burned up and destroyed forever, annihilated in the lake of fire—a fire that will spread over the whole earth!

Yes, the whole earth will be purified by fire. “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness” (2 Peter 3:10–11).

Those who have sealed their own fate—who have determined never to repent of their evil attitude and nature—will be totally burned up and will become ashes!

They will not be tormented forever. They will receive their eternal **punishment**, not eternal **punishing**. Their death, their eternal punishment, will last for eternity!

This is what the Bible teaches. The incorrigibly wicked will be totally destroyed—annihilated. But they will not be destroyed capriciously, or unfairly, or because God predestined them never to hear Christ’s message. As we have seen, no one can be saved without accepting the message of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12). Through the White Throne Judgment, those human beings who have not previously had their minds opened by God’s truth will have their first genuine opportunity for salvation.

So, who is burning in hell? By now you know the answer. The answer is: “No one!” There is a future lake of fire that will burn up, consume, and annihilate the wicked forever. That fire will purify the earth for the new heavens and earth promised in Revelation 21. We can all be thankful for God’s justice, fairness, and plan of salvation through Christ. There is judgment coming, but there is also hope for many of your friends and relatives you thought may have been lost! ■

Could You Be Deceived?

(Continued from page 2)

lar topic is introduced *in context*—that is, how it fits into the overall pattern of the book and of the topic being discussed. And this is the *primary method* undoubtedly used by most of God's servants in New Testament times—and for at least a few centuries afterward—because, for centuries, there *were no concordances* available!

The Apostle Paul, for instance, may have had only *part* of a scroll of Isaiah, or some other book, to study. Also, in his day, much of what we call the “New Testament” had not yet even been written. So, when he tells us to *study the scriptures*, he meant primarily the Old Testament at that time. Yet many professing Christians are taught to be “suspicious” of the Old Testament. *What a shame!* For the Old Testament was not “done away.” It merely has to be understood in the light of the *magnification* of God's law and of its meaning, as given through Jesus Christ and the apostles in the New Testament (Isaiah 42:21).

If you want to understand what Christ taught, and to see how it does not “do away” with the Old Testament, my suggestion would be to simply start at the beginning of the New Testament and *read straight through* the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and the book of Acts *just like* you would read any other book. This will certainly give you the true “gospel” as taught and practiced by Jesus Christ and the original apostles! Then it will be very hard for “liberal” ministers and even heretics to “fool” you with some paganized conception of God or of the Christian way of life—a false conception that may have been developed during the Dark Ages or since!

From my own experience as a minister of Jesus Christ for 53 years, I can tell you that those who “slack

off” in actually *studying* their Bibles are affected profoundly! Please ask God to *help* you, *motivate* you and *guide* you as you study His inspired word. Remember, you are reading what is, in effect, the “mind of God”—the *revelation* from your Creator telling you *why* you are here, explaining *what life* is all about and revealing the *way* to eternal life. Remember that Jesus Himself emphasized our need to “feed” on Christ: “As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who *feeds* on Me will live because of Me” (John 6:57).

Later, Jesus said, “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. *The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life*” (v. 63).

Part of the magnificent legacy left by God's servant and our dear brother, Mr. John Ogwyn, who died last year, is the extremely helpful *Bible Study Course* that he authored. This course is **not** complicated or difficult to understand. But it does lead you through key issues in the Bible in an organized way, giving you specific information that you might have *great difficulty* figuring out on your own—and all of it easily provable from the pages of your own Bible! I strongly encourage **all** of you who have not done so to sign up for this course. Just call us or write us at the office nearest you, listed below at the end of this Personal. Ask for enrollment in our *Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course*. It will be sent absolutely **free**—as is all our literature.

True Christianity—the teachings and examples of Jesus and the apostles—has certainly been “under attack” for a long time! If *you*, personally, will diligently *study* the Bible to see what it actually says, you will be able to see clearly through all the “smoke and mirrors” of Satan's deception, and come to **know** the Truth that God inspired to be given to mankind through the pages of the Bible. As Jesus said, “You shall know the truth, and the *truth shall make you free*” (John 8:32).



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INTERNATIONAL:

—AUSTRALIA

NSW, Sydney: Nine Network—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am
NSW, Willoughby: Nine Network—SUN 5:00 am
QLD, Brisbane: Nine Network—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am
 Bris31-Ch31, SUN 11:00 pm
SA, Adelaide: Nine Network—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am
VIC, Melbourne: Nine Network—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am
 MCTC—Ch 31, SUN 11:30 pm
WA, Perth: Access 31—Ch 31, SUN 9:30 am

—BARBADOS

St. Michael: CBC—Ch 8, SUN 9:30 am

—CANADA

ON, Toronto: Vision—SUN 5:30 pm ET; MON-FRI 3:00 am ET
ON, Toronto: Christian Channel—Ch Cable, SUN 9:30 am

—JAMAICA

Kingston: TVJ—Ch 7, 9, 11 & 13, SUN 9:00 am

—NEW ZEALAND

Nationwide: PRIME TELEVISION—SUN 8:30 am

—PHILIPPINES

Borongan: Borongan Cable—Ch 4, SAT 3:00 pm
Naga City: PBN—Ch 5, SUN 8:00 am

—SOUTH AFRICA

Randburg: CSN—SUN 5:30 pm

—TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

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

—UNITED KINGDOM AND NW EUROPE

United Kindom: SKY-TV—Ch 678, SUN 10:00 am;
 MON-FRI 1:30 am UTC

—EUROPE, NORTH AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST:

Europe, North Africa, Middle East: Hotbird 6—Ch 811,
 SUN 10:00 am; MON-FRI 1:30 am UTC

UNITED STATES:

AK, Anchorage: GCI—Ch 16, SAT 10:00 pm
AL, Birmingham: Bright House—Ch 4, THUR 2:30 pm
AL, Troy/Montgomery: WRJM—Ch 67, SUN 6:30 am
AR, Fayetteville: KNWA—Ch 51, SUN 6:30 am
AR, Fayetteville: Access TV—Ch 8, SUN 8:30 pm
AR, Fort Smith: KFTA—Ch 24, SUN 6:30 am
AR, Little Rock: KASN—Ch 38, SAT 8:00 am
AZ, Lake Havasu City: KLUH—Ch 45, SUN 10:30 am
AZ, Phoenix: Access—Ch 22, TUE 9:00 pm
AZ, Prescott: Cable—Ch 13, SAT 5:30 pm; SUN 6:30 am
AZ, Tucson: Access—Ch 73, SAT 2:00 pm; SUN 11:30 am
CA, Eureka: Cox—Ch 10, MON 8:00 pm
CA, Garden Grove: Time Warner—Ch 6, SUN 9:30 am
 & 6:30 pm
CA, Glendora: Adelphia—Ch 3/99, TUE 7:00 pm
CA, Modesto: Community Media—Ch 8, TUE 3:00 pm
CA, North Orange County: Adelphia—Ch 95/97/98, SUN 3:30 pm
CA, Orange County: Cox—Ch 96, SUN 2:00 am
CA, Sacramento: RCCTV—Ch 19, MON 5:30 pm
CA, San Diego: Cox—Ch 18 & 23, THUR 6:00 pm
CA, San Francisco: Access TV—Ch 29, THUR 7:30 pm
CA, San Jose: Community TV—Ch 15A, SAT 11:30 pm
CA, Sonora: TCCCA—Ch 8, SUN 8:00 pm
CA, Turlock: Charter—Ch 2, MON 8:00 pm
CT, Enfield: Comcast—Ch 15, THUR 6:30 pm
CT, Naugatuck: Tele-Media—Ch 10, TUE 9:30 pm
FL, Gainesville: Cox—Ch 55, SUN 8:00 pm
FL, Ocala: Cox—Ch 71, SUN 10:00 am
FL, Tampa: WTTA—Ch 38, SUN 8:00 am
GA, Atlanta: AIB—Cable, THUR 9:30 pm; SAT 1:30 am
GA, Atlanta: PTV—Ch 24, FRI 2:00 pm
GA, Macon: Cox Cable—Ch 18, SUN 5:00 pm;
 TUE 7:30 am; FRI 2:00 pm
HI, Lihue: Ho'Ike—Ch 12, MON 1:30 pm
IA, Davenport: Mediacom—Ch 19, MON 4:30 pm; WED 8:30 am
IA, Des Moines: Mediacom—Ch 15, SAT 10:00 am;
 SUN 11:00 am
IA, Dubuque: TCI of Iowa—Ch 16, THUR 8:00 pm;

MON 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm; TUE 10:00 pm; WED 2:00 pm
ID, Boise: TVTV—Ch 11, SAT 10:00 pm; SUN 12:00 pm
ID, Pocatello: Vision—Ch 12, WED 2:30 pm; FRI 1:00 pm
IL, Bloomington: Insight—Ch 20, SUN 1:00 pm;
 MON 10:00 pm
IL, Chicago: WGN—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am
IL, Moline: MediaCom—Ch 75, MON-WED 2:00 pm; THUR
 6:00 pm; FRI 3:00 pm; SAT & SUN 2:00 pm
IL, Peoria: Insight, Ch 20, SUN 7:30 pm
IN, Bloomington: CATS—Ch 3, MON 5:30 pm
KS, Chanute: Cablevision—Ch 5, SUN 7:30 am; TUE 5:30 pm
LA, Latonia: PEG 17—Ch 17, WED 5:30 pm; THUR 12:00 am
LA, Lexington: Ch 14, Check Local Listing
LA, Louisville: Insight—Ch 16, SAT 12:00 am
LA, Baton Rouge: KZUP—Ch 44, SUN 8:00 am
LA, Lafayette: KATC—Ch 3, SUN 9:00 am
LA, Shreveport: KSHV—Ch 45, SUN 8:30 am
MA, Malden: Access TV—Ch 3, SUN 11:00 am
MD, Rockville: Community TV—Ch 19, THUR 5:00 pm
MD, Westminster: Adelphia—Ch 19, THUR & FRI 10:00 am
ME, Auburn: GFTV—Ch 11, SAT 9:00 am; SUN 8:00 pm
ME, Brunswick: Cable 7—Ch 7, SAT 8:30 am; SUN 6:30 am
MI, Southfield: Comcast—Ch 7, SUN 7:30 am
MI, Traverse City: TCTV2—Ch 2, SUN 5:30 pm
MN, Bird Island: BICC—Ch 7, MON 6:30 pm; WED 6:30 pm
MN, Duluth: Public Access—Ch 24, SAT 11:00 am; SUN 7:00 pm
MN, Hutchinson: HCVN—Ch 10, FRI 4:00 pm; TUE 4:00 pm
MN, Minneapolis: Metro Cable—Ch 6, SAT 8:30 pm
MN, Minneapolis: MTN—Ch 75, THUR 6:30 pm
MN, Minneapolis: NW Community—Ch 19, SAT 10:30 pm;
 SUN 4:30 am, 10:30 am & 4:30 pm
MN, Roseville: CTV—Ch 15, TUE 8:00 pm; WED 4:00 am & 12:00 pm
MN, St. Paul: SPNN—Ch 14, SUN 8:30 pm
MO, Joplin: KOAM—Ch 7, SUN 7:00 am
MO, Kansas City: KCWE—Ch 29, SUN 8:00 am
MO, Kansas City: Time Warner—Ch 4, SUN 10:00 pm
MO, Springfield: KSPR—Ch 33, SUN 8:30 am
MO, St. Charles: Charter—Ch 47, SUN 9:30 am & 9:00 pm
MO, St. Louis: Double Helix—Ch 22, MON 4:00 pm
MS, Jackson: Time Warner—Ch 18, SUN 10:00 am; WED 4:00 pm
MS, Jackson: WAPT—Ch 16, SUN 8:30 am
NC, Burlington: Time Warner—Ch 5/10, SUN 9:00 pm
NC, Charlotte: INSP—Ch Multi, SAT 1:00 am
NC, Charlotte: WHKY—Ch 14/19, MON 7:30 pm
NC, Greensboro: GCTV—Ch 8, SAT 7:30 am; SUN 8:00 pm
NC, Wilmington: Time Warner—Ch 4, WED 10:00 pm
NE, Omaha: KPTM—Ch 42, SUN 8:00 am
NH, Hanover: CATV—Ch 6, SUN 6:00 pm;
 MON 12:00 am & 6:00 am & 12:00 pm; THUR 7:00 pm;
 FRI 1:00 am & 7:00 am & 1:00 pm
NJ, East Windsor: Comcast—Ch 27, WED 5:30 pm
NJ, Oakland: Cablevision—Ch 76, SUN 11:30 am; Thur 5:00 pm
NJ, Trenton: Comcast—Ch 26, MON 10:00 pm
NM, Albuquerque: CCC27—Ch 27, SUN 6:30 pm
NM, Rio Rancho: CABLE ONE—Ch 51, THUR 7:00 pm
NV, Carson City: Access TV—Ch 10, SAT 9:00 pm
NV, Gardnerville: Community Access—Ch 26, SAT 3:30
 am & 3:30 pm; SUN 3:30 am & 3:30 pm
NV, Reno/Sparks: SNCT—Ch 30/16, SUN 8:30 pm
NY, Albany: Time Warner—Ch 18, THUR 5:00 pm
NY, Batavia: Time Warner—Ch 19, TUE 5:30 pm
NY, Binghamton: Time Warner—Ch 4, FRI 5:00 pm
NY, Brookhaven: Cablevision—Ch 20, SAT 9:00 am
NY, Brooklyn: BCAT—Ch 56/69, SUN 7:30 pm
NY, Canandaigua: FLTV—Ch 12, SUN 11:00 am
NY, Elmira & Corning: Time Warner—Ch 1, SUN 8:00 am
NY, Fairport: FACT—Ch 15, SUN 7:30 am
NY, Hauppauge: Cablevision—Ch 20, SAT 9:00 am
NY, Irondequoit: ICAT—Ch 15, SUN 7:30 pm;
 WED 11:30 am & 7:30 pm
NY, Ithaca: Pegasus—Ch 13, SAT 8:00 pm; SUN 7:30 am & 1:30 pm
NY, Manhattan: MNN—Ch 67/110, FRI 11:00 am
NY, Oneida: Community Access—Ch 99, THUR 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
NY, Oneonta: Time Warner—Ch 23, WED 8:30 pm
NY, Queens: QPTV—Ch 34/35, SUN 1:00 pm; TUE 6:30 pm
NY, Riverhead: Cablevision—Ch 20, MON 4:30 pm
NY, Rochester: Community TV—Ch 15, SAT 10:00 am; SUN 9:30 am
NY, Staten Island: CTV—Ch 34, SUN 8:00 pm; TUE 12:00 pm
NY, Syracuse: Community Access—Ch 98, SUN 7:30 pm
NY, Utica: Adelphia—Ch 3, MON 9:00 pm
NY, Woodbury: Cablevision—Ch 20, WED 5:00 am
OH, Centerville: MVCC—Ch 23, FRI 2:30 pm
OH, Cincinnati: Media Bridges—Ch 8 & 24, SUN 12:00 am;
 TUE 12:30 pm
OH, Dayton: DSTV—Ch 12, SAT 3:30 AM; TUE 11:00 am

OH, Fairborn: CAC—Ch 23, TUE 12:00 pm
OK, Tulsa: KTFQ—Ch 41, SAT 12:30 am
OR, Ashland: RVTY—Ch 15/31/95, SUN 10:00 pm
OR, Portland: MCTV—Ch 11, SUN 12:30 pm
PA, Johnstown: Atlantic Broadband—Ch 9, MON 10:00 pm
PA, Philadelphia: Urban—Ch 5, THUR 9:00 pm; SUN 5:30 pm
PA, Sayre: Time Warner—Ch 18, MON-FRI 5:00 pm
RI, Providence: WPXQ—Ch 69, MON 11:30 am
SC, North Charleston: Comcast—Ch 78, SUN 8:00 am & 12:00 am
TN, Chattanooga: WDEF—Ch 12, SUN 8:30 am
TN, Knoxville: WVLT—Ch 8, SUN 6:30 am
TN, La Follette: WLAF—Ch 12, TUE 10:30 pm
TN, Memphis: WPTY—Ch 24, SUN 6:30 am
TN, Nashville: WZTV—Ch 17, SUN 7:00 am
TX, Austin: Community Access—Ch 11, WED 6:30 am
TX, Corpus Christi: Time Warner—Ch 10, SUN 10:30 am;
 WED 8:30 am
TX, Dallas: Community Television—Ch 14b, SAT 1:00 pm;
 SUN 11:00 am
TX, Dallas: KFWD-TV—Ch 52, SUN 8:00 am
TX, Lufkin: KTRE—Ch 9, SUN 6:30 am
TX, Midland: KMID—Ch 2, SUN 9:00 am
TX, San Antonio: Time Warner—Ch 20, SAT 9:00 am
TX, Temple: KPLE—Ch 31/45, SUN 7:30 pm
TX, Tyler: KLTW—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am
VA, Charlottesville: Adelphia—Ch 13, MON 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm
VA, Chesterfield: Comcast—Ch 6, THUR 6:30 pm
VA, Fairfax: FPA—Ch 10, MON 12:00 pm
VA, Roanoke: WDRL—Ch 24/54, SUN 7:00 am
VA, Virginia Beach: Cox—Ch 71 & 74, SAT 8:30 am
VT, Bennington: CAT—Ch 15, WED 9:30 am & 12:00 am;
 THUR 12:00 am & 9:30 pm; SAT 8:00 am & 4:30 pm
VT, Manchester: Adelphia—Ch 15, FRI 11:00 pm; SAT 11:00 am;
 SUN 11:00 am & 11:00 pm; MON 11:00 am & 11:00 pm; TUE 11:00 am
VT, Montpelier: Community Access—Ch 15, TUE 8:30 pm;
 WED 2:30 pm
VT, Richmond: Community TV—Ch 15, SUN 2:00 am &
 9:00 am & 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm; MON 7:00 am & 1:00 pm
VT, Springfield: SAPA TV—Ch 8, THUR 10:00 pm; MON 12:00 pm
WA, Everett: Comcast—Ch 77, WED 4:30 pm
WA, Kennewick: Charter—Ch 13/99, SUN 8:00 pm; TUE 8:00 pm
WA, Seattle: TCI—Ch 29, SUN 9:00 am
WA, Spokane: AT&T—Ch 14, MON 8:00 pm
WA, Vancouver: FVCT—Ch 11, SUN 7:30 pm
WI, Wausau: Charter—Ch 10, THUR 9:00 pm; FRI 7:30 am
WY, Casper: KTWQ—Ch 2, SUN 10:00 am
WY, Cheyenne: KLWY—Ch 27, SUN 6:00 am

RADIO STATIONS:

Argentina, Bahia Blanca: Vida—107.7 FM, WED 10:00 am;
 THUR 8:00 pm; SAT 2:00 pm
Argentina, Buenos Aires: La Nueva Radio—650 AM, SUN 8:30 am;
 WED 12:00 pm
Argentina, Rio Grande: Radio FM Aire Libre—96.3 FM, SAT 8:00 pm
Colombia, Medellin: 1350 AM, SAT 10:30 am
Costa Rica, San Jose: Radio La Gigante—800 AM, SUN 8:00 am
Grand Canary Islands: Radio Emisora—93.6 FM, SAT 10:30 am
Martinique: Radio Banlieue-Relax—103.4 FM, SUN 6:15 am
Peru, Lima: Radio Altura—97.7 FM, SAT 7:00 am; SUN 1:00 pm
Philippines, Cebu City: DYLA—909 AM, SUN 6:00 am
Philippines, Davao City: DXUM—See Local Listing
Philippines, Manila: DWBL—1242 AM, THUR 10:30 pm;
 SUN 3:30 pm
Philippines, Ozamiz City: DXOC—1494 AM, SUN 5:00 am
USA, La Follette, TN: WLAF—1450 AM, SAT 3:00 pm

• **Canada**
 VISION—SUN 5:30 pm ET; MON-FRI 3:00 am ET

• **Nationwide Cable**
 WGN—SUN 6:00 am ET
 INSPIRATION NETWORK—SAT 1:00 am ET

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VISION, Canada: SUN 5:30 pm ET; MON–FRI 3:00 am ET

NEW TELEVISION STATIONS:

CA, Hollywood: Comcast—Ch 24, & 27 SUN 8:00 am & 11:00 am

CA, Livermore: Comcast—Ch 26, THUR 2:30 pm

CA, Redding: Access—Ch 11, THUR 7:00 pm

LA, New Orleans: WHNO—Ch 20, SUN 8:30 am

NY, Webster: WCA-TV—Ch 12, SUN 11:00 am

TX, Bryan: KYLE-TV—Ch 44, SUN 7:00 am

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