

TOMORROW'S WORLD

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AMERICA'S Moral Meltdown



Satan's Attack on the Bible

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

As the *end* of this age approaches, Satan is mounting a furious attack on the validity of the Bible. A curious novel, *The DaVinci Code*, has spurred a wave of books, articles and films that in essence attack the Bible's credibility. If Satan can destroy countless millions' faith in the Bible, he can much more easily deceive them. Remember, God described Satan as one "who *deceives* the whole world" (Revelation 12:9). Satan wants to cut people off from the very source by which they could truly *understand* the great Plan and Purpose their Creator is working out here on earth.

Make no mistake. The Holy Bible is God's divine revelation to His potential sons and daughters. It reveals the ultimate *purpose* for human life, and *how* to fulfill that supreme purpose. It reveals the spiritual laws that govern our relationships with one another, and with God Himself. Through the perfect example of Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, God beautifully reveals to us the *entire pattern* of how human beings ought to live, love, serve and be successful—and attain eternal life in the soon-coming Kingdom of God.

But a very *real* Satan the Devil would like to obliterate our faith in the God of the Bible. Recent articles about the "Gospel of Judas"—and books with *totally unscriptural* theories about Jesus being married and having children—pervert Christ's mission into something *totally different* than Scripture describes. Satan wants to convince us that the Bible has not been preserved faithfully and handed down to us as God's complete revelation.

So, *how* can we be sure?

The magnificent way that the Bible *alone* describes the creation of earth—and of mankind's history and purpose—certainly indicates to an open and discerning person that a Supreme Mind must have inspired those accounts. The way of life the Bible describes—the only way that really "works"—also reveals its divine inspiration when you truly practice it. And the wonderful *promises* of the Bible—often culminating in *answered prayer*—also show the sincere believer that only an

all-powerful God could have inspired the awesome book we call the Bible.

Some will still not be convinced by these proofs. Only the Bible's powerful and *accurate prophecies* will be enough to prove to them its divine inspiration—if they are willing to learn. As the Apostle Peter wrote: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy [Spirit]" (2 Peter 1:19–21, KJV).

Yes, we must consider the "sure word" of Bible prophecy. Remember, *only* the God of the Bible has clearly revealed "the things that are coming and *shall come*" (Isaiah 44:7). And through the prophet Daniel, God specifically described the four major empires that would arise and dominate the world in the millennia after the prophecies were given. God revealed, thousands of years in advance, the *final form* of the European Empire that is *now* being put together, slowly but surely, right in front of our eyes! It will have a core of *ten nations*—some of which are much stronger and more committed than the others—"just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay" (Daniel 2:41). And notice: "In the days of these [final ten] kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and *it shall stand forever*" (v. 44).

Historians have long acknowledged that Daniel 2 and 7 clearly describe the four major empires of human history—first the Babylonian Empire, then the Medo-Persian, then the Greco-Macedonian Empire of Alexander the Great—then, finally, the Roman Empire that continued for hundreds of years *after* Daniel gave these inspired prophecies. Only the great God of cre-

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DOES THE BIBLE REALLY MEAN WHAT IT SAYS?

By Roderick C. Meredith

Do you sincerely assume that your religion comes from the Bible?
Most Christians do, but the truth may surprise you!

Nearly all the leading Protestant ministers in past generations proclaimed that the Bible was their “foundation.” Famous Protestant theologian William Chillingworth stated, “The Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible, is the religion of Protestants” (Schaff-Herzog, *Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, article: “Chillingworth, W.”). In their constant affirmation of Scripture as “the inspired rule of faith and practice” (*ibid.*, Article: “Bible”), Protestant leaders have committed themselves to follow the religion of Jesus Christ and His apostles in all respects.

Although foundational Protestant reformer Martin Luther rejected the authority of the Bible when he pleased, he still proclaimed, “For that which is asserted without the authority of Scripture or of proven revelation may be held as an

opinion, but there is no obligation to believe it” (*Doctrines of the Christian Church*, ed. Bettenson, p. 280). Even most modern ministers, farther from the truth than Martin Luther, still think of themselves as “Bible-believing Christians.”

So did I. I grew up in a mainstream Protestant church for the first 19 years of my life. I was president of my Sunday school class on occasion. Both of my parents graduated from a church-related college, and we all *assumed* that we were actually following the Bible. Eventually, though, I came to realize—with *absolute proof*—that we were not following the Bible at all, but rather the “traditions of men” that had been injected into “churchianity” over hundreds of years. My earlier assumptions were **wrong**.

Think for a moment of the *hundreds* of differing “Christian” churches with totally different con-

cepts of God and salvation. Are they all following the Bible? “Ecumenical” initiatives like “Evangelicals and Catholics Together” are trying to find ways for Protestants and Roman Catholics to join in such practices as venerating the Virgin Mary and statues of the “saints.” At the other extreme, many liberal ministers now proclaim that God approves of the wholesale murder of unborn babies. Increasingly, we are being told that it is acceptable for professing homosexuals to be ordained into “Christian” ministry, and that two men (or two women) can marry each other.

What is going on?

Do all these people sincerely believe they are following the Bible?

Is Sincerity Enough?

Are sincerity and decency enough? In India, most considered “Mahatma” Gandhi to be a good and sincere man. He humbled himself in many ways, and sometimes nearly *starved himself* in order to provoke his fellow countrymen to rise up and demand independence from Britain. Hundreds of millions—even in the West—regarded him as a “holy man.” When you read about all that he suffered and went through, few would doubt his *sincerity*. But Gandhi was a Hindu who professed deep devotion to the Hindu god Rama, and who honored the myriad gods of the Hindu pantheon. His concept of God, of how to worship God and of the whole **purpose** of life was totally different from anything that can be found in the Bible.

Likewise, the late Roman Catholic nun Mother Teresa is already regarded by millions as a

“saint.” Certainly, most would say, she was a “good woman.” She humbled herself, did without and worked tirelessly for the poor and downtrodden. Yet with *total sincerity*, she prayed daily to the Virgin Mary, and promoted this practice to millions of her followers and admirers.

Years ago, two dedicated and highly perceptive ministers in the Church of God told me how they deeply felt that the Thai Buddhist monks were among the kindest, most gentle and most serving people they had ever encountered, and *utterly sincere*. Yet, when religious or sectarian violence erupted, many of these same “gentle” monks would whip out long knives and literally “hack to pieces” their religious or political opponents!

Please understand. Being *sincere*, and being kind and gentle, is **not** enough!

The real God of the Bible tells us, “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth” (John 4:24). What is that “truth”? Jesus Christ proclaimed, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (John 17:17). If you are actually willing to *face the Truth*, you will see that *dozens* of commonly accepted “Christian” doctrines and practices are not only **un-biblical**; they are actually **condemned** by the inspired word of God.

“What are you talking about?” some may respond. “How *dare* you condemn the doctrines and practices of *my* church, *my* family and *my* life?” That little word “my” can be *very* important. Most people instinctively want to defend *their* ideas and *their* practices, even ideas that can easily be proved **wrong**! Many *sincere* people who grew up in Nazi Germany had great difficulty real-

izing how evil and heinous the Nazi ideas and practices were. Even today, many people still cling tenaciously to communist ideologies and teachings. Giving up our cherished beliefs can be very difficult, even when we are faced with truth.

The Key Issue

It all comes down to this: Have you proven to yourself that there is a real, personal God—and that the Bible is His inspired word? If so, are you willing to follow your belief to its logical conclusion? God’s word tells us, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but the end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12). The way that “seems right” to carnal human beings usually ends up in confusion, suffering and death. Witness the entire world today! By contrast, the Jesus Christ of the Bible proclaimed, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God’” (Luke 4:4). Remember: when Jesus spoke those words, the only written “word of God” was what we now call the Old Testament!

Think! Are you and your church willing to make a full commitment to believe and practice what the Bible clearly says? Making that commitment would be **astonishing**—something very few people or churches have ever done. For it is very difficult for people—and churches—to **change** their ideas and practices, and to depart from conveniently “going along” with this world and its traditions, which Jesus so often condemned. Jesus knew it would be difficult. This is why He said, “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by

it. Because *narrow* is the gate and *difficult* is the way which leads to life, and there are **few** who find it" (Matthew 7:13–14).

Indeed, the Bible tells us that most human beings would be deceived by a very real Satan the Devil. The Apostle John describes a coming *spirit war* in which Satan is defeated: "So the great dragon was

cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Revelation 12:9). Eventually, Satan will be put in a bottomless pit, "so that he should **deceive the nations no more**" (Revelation 20:3).

Obviously—*according to the clear words of the Bible*—this world as a whole is **deceived**. Amazingly, Scripture reveals that the world's most "civilized" nations will **directly fight** Jesus Christ when He returns as King of kings (Revelation 17:14)!

What, you may ask, are the dozens of **un-biblical** doctrines and practices that have deceived so many? Are *you* willing to open your mind to what your Bible clearly says? Are you willing to obey the biblical command to "**prove all things**; and hold fast that which is *good*" (1 Thessalonians 5:21, KJV)?

You are? Good. *Here we go!* An *entire panorama* of so-called "Christian" doctrine and practice is definitely **un-biblical**. Many "Christian" doctrines are not only "missing" in the clear biblical teachings of Christ and the apos-

ties; they are often *condemned*. They confuse millions of human beings, turn them away from God and help blind them to God's true

Plan, His awesome **purpose** and His entire **way of life**!

If you want more detailed information about any of the points below, I urge you to write to or phone the regional office nearest you (listed on page 30 of

this magazine), or to go to our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org. We offer detailed, informative booklets and reprint articles on all the topics below, and on many, many more. I will mention some of these as we go along in this article. If you request them, they will be sent to you absolutely free and with no obligation!

WHY Were You Born?

We will start with the most fundamental question in all our lives: **Why** were you born? What is the real **purpose** for human life? What is humanity's **ultimate destiny**?

In his efforts to thwart the great Plan of the Creator God, Satan has been able to give most professing Christians a totally false concept of eternal life. For we were brought up thinking that, when we died, we would just "float off to heaven." We would feel "heavenly bliss"—perhaps playing on a harp, enjoying each other or looking at the face of God. But—for *all eternity*—we would have virtually **nothing** to do! We would have no real job—no challenge or responsibility.

What is *wrong* with that idea? Not only is it **un-biblical**; it undermines and negates our Creator's **entire purpose**! For God's word tells us plainly—again and again—that Christians are to be kings and priests in a soon-coming Government of God, which Jesus Christ will set up *on this earth*. "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). The inspired "song of the saints" proclaims of Jesus, "For You were slain and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us **kings and priests** to our God; and we shall *reign on the earth*" (Revelation 5:9–10).

Jesus Himself told the apostles, "You may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel" (Luke 22:30). The Apostle Paul was inspired to instruct New Testament Christians, "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).

Yes, true Christians are now "in training" to become kings and priests in the soon-coming Kingdom of God. There, they will assist Jesus Christ in teaching God's true *way of life*, which will bring to the whole world a depth of *peace* and *joy* it has never before experienced!

"But," you may ask, "where does 'going to heaven' fit in with these biblical teachings?"



Millions who think they are Christians have actually accepted unbiblical doctrines, even worshiping human beings instead of the true God.

The obvious answer is: *it does not!*

For **no** clear scripture in the entire Bible promises “going to heaven” as the eternal reward of a Christian. Rather, Jesus Christ said, “**No one** has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven” (John 3:13). Jesus also said, “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit *the earth*” (Matthew 5:5). Speaking of King David, the man after God’s own heart (Acts 13:22), the Apostle Peter stated, “Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch *David*, that he is *both dead and buried*, and his tomb is with us to this day” (Acts 2:29).

So the beloved King David is not “up in heaven”—nor is *anyone else*! The Bible often speaks about the Kingdom *of* heaven—not up *in* heaven. The Bank of Morgan is not a piggybank in Morgan’s stomach! Rather, it is *owned* or *controlled* by Morgan.

The Bible says that we have, as Christians, “a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” The *very next verse* clarifies this point, reminding us that we desire “to be clothed with our habitation which is *from* heaven” (2 Corinthians 5:1–2). People often read this passage, or others like it, but carelessly forget to take into account the *entire* passage and its full meaning. Carelessly misunderstanding and misapplying passages like this has fooled many people into thinking that they will “go to heaven” as their eternal reward.

In fact, the entire Bible is exceedingly clear in revealing that God’s Plan is for the Christians of this present age to be here *on this earth*, assisting Christ as kings and priests in His coming

Kingdom that will soon be established. Today’s Christians are supposed to be learning God’s **laws** and His **ways**, preparing for this *very real* reward and opportunity to **serve**. How sad that the idea of “floating off to heaven” has been pawned off on so many, completely obscuring this understanding and **blinding** people to the great Plan of God. So the false doctrine of “going to heaven” is exceedingly dangerous and destructive, thwarting people’s understanding of the very reason for which they may be, in this age, “called” by God!

An “Immortal” Soul?

Another destructive doctrine that destroys true biblical understanding of our eternal destiny is the idea of the “immortal soul.” This false teaching has convinced untold millions of human beings that they are, in essence, *indestructible*. Because of this doctrine, millions believe that when they die they will either be shot up to heaven or dropped into an ever-burning fire to suffer forever and ever at the hands of an angry God.

However, God’s inspired word makes it very clear that human beings are **not** immortal or indestructible, and that unrepentant sinners will be put to **death** in the end—receiving an eternal punishment, rather than being punished eternally.

Jesus said, “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). The Son of God tells us that God can “destroy” our “soul!” The Apostle Paul was inspired to reveal, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our

Lord” (Romans 6:23). Yes, eternal life is a “gift”—**not** something we already possess as immortal souls. And the “wages”—or *reward*—of unforgiven sin is **death**—**not** eternal life in hellfire! *Dozens* of scriptures—more than can fit in this article—make this truth plain. If you wish to study this topic more thoroughly—and **believe** what the Bible actually says—please write or phone to ask for our **free** reprint article, “Is There Life After Death?” or our booklet *Your Ultimate Destiny*. These, like all our literature, will be sent to you, upon your request, absolutely free and with no obligation.

Should Christians OBEY the Ten Commandments?

Another basic and *terribly dangerous* misunderstanding is that human beings are either “under law” or “under grace.” This is a constant Protestant “mantra” that many ministers try to drum into the minds of their followers! In truth, the Bible shows that Christians *are to obey* the Ten Commandments—God’s great spiritual law—and are *also* under “grace” when they unwittingly break the commandments but then knowingly *repent* of their **sin**. For, as God’s word tells us, “Sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4, KJV).

Remember, Jesus Christ taught, “If you want to enter into life, **keep the commandments**.” Right after saying this, He began to name some of the Ten Commandments (Matthew 19:17). Jesus made this point constantly and consistently!

“But,” many preachers intone, “all we really need is the love of God, not some legalistic system.” But *how* is the love of God to be expressed? According to each

individual idea of what “love” is? No! For God’s word tells us plainly, “For this is the love of God, that we **keep His commandments**. And His commandments are not burdensome” (1 John 5:3). God’s love flows down the “river bed”—the **way**—of the Ten Commandments. Obeying these commandments in the letter *and* the spirit shows us **how** to express the kind of love, and the kind of character, God wants built within His potential eternal children!

Of course, if we are to keep *all ten* of the commandments, then we must keep the fourth commandment, and observe the true Sabbath on the seventh day of the week. Jesus Christ—our example—observed the seventh-day Sabbath, as did the apostles and the New Testament Church! As the Apostle James worded it, “For whoever shall keep the **whole law** and yet stumble in one point he is guilty of all” (James 2:10). Obeying God’s true Sabbath points us to the *true* God—the Creator who Himself rested on the seventh day. It also pictures the coming seventh “millennial day”—the *thousand-year* reign of Christ, which is a vital part of God’s Plan. Apart from keeping the *true*, biblical Sabbath, human beings end up worshiping a *false* god, keeping the ancient “*day of the sun*” and falling into all kinds of paganism and heresy as a result. If you sincerely wish to **prove** for yourself the true biblical Sabbath, please write or call immediately for our free booklet, *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?*

Those who reject the true Sabbath often fall victim to the idea that Christians can keep many of the world’s ancient pagan days of worship (e.g. Christmas,

Easter and Halloween) rather than the days God Himself gave to His people—days that Jesus Christ and the apostles observed, which will be observed during Jesus Christ’s coming millennial reign. To learn more about this vital topic, please ask for our free booklet, *The Holy Days: God’s Master Plan*. It will spell out to you the truth on this matter in much more detail than we can cover in a short magazine article. It will explain how God’s Holy Days clearly reveal and outline His **great plan**—the step-by-step plan through which He is bringing human beings into full membership in His Family. Without understanding the Holy Days, mankind as a whole has **never** understood the Creator’s great plan—and *never will!* The understanding of God’s *true* Holy Days is **priceless!**

I could go on and on with literally dozens more of the false doctrines and concepts that have been taught in the name of “Christianity.” But the above should give you a pretty good idea, as the points I have just covered are **fundamental**.

If you would like to understand more deeply about *how* Satan has been able to *confuse*

and *deceive* **all** humanity on these points and many others, please write for our thoroughly documented booklet, *Satan’s Counterfeit Christianity*. This booklet gives thorough **proof** for what it says. If you are open-minded, it will “knock your socks off!”

Yes, the Bible really does mean what it says, and it says what it means! May God help *you* to be willing to open your mind and **prove** to yourself that the Bible is, in fact, the inspired *word of God*. We must avoid the clever arguments and “word games” often practiced by those who want to retain their comfortable old ideas, however unbiblical. In most cases, perhaps without realizing it, they are like the Pharisees of Jesus’ day who **rejected Him** and His true teachings, “For they loved the *praise of men* **more** than the praise of God” (John 12:43).

May God grant you the understanding, the faith and the courage to exert the intellectual and spiritual energy to find out the **Truth** of what the Bible really says. And may He guide you to genuinely **act** on this knowledge in the fear of the real God who gives us life and breath and every good gift. ■

The Bible: Fact or Fiction?

The Bible is more than just a book of history. It is a storehouse of tools and principles that can help you lead a happy life today, while preparing for your amazing future in eternity. You *need* to learn the truth about the Bible!

Write for our **FREE** booklet, *The Bible: Fact or Fiction?*

Questions & Answers

Question: Jesus Christ said, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another” (John 13:34). Does this new commandment replace the Ten Commandments?

Answer: Sadly, even many who call themselves Christians believe that Jesus’ “new commandment” *replaces* the commandments He had kept and taught throughout His ministry. However, if we examine Jesus’ teaching, we will understand the truth of the matter.

In His “Sermon on the Mount,” Jesus said, “Do not think I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled” (Matthew 5:17–18).

What did Jesus mean when He said that He came to “fulfill” the Law? Does “fulfill” mean “eliminate”? No! Jesus’ new commandment filled the Law to the full, giving it a spiritual magnification it had not had before. Notice that in the next few verses, Jesus expounded the spiritual intent of God’s commandments. Murder is a sin, but hatred is the spirit of murder, and is also a sin. Adultery is a sin, but so is lust—the desire to commit adultery (Matthew 5:21–28). So, we can see that Jesus did not do away with the Ten Commandments; He made them an integral part of Christianity. Indeed, as He told us, “If you are to enter into life, keep the commandments” (Matthew 19:17).

When Jesus gave the commandment to “love one another,” was He giving a new commandment? Many are surprised to discover that the command to “love your neighbor as yourself” comes from the Old Testament (Leviticus 19:18).

So, what was new about Jesus’ command to love one another? Notice that after Christ had told the disciples to love one another, he added a new dimension—they were to love one another “as I have loved you” (John 13:34).

What made Jesus’ love different? The source of Jesus’ love was the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5), which Christ promised would be given to the disciples after His death and resurrection (John 14:16–17). That same night, Jesus commanded His disciples to “abide in My love” (John 15:10). The divine love of God would soon be in them to help them follow Christ’s example. Until Christ offered the gift of the Holy Spirit, the disciples could only love one another with human love. With the Holy Spirit, Christians can love one another with the very love of God. By this love, true Christians can be recognized. “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:35).

Throughout His life on earth, Jesus Christ demonstrated how God’s love actually works. Even at the moment of His death, Christ expressed total love for His enemies, when He prayed, “Father forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Luke 23:34). Just moments before He spoke His “new commandment”—during His final Passover meal before His crucifixion—Christ had established the foot-washing ceremony, which reminds Christians to lead lives of humility, service and love. Jesus constantly lived a life of obedience to the spiritual intent and purpose of God’s laws. Christ’s love, obedience and faith toward His Father encompassed the first four of the Ten Commandments. His love, service and outflowing concern for others encompassed the last six of the Ten Commandments.

If you would like to learn more about what the Ten Commandments mean in the lives of Christians today, please request a copy of our free booklet, *The Ten Commandments*.



Modern Nations and God's Ancient Plan

By Douglas S. Winnail

Ancient Bible prophecies reveal the future of today's nations!

Is there a logical explanation for why the world is the way it is? Why are certain nations blessed with abundance and freedom, while others struggle with poverty and oppression? Why have certain small and relatively young nations suddenly risen to global prominence, while once-powerful nations with long and glorious histories have receded into the backwaters of world affairs? Why are there so many opinions, but so little knowledge, of what the future actually holds?

Surprising answers to these questions can be found in a source that the leaders of nations rarely consult—and that few understand. Though it is often ridiculed or minimized, the Bible *explains why* the world is the way it is. Scripture reveals that *God has a plan* and is working out a *purpose* on this earth—a plan and purpose involving the nations of this world!

The Bible contains hundreds of prophecies that reveal the future of specific nations. But unless we can understand the modern identities of ancient nations mentioned in Scripture, we will not be able to understand those prophecies, and we will not be able to understand God's plan and purpose for human beings. In fact, without understanding those prophecies, God's Church cannot carry out the commission Jesus Christ gave! As increasingly dramatic events fulfill ancient prophecies on the world stage, you need to know what the Bible reveals about your nation—and about the other nations of the world—so you can prepare for the effect these prophecies will have on your life!

Many who call themselves Christians believe that God's plan was only to send Jesus Christ to die for the sins of the world. However, this simplistic approach overlooks Jesus' own words and many Bible prophecies about the plan of God. Scripture emphatically states that God has a great plan and purpose that He is working out on earth. King David wrote, "The counsel [plan, purpose] of the LORD stands forever, the plans [thoughts] of His heart to all generations" (Psalm 33:11). The prophet Isaiah wrote that Bible prophecies reveal the plan of God, "I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel [plan, purpose] shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure" (Isaiah 46:9–10). The Apostle Paul explained that God is working out a great purpose—a purpose that has remained a *mystery* to the leaders and thinkers of this world (Ephesians 1:9–11; 1 Corinthians 2:7–9).

Bible prophecies foretold that the Messiah would come to suffer

and die for the sins of human beings (Isaiah 53:2–11; John 3:16). When Jesus stated, “for this purpose I came” (John 12:27), He understood that His death and resurrection made the plan of God possible (Matthew 26:54). However, few realize that Bible prophecy reveals there is *much more* to God’s plan. In the book of Daniel, we find a sweeping outline of world history from the days of King Nebuchadnezzar (ca. 600BC) up to the return of Jesus Christ at the end of this age. Using symbols of a great image with four parts and a succession of four strange beasts, Daniel foretold the rise and fall of four great empires that would shape the history of the world (Daniel 2; 7). Historians recognize these as the Babylonian, Greco-Macedonian, Medo-Persian and Roman empires (*Halley’s Bible Handbook*, p. 342).

The Bible records—and history confirms—that these empires and their leaders played key roles in the plan of God. The Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar conquered the kingdom of Judah and carried the Jews into captivity as punishment for their national sins (2 Kings 25). Seventy years later God used Cyrus, the king of Persia, to conquer and punish the Babylonians and to issue a decree allowing the Jews to return and rebuild Jerusalem—according to the plan of God (Isaiah 45:1; 44:24–28; Jeremiah 25:11–12; 29:10; Ezra 1:1–4)—“which Jeremiah has prophesied concerning all the nations” (Jeremiah 25:13). The Apostle John also recorded that at the end of the age, God will use specific nations to carry out His plan, “the waters which you saw... are peoples, multitudes,

nations and tongues... For God has put it in their hearts *to fulfill His purpose*” (Revelation 17:15–17). The prophecies of the Bible reveal important aspects of God’s plan, involving specific nations on this earth. If there were no plan, prophecy would be impossible!

The Chosen People

Prominent in the Bible are a series of detailed prophecies that God gave to Abraham and a line of his descendants who became the nation of Israel. God promised that in return for Abraham’s obedience, his descendants would multiply and become great, would inherit specific lands, and would give rise to kings (Genesis 12:1–7; 13:12–16; 17:15–16). They would “possess the gates of those who hate them.” God would use them to bless “all the nations of the earth” (Genesis 22:17–18; 24:60). God stipulated that these promises would pass on through his son Isaac (Genesis 17:21) and to his grandson Jacob who in turn had 12 sons (Genesis 35:23–26), from whom came the twelve tribes of the house (or nation) of ancient Israel. The ultimate fulfillment of the promises to Abraham passed through Jacob’s son Joseph, to his sons Manasseh (who would become a great nation) and Ephraim (who would become a company [commonwealth] of nations as noted in Genesis 48:17–19). The descendants of the sons of Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel (Genesis 32:28; 35:10), were to be known by his new name—*Israelites* (Genesis 48:6, 16). This is an important key to remember if we are to understand Bible prophecy. When the

term “Israelites” is found in biblical prophecies, it usually refers to the descendants of the ten tribes that were part of the northern kingdom of Israel, while the term “Jews” usually refers to the descendants of Judah (another of Jacob’s sons) who were the primary peoples of the kingdom of Judah.

God had a *purpose* in selecting the descendants of Jacob (Israel) as His chosen people (Exodus 19:3–6). He gave them His laws so they could become a light and an example to the nations of the world (Deuteronomy 4:1–10). They were told that if they obeyed the laws of God they would be blessed, but that if they disobeyed they would face serious consequences (Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28). Both the kingdom of Israel and the kingdom of Judah failed in their mission to be lights to the world, and were carried into captivity—Israel to Assyria and beyond, and Judah to Babylon. The Jews returned to Jerusalem after 70 years in captivity, and are a recognizable people and nation today. The peoples of Israel never returned, and became known to history as the “lost ten tribes.” However, both the Bible and history offer clues about the location and modern national identities of these “lost” tribes of Israelites—tribes that play a major role in Bible prophecy and the plan of God.

In Genesis, Moses recorded prophecies that would help identify the nations of Israel in the “last days” (Genesis 49:1–28). The descendants of Judah are easily identified in these prophecies as the Jews, who would revere the law of God and produce the Messiah (Genesis 49:8–12). Intriguingly, though, when you

study the prophetic descriptions of the other tribes of Israel, you cannot help noticing that these descriptions fit modern nations in (or originating from) northwest Europe. The descendants of Reuben were to become powerful, have notions of grandeur and an amorous reputation, but will lack national stability (consider

France: Genesis 49:3–4). The descendants of Zebulun would dwell by the sea and become a mercantile people (consider Holland: Genesis 49:13). The descendants of Dan would leave their mark as

they traveled across Europe from their base in the Middle East (consider Denmark and Ireland). The descendants of Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim) were to become a colonizing people, dwelling in the choice places of the earth yet *apart* from their continental cousins (consider Britain, the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa: Genesis 49:22–26). The specific prophecies about Manasseh and Ephraim—to become a great nation and a company [commonwealth] of nations who possess the gates of their enemies—accurately identify the U.S. and Britain (Genesis 48:19). While skeptics may scoff at these biblical identities of modern Israelite nations, it is instructive to *consider the evidence* that points in this direction.

Records of History

The Bible and history record that Assyrians carried the ten tribes of Israel into captivity, into what is

today northern Iraq, northwestern Iran and Armenia—the area between the Black Sea and Caspian Sea. The Black Obelisk from Nineveh in ancient Assyria (now in the British Museum) refers to the Israelites as the *Khumri* or the people of *Omri* (the name of the Israelite king who built Samaria—the capital city of the northern



European nations are seeking greater unity, which will eventually result in the amazing fulfillment of Bible prophecy when a ten-nation confederacy unites under the

Persian king Darius carved an inscription of his conquests in three different languages on a rock face at Behistun in northwestern Iran. This inscription refers to the *Gimri* as the *Sacae* (who historians also identify with the Scythians who spread over Europe). Archeologist George Rawlinson stated, “We have reasonable grounds for regarding the *Gimirri*, or *Cimmerians*... and the *Sacae* of the Behistun Rock... as identical with the Beth-Khumree of Samaria, or the Ten Tribes of the House of Israel” (*The Story of Celto-Saxon Israel*, Bennett, p. 151).

Clear historical and biblical evidence traces the ancient *Israelite tribes’ migration through the lands of Armenia as well as northern Iraq and Iran*. This agrees with historical records that trace the origins of people now living in Britain. The Declaration of Abroath (the “Scottish Declaration of Independence”), written in 1320AD, states that the Scots’ ancestors came from

kingdom of Israel, as noted in 1 Kings 16:21–27). The Babylonians referred to these same people as the *Gimiri*. Around 500BC, the

Greater Scythia (around the Black Sea) through the Mediterranean Sea to Spain and then to Britain “twelve hundred years after the people of Israel crossed the Red Sea” (Bennett, pp. 159–161). The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, written around 800AD, traces the origins of the Saxon peoples to the region of Armenia (*ibid.*, p. 209). In his work *The Ruin of Britain*, the early British writer Gildas (475–550AD) refers to the British people as Israelites. Irish legends call some of the first Irish settlers the *tuatha de Danann* (*The Story of the Irish Race*, MacManus, p. 5). Cyrus Gordon, a leading American archeologist, recognized the *tuatha de Danann* as the biblical tribe of Dan, and connected these Israelite peoples with Ireland and Denmark (Bennett, p. 79). These Danite peoples first arrived in Ireland around the time of the Israelites’ exodus from Egypt. It is also interesting that the Welsh refer to themselves as the *Cymri* or *Cymru*—after the Assyrian name for the people of Israel. The records of history link the national identities of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Denmark with the Israelites of the Bible.

An Apostolic Commission

Jesus commissioned His disciples to go to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel” (Matthew 10:6). By observing where the disciples went, we should be able to determine the locations of those lost sheep. Indeed, the Bible reveals that the apostles took Christ’s commission seriously, and took their ministries to the Israelite peoples. James wrote an epistle to the “twelve tribes scattered abroad” (James 1:1). Josephus, the first century Jewish historian, wrote that the Ten Tribes of Israel

had become an “immense multitude... beyond the Euphrates” (*Antiquities of the Jews*, xi. 5.2.1). The Bible records that Peter went to Babylon (1 Peter 5:13), and that Paul planned a trip to Spain (Romans 15:28)—they knew there were Israelites in these regions!

Early writings trace the apostles’ movements. Andrew traveled to Scythia, near the Black Sea. Bartholomew went to Armenia. Thomas and Jude headed to Parthia, south of the Caspian Sea, and beyond, into regions where the ten tribes of Israel had gone. Many early writers confirm that Paul, Peter, Joseph of Arimathea, Simon Zelotes and others all spent time in Britain—knowing that there were Israelites there. Vatican librarian Cardinal Baronius (1538–1607AD) and Anglican archbishop Ussher (1581–1656AD) both mentioned that several of the apostles and their companions traveled to the Isles of the West.

The commission Jesus gave to His disciples—to preach the gospel to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel” and to “all the world”—was not limited to the first century Church. That commission is still binding on the Church of God today. Part of that commission is to explain to the modern descendants of ancient Israel why their nations have inherited the blessings they enjoy, and to warn them of what lies ahead if they forsake the laws of their God, who has given those blessings. Scripture clearly indicates that in the “last days” the nations of Israel will experience severe trials—referred to as “the time of Jacob’s trouble” (Jeremiah 30:1–24). Another aspect of the commission is to warn the world about the significance of events

that will mark the end of the age and the coming of Jesus Christ. These signs are mentioned in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21. In order for the Church to reach the Israelite peoples with this message today, it is necessary to know the location and modern identity of the Israelite nations. This is why the Bible records information about the location and unique characteristics of the Israelite tribes. God has a plan, and unless we can identify the modern descendants of ancient Israel we cannot properly understand that plan.

Europe in Prophecy

According to the Bible, modern nations in Europe will also play a major role in fulfilling dramatic prophecies at the end of this age. Prophecies in the book of Daniel indicate that there would be ten attempts to continue or revive the legacy of the Roman Empire (Daniel 7:24), and that the last seven attempts will be encouraged and dominated by a “little horn”—a prominent religious figure (Daniel 7:8, 24–25). History records that these attempted revivals have all occurred in Europe, under the watch of the pope in Rome. Prophecies in Daniel and Revelation indicate that the *final* revival of the Roman system will consist of a cobbled-together federation of *ten* nations or kingdoms (which the Bible describes as a mixture of iron and clay) that will “give their power” to a “beast” (an influential political leader) just before the return of Jesus Christ (Daniel 2:40–45; Revelation 17:12–13). This is exactly what is happening in Europe today as nation-states debate about *sur-*

rendering their sovereignty to a central European government. The current European Union will ultimately prove to be unstable and ungovernable. Eventually a core group of ten nations will agree to move ahead toward full political unity under a popular but deceptive leader, as the Bible predicts.


The Bible predicts that this end-time European “beast power” will be “ridden” by an ornately dressed “woman” who has persecuted true believers, has played important yet subtle roles in global politics and has corrupted the world with religious doctrines adapted from pagan sources (Revelation 17:1–6). The identity of this “woman” should be obvious to anyone who has studied the non-Christian origins of many Roman Catholic doctrines, including purgatory, priestly celibacy, the Trinity, indulgences, the veneration of images, and countless others. The Bible’s account of the ornately dressed “woman” playing this role should give us pause when we see the dazzling vestments of popes and cardinals, and the political involvements of papal representatives shuttling between nations on Vatican business. The graphic details of Bible prophecies are meant to be understood. These details identify nations and people that will play key roles in fulfilling prophecies that will accomplish the plan of God!

Future of Germany

The Bible indicates that at the end of this age, the Israelite nations’ chief antagonist will be Assyria (Isaiah 10). God will use Assyria and its allies to punish

(Continued on page 28)

American Gates in Peril!



One of the great prophetic promises that God made to Abraham was that “your descendants shall possess the *gates* of their ene-

mies” (Genesis 22:17). This same promise was repeated to Rebecca when she agreed to marry Abraham’s son Isaac: “May your descendants possess the *gates* of those who hate them” (Genesis 24:60). The Hebrew word translated “gates” is *shaar*, which can also mean gateway, city or port (*Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance*, #8179). These ancient prophecies were fulfilled in the last two centuries when control of the world’s major sea gates came into the hands of the United States and Britain, also fulfilling other prophecies that the descendants of Abraham’s grandsons Manasseh and Ephraim would become a great nation and a great company of nations (Genesis 48:14–22).

However, these unique national blessings were given to His chosen people (Deuteronomy 7:6) with *specific conditions*. Through Moses, God clearly warned the Israelite nations—which would inherit the birthright promises (Genesis 25:31–34; 1 Chronicles 5:1–2)—that disobedience would bring severe consequences: “If you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, and if you despise My statutes... I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those that hate you will reign over you... I will break the pride of your power... I will lay your cities waste” (Leviticus 26:14–19, 31). God further warned: “Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and gladness of heart... therefore you shall serve your enemies... they shall *besiege you at all your gates* throughout all your land which the LORD your God has given you... *your enemy shall distress you at all your gates*” (Deuteronomy 28:47–55). The Bible reveals that the unique blessings God promised to bestow on His cho-

sen people would be *withdrawn* if they despised His laws and instructions. Those prophecies are *coming alive today!*

Inheriting the Blessings

History reveals how the important sea gates of the world came into the hands of the U.S. and Britain, and how those gates are being taken away. In 1774, Britain gained possession of Gibraltar, on the southern tip of the Iberian Peninsula, at the entrance to the Mediterranean Sea. From the early 1800s, Britain held oversight of the Strait of Hormuz—the vital entrance to the Persian Gulf. In 1814, Britain established the Cape Colony that controlled passage around the tip of South Africa. The British founded Singapore in the 1820s, controlling the Straits of Malacca. In the 1830s, Britain gained control of the Falkland Islands, guarding the Atlantic approach to the tip of South America. In 1839, Britain acquired the port of Aden in Yemen, thus gaining control of the entrance to the Red Sea. Although it was the French who built the Suez Canal in the 1850s, Britain gained control of the canal in the 1880s, and held that control until the 1950s.

Finally, one cannot overstate the importance of the U.S.’ most valuable sea gate, the Panama Canal, which opened under U.S. control in 1914, and which the U.S. held for more than 80 years.

Secular historians attribute these territorial acquisitions to the rising power of America and the British Empire. Yet it was by no accident or mere coincidence that Britain and the U.S. gained control of virtually all of the world’s major sea gates during the last 200 years. The Bible reveals that God was *rewarding* His chosen people with the birthright blessings that had been withheld for nearly 2,520 years. The ancient Israelites were told if they disobeyed God, He would punish them “seven times” for their sins (Leviticus 26:18). The prophetic “day for a year” principle indicates that this meant a punishment lasting 7 x 360 years—2,520 years (see Ezekiel 4:6; Daniel 4:25; Revelation 12:14; 13:5). The nation of ancient Israel went into captivity around 720BC because of its national sins. A punishment lasting 2,520 years brings us to 1800AD—the

time when these territorial acquisitions began to occur—fulfilling the ancient promises to Abraham’s descendants.

Losing Control

However, about 50 years ago the picture started to change. History records how Britain and America began to lose control of the strategic gates that God had given them. In the 1950s, Egypt nationalized the Suez Canal and expelled the British. In the 1960s, Yemen expelled the British from the port of Aden. In the 1980s, Argentina went to war with Britain over claims to the oil-reserve rich Falkland Islands. Since the 1960s, Britain has faced steady pressure to return Gibraltar to Spanish control. In the 1970s, Britain began pulling out of Singapore. In subsequent years, China has provided considerable economic assistance to nearby Burma—a country with timber resources, natural gas, and a strategic location on the Indian Ocean near the Straits of Malacca—gateway for 80 percent of China’s oil imports. In 1999, the U.S. turned control of the Panama Canal over to Panama—and a large Chinese corporation quickly set up shop on both ends of the Canal Zone. In the last 50 years, the control of major sea gates of the world slipped out of the hands of Britain and the U.S.—just as ancient Bible prophecies predicted!

The U.S. is not only losing its sea gates to foreign adversaries. In 2005, two major hurricanes hit America’s Gulf Coast, devastating the port facilities around New Orleans and causing widespread damage to gas and oil production facilities in the region. The Port of South Louisiana extends some 50 miles up the Mississippi River from New Orleans. It is the

largest port in the United States, and is the fifth largest in the world. More than 60 percent of America’s trade passes through this port—including the bulk of the nation’s grain exports. In the early 1800s, Andrew Jackson fought the British for control of New Orleans because he understood the strategic importance of this “sea gate” for the future of the American nation. Meanwhile, as port facilities around New Orleans are being restored after the hurricanes, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is concerned that the Mississippi River could change its course in the future, rendering the Port of South Louisiana useless!

The U.S. and Britain are also finding their key ports threatened from another direction. In recent months, Americans were surprised to learn that their government had approved transferring control of several major ports to a foreign-owned company headquar-

tered in a country with links to terrorists. This deal was halted when issues of national security were raised, though some remain concerned that foreign companies continue to manage several U.S. Navy facilities overseas. The British government has also turned important government-owned “trust ports” over to private owners, which could pose a considerable risk to the national security of Britain.

The U.S. and Britain became world powers as they gained control of the world’s strategic sea gates, just as was prophesied in Scripture. The loss of control over these geopolitically important locations in the last 50 years coincides with the growing secularization and open rejection of the laws of God by large segments of the population in both countries. Long ago, God warned His people that they would be “besieged in all their gates” if they disobeyed. Those sobering prophecies are coming alive today!

—Douglas S. Winnail





AMERICA'S Moral Meltdown

By **Richard F. Ames**

Great nations often reflect great character and purpose. But when their standards and values decline and decay, their days are numbered. When families are strong and parents instill true values and godly character in their children, the nation is strong. But when a society abandons traditional “family values,” history shows that its day of judgment looms.

A May 2000 Gallup Poll revealed that 77 percent of Americans believe America’s moral values are growing worse (“Morality Ratings the Worst in Five Years,” The Gallup Organization, May 25, 2006). Yet more than 80 percent of Americans consider themselves personally religious. Last year, Gallup reported: “Fifty-five percent [of Americans] say religion is ‘very important’ to them, and another 28 percent say ‘fairly important’” (“Faith Accompanies Most Americans Through Life,” May 31, 2005).

With a majority of its citizens professing religious faith, is America morally strong? Or is the nation heading for a moral meltdown?

From its beginning, the United States has found its core values in the pages of the Bible. British historian Paul Johnson explained: “Hence, though the Constitution and the Bill of Rights made no provision for a state church—quite the contrary—there was an implied and unchallenged understanding that America was a religious country, that

the republic was religious not necessarily in its forms but in its bones, that it was inconceivable that it could have come into existence, or could continue and flourish, without an overriding religious sentiment pervading every nook and cranny of its society. This religious sentiment was based on the Scriptures and the Decalogue, was embodied in the moral consensus of the Judeo-Christian tradition, and manifested itself in countless forms of mainly Christian worship” (“God and the Americans,” *Commentary*, January 1995, p. 31).

At its foundation, the U.S. based its values “on the Scriptures and the Decalogue”—the Bible and the Ten Commandments. More than 200 years later, is the nation still living by biblical values?

Historically, marriage and the family have been the building blocks of society. When men and women transgress the Ten Commandments—when they practice adultery and unfaithfulness in their marriages—the family unit suffers. Ancient Rome at first emphasized strong families, but historians have documented Rome’s declining emphasis on morality, and how that decline affected Roman society. In his book, *Ancient Education and Today*, E. B. Castle wrote, “Added to this initial cause of family disruption [the increasing absence of traveling businessmen from their families] was the consequent easy attitude to the marriage tie, the increasing frequency of divorce, and the growing freedom and laxity in women’s morals, all of which ended in a loosening of the old family unity in which the best in Roman character had its roots” (p. 119).

Will modern Western civilization follow the pattern of Rome’s decay? Writing in the first century AD, the Roman philosopher Seneca observed that “some noble ladies

reckon the years of their lives, not by the number of the consuls, but by that of their husbands, now that they leave their homes in order to marry others, and marry only in order to be divorced... no woman keeps a husband at all unless it be to pique her lover" (*On Benefits*, Book III, xvi).

Men, too, are seduced by the false allure of adultery. With increased access to birth control, and the easy availability of abortion on demand, sexual activity has increased in the last few decades as people think they can avoid its consequences. Millions fail to take seriously the simple biblical admonition, "You shall not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14). Yet, if everyone kept this precept—the seventh of the Ten Commandments—lives would be far happier and society would be far more stable.

Divorce statistics in Western nations remain sobering. In the last 30 years, the percentage of married adults in the U.S. has dropped by 17 percent, and more than 40 percent of first marriages end in divorce (*Time*, September 26, 2000, p. 77). In Great Britain, 53 percent of all marriages end in divorce, and in Canada 45 percent of all marriages end in divorce (*ibid.*, p. 76). The Australian Bureau of Statistics reported in June 2001 that Australia's divorced population had increased by 172 percent between 1981 and 2001.

What a sad commentary on the family stability of those nations! Media and immoral culture influence many to divorce, weakening national character. Why? One reason is that societies increasingly reject biblical teachings, particularly the Ten Commandments! The fifth commandment states: "Honor your

father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you" (Exodus 20:12). If everyone kept the fifth and the seventh commandments, nations would experience stable and happy families.

Decaying Morality?

Our modern Western world increasingly rejects the Ten Commandments and continues its slide into immorality. Just how bad is it? The Barna Research Group surveyed American's attitudes toward ten moral behaviors, and found that 60 percent consider it acceptable for unmarried people to cohabit. Fifty-nine percent believe sexual fantasizing is appropriate. Nearly half (45 percent) consider abortion acceptable, and 42 percent approve of extramarital sex. Thirty-eight percent approve of pornography, and 30 percent find homosexuality acceptable ("Morality Continues to Decay," November 3, 2003).

Regardless of Americans' opinions, do you realize that, according to biblical principles, those behaviors are morally wrong? Just as God is the Creator of the natural laws of physics and chemistry, He is also the Lawgiver of spiritual law. And those spiritual laws are just as real as the physical ones! From beginning to end, the Bible reveals that obedience to God's revealed laws brings blessings, while disobedience brings curses and penalties. Scripture reminds us: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life" (Galatians 6:7-8).

We all need to keep the Ten Commandments. Even if our nation is turning away from the Ten Commandments—refusing even to let them be posted in public buildings—each of us individually can learn the true ways of love toward God and love toward neighbor. As we apply the Ten Commandments in our own lives, we will be following Jesus' advice, "If you will enter into life, keep the commandments" (Matthew 19:17).

A nation that practices sexual licentiousness will pay the price. But we must ask ourselves individually: What is *my* attitude toward sexual activity? God created sex for intimacy, romance, and love in marriage, and to build a family. God's way is the way of joy, peace, giving, serving, caring, and loving. Husbands and wives who love one another, and who are committed to one another, know the joys of intimacy that God intended. But there are consequences for disobedience. "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge" (Hebrews 13:4). Marriage is a blessing, and sex is God's great gift within marriage. Yet how many millions will receive God's judgment for their fornication and adultery?

If you are engaging in sexual immorality, you need to repent. You need to confess your sin before God, then *change your behavior* and *quit sinning*! God *will* forgive you, if you truly repent and accept Jesus Christ's sacrifice for your sins!

When ancient King David committed adultery with Bathsheba, the prophet Nathan convicted David of his sin. David did not try to justify his sin; he confessed it, and prayed: "Have mercy upon me, O God, according

to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin" (Psalm 51:1-2).

Too many men and women today are not seeking God to help free them from the temptations of sexual immorality. Remember, Jesus taught us to pray, "And do not lead us into temptation, but *deliver us from the evil one*. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen" (Matthew 6:13).

Are we becoming a nation of adulterers? *Newsweek* magazine asked: "Just how many married women have had sex with people who are not their husbands? It's hard to say for sure... Couples therapists estimate that among their clientele, the number is close to 30 to 40 percent, compared with 50 percent of men, and the gap is almost certainly closing... The best interpretation of the data: the cheating rate for women is approaching that of men." ("The New Infidelity," July 12, 2003).

What does your Bible reveal about adultery? The Apostle James reveals the reason for wars, and he indicts those who are lustful. "Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you

may spend it on your pleasures. Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (James 4:1-4).

Are you an "enemy" of God? In the Barna report mentioned above, even a majority of those who call themselves Christians were supportive of cohabitation. Sixty-six percent of self-described Roman Catholics, and 50 percent of Protestants, said they believe it is okay for men and women to live together outside of marriage. Today,

even many who call themselves "religious" just follow along with the immoral crowd and commit fornication and adultery.

This problem, however, is not new. In the first century AD, the Greek city of Corinth was a center of worldwide commerce, and it was also a center of paganism, idolatry and sexual immorality. Many Corinthians repented of their sinful lifestyle, and became Christians. The Apostle Paul warned them against the temptations of their day. "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

Are you practicing any of those behaviors? God says that none of those individuals will

inherit the Kingdom of God! Some of the Corinthians had repented of those lifestyles and sins when they became Christians—and God forgave them! The Apostle Paul continues, "And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God" (v. 11).

Marriage Meltdown?

Some cities, states and countries act as if they know better than God. God defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman. The two shall become one flesh, He says. Yet more and more governments around the world are supporting same-sex unions. On November 18, 2003, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that according to the state Constitution, same-sex couples cannot be denied the right of civil marriage. The state of Vermont recognizes "civil unions" for same-sex couples. The Washington Post reported that in the Netherlands "As many as 8 percent of all marriages here, are now between people of the same sex" (*Washington Post*, p. A20, September 23, 2003). A national poll by Environics Research in the summer of 2003 reported that "Currently just over half of Canadians (53 percent) strongly (28 percent) or somewhat (25 percent) support" same-sex marriage.

These ungodly trends will bring God's judgment on us, unless we repent individually and nationally. The enormity of these trends—including a nationwide push in the U.S. for the recognition of same-sex "marriage"—has led to a conservative move to



amend the U.S. Constitution. In January 2005, 25 U.S. senators co-sponsored the “Marriage Protection Amendment,” to define marriage as a union between a man and a woman, for purposes of federal law. The amendment stated: “Marriage in the United States shall consist only of the union of a man and a woman. Neither this Constitution, nor the constitution of any State, shall be construed to require that marriage or the legal incidents thereof be conferred upon any union other than the union of a man and a woman.”

Here we are in the prophesied end-times. Not that long ago, no one could have imagined that it might be necessary to amend the U.S. Constitution to define marriage. How far we have come from the days of which historian Paul Johnson wrote above! Worse, who would have imagined that 100 senators would not agree that marriage is the union between a man and a woman? Although same-sex marriage is not yet legal at the national level in the U.S., state governments are continuing to debate whether to do as Massachusetts has done, and establish same-sex “marriage.” Other states, like Vermont and Connecticut, now allow what they call same-sex “civil unions.” These offer most of the civil benefits of marriage, without using the word marriage. Several other states, including California, New Jersey and Maine, allow some form of same-sex domestic partnership.

Sadly, a majority of Americans approve of several other immoral behaviors. The above-mentioned Barna survey reported that 59 percent of Americans approve of sexual fantasizing. Are you misusing your mind in that way? Jesus Christ explained that we can sin in our minds, even without illicit

sexual contact. Some religious people think that they can indulge in sexual fantasies without sinning. Yet carnal thoughts, including lustful thoughts that obsess about sex, are sinful. Jesus said, “But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies” (Matthew 15:18–19).

Those of you who indulge in pornography, or any sexual vice, need to repent! You need to quit sinning! You need to take steps to prevent your easy access to sexual temptations! The Apostle Paul gave this urgent instruction: “Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body” (1 Corinthians 6:18). Some think there are no penalties for easy sex, but God says that you sin against your own body!

The Apostle Paul continues, “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glo-

rify God in your body” (1 Corinthians 6:19–20, RSV).

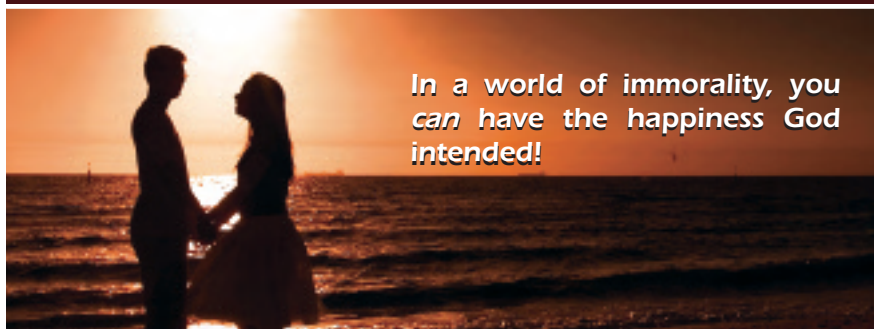
If you have not already done so, I hope you will make that commitment to glorify God in your body and in your spirit. God’s way of life through Christ is the abundant life (John 10:10). God intended that we live according to His awesome and wonderful spiritual laws of love that produce genuine happiness.

The Great Commandments

The Almighty Father, and His Son, Jesus Christ, have given us the principles, laws, and precepts that produce lasting peace and happiness. God, not mankind, defines marriage. Jesus Christ Himself taught what are called the two “great commandments”—to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves (Mark 12:28–31). The first four of the Ten Commandments show us how to fulfill the first great commandment—to love God. The last six commandments show us how to fulfill the second great commandment—to love our neigh-

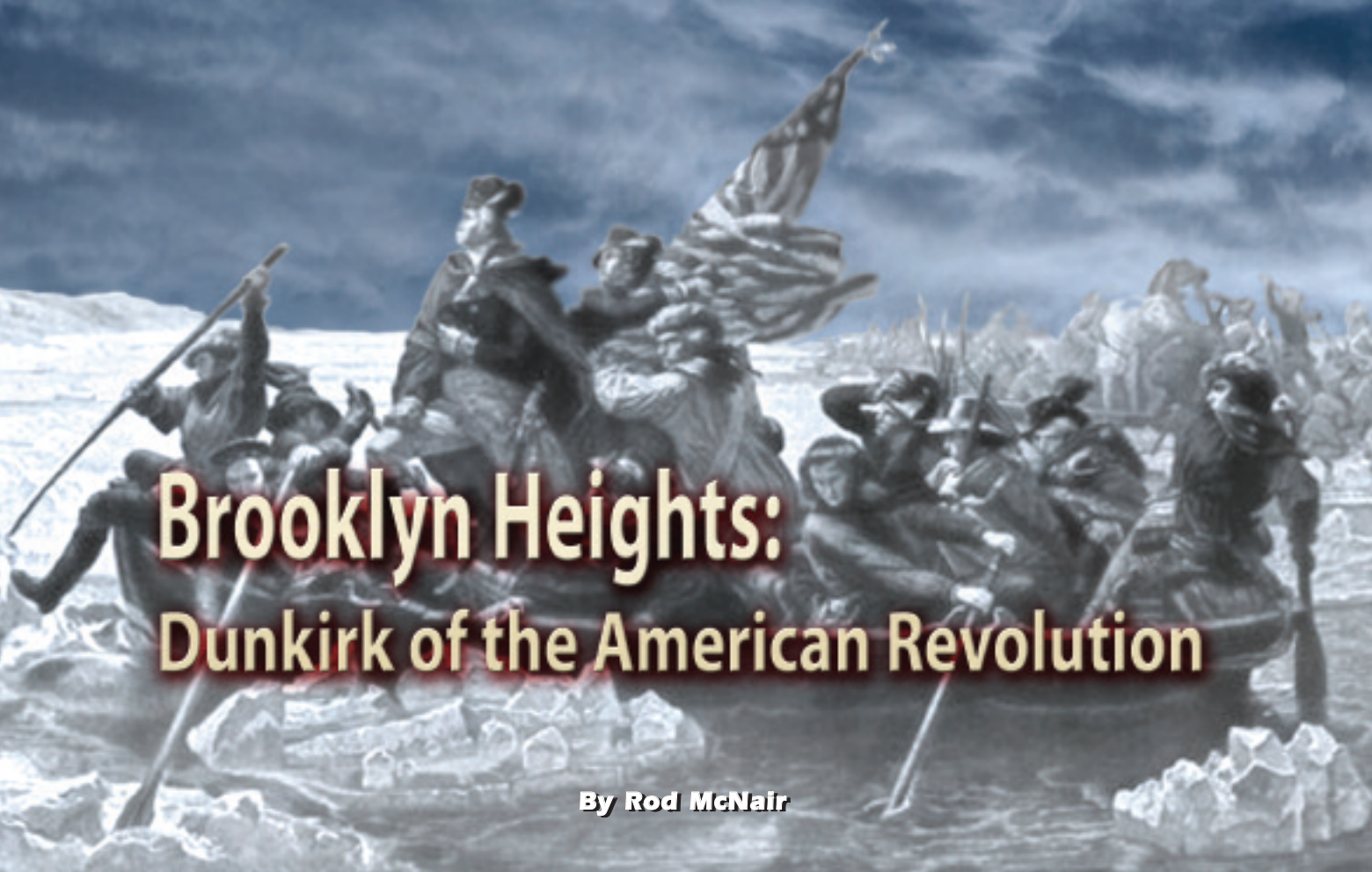
(Continued on page 29)

God’s Plan for Happy Marriage



*In a world of immorality, you **can** have the happiness God intended!*

Write for our FREE booklet, *God’s Plan for Happy Marriage?*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org.



Brooklyn Heights: Dunkirk of the American Revolution

By Rod McNair

Many have heard of the famous “miracle at Dunkirk,” in which God intervened in North Sea weather at the end of May 1940, giving British troops an unexpected means of escape from Dunkirk and changing the course of World War II.

Fewer are aware that a similar event occurred in North America in the early months of the American Revolution, on a much smaller scale but with similar far-reaching consequences. God used the weather in a surprising way to propel onto the world stage a powerful new nation—the United States. In the summer of 1776, God intervened in North American weather so that the modern descendants of Manasseh—one of the “lost ten tribes” of ancient Israel—could receive the blessings He had promised them long

before. When we see how God intervened in U.S. history more than 200 years ago, we can appreciate how to respond today when we see God acting powerfully through world events.

In the summer of 1776, success for the American Revolution was far from certain. The Continental Congress had commissioned General George Washington to serve as commander-in-chief of the American forces. After a grueling but successful siege of Boston in 1775, Washington moved to fortify New York City in anticipation of a British attack. New York was a prime focus of British military strategy. It lay in the heart of the colonies—between Philadelphia and the southern colonies to the south and New England to the north—and was “kind of key to the whole continent,” in the words of John Adams, a Continental

Congress leader who would later become the U.S.’ second President.

At the same time that the Declaration of Independence was being drafted and ratified, the British were sailing into New York Harbor. Historian David McCullough, describing the first British ships landing on June 29, 1776, wrote: “The first British sails had been sighted at the end of June, a great fleet looking, as one man said, like ‘all London afloat.’ It was a spectacle such as had never been seen in American waters. And the ships had kept coming all summer” (“What the Fog Wrought,” *What Ifs? of American History*, ed. Cowley, p. 45). On August 13, Washington reported sighting 96 more ships entering the harbor in that one day. Twenty more arrived the next day. All told, the ships anchored in New York Harbor numbered more than 400, carrying more

than 32,000 well-equipped British and German troops.

Though New York would be difficult to defend, Washington had to try to prevent the British from occupying the Hudson River Valley and splitting the 13 colonies. Not knowing where the British would attack first, he planned to divide his forces between Manhattan Island and Long Island. Washington assumed that he could move troops back and forth across the East River, as needed, *but this error in judgment almost cost him his army, and cost America the revolution.*

Preparing for the British attack, more than 12,000 American troops worked on their defenses all summer long at Brooklyn Heights, at the westernmost edge of Long Island on a bluff overlooking Manhattan Island. Finally, in late August, British General William Howe landed unopposed on Long Island, near Sandy Hook, with 20,000 troops.

On Tuesday, August 27, Howe engaged and soundly routed Washington's troops in the open fields below Brooklyn Heights. More than 1,000 Americans lost their lives, and many others were wounded or taken captive. As the British cautiously prepared to strike a final blow at American positions on the bluff, Washington faced a difficult but increasingly clear choice—to retreat or to be annihilated.

“Washington and his exhausted men fell back to the fortifications on the Heights, waiting as night fell for a final British assault, the river to the rear. *And right then and there the American cause hung in the balance*” (*ibid.*, p. 47). Most of the American soldiers were in a trap, facing 20,000 British regulars at the fore, and a

mile-wide river at their backs. All the British navy had to do was to move a few warships up the East River to prevent Washington's escape, and the war would be over, the revolution aborted.

This should have been easy for the British navy—the most powerful navy in the world. But God had other plans!

A Promise of Greatness

Students of Bible prophecy will recall that, about 2,500 years before the Battle of Brooklyn Heights, God had promised Jacob that his sons Ephraim and Manasseh would be the progenitors of two world-ruling powers. “He [Manasseh] also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; but truly his younger brother [Ephraim] shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations” (Genesis 48:19). Because of their disobedience, God delayed giving them this blessing for 2,520 years (Leviticus 26:18; for more on this point, please see “Prophecy Comes Alive” on page 14 of this issue). But by 1776, it was almost time for Manasseh to become a world super-power, as God had promised. (For more information documenting the English-speaking nations' descent from Ephraim and Manasseh, please write for your free copy of our informative booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*).

Though all seemed lost for Washington's army, God then intervened in the weather in a dramatic way. “On August 29, the temperature dropped sharply and the rain came in torrents on the unsheltered [American] army. During the afternoon, according to a diary kept by a local

Brooklyn pastor, ‘Such heavy rain fell again as can hardly be remembered.’ Muskets and powder were soaked. In some places men stood in flooded trenches in water up to their waists. Expecting the enemy to attack at any moment, they had to keep a constant watch. Many had not slept for days... *But in their misery was their salvation.* The driving rain and cold were part of a fitful, at times violent, nor-easter that had been blowing off and on for better than a week, and for all the punishment it inflicted, *the wind had kept the British ships from coming upriver with the tide. For the new nation, it was an ill wind that blew great good, so long as it held*” (*ibid.*, pp. 48–49). Was this just chance? Or was God Himself directing the affairs of the battle and movements of men, to accomplish His prophetic will?

Five British warships had tried to navigate up the East River to cut off the Americans' retreat. The ships had begun with a favorable wind, but “*miraculously the wind had veered off to the north.*” The ships, after tacking to and fro, trying to gain headway, at last gave up” (1776, McCullough, p. 175). Unmistakably, the wind *changed its course on that day* to prevent the British ships from encircling the Americans!

As Washington's soldiers tried to cross the mile-wide river, the rough current and storm made it equally impassable for them. American General Alexander McDougall, in charge of the maneuver, even told Washington it would not be possible to cross that night. But circumstances suddenly changed at “about eleven o'clock when, *as if by design*, the northeast wind died down. Then the wind shifted to the southwest and a small armada of boats

manned by more of John Glover's Massachusetts sailors and fishermen started over the river from New York" to rescue Washington's army (*ibid.*, pp. 187–188).

Now the American boats could begin to cross. Manned by Glover's sailors and fishermen, every kind of small craft was employed. All the army's provisions—men, horses, supplies, and cannon—were ferried across. One English officer contemporary to the Revolution called Washington's retreat "particularly glorious," and a later scholar would say that "a more skillful operation of this kind was never conducted." Many of the boats were loaded so heavily that the water was within inches of the gunwales (Cowley, p. 53).

Without divine help in the form of favorable wind, the Revolutionary War would have ended in disaster for Washington and his troops.

However, the harrowing ordeal did not end with the coming of dawn. As darkness gave way to early morning light, many of Washington's men were still on Long Island. They were running out of time! "But again, 'the elements' interceded, this time in the form of pea-soup fog. It was called 'a peculiar providential occurrence,' 'manifestly providential,' 'very favorable to the design,' 'an unusual fog,' 'a friendly fog,' 'an American fog.'" On the New York side there was no fog, but on the Long Island side of the river, as one American soldier recalled, "it was so dense, that I could scarcely discern a man at six yards' distance" (*ibid.*, p. 52). Even in day-

light, fog kept the entire operation concealed from the British.

The entire maneuver was completed by 7:00 a.m. the next morning, having taken 13 hours to ferry 9,000 men, their horses and their equipment across the East River.



"And in less than an hour after, the fog having dispersed, the enemy was visible on the shore we had left" (McCullough, p. 191).

How do historians assess this remarkable feat? "Skillful retirements do not win wars; but this one, like that of the British from Dunkerque in 1940, saved an army from annihilation and allowed the war to continue" (*The Oxford History of the American People*, Samuel Eliot Morison, pp. 239–240).

Fulfilled Prophecy

Though Washington's successful retreat from Brooklyn Heights was complete, the American Revolution was far from over. Continental forces had suffered a humiliating defeat, and would face more setbacks for several years before the tide turned. Yet, as at Dunkirk 164 years later, a miraculous escape across a body of water had saved an army from certain defeat or capture, allowing it to fight another day. The miraculous escape across the East River allowed the American cause to continue, and enabled *end-time prophecy about modern Israel* to be fulfilled soon thereafter.

What saved the American colonists during this opening battle of the Revolution? Was it superior firepower? Better equipment?

More highly trained officers and leadership? In every category, the British had the overwhelming advantage, and used it. Even George Washington showed his inexperience, and learned lessons from which he would benefit in later campaigns. *Except for the weather*, the outcome was almost certain, even predictable. God has shown throughout history that He intervenes in human affairs—and *He often intervenes through the weather!* For more information on how God uses the weather to intervene in human affairs, request our free booklet *Who Controls the Weather?* God uses the tools at His disposal to affect the actions of individuals and nations, including the great clashes of warfare. Notice what He asked Job: "Have you entered the treasury of snow, or have you seen the treasury of hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war?" (Job 38:22–23).

God created the universe, and can affect the outcome of any human plan or endeavor! He often uses the weather to do this. In Noah's time, God brought about the Flood as a judgment on humanity. How did He do it? By breaking up the "fountains of the great deep," and opening up the "windows of heaven" (Genesis 7:11). In delivering the Israelites from Egypt, God brought ecological disasters—"signs and wonders in the land of Egypt"—and brought a proud nation to its knees, by the work of His hand (Exodus 7:3, 5). A generation later, God gave Joshua the commission of conquering the land of Canaan. God overwhelmed the Philistines for Joshua, by casting large hailstones on them (Joshua 10:7–11).

God has intervened powerfully for modern-day Joseph—the U.S. and British Commonwealth

nations—to bring about His prophecies, according to His timetable. But as these nations reject God's commandments and turn away from Him through corruption, immorality, idolatry and practices adopted from pagan religions, how long will He continue to intervene on their behalf? Will He rescue them again and again, as He did at Brooklyn Heights in 1776 and at Dunkirk in 1940?

Blessings for Obedience

On the plains of Moab, during Israel's early days as a nation, God explained that His weather-related blessings were contingent upon the nation's obedience to Him! Moses gave Israel a warning that still applies today: "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today... The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand... But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you... The LORD will strike you... with scorching, and with mildew; they shall pursue you until you perish. And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron. The LORD will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come down on you until you are destroyed" (Deuteronomy 28:1, 12, 15, 22–24).

What is the lesson for us today? If we want God to guide us, intervene for us, and be a shield

for us personally, we must turn to Him with all our hearts and obey His commandments. We must ask for His will to be our will, and must seek Him to guide our lives in everything. He must rule our lives, just as He rules the heavens, the earth and the whole universe!

Samuel was one of Israel's most righteous leaders. When the Israelites were under threat from the warring Philistines, Samuel led Israel not just in asking for God's deliverance, but *in seeking His forgiveness through fasting and heartfelt repentance*. "Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, 'If you return to the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you, and prepare your hearts for the LORD, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines'" (1 Samuel 7:3).

Notice how the Israelites responded: "So they gathered together at Mizpah, drew water, and poured it out before the LORD. And they fasted that day, and said there, 'We have sinned against the LORD'" (v. 6). Have *you* honestly repented of a way of life contrary to God's commandments? Are you striving to live according to Christ's commandments—as He lived—even though as a fallible human being you sometimes fail and need

to repent? Are you looking to Christ as your model and standard in keeping the Sabbath and Holy Days, and submitting your life to Him in everything, asking Him to empower you through His Spirit—even to live His life in you?

Notice the dramatic result when the people, led by Samuel, sought God with their whole heart, with repentance and fasting: "Then Samuel cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him. Now as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But the LORD thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines that day, and so confused them that they were overcome before Israel... So the Philistines were subdued, and they did not come anymore into the territory of Israel" (vv. 9–10, 13).

Is God on Your Side?

How much can "thunder and lightning" do when God decides to intervene in battle? How much do we want God on our side when we are in trouble? If we want God on our side, are we truly willing to put *ourselves* on *God's* side?

As this age draws to a close, and "famines, pestilences, and

(Continued on page 29)

Who Controls the Weather?

When hurricanes, earthquakes and other weather disasters strike, is God trying to tell us something?

Write for our **FREE** booklet, **Who Controls the Weather?** or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org.

Tomorrow's Youth

In Search of the Eternal Buzz

When I was a teenager, my friends and I thought “fun” was a synonym for “happiness.” The more fun you had, the happier you would be. The longer you could prolong the fun, the greater your happiness. Of course, there was always an impediment to attaining this happiness—money. Money could pay for that trip to Pacific Ocean Park, where you could ride the biggest roller coaster for as long as you wanted. Money could provide an evening at the movies, milkshakes and French fries. It could pay for the coolest clothes and the hottest car. It might even help a young man win the heart of that “unattainable” girl, the one no one pursues because she seems too beautiful, too smart, too perfect, too *everything*—in short, too out of reach. But what if you *could* reach her? Surely that would bring you all the fun and all the thrills you could desire. Surely that would give you all the happiness you could handle. That would be the “eternal buzz.”

Today's youth are often seeking the fun that never ends, just like their parents. But the fun never lasts, and their search for true happiness feels like grasping at smoke. Sadly, many discover that the repercussions of their search *do* last—and last far longer than their fleeting attempts to find happiness in sex, drugs and all sorts of entertainment.

What would you do if you had all the money you needed to pursue the “eternal buzz”? What if you could eat anything you wanted, whenever you wanted it. What if you could have all the latest video games, and play them on the biggest and best television screen ever made? What if you could purchase any car you wanted? What if *no one* and *nothing* stood in the way of your having *any and all* of the thrills you

could imagine, for as long as you could imagine? Do you think this would bring you true happiness?

Some 3,000 years ago, one man had everything he needed to pursue the “eternal buzz.” His life can be a powerful lesson for us, if we are willing to learn from it. That man was King Solomon, the wealthiest man ever to rule Israel. He wrote about his quest for happiness, in a book that is now part of the Bible. In that book, he described his quest for happiness:

“I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine.... I made my works great I had great possessions I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings.... Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. **I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure...**” (Ecclesiastes 2:3–4, 7–8, 10).

Solomon certainly had every pleasure he could imagine! He had 700 wives and 300 concubines (wives of a lesser order). We can be certain that these were the most beautiful women in Israel and all the surrounding nations (1 Kings 11:3, 8). Solomon knew that no one had it better, and he observed, “For who can eat, or who can have enjoyment, more than I?” (Ecclesiastes 2:25).

The king was conducting a grand experiment, giving himself over to every imaginable thrill for as long as he wished, then considering what it did for him. How did he feel at the end of the day? Had he truly been happy? Was he fulfilled or empty? You might be surprised by Solomon's answer: “Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done and on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all was vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun... Therefore I hated life



because the work that was done under the sun was distressing to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind" (Ecclesiastes 2:11, 17).

Solomon had summoned the best comedians and found fun in laughter. But in the end, it did not fulfill. Neither did the best musicians, the most and the best alcohol or the biggest building projects. Neither did all his wives and the privileges of marriage. No matter how Solomon tried to grasp at happiness, it did not last. There was *no* eternal buzz!

Sadly, few know about Solomon's experiment and even fewer learn from it. Instead, they search for the thrill that will last and will satisfy—but none ever does. Of course, some thrills may be fun. But soon the thrill is gone, and we must return to the mundane activity of our lives.

In my work with young people, I enjoy seeing their idealism. Most young people like to think about philosophical questions like the ones Solomon explored. They are searching for truth and meaning. They want to make the world a better place, and to participate in worthy causes. They want to know what happiness is, to understand what makes life worth living and to discover the purpose of life.

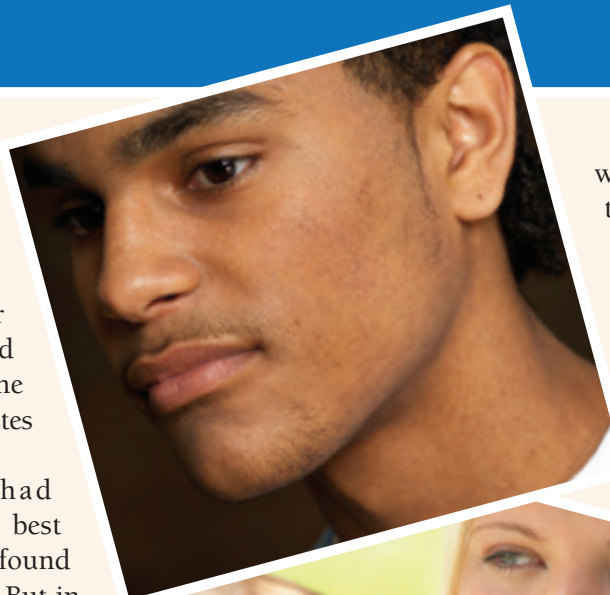
It gives me great fulfillment when I see young people choose wisely, doing things right and setting themselves on the track toward lasting happiness and success. Sometimes this means making better choices than their parents made, and often it means making better choices than their peers. But it can be done! Yes, I am a real optimist when it comes to young people; so was Solomon, and so is God!

Solomon wrote Ecclesiastes so that some would learn from him, do it right and find the true "eternal buzz." "The Preacher [Solomon] sought to find acceptable words; and what was written was upright—words of truth. The words of the wise are like goads [prods], and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd. And further, my son, be admonished by these" (Ecclesiastes 12:10–12).

The lesson of Ecclesiastes is that we can find true and lasting satisfaction not in the things we do, but rather in the way we live. Solomon counseled: "Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; walk in the ways of your heart, and in the sight of your eyes; but know that for all these God will bring you into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, and put away evil from your flesh, for childhood and youth are vanity... Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth..." (Ecclesiastes 11:9–10; 12:1).

In short, Solomon learned that while we can certainly pursue "good, clean fun," this is not an end in itself. We should always remember that there is a God who has given us His law, which shows us how to have fun today that will still be fun tomorrow. The final two verses of Ecclesiastes summarize what Solomon had learned: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:12–14). Solomon's search for the eternal buzz should be instructive to all of us—young and old alike—as we search for the true eternal happiness that will never leave us disappointed.

—Gerald Weston



A Return to New Orleans

My wife and I recently paid a short visit to Louisiana. We spent part of our trip touring the area around New Orleans, where we saw the devastation that Hurricane Katrina had caused nearly a year before. I wish everyone could see what we saw—with their own eyes, not just through the news media.

Television coverage has tended to focus on the damage that occurred in the downtown urban neighborhoods. In fact, there are vast areas beyond New Orleans—across southeast Louisiana and southern Mississippi—which look like they have been through a war. Middle-class neighborhoods, wealthy neighborhoods and poorer neighborhoods all suffered alike. Many who spent their lives working to own their own homes saw the fruits of their labors destroyed overnight.



The port of New Orleans is older than the United States itself, dating back to the days of the Spanish explorers. The New Orleans area is one of the most strategically located cities in all of America, providing logistical support to the breadbasket of the nation.

That is why the “Battle of New Orleans” in January 1815 was a key moment in American history. Without the city of New Orleans, the vast area of the Louisiana Purchase would have been practically valueless. When Hurricane Katrina hit, the Port of South Louisiana and New Orleans was the largest port in the U.S., measured by tonnage—and it was the fifth-largest in the world, exporting more than 52 million tons of cargo each year, more than half of which was agricultural produce. Another 17 million tons of cargo comes in through the port.

Because the port plays a vital role, and people are needed to work there, this has created a demand for housing in areas prone to flood damage—just as in Amsterdam, Bangkok and other low-lying

port cities. These people are vulnerable, not because they are any more (or any less) sinful than others, but because their work necessarily puts them in harm’s way.

Some have taken Hurricane Katrina lightly and said, in effect, “New Orleans deserved this hurricane,” or “this was God’s hand destroying New Orleans, because of the decadence of the city.” In reality, the Bourbon Street area—so famous for its red-light district activities—was hardly damaged at all. The French Quarter is on some of the highest ground in the area. Certainly the French Quarter has some very seedy sections, and the Mardi Gras festivities are debauchery defined, but in the overall picture, is New Orleans any worse than San Francisco, or New York or Atlanta? Can

Los Angeles or Las Vegas sneer at the vices of New Orleans? How about Hollywood and the filth it pumps out every day? For America to wag a self-righteous, hypocritical finger at the evil of New Orleans—yet ignore the vices of its other major cities—is like Sodom pointing the finger at Gomorrah.

When God uses the weather—and other catastrophes—to get the attention of our modern world and bring it to repentance, He is not just striking out at those directly affected. The call for repentance is not just for New Orleans, but for the whole U.S.—and for the whole world! If we think we are better than those who suffered and died in New Orleans, or that the disaster was not meant to warn us, we should consider Jesus Christ’s words about those who died when the tower of Siloam fell (Luke 13:4-5).

Seeing New Orleans again gave me a sense of what the future holds for so many of the cities of our land, when we as a nation are removed from the protection of God’s hand. God speed Christ’s return, and the end of these perilous times!

—Jonathan McNair

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I wish to thank you very much for sending me *Tomorrow's World*. I have found great satisfaction and peace of mind in each issue. *Tomorrow's World* has been of great help to me in understanding the Bible and seeking the truth. I have found through your kindness many truths that would otherwise have escaped my attention through my own study of Scripture. I always look forward to the coming issue. Thank you for helping me find the truth.

V. P., Niagara, ON, Canada

I received my copy of *Tomorrow's World* today, and immediately read the article entitled "A New Covenant?" I have to compliment you on your article "A New Covenant?" (November-December 2005). I am pleased to see such genuine writing and expression of truth in this day of moral compromise and deceitful teachings. I look forward to reading the remainder of this issue and can hardly wait until the next one comes out. Thank you for the work you do. It was your literature that convinced me to accept the correct Sabbath and I am making an effort not to participate in the so-called Christian celebrations and making God's appointed Feasts the ones I celebrate.

V. M., Red Deer, AB, Canada

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of *Tomorrow's World*. I found it very informative, especially the article on "Who Is Burning In Hell?" (January-February 2006). After reading the entire mailing in one day, I was left craving more. The next day I received your booklet, *The Holy Days: God's Master Plan*. Thank you for sharing this informative booklet.

C. B., Pineville, LA

I would appreciate your stopping all mailings. Richard Ames' article "Who Is Burning in Hell?" (January-February 2006) was over the top and

very disturbing. As I was reading the article I actually felt evil coming off the pages and had to trash the magazine before I could complete my reading. I realize this sounds weird but was a very strange sensation. I am not going to quote a lot of scripture. I also am certainly not going to use Dante's work as a basis to support my argument. It is hard to imagine that less than 75 years after Christ's resurrection there were already a multitude of so-called church leaders diluting the word of God and what Christ truly represented. God bless, I will pray for you and hope to see you in heaven.

J. B., Alpharetta, GA

Editor's Note: You may find it hard to imagine, but the historical record demonstrates that within a generation of Christ's resurrection there were already several competing ideologies claiming to be "Christian." To learn more about the amazing history of true Christianity, please write for your free copy of our booklet, *God's Church Through the Ages*.

Thank you for all the reading material you have sent me. Your knowledge of the Bible has truly enlightened me. Your research for the truth is evident in your seamless understanding of God's word through the Bible. The issue about the Sabbath day change to Sunday really woke me up! Finding the real truth in God's word is beginning to consume my everyday life.

C. B., Chandler, IN

When I started with you newly I was thinking that your organization is just like many other so-called Christian organizations. In fact, I was contemplating to stop my subscription. But when I studied Lesson Three of the *Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course*, I came to understand the services your ministry is rendering to us subscribers.

S. T., Bauchi, Nigeria

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.

Modern Nations

(Continued from page 13)

Israelite nations that have forgotten their God (Isaiah 10:5–7; 24–25). Just like their ancient ancestors, the modern Assyrians have espoused a “master race” philosophy, have acquired a reputation for a certain aloofness and arrogance and have executed military operations with deadly precision and efficiency (Isaiah 10:8–14). Though few modern scholars look to the Bible for clues to understand geopolitics, the Bible’s prophetic references to Assyria in the “last days” do indeed point to modern Germany.

Legends indicate that Germany’s oldest city, Trier, grew from an Assyrian colony founded on the site around 2000BC. Arab sources in the 1400s refer to the Germans as Assyriana. The Assyrians and their allies were the earliest nations to use iron weapons, and iron has played a notable role in German social history. Charlemagne ruled from Aachen in present day Germany. He wore a suit of iron armor and “took the iron crown of Lombardy” to become the king of the Franks and Lombards (*Germany, Her People and their Story*, Gifford, p. 35). From 1813 through the end of World War II, German soldiers were awarded the Iron Cross for their meritorious service in war. German leader Otto von Bismarck acquired the nickname “the Iron Chancellor” for his memorable words that the great problems of the age would be solved by “blood and iron.”

Prophecies in Daniel indicate that “at the time of the end” the German-led European “beast power” (called “the king of the North”) will engage in military operations in the Middle East. In

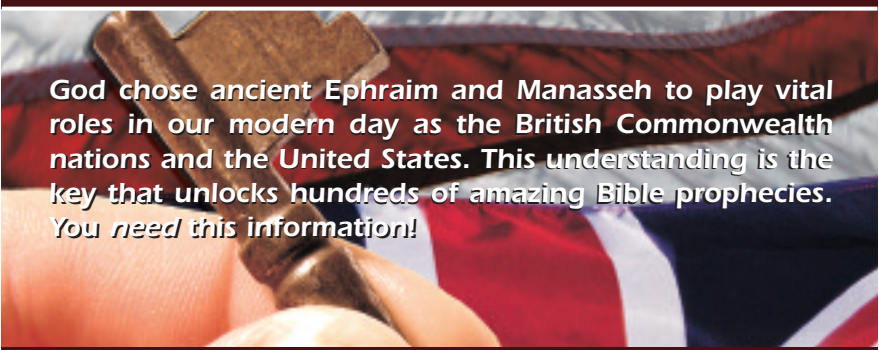
response to provocation from “the king of the South”—a power south of Jerusalem—the Europeans will overrun nations including Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia (Daniel 11:40–43). From the prophecies, it appears that control of precious natural resources will be at issue (Daniel 11:43). However, the invading European power will be troubled by news “from the east and the north”—the directions of Russia and China (Daniel 11:44). Other prophecies indicate that the “kings of the East” will also move toward the European armies in the Middle East, leading to a final conflagration at Armageddon at the end of the age (Revelation 16:12–16).

Those prophecies describe the very conditions that are developing in Europe, the Middle East and Asia today. The European Union is developing its own military force and is looking for ways to become significantly involved in the Middle East as a “peacekeeper.” China continues to build up its military capabilities, and its need for resources is expanding as its economy and population grows. Europe, Russia and China are all competing for the earth’s limited supplies of oil and precious metals. The long history of conflict

between the Muslim world and Roman Catholicism is also resurfacing. Bible prophecies indicate that world events will come to a climax in the Middle East just before the return of Jesus Christ—probably within the lifetime of most who are reading this article!

Daniel was given prophecies that reveal “what will be in the latter days,” and was told that the prophecies are “sure” and “will come to pass” (Daniel 2:28, 45). The prophet Amos was told, “Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets” (Amos 3:7). Jesus told His disciples to watch world events and warn the world about the prophetic significance of events that would arise on a global scale just before the end of the age and the return of Jesus Christ. The Apostle Peter explained that the Church of God has a “more sure word of prophecy” (2 Peter 1:19, KJV). One reason for this certainty is that the apostles, like the Church of God today, knew the roles of the different national identities in Bible prophecy. You, too, can grow in this understanding by studying Bible prophecies, watching world news and reading *Tomorrow’s World*. ■

The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy



God chose ancient Ephraim and Manasseh to play vital roles in our modern day as the British Commonwealth nations and the United States. This understanding is the key that unlocks hundreds of amazing Bible prophecies. You need this information!

Write for our **FREE** booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site www.tomorrowworld.org.

America's Moral Meltdown

(Continued from page 19)

bors. Yes, in order to fulfill Jesus' command, we need to study and obey the Ten Commandments!

Sadly, our Western world is heading down a toboggan slide into immorality! What is the solution? We need to repent—nationally and individually—of our lustful, sinful lifestyles and attitudes. We need to get back to Scripture and the Ten Commandments!

Many years ago, in 1975, a television reporter asked me my appraisal of American morality. I answered, even then, that morality and godly character among Americans had declined—because biblical values were declining. When a nation reads the Bible and practices its precepts, it will prosper. But great neglect of the Bible and its teaching will continue to produce moral decline—and eventual national destruction.

Daniel Webster, the great American statesman, gave this warning about our national future: "If there is anything in my thoughts or style to commend, the credit is due to my parents for instilling in me an early love of the Scriptures. If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to

prosper; but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity" (*Halley's Bible Handbook*, p. 18).

Our Western nations are neglecting—and increasingly rejecting—the instruction and authority of the Bible. We need to study the Bible and practice the way of life taught by the apostles, the prophets—and our Savior, Jesus Christ. They taught the Ten Commandments—God's law of love—and its spiritual application. As Jesus said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God'" (Luke 4:4). May we each put God's word into action, in our hearts and in our lives!

The time is coming soon when God will punish America and the other Western nations for their immoral ways. But even if your nation does not change its ways, *you* can repent personally, turn to your Savior, Jesus Christ, and escape that time of judgment. Will you accept the challenge to live the abundant way of life taught in your Bible? If you do, you can rejoice in God's divine blessings, receiving in this life a foretaste of what the whole earth will experience in Tomorrow's World. ■

Brooklyn Heights

(Continued from page 23)

earthquakes in various places" occur as prophecy foretells (Matthew 24:7), are you personally striving to grow close to God, in obedience to Jesus Christ? We must put our faith in a personal and real God, whom we must obey! Jesus reminded us: "But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:34–36).

There is another little-known fact about the Battle of Brooklyn Heights. Long before the British arrived in New York, *George*

Washington had called for a day of fasting and prayer! As commentator William Bennett notes, "Waiting in New York for the British General Howe and his troops to return from Halifax, Washington issued the order on May 15 for prayer, fasting, and humble supplication to the Lord for His continued blessings" (*The Spirit of America*, Bennett, pp. 393–394). Washington was beseeching God for success—and for His personal guidance—three months before that crucial battle! Bennett continues: "Looking back, we can see that the American cause for liberty should have probably ended right then and there in New York, where American troops were outnumbered and outgunned nearly three to one by the British troops and armada" (*ibid.*)

"At the battle of Brooklyn Heights, the American troops lost more than 1,000 men. The British were on the verge of capturing all our troops and bringing the rebel-

lion to an early close. But the British, for some reason, delayed the final siege. Then, rain and fog miraculously set in, providing cover for the American troops to evacuate Long Island undetected across the river... The divine hand of providence seemed to be at work, answering the supplications of Washington and his troops. In war, in peace, in deliberation, on rising, on going to bed, our greatest president called on and renewed his faith" (*ibid.*).

Just as God intervened on behalf of Washington and his army, He will intervene in your life if you wholeheartedly seek Him. If you turn to Him, pour out your heart to Him, and strive to obey Him with every fiber of your being, He will guide you, protect you and bless you! In a society increasingly turning away from God, it is up to *you* to personally ask Him to be your shield and your bulwark—your Savior—in difficult times ahead! ■

Satan's Attack on the Bible

(Continued from page 2)

ation could so clearly reveal such events of enormous significance so many years in advance!

Another of the *many* signs of the Bible's divine inspiration is that Isaiah names the great Persian Emperor, Cyrus, years before Cyrus was born! Notice: "Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—to subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings, to open before him the double doors, so that the gates will not be shut" (Isaiah 45:1). Unbelievers and secular historians have long wrestled with this problem! How could God possibly describe and even directly "name" a great pagan emperor so far in advance? Textual scholars widely acknowledge that Isaiah prophesied from about 745 to 695BC, *more than 150 years before the days of Cyrus!* Yet God inspired Isaiah to call Cyrus by name, and to predict that Cyrus would "rebuild" a temple that in Isaiah's day had not yet fallen (Isaiah 44:28)!

In our *own day*, my friends, this very Work that publishes the *Tomorrow's World* magazine you are now reading has repeatedly and *explicitly* described literally *dozens* of major events that have happened, *are happening* or soon *will* happen in world events! Because of our understanding of Bible prophecy, we in this Work described the fall of the Berlin Wall *long before* it occurred. I have repeatedly preached and written that the major sea "gates" (Genesis 22:17; 24:60) that formerly belonged to the British and American peoples would be *taken away* by Gentile nations if our national sins continued. Now, only two of these major gates remain in our possession. For Singapore and the Strait of Malacca are gone. The Panama Canal is gone. The Suez Canal, the Bab el Mandeb and the Strait of Hormuz are gone. The Simonstown sea base controlling the tip of South Africa is gone. *Only* the Falkland Islands and the Strait of Gibraltar remain under British control—and even these are the subject of repeated challenges and disputes. How much longer will it be

until *all* these sea gates are taken away from the English-speaking peoples?

In this magazine, we have repeatedly written—as I have personally preached *for decades*—that the British-descended and American peoples would be brought down, and the pride of their power would be "broken" (Leviticus 26:19) unless they would come to profound *national repentance*. Already, we see that the British Empire is *no more*. We see that the American dollar is crashing. We see that America and Britain are hated all over the world with growing fury by increasing millions upon millions of people. We see American strength being expended so fully in the Middle East and elsewhere that the U.S. will soon have *very little left*—either militarily or financially—with which to carry on as a great power in the world.

What is going on? The *answer* is clearly and dramatically revealed in our inspiring booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*. It reveals the Bible prophecies that explain what is happening in our nations today. Do you doubt the Bible, or wonder why others doubt it? If so, you need to write for your free copy of our newest booklet, *The Bible: Fact or Fiction?* This important and enlightening booklet will help you understand and withstand the Satanic propaganda now pouring forth to discredit the Bible.

You need both of these booklets. If you do not already have them, please call or write us and request your *free* copies. Then, please *study* them with an open mind, ask God for *understanding*, and be willing to *act* on the truth that the great Creator is working out His purpose here below—and that the Holy Bible is His *inspired* revelation to mankind! Also, please read my article on page 4 of this issue, which describes how the Bible really does *mean* what it says. For you, personally, need not only to *know* the Truth, but to *act* on the Truth and fulfill the purpose for which you were created!



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TOMORROW'S WORLD

Television and Radio Log

INTERNATIONAL:

—AUSTRALIA

NSW, Sydney: Nine Network—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am
NT, Darwin: Nine Network—SUN 5:00 am
QLD, Brisbane: Nine Network—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am
 Briz 31-Ch 31, SUN 9:00 am
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

—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: Inspiration International Network-SKY-TV—Ch 767,
 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, MON 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, Prescott: Cable—Ch 13, SAT 5:30 pm; SUN 6:30 am
AZ, Tucson: Access—Ch 73, SAT 11:30 am; SUN 9:30 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, Hollywood: Comcast—Ch 24 & 27, SUN 8:00 am & 11:00 am
CA, Livermore: Comcast—Ch 26, THUR 2:30 pm
CA, Modesto: Community Media—Ch 8, TUE 3:00 pm
CA, North Orange County: Adelphia—Ch 95/97/98m SUN 3:30 pm
CA, Orange County: Cox—Ch 109, SUN 5:00 am
CA, Pittsburgh: Comcast—Ch 26, THUR 1:30 am
CA, Sacramento: RCCTV—Ch 19, MON 5:30 pm
CA, San Diego: Cox—Ch 18 & 23, THUR 6:00 pm
CA, San Diego: Time Warner—Ch 19, SUN 10:30 pm
CA, San Francisco: Access TV—Ch 29, TUE 7:30 pm
CA, San Jose: Community TV—Ch 15A, SAT 11:30 pm
CA, Sonoma: 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
DC, Washington: American Life Network—Cable, SUN 9:00 am ET
FL, Davie: Comcast—Ch 76, SUN 8:00 am
FL, Ft. Lauderdale: Comcast—Ch 76, SUN 8:30 am
FL, Gainesville: Cox—Ch 55, SUN 8:00 pm
FL, Hialeah/Coral Gables: Comcast—Ch 19, SUN 7:30 pm
FL, Key West: Comcast—Ch 19, SUN 8:30 am
FL, Margate/Sunrise/Plantation: Comcast—Ch 76, SUN 7:00 pm
FL, Miramar: Comcast—Ch 19876 SUN 7:30 am
FL, North Dade: Comcast—Ch 19, SUN 7:30 am
FL, Ocala: Cox—Ch 71, SUN 10:00 am
FL, Pompano: Comcast—Ch 76, SUN 7:30 pm
FL, South Broward: Comcast—Ch 79, SUN 8:00 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
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: MediaCom—Ch 16, THUR 8:00 pm;
 MON 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm; TUE 10:00 pm; WED 2:00 pm
ID, Boise: TTVV—Ch 11, SUN 9:30 am
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 19, MON 4:30 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
KY, Latonia: PEG 17—Ch 17, WED 5:30 pm; THUR 12:00 am
KY, Lexington: Ch 14, Check Local Listing
KY, Louisville: Insight—Ch 2, SAT 12:00 am
LA, Baton Rouge: KZUP—Ch 44, SUN 8:00 am
LA, Lafayette: KATC—Ch 3, SUN 9:00 am
LA, New Orleans: WHNO—Ch 20, SUN 8:30 am
LA, Shreveport: KSHV—Ch 45, SUN 8:30 am
MA, Cambridge: CCTV—Ch 22, FRI 11:00 am; SUN 3:00 pm,
 WED 9:00 am
MA, Malden: Access TV—Ch 3, SUN 11:00 am
MD, Rockville: Community TV—Ch 19, SAT 5:30 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: HCYN—Ch 10, FRI 4:00 pm; TUE 4:00 pm
MN, Minneapolis: Metro Cable—Ch 6, SAT 8:30 am
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 14, TUE 8:00 pm; WED 4:00 am & 12:00 pm
MN, St. Paul: SPNN—Ch 14, SUN 8:30 pm
MO, Columbia: KRCG-TV—Ch 13, SUN 6:30 am
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 7:00 am; SUN 9:00 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 10:30 pm
NM, Albuquerque: CCC27—Ch 27, SUN 6:30 pm
NM, Rio Rancho: Cable One—Ch 51, THUR 7:00 pm
NV, Carson City: SNCAT—Ch 10, SUN 6:00 pm
NV, Gardnerville: Community Access—Ch 26, SAT 3:30
 am & 3:30 pm; SUN 3:30 am & 3:30 pm
NV, Reno/Sparks: SNCAT—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 7:00 am
NY, Brooklyn: BCAT—Ch 35/68, SUN 7:30 am
NY, Buffalo: Adelphia—Ch 20, THUR 10:30 am
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 pm
NY, Hauppauge: Cablevision—Ch 20, SAT 7:00 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 57/85, FRI 11:00 am
NY, Oneonta: 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, WED 3:30 pm
NY, Rochester: Community TV—Ch 15, SAT 7:30 am; SUN 6:30 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, Webster: WCA-TV—Ch 12, SUN 11:00 am
NY, West Seneca: Adelphia—Ch 20, MON 11:35 pm
NY, Woodbury: Cablevision—Ch 20, FRI 11:30 am
OH, Centerville: MYCC—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: KFTO—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
OR, Willamette Falls: WFTV—Ch 23, FRI 4:00 pm; SAT 8:30 am;
 SUN 8:30 am; WED 4:00 pm
PA, Johnstown: Atlantic Broadband—Ch 9, MON 10:00 pm
PA, Philadelphia: Time Warner—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
TN, Chattanooga: WDEF—Ch 12, SUN 8:30 am
TN, Knoxville: WVLTV—Ch 8, SUN 6:30 am
TN, La Follette: WLAF—Ch 12, TUE 10:30 pm
TN, Memphis: WPTV—Ch 24, SUN 6:30 am
TN, Nashville: WZTV—Ch 17, SUN 6:30 am
TN, Austin: Community Access—Ch 11, WED 7:00 pm
TX, Bryan: KYLE-TV—Ch 44, SUN 7:00 am
TX, Dallas: Community Television—Ch 14b, SAT 1:00 pm;
 SUN 11:00 am
TX, Dallas: KFWB-TV—Ch 52, SUN 8:00 am
TX, Lufkin: KTRK—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: KWT—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am
TX, Waco: KWKT-TV—Ch 44, SUN 7:00 am
VA, Charlottesville: Adelphia—Ch 13, MON 1:00 pm & 6:30 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 99 & 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 9:30 am
WI, Wausau: Charter—Ch 10, THUR 9:00 pm; FRI 7:30 am
WY, Casper: KTWO—Ch 2, SUN 10:00 am
WY, Cheyenne: KLWY—Ch 27, SUN 6:00 am

RADIO STATIONS:

Argentina, Bahia Blanca: Vida—107.7 FM, MON 8:00 pm;
 THUR 12:00 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
Guyana, Georgetown: NCN—560 AM, TUE 7:30 pm
Martinique: Radio Banlieue-Relax—103.4 FM, SUN 6:15 am
Peru, Cerro de Pasco: 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
South Africa, West Coast: 92.3 FM
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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ICELAND:

Reykjavik: *Gospel Channel*—SUN 7:00 am

Satellites: *Eurobird*—Ch 770, *Hotbird* 6, *Thor II*

NEW TELEVISION STATIONS:

AZ, Phoenix: *KAZT-TV*—Multi, SUN 10:00 am

MA, Everett: *Community TV*—Ch 3, TUE 1:00 pm

TN, Knoxville: *WVLR-TV*—Ch 48, SUN 7:30 am

TX, Houston: *TVMAX*—Cable, SUN 9:00 am

WA, Seattle: *Comcast*—Ch 17, THUR 6:30 am



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