



#### LOOK TO GOD!

Events are moving, more swiftly now than ever before, toward the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. He will soon be here on earth as King of kings. We can rejoice! Yet, as we should all know, it will definitely grow darker just before the dawn.

When we understand God's purpose in dealing with the nations of this world, we will not become anxious or discouraged, even though there may be sadness and despair all around us. After describing the terrible wars, famine, pestilence and great earthquakes that will strike our end-time generation, Jesus said: "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near" (Luke 21:28).

Our eyes should "look up" to God, and to the living Jesus Christ at His right hand, understanding how and why they are planning and orchestrating world events to bring about God's Kingdom on planet Earth. As Christians, we should continually "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). As we grow, we should gain more and more of the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5). We should increasingly be able to see things from the point of view of our Savior, who sits at the right hand of the Father. Mankind now possesses weapons of mass destruction that could erase human life from this entire planet. Apart from God, these weapons would be used. So all of us should cry out to God, with King David of Israel: "Arise, O LORD, do not let man prevail; let the nations be judged in Your sight. Put them in fear, O LORD, that the nations may know themselves to be but men. Selah" (Psalm 9:19-20).

In fact, the proper "fear" of God—the profound awe, respect and worship of the great Being who created and now rules the heaven and earth—is a great source of wisdom, faith and courage. As we are told in Proverbs 9:10: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." As David was inspired to write: "The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble. And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; for You, LORD, have not forsaken

those who seek You" (Psalm 9:9–10). If we truly know God's "name"—His enormous love, wisdom, power and mercy—we will have a peace of mind that is incomprehensible to carnal people of this world. Even as a prisoner in chains—constantly in danger of being beaten or executed—the Apostle Paul exhorted: "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:4–7).

Rejoice?

Even while in chains and guarded by a Roman soldier? Yes! Because God was absolutely "real" to the Apostle Paul. As Jesus did in human flesh, and as all of God's faithful servants have done through the ages, Paul prayed to God morning and night, studied or meditated continually on God's Word and His will, communed with God, walked and talked with God and made God the very center of his entire being. Therefore, with each passing year, Paul learned more and more how to look at things from God's point of view. He learned to see God's wisdom and purpose in allowing, and sometimes even orchestrating, events here on earth so that His overall Plan for mankind would be worked out.

Remember, when ancient King Nebuchadnezzar invaded and conquered Judah, it was not an accident. "Time and chance" (Ecclesiastes 9:11) was not involved. For God had repeatedly warned the people of Judah to repent and return to Him. But they would not. So God used King Nebuchadnezzar as a tool in His hands to invade and conquer Judah—to be God's instrument in chastening and humbling Judah to bring about real repentance! Notice carefully the message God sent to Judah through the prophet Jeremiah: "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words, behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the LORD, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of

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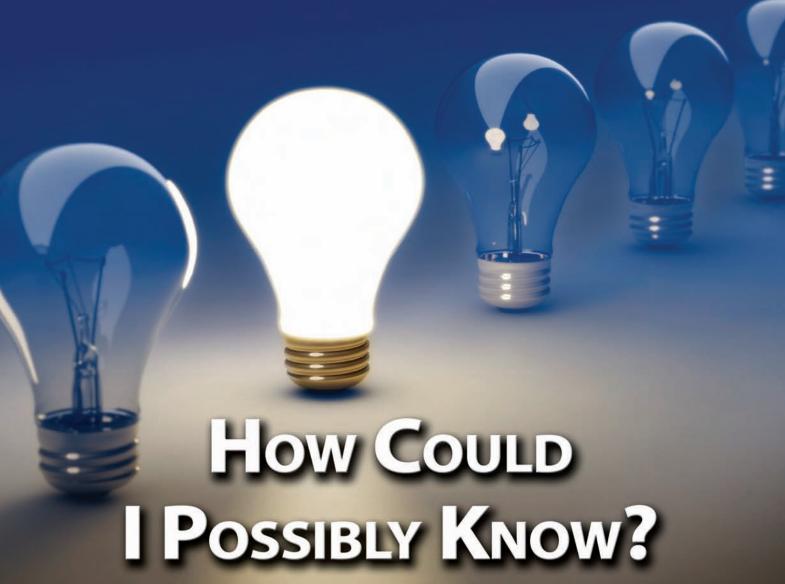
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By Roderick C. Meredith

y friends, as most of you long-time Tomorrow's World readers know, this Work is definitely different! The worldwide Work not only of this magazine, but also of the Tomorrow's World television program, as well as the www.tomorrowsworld.org Web site, our dozens of informative booklets, our Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course and many other facets, goes way beyond what virtually all other religious works on earth are able to do. What do I mean by that? Why is this possible?

You subscribers deserve to know. So I am now going to set out, rather briefly, five key predictions we in this Work have made and will continue to make that are certainly not understood by mainstream Christianity or even by most others who profess to understand biblical prophecy. These predictions are enormously important! For they will affect your very life, your future and the future of your family and loved ones. So read on!

- Britain will get out-or be pushed out-of the European Union. Very few indeed understand this. But with the understanding that we in this Work have in biblical prophecy, I personally have indicated this coming event for many, many years. Watch for it!
- The European Union will reorganize and become much more wealthy than China! Again, many political pundits think this is becoming "China's Century." They now see the European Union seemingly coming apart with various stresses—including the financial crisis and the rise of Islam, etc. But within the next several years, a reorganized European Unionprobably called by some other name—will become immensely wealthy and dominate the entire world scene, including China!

- A charismatic religious leader will soon arise in Europe and mightily influence not only Europe but most of the entire world. This religious leader will "seem" to be a very loving and very dedicated servant of God. Before it is all over, he will even perform powerful miracles that will startle the entire world and cause people to rush into his embrace in a fashion that most Americans cannot now understand. This powerful religious movement in Europe—under the influence of this religious leader-will vastly change your life.
- Europe will continue to be buffeted by the twin attacks of secularism and radical Islamism. In response to the God-rejecting secularists and the Islamists who want to do away with historic European values, this powerful religious leader-and the military force under his sway-will mount a powerful counter attack against the secular and Islamist forces that are now beginning to push their way into Europe and change the entire face of European society. This will begin within the next few years. Watch for it!
- Even though we in America deeply love our country, the United States of America will not somehow "muddle through" this time. Our financial decline—and our military, moral and spiritual declinewill continue. For America has truly turned away from the God of the Bible. Unless there is a genuine national repentance such as has never taken place before, our beloved nation will continue—with fits and starts—its downward spiral of financial, moral and finally military collapse.

Several other "key" events could be mentioned. But just these five events of world-shaking proportions should be enough to make my point! For these events alone will change everything around you! Your personal "world"—your friends and your surroundings and your job—will never be the same!

#### Few Understand!

Although many religionists talk about the "end of the world," they almost always do so in very general terms. Although many preachers talk about Christ's Second Coming, they are simply not able to list the specific events—as I have just stated above—that will precede His return and, furthermore, they generally do not have any idea as to how long it will be before these events take place.

How can I possibly "know" that these truly enormous events will soon occur-within the lifetimes of most of you reading this article?

The answer involves what makes Tomorrow's World magazine and Tomorrow's World television program very "different" from other organizations! For although many churches and religious leaders have bits and pieces of biblical truth, they do not-and indeed dare notmake these specific predictions that I have just made. For they definitely do not understand.

#### Why?

Because God's inspired word tells us over and over that the vast majority of humanity is blinded to the real God and to His Truth. Even most professing Christians are actually part of this world and will be deceived by Satan the Devil. Remember these basic scriptures we have cited to you again and again?

Revelation 12:9 describes the powerful spirit being "called the Devil and Satan, who deceives

- the **whole world**." Do you *believe* this inspired scripture?
- 2 Corinthians 4:3–4: "But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them." Here, the Apostle Paul clearly tells us that Satan, the "god of this age" has blinded most human beings.
- Ephesians 2:2: The inspired Apostle Paul is here describing Satan the Devil as "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience." For Satan is busy! He is actually "in charge" of this world—its society, its politics and governments, its media and its educational systems. He uses all these tools and more to completely deceive the vast majority of human beings, as Revelation 12:9 clearly states.
- Matthew 7:21–23: "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'"

#### Knowledge And Obedience

Jesus Christ Himself states that "many" obviously religious people who think that they "know the Lord" will claim that they have served Jesus. He corrects them by saying, "I never knew you; depart

from me, you who practice lawlessness!" These people obviously think that they "love" Jesus. They may talk about Him, and profess to follow Him. But they do not do what He says. They are not willing to follow His example and literally obev God's Ten Commandments and follow the way of life that Christ exemplified throughout His entire ministry. For Jesus was the perfect example. Jesus Christ did obey God's commandments. He stated, "I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in His love" (John 15:10). And His inspired word tells



us, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). So by *Christ living within us* through the Holy Spirit, true Christians are able to keep the Ten Commandments as a way of life!

Why is it that people think that they "know God" and expect His blessing when they simply *refuse* to obey the magnificent spiritual law which He gave and which Jesus explained and expounded over and over throughout His entire ministry?

Because they are spiritually "blinded," most people seem unaware of literally scores of statements in the New Testament such as Revelation 14:12, "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." As you can see, this verse gives us God's description of true saints, not Catholic heroes worshiped as idols, nor Protestants simply "loving the

Lord." Rather, this describes those *genuine* saints who are willing to **obey** their Creator, and to surrender so that Christ may *live His life* within them through the Holy Spirit (Galatians 2:20). Blinded churchgoers seem unable to understand or apply the inspired Apostle John's description of what *true* Christian "love" is all about: "For this is the love of God, that we *keep* His commandments. And His commandments are **not** burdensome" (1 John 5:3).

So, "in that day" when Christ returns as King of kings (Revelation 11:15), He will reject those religious people who simply will not obey God's laws! For they are not surrendered to let God build within them His very character—the character they will need to be the kings and priests whom Christ and the Father are now preparing to assist Christ in ruling this earth in Tomorrow's World (Revelation 2:26–27; 5:9–10)!

Furthermore, God's inspired word tells us, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever" (Psalm 111:10). So although many people think that they understand the future and suppose they understand the inspired prophecies of the Bible, only those who genuinely obey God's commandments are given true understanding. Remember, please, Adam and Eve took of "the tree of the knowledge of good and evil" (Genesis 2:9). Ever since, mankind has been constantly partaking of this same tree a "mixture" of truth and error! The religions of this world have been partaking of this same tree. So even the professing "Christian" religions of this world have a "mixture" of good and evil. They have adapted literally scores of doctrines and practices straight out of paganismas we have documented many times. They have soundly rejected the direct commands in the New Testament to *keep* all of God's Ten Commandments—not merely some "new commandments" given by Jesus. Now, as the basic morality of our western nations crumbles before our very eyes, millions are wondering, "What's happening?"

Of course, we must remember that God has blinded most of these people—as His word makes clear. So we who understand should have every sympathy and complete outflowing concern for these blinded people until God calls them in His time! Meanwhile, however, those of you who are having your eyes opened, do not be deceived by this "mixture" of good and evil and

this mixture of "generalized" prophetic statements made by various religious leaders who are simply *not able* to understand or grasp the specific end-time prophecies which we clearly explain to you in our telecasts and in this magazine! We have a responsibility to *help you* understand the Truth! So it is only in that light that I make these statements.

#### A "Little Flock" Protected

Somewhere on this earth, the Eternal God has a "little flock" (Luke 12:32)—His Church. Twelve times in the New Testament, God's inspired word shows that His Church is *called by His* name. Over and over, as we have seen, God

instructs His true people to keep His commandments. In Revelation 12:6, God describes the true Church—symbolized "woman"—having to flee "into the wilderness." In the past, this took place during the early years of the Dark Ages, when God's Church fled the bounds of the Roman Empire for 1,260 prophetic "days"-meaning 1,260 literal years. Another flight is ahead for God's people; verse 7 describes a powerful war that will break out in heaven, when Satan and his demons make one final assault on God's Throne at the time of the end—but do not succeed. God's people are told that after Satan is cast down, "woe" is just ahead, "For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath,

#### **Politics or Prophecy?**

The Work behind *Tomorrow's World* has for decades clearly proclaimed the Bible's scenario for end-time prophecy. Because we understand that the United States, Great Britain and the nations of northwestern Europe are descended from the "Lost Ten Tribes" of ancient Israel, we recognize prophetic trends developing in a way that few other observers can. We understand that Germany—the modern European nation descended from ancient Assyria—will play a central role in end-time prophetic developments, and that the modern people of Judah will, in the modern nation of Israel, be at the center of the fulfillment of ancient prophecies.

How can we possibly know all this? We know because we trust the words of Scripture, not the passing political fads and fancies that have distracted careless Bible readers over the centuries.

For more than four decades after World War II, the threat of world communism—the "Cold War" clash between the U.S. and Soviet Union and their respective allies and satellite states—dominated world politics. Sadly, it also dominated the prophecy teaching of many self-styled ministers.

Who is the "Beast" of Revelation? Popular theories have pointed to U.S. Presidents, popes, or even popular entertainers. The Bible, however, explains plainly that this Beast will be a revival of the Roman Empire, under the sway of a powerful false religious system.

Protestant ministers commonly teach that the Roman Church or its leader is the "Antichrist" or the "False Prophet" of Revelation. Yet, shockingly, countless Protestant teachers continue to promote many false doctrines taught by that same "Antichrist" they claim to protest!

This Work, by contrast, recognizes itself as the "little flock" of whom Christ spoke (Luke 12:32). Its teachings are not those of a great false church professing to be "Christian." Nor is its message a "reform" or "protest" against those teachings. Rather, we proclaim the plain words of Jesus Christ and the Apostles.

Christ taught His followers to live by "every word of God" (Luke 4:4). Among those words are those of the Old Testament prophets, who identify Assyria as God's instrument to punish end-time Israel for its rejection of His ways.

Today, you can find "religious" magazines that draw their "prophetic" understanding from *Stratfor Reports* or *The Huffington Post*. For as long as their political analysis is sound, they may seem to offer accurate prophetic teaching. But by relying on political analysis over Scripture, they invariably fail in the end.

*Tomorrow's World*, though, is different. A rarity in our day, we look at geopolitics through the lens of Bible prophecy, not the other way around.

—William Bowmer

because he knows that he has a short time" (v. 12). At this time, God describes in verses 13–14 how the true Church will have to "fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time [three-and-a-half years], from the presence of the serpent."

The Eternal God will prepare a place—somewhere on this earth—where He will supernaturally protect His most faithful people during the coming time of "great wrath" after Satan is cast back down, a time that Jesus Christ called the "Great Tribulation." The "woman" spoken of throughout Revelation 12 is identified as the Church—including those at the very end of this age "who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (v. 17).

In Revelation 3:7-13, God describes the sixth era of His Church—the most faithful of all eras—occurring soon before Christ's return. He tells them, "Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth" (v. 10). This is God's promise to protect His people from the coming "hour of trial" that will begin not very many years from now. It will come upon the "whole world"-as this verse attests-so it is very important for us to be among God's truly faithful people if we heartfeltly desire to escape, and if we really want to be in God's coming Kingdom in the first resurrection, which God calls the "better resurrection" (Hebrews 11:35).

Dear friends and subscribers, I have briefly listed for you five "key" events that will soon affect billions of human beings. These events will definitely *change your life*—and will lead directly into the Great Tribulation. I feel a responsibility, as prophetic events speed up,

to warn you like this on occasion so you will begin to understand—if you are willing. So, if you want to learn more and to act on the Truth. be sure to request—and genuinely study—our key booklets that explain these matters in detail. And, even more importantly, study and prove these truths out of your own Bible. For they are not based on some mystical theory. They are not based on some book written by men, or some "vision" that I or anyone else claims to have had in modern times. They are based on the inspired word of God.

Our literature will always be sent to you absolutely free of charge! We are here to give, to serve and to help you to understand what is about to happen, and help you prepare for the actual

World Government soon to be set up under Jesus Christ upon this earth. You need to understand, and to prepare for your part in the magnificent Kingdom soon to bring genuine peace, prosperity and joy to a very confused world!

Be sure to call us or write us immediately—before you forget!-and ask for a free copy of our very enlightening booklet, Fourteen Signs Announcing Christ's Return. Also, request your copy of our powerful booklet, The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy. And if you want to understand how this world's religions got off trackand which biblical and historical proofs back up our statements—request our important booklets, Restoring Apostolic Christianity and Satan's Counterfeit Christianity.

My friends, the time is drawing short. Although several years may be left during which we can study, pray, overcome and prove these truths for ourselves, each of us could die at any moment—whether because of an accident, sickness or something else. So, do not delay! I implore you in the name of Jesus Christ, as His servant, to act now! Please do not "take our word" for anything! Be sure to genuinely study your Bible—and study our informative booklets-and you will be able to prove clearly, from your own Bible, what your Creator is telling you through His end-time servants *right now*! ■

#### Fourteen Signs Announcing Christ's Return

Will Jesus Christ return tonight?
Or a thousand years from now?
Your Bible reveals key signs that will help Christ's faithful followers recognize when the Savior is about to return. You need to know these signs!

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

## Questions & Answers

**QUESTION:** If the gate is narrow and the way difficult, as Jesus Christ stated in Matthew 7:13–14, then how could His yoke be easy and His burden light? (Matthew 11:30) Please explain this apparent contradiction.

**ANSWER:** At first glance, this may appear to be a contradiction, but in fact it is not. To answer your question we need to understand each scripture, beginning with Matthew 7:13–14.

In this scripture, Jesus contrasted two ways of life. 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). The word "narrow" in the New King James Version is translated from a Greek word which signifies being "pressed" or hemmed in by large rocks within a gorge. The Greek word rendered as "difficult" carries the meaning of "narrow" or "confined" (An Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, ed. Vine, 1985).

God's way is not the natural way that sinning humanity would choose or find most comfortable. Human nature seeks, and remains in, its own selfish comfort zone. It subtly resents and rebels against God's way and His Laws-the Ten Commandments (Romans 8:7). So deceitful is the heart of man (Jeremiah 17:9), that many think that they can believe in Christ and continue in a sinful lifestyle. Jesus therefore admonished all of His followers, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate..." (Luke 13:24). The Greek word for "strive" is agonizomai which means "struggle" or, literally, "to agonize" (The Companion Bible). When rendered metaphorically as "fight," as in 1 Timothy 6:12, it signifies to "fight and contend with all perseverance against temptation and opposition."

Human nature is naturally inclined toward selfishness and disobedience to God's holy and righteous laws. Without a deep heartfelt repentance of sin, and a fight against one's human nature, many simply will not be able to find the door into God's Kingdom! The *struggle* for every true Christian is to repent of past sins and become God-willed instead of self-willed! The vast majori-

ty of humanity does not want to go down that straight and narrow path—choosing rather the easy and broad way. Some will prophesy in Christ's name, cast out demons and do many wonders, yet to no avail (Matthew 7:21–23). Why? Because they continue to "practice lawlessness" (v. 23). But for those who do choose to repent and forsake lawlessness, Jesus will help them enter the narrow path.

Now, notice the second scripture in question. Jesus said: "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28–30). The Apostle John elaborates: "For this is the love of God, that we *keep* His commandments. And His commandments are *not* burdensome" (1 John 5:3).

God's way is indeed a blessed way of freedom from sin and its consequences, which end in death (Romans 6:23). As Christians, we are to repent and "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us"—having faith in Jesus Christ to help us through all our problems and trials—"casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (Hebrews 12:1–4; 1 Peter 5:7). It is the weight of sin that ensnares and loads us down! Through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, we can be forgiven and released from sin's vise-like grip. Jesus was speaking of two ways of life—slavery to sin, shackled by guilt leading to eternal death versus joyful obedience to God's way and the receiving of abundant blessings leading to eternal life.

The two scriptures in question are thus clearly not contradictory but are sequential in nature. One scripture encourages an action—the choice of obedience to God's law. The other scripture describes the results of that choice—an easy yoke and light burden. Truly, anyone who has already made that choice realizes the blessings it affords.



he world economy appears to be recovering from the financial melt-down of 2008. Productivity is up and asset prices are rising. Business investment and consumer spending are gaining strength. The national Gross Domestic Product of some countries is growing at a red-hot pace—China's is in the double-digits, with India and Brazil not far behind. The International Monetary Fund now predicts that global output for this year will grow by 4.2 percent ("Curb your enthusiasm," *Economist*, April 24, 2010, p. 12).

And yet, though encouraging, these numbers do not tell the whole story. Some governments are wavering under precipitously high sovereign debt. Greece is a case in point, and other nations such as Italy, Ireland and Portugal are vulnerable as well. And, as a result of their own massive bailout programs, the United States and Britain also face an uncertain future. "Global actors... have in effect made a gamble involving their respective economic destinies. They are either engaged in public spending at levels far beyond their revenue generation capacity or are absorbing toxic private debt... Our analysis leads to the conclusion that sovereigns throughout the world, in particular the

United States and the UK, will lose this gamble" (Global Economic Forecast 2010–2015: Recession into Depression, Sheldon Filger, p. 3, 2009).

The "Great Recession" that began in 2008 is not only busting government budgets, it is also costing tens of millions of jobs around the world—20 million in China alone. Unemployment is still hovering around 10 percent in the United States, and the average length of people's unemployment is the greatest since World War II (Freefall: America, Free Markets, and the Sinking of the World Economy, Joseph Stiglitz, pp. xi, 313, 2010).

Where will it all end? Is there an even larger collapse looming? Are even "first-world" nations doomed to endure stringent austerity measures for years to come? Is "the good life" many have known for decades soon destined to be only a memory of the past?

#### A Century of Blessings

For most of the 20th century, the United States was the primary engine of the world's economic growth. More than a hundred years ago, the Washington Evening Star newspaper reported, "On this day of our Lord, January 1, 1907, we are the richest people in the world." During the two administrations of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt, the national wealth had been "rolling up at a rate of \$4.6 billion per year, \$127.3 million per day, \$5.5 million per hour, \$88,430 per minute, and \$1,474 per second" (quoted in The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt, Edmund Morris, p. 11, 1979). America was certainly blessed—for decade after decade.

But most Americans did not know where their blessings came from. Some assumed the shower of blessings was the inevitable result of ingenuity, hard work, or technological know-how. But nothing could be further from the truth! The blessings America experienced were the direct result of God's providential hand. Regular readers of Tomorrow's World realize that the biblical patriarch Joseph was the forefather of the United States and the Britishdescended nations. His name. appropriately, meant, "The Eternal has added," for his offspring were prophesied to be a "fruitful bough by a well; his branches run over the wall" (Genesis 49:22). God certainly added blessing upon blessing to the sons of Joseph through Ephraim (the British Commonwealth countries), and Manasseh (the United States). To learn more about the modern nations of Israel-which include not just the people of Judah in today's state of Israel, but also many of the peoples of northwestern Europe—please request your copy of our free booklet, The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy.

The blessings of the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—particularly through the birthright given to Joseph-have benefited the whole world, as God prophesied (Genesis 18:18; 22:18; 26:4). But unrestrained greed and avarice may yet prove America's greatest weakness and downfall. As God lamented. Joseph "did not know that I gave her grain, new wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and goldwhich they prepared for Baal" (Hosea 2:8). Instead of giving God thanks for the bounty He provides, we have all-too-often wasted it on worshiping the false god of consumerism and focusing ever more on the self.

The roots of the 2008 financial catastrophe can be found in the reckless capital boom of the 1990s.

Back then, wages in the U.S. had more or less stalled. Many Americans were losing optimism about their financial future. As reporter Bernd Debusmann noted, "Through most of US history, each generation has been more prosperous and lived better than their parents. Statistics show that this no longer holds true" ("American dream or nightmare? This season, many wonder", Reuters, December 20, 1990).

But then the housing market Seemingly overnight, boomed. home values in many regions of the country began to climb. Millions of

Americans were lured into borrowing money against the perceived value of their homes, to compensate for the lack of growth in their paycheck, so they could carry on with their spend-

ing spree (Freefall, pp. 1-2). Yet there were warnings for those who had ears to hear. Consider the opening to this July 27, 1999 article by reporter James Schembar: "The government's announcement month that the savings rate was the lowest since the Depression has prompted much unease. After all, in a time of such plenty, how can Americans not be putting away some of their surplus to prepare for harder times?" ("Americans spend more than they earn," New York Times News Service). In a time of plenty, the net savings rate was at zero-or below. In one year during the 1990s, mortgage equity withdrawals totaled \$975 billion-more than 7 percent of the entire U.S. GDP in that year.

The common response to this nagging concern about lack of savings was, "Don't worry about it yet." After all, savings rates were not important when capital gains were growing. But Schembar ended on an ominous note: "The capital gains that have helped the older boomers make up for a low savings rate, of course, could be our fool's gold. Who can predict where markets will be by the time we retire?"

#### Fool's Gold

Many in the last few generations have been deceived into thinking that money and possessions bring lasting fulfillment and happiness. For too long, Western

> society has been obsessed with having more more cars, more clothes, bigger homes, better televisions—the list goes on and on. Consumers around the world have been caught in the trap of

believing that the "abundant life" can be bought. But Jesus warned, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses" (Luke 12:15).

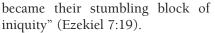
What about you? Has the Great Recession hit you and your family hard? Are you struggling financially? You may be dealing with depression and discouragement. You may have to make some painful choices to keep your household afloat. God knows what you are enduring, and will help you if you turn to Him with true, heartfelt repentance. He will help you if you sincerely cry out to Him and obey Him with all your heart (Hebrews 11:6).

The sad truth is that most will not change their course. Our generation is headed for very rocky times, as a result of our personal and national sins. God's word reveals



that as Christ's return draws nearer, worldwide crises will increase until money will be worthless and commodities like food and water will be prohibitively expensive. Even gold and silver will not sustain people

through times of widespread famine. The prophet Ezekiel warned, "They will throw their silver into the streets, and their gold will be like refuse; their silver and their gold will not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD; they will not satisfy their souls, nor fill their stomachs, because it



Our generation has spurned and despised God's laws (Leviticus 26:15), and we will be punished for it. God long ago predicted calamity upon calamity because of end-time Israel's abominations. Crop failures (vv. 16, 20) and food shortages (v. 26) will even lead to horrific cannibalism, as survivors in desolate cities struggle to survive (vv. 29-31). This will finally lead to national enslavement by a foreign power (vv. 32–33). The unthinkable will happen! The United States, Great Britain, and other nations of end-time Israel will capsize. like the "unsinkable" Titanic. But where does that leave us? Must you and your family "go down with the ship" in the coming punishment on the modern descendants of ancient Israel? Or is there a way to escape this calamity?

#### The Sun Also Rises

Long-time readers of *Tomorrow's* World know that there is good news coming in the future. Not from a political movement or party, a new

economic model, or a governmental alliance, but by the intervention of Almighty God! After Christ's dramatic return to Earth, He will set up a new society. Economic opportunities will be available to all, as the

prophet Micah foretold: "But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken" (Micah 4:4). Blessings will be poured out like rain on nations all over the earth, "For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of

the LORD as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9). As Amos 9:13 foretells: "Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it."

Citizens of this coming new age—a thousand-year period we call "the Millennium" (Revelation 20:4)—will live and work in a new society based on fairness, good ethics, honesty, love for neighbor and worship of the true God. Jesus Christ, ruling as King, will teach His "law of liberty" (James 1:25; 2:12), the Ten Commandments. Accompanied by His saints, He will enforce those laws and govern the whole earth (Jude 14-15). This will absolutely revolutionize the world, and make the economy blossom as humanity has never seen!

And there is good news even now! You do not have to suffer the plagues of God's coming punishment—the "time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7). You need not "stumble to the slaughter"

(Proverbs 24:11) like others who foolishly reject God's warnings. You can prepare and be ready for more hard times ahead. Believe it or not, you can have the "good life" now.

How?

#### What About Now?

What is the "good life," really? God does not promise that you will gain a big bank account or will never suffer problems. Paul wrote, "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12). Life as a true follower of Christ is not easy. But Scripture shows how you can be happy and fulfilled now. You can have a fulfilling, faithful and enjoyable marriage. You can have a happy and enriching family life. You can even have enjoyable, satisfying work. How?

The key is in recognizing that the "good life" is not measured by how many cars we have, television channels we can access, or square feet of house we can own. It is not measured by fast Internet access or fancy cell phone. It is not based on credit cards or bank accounts. Rather, it comes from a close, personal, and obedient relationship with God. Jesus Christ wants you to have an abundant life now! He said, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Do you have a relationship with Jesus Christ that goes beyond mere words and emotional sentiment? Have you committed to whole-hearted obedience? Have you repented of your sins and decided to commit your life to God? The good life is possible—and these choices are where it starts.

#### Calm Assurance in Chaotic Times

God wants you to "test" Him—to determine in your heart and

mind whether or not He and His promises are real. He wants you to get off the spending merry-goround. He even commands you to tithe to Him. Does He promise to make you a multi-millionaire? No. But He does promise to take care of your needs. What a wonderful promise!

Notice God's challenge: "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,' says the LORD of hosts, 'if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,' says the LORD of hosts" (Malachi 3:10-11).

We at Tomorrow's World challenge you to prove and test God by faithfully obeying His laws. He wants you to keep His seventh-day Sabbath, observe His annual Holy Days, be faithful to your spouse in marriage, reject idol worship, and speak the truth always. God's way is a whole way of life (Acts 22:4)! And you will be blessed for it. As David wrote, "I have been young, and now am old; yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his descendants begging bread" (Psalm 37:25).

Of course, each of us needs to plan wisely, set aside for hard times, and work as faithfully and as diligently as we can. We must be careful to get good financial advice from those we can trust. But in the final analysis, we must be sure never to put our ultimate faith in human beings—ourselves or others around us. Rather, we must trust in God, who alone can deliver us from the dark days to come. As Jeremiah wrote, "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which

spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes: but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit" (Jeremiah 17:7–8).

Jesus Christ challenges us to "lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal" (Matthew 6:20)—or, we might add, where the vagaries of the financial market evaporate assets like the morning mist. God wants to give us the abundant life if we will look to Him with trust and conviction. Now-of all times—is the time to put our trust in the One who provides all good things to all of humanity (James 1:17). Are you willing to test

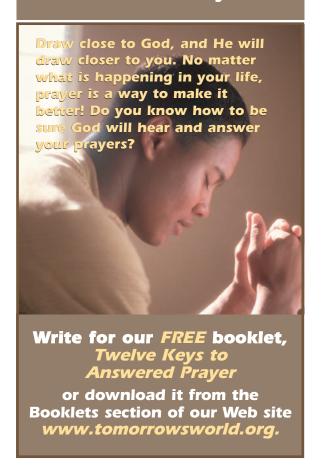
and prove God? Are you willing to see if what He says is true, and if what He commands is really what is best for you and your family?

The good news is that you can have the true good life, even in hard times. You can have financial security, peace of mind, a sense of purpose and achievement, even in turbulent, chaotic times. You can put your trust in God, and have the calm assurance that He will take care of you. As God said through prophet Isaiah, "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for

what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you—the sure mercies of David" (Isaiah 55:1-3).

There are hard times coming. Bible prophecy shows that we are only at the beginning. Now is the time to get your financial house in order, and decide what you will really want. Money? Possessions? An endless cycle of acquiring and consuming? Or will you let the Great Recession drive you to your knees to forge a new and profound relationship with your Maker? Truly, that is the good life! ■

#### Twelve Keys to **Answered Prayer**



## LONDONCA

#### THE BATTLE FOR BRITAIN!

"The Battle of France is over, the Battle of Britain is about to begin!"

Sir Winston Churchill, British Prime Minister, made this famous proclamation on June 18, 1940, just four days after Adolf Hitler's Nazi troops had entered Paris. Within a month, the bravery of hundreds of Royal Air Force (RAF) Spitfire and Hurricane pilots would be tested, as they rose from England's airfields to meet the swarming masses of Luftwaffe fighters. Losses on both

sides were staggering, with an estimated 915 RAF fighters lost and 1,733 Luftwaffe aircraft downed between July 10 and October 31.

One week in particular—the week ending August 17—was the most disastrous for both sides. In that week alone, 131 RAF planes were shot down, and Germany lost nearly double that number at 261. After the conflict had passed, Churchill told Britain's House of Commons, "Never in the field of human conflict, was so much owed by so many to so few."

During that summer of 1940, anxious Britons looked upward to see the criss-crossing of vapour trails in the sky. Schoolboys ran to see the wreckage of downed German planes in expansive wheat fields. Young soldiers' wives—British and German alike—cried alone upon hearing that their pilot husbands had died.

War is a ghastly affair. And was it all worth it, the terrible loss of life? Where are Britain and Germany 70 years on? The Treaty of Lisbon has bound these former enemies together in the European Union.

For the grandchildren of those who survived the Battle of Britain, Europe is a very different place. Their nations have known peace for 65 years, and their populations have no desire to see another world war rend their nations. But why has there been such calm in Europe?

Supporters of the European Union (EU) will tell you it is because economic harmony has achieved what neither war nor America's post-war NATO leadership could ever bring about—peace and a common interest

within a union of 27 countries. Sceptics will tell you that it is a fragile détente, held together for the moment by mutual self-interest.

#### **Britain Losing Its Way**

Britain has faced great uncertainty in the last 18 months, as it has struggled to recover from its worst recession since the Great Depression. The ruling Labour

Party's efforts to shore up well-known banking names such as the Royal Bank of Scotland and Lloyds TSB left the country drowning in a sea of red ink, which no doubt contributed to the party's May 6 electoral defeat.

Meanwhile, as has occurred across the industrialized Western nations, Britain's industrial output continues to shrink. No major British-owned car manufacturer remains in the

country. Prestigious Jaguar is now owned by Indian car giant Tata. The whole Rover factory in Birmingham was shipped, piece by piece, to China!

Great Britain now carries a national debt of more than £850 billion—a figure forecast to rise to £1.2 trillion in coming years as the nation borrows to keep the economy moving while hoping for a growth-led recovery. Additionally, Britain is maintaining the world's third-highest current account deficit. With \$468 billion worth of exports chasing \$654 billion of imports, there is an outstanding deficit of \$186 billion. The nation's financial and economic over-extension cannot go on forever. In 2009, the Standard and Poor's rating agency downgraded Britain's credit rating to AAA-minus, with a revised rating on hold while they wait to see what the nation's new government will produce in cost-cuttings.

Despite Britain's malaise, the nation is fifth in the world in economic output—second, behind Germany, in Europe. Yet many in Europe would like to see London lose its status as the world's leading financial

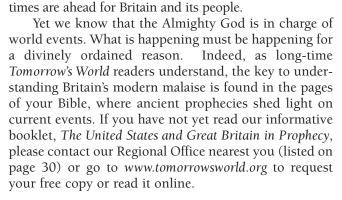




Seventy years on, the battle is no longer "of" Britain but "for" Britain. The whole country knows it is in trouble. Like the Greek economy that has just recently crashed, Britain's economy is a story of a nation living well beyond its means. Britain's "off-balance sheet" private

finance initiative projects and unfunded pension provi-

sions are huge liabilities; all in all, the nation's burgeoning social welfare expenses cannot be maintained for much longer. Crippling medical costs, and unemployment benefits enshrined in legislation, put the nation at a competitive disadvantage with lively Asian economies. Just as empires have risen and fallen in the past, Asian nations are rising to prominence, while the British nation, strangled by debt, is showing signs of imminent failure. Difficult



#### What Next?

What can the Bible tell us about the future of Britain? Anciently, God used the Assyrian nation militarily to punish a rebellious Israel, and He will use that nation again. History records that ancient Assyria took Israel into captivity in 721BC. Bible prophecy reveals that the modern descendants of ancient Assyria will once again enslave Israel. Bible students who recognize modern Germany as the descendant of ancient Assyria, and Britain as a descen-

dant of the Lost Ten Tribes of Israel, can begin to understand how God will work His will through geopolitical events in the very near future. This scenario may scarcely be believable to secular observers watching world events just now, but your Bible makes it plain. To learn more about these shocking developments, please request our free reprint article, *Resurgent Germany: A Fourth Reich?* 

The Old Testament prophet Hosea wrote of a time

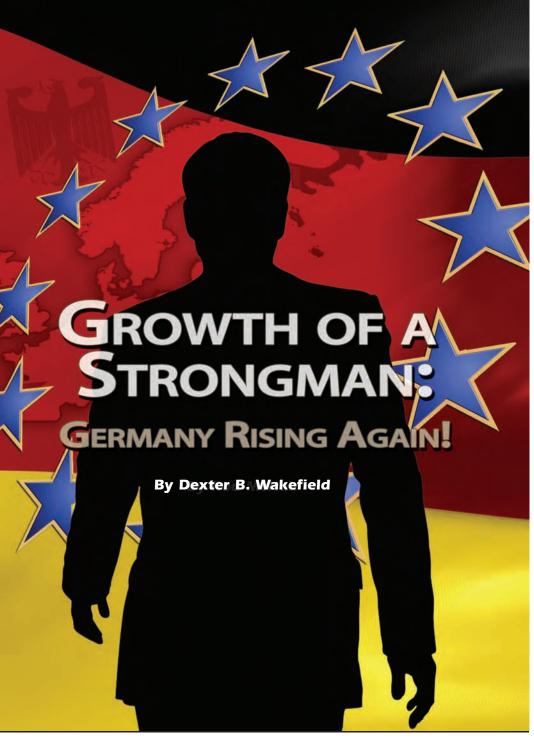
that is almost upon us. He understood that in the end times, the House of Israel would go to the Assyrians for help. Germany today is gaining pre-eminence in Europe (see "Growth of a Strongman" on page 16 of this issue) and flexing its economic muscle. The time is soon coming when a distressed Britain will look to Germany for help. Notice how the prophet words it: "When Ephraim saw his sickness... [he] went to Assyria... yet he cannot cure you, nor heal you of your wound" (Hosea 5:13).

Also: "Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger... I will send him against an ungodly nation (i.e. modern-day Ephraim, Great Britain, along with other modern descendants of ancient Israel) and against the people of My wrath" (Isaiah 10:5–6).

The previous Assyrian captivity was brutal and harsh for the Israelite captives. World War II reminded us of the great brutality of which modern Assyria is capable. Becoming economic, political and eventual physical captives of Assyria is no small matter for the once-great British nation. Some proud Britons may not like to hear of their prophesied future, but we at *Tomorrow's World* have a responsibility as "watchmen" to fulfil the commission God has given (Ezekiel 33:7; Matthew 24:42).

Thankfully, prophecy also reveals that the outlook is not all gloom. Right when it appears that things are at their worst in the midst of devastating end-time conflict, Jesus Christ will return to planet Earth to reign as King of kings in the glorious Kingdom of God. The world will enjoy unprecedented peace and prosperity as former enemies come together peacefully under Christ (Isaiah 19:24–25). God speed that day!

—Rod King



urope has suffered devastating wars, again and again, over many centuries. Kingdoms and alliances of nations have battled each other for dominance. For more than a thousand years, European "Christendom" fought Muslim invaders in such diverse places as Spain, France, Italy and Austria.

Throughout all this, the German people have been "sandwiched" uncomfortably between two great powers: Russia to the east, and France to the west. Modern military historians often attribute Germany's belligerence and general unease with its neighbors, at least in part, to this lack of natural geographic security. On three occasions in modern times—in 1871, 1914 and 1939—an ambitious and aggressive Germany chose first strikes against France to forestall a later two-front war.

Some strategic thinkers in Germany have long had dreams of dominating Europe in a controversial plan called *Mitteleuropa*, but in military implementa-

tion it has always failed. The word *Mitteleuropa* is used as both a place and an idea. Geographically, it is the Germans' general area of central Europe, and conceptually, it was a plan first presented around 1915 for German domination of the region.

Are the Germans now in a position to have by economic means the domination they never achieved militarily? A growing number of analysts are saying that the adoption of the euro as the common European currency makes this outcome inevitable. But the same economic factors that made Germany's economy strong relative to some other EU countries are also destabilizing the EU monetarily. What lies ahead for the euro and the European Union? And what perspective does the Bible give on these rapidly developing events?

#### The Euro: Tie That Binds

The euro was conceived as a means to bind the diverse nations of Europe together in an economic union that would render the continent's perpetual wars obsolete. The economic interdependence that the euro provides, along with the shared European marketplace, would preclude military conflict between the nations. To the French, the euro was an ideal means to contain their old adversary, Germany, as it would also lead to greater political union.

The countries that officially use the euro—16 of the 27 European Union members—are called the euro-zone. They are: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain. Notably, the

United Kingdom, Sweden and Denmark have not yet decided to convert to the euro, preferring to keep their own currencies. But there are non-euro-zone members that use the euro, including Andorra, Kosovo, Montenegro, Monaco, San Marino and Vatican City. An estimated 327 million Europeans daily use the euro. While the euro is the world's second largest reserve currency (behind the dollar), as of 2009, the euro actually has more value in circulating banknotes and coins than the U.S. dollar has. After it was introduced in 1999, the euro quickly became a power to be reckoned with.

But within the European Union, some nations are economistronger than others. Germany's industrial productivity outstrips the more agrarian economies of Spain, Portugal and Greece. Because of Germany's greater industrialization, German workers tend to add more value per hour of work. Under the euro currency regime, Germany inevitably became an export-led economy and has been running large surpluses relative to the other EU countries.

"To be sure, German wages are high, but even higher productivity means it is relatively cheaper to hire workers and produce highmanufactured products there, even compared with traditionally lower-cost Greece, Portugal or Spain... That doesn't mean German workers come cheap. Their manufacturing wages and benefits are among the highest in Europe, at about €34 [\$42] an hour... Greece's are half that; Portugal's even lower" ("Europe's Stragglers Find Villain," Wall Street Journal, March 22, 2010).

The German workers and industrialists have earned their place.

The German worker is paid more but produces significantly more value per hour than counterparts in other countries, giving the overall German economy an advantage. The Germans are aware of this and strive to maintain it.

"By keeping a lid on labor-cost growth, Germany's exports are able to compete on price despite a high euro. But that comes at the expense of market share for others in the euro zone, critics say. Whereas Germany ran up €136 billion [or about \$167 billion] trade surplus last year, Spain, Greece and Portugal all ran sizable deficits.... There are three ways for countries to make their products attractive globally: rein in labor cost growth; improve productivity; and devalue currencies. The last option isn't available to the euro zone which has a single currency" (ibid.).

So the German advantage persists—due in no small part to the euro.

#### **Beware of Greeks Bearing Bonds**

Greece has long elected leftist governments. This has resulted in very high fiscal deficits and massive government borrowing due to its weak economy and generous welfare state benefits. The Greek people and Greek politicians have grown dependant on this system, and changing it is extremely difficult. But Greece's debt burden is unsustainable. The total government debt is greater than the country's annual output, and it has not only been growing, it has been accelerating in its growth. Now the government has reached the limit of new debt that its creditors will finance, and refinancing its maturing debt has become difficult and expensive. When other countries have faced this problem, they have devalued their currencies, enabling them to manage the debt. But the Greeks are in the euro-zone and their currency is the euro. They cannot devalue it at will. The possibility of a sovereign default by Greece has sent shock waves through the European Union.

And that is just the bad news. The worse news is that Greece's trouble is only the first small wave of a tsunami of debt problems preparing to break on the coasts of the European Union. Four other European countries, with much larger economies, are heading for the same rocky shore. Portugal, Italy, Ireland and Spain-along with Greece collectively called the PIIGS—all have huge deficits that are approaching the limits of what can be financed. These nations will have to face severe cutbacks in government wages and government benefits if they are to control government spending and deficits. As German Economics Minister Ranier Bruederle said, some other EU nations have "lived beyond their means and neglected their competitiveness" (ibid.).

"Many European officials have expressed concern that if Europe doesn't act to save Greece from default, the country's problems risk spreading to other European nations, endangering the euro." ("Greek Debt Crisis Seen Getting Worse," Wall Street Journal, April 20, 2010). They have Spain and Portugal specifically in mind. A Greek default would be a shock. A default by Spain or other euro-zone nations would be a catastrophe for the euro—by early June, the value of the euro had already tumbled to a four-year low, with further uncertainties ahead.

Economists are already saying that bail-out packages proffered by the European Union and International Monetary Fund may be enough to forestall the further spread of Greece's problems for a while, but will not be enough to prevent similar—or far more severe—defaults from bringing the other PIIGS nations to the brink of economic disaster. And over all of this, Germany looms as the economic powerhouse running the show, setting the terms for other nations to partake of economic aid.

Other EU countries want Germany to increase its domestic consumption and reduce its hardearned economic advantage. France has criticized German export dependence as being partly to blame for the current crisis. Germans have reacted angrily to this. German Chancellor Angela Merkel bluntly said, "Germany will not forfeit its export strength" ("Merkel Floats Option of Euro-Zone Expulsion," Wall Street Journal, March 18, 2010).

It remains to be seen whether the people of Greece—and the politicians—will tolerate German micromanagement of their economic affairs. But even in the best-case scenario, short-term measures like the bail-out can only take care of short-term problems. The EU and Germany will likely face the same problem again, before very long, multiplied by the problems of Spain, Portugal and Italy. Germany would like to use its current leverage to force long-term structural changes in the EU, such as greater EU fiscal control of member nations. Germany will have to pay in the short term, but it will trade for long-term advantages.

All this produces a big political problem for German Chancellor Angela Merkel, because the German taxpayer has been loath to bail out Greek workers just so the Greeks can retire earlier than the Germans. Chancellor Merkel will ultimately want far-reaching changes in exchange for Berlin's largesse. These days, Germany negotiates from a position of power.

"Calls have grown for Germany to 'rebalance'—to buy more from struggling European neighbors so they can keep more money at home. German officials including Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble have been adamant that it is better to be Europe's 'locomotive' than its openwallet patron" ("Smaller euro nations trail Germany's 'locomotive,'" Washington Post, June 2, 2010). What does this mean in practical terms? "Without a national currency, Greece as well as larger debt-

ridden economies such as Spain lack an important tool—the ability to devalue their money and make their goods cheaper and more competitive. Germany is seen as the flip side of that equation the industrial powerhouse that prof-

its by drawing money from European countries caught in the orbit of the common currency" (*ibid*.).

The days of cheap credit and profligate spending are over for the PIIGS nations. Germany is maneuvering from a position of strength and, over time, will likely have its way in whatever restructuring the EU imple-

ments to cope with possible recurrences of the Greek debt crisis.

#### **Never Waste a Crisis**

The Hudson Institute's Irwin Stelzer commented, "European politicians seem to have learned from their counterparts in the Obama administration. Emanuel, Barack Obama's toughminded chief of staff, surveyed the inherited wreckage of the American economy, and told the President, 'You never want a serious crisis to go to waste.' No one can accuse the EU politicians and their bureaucrats of wasting the serious crisis created for the Eurozone by Greek profligacy" ("Greek Problems Will Drive Integration," Wall Street Journal, April 19, 2010).

Stelzer goes on to comment, "For the proponents of greater European integration Greece's crisis is their opportunity to push their agenda further than they would have dreamed possible had the Greeks not cooked their books and gone on a borrowing binge to support the lavish life style of the ever-increasing number of government employees."

Stelzer points out that Greece's crisis gives proponents of tighter European integration a new opportunity to push their agenda. Certainly, many observers had known all along that a common currency and single EU-wide inter-

est rate would result in problems in the absence of a unified fiscal policv. But, as Stelzer notes, "So long as the world's economies were booming, this kink in the armor of Europe's integrationists was of little consequence. Germany's export machine kept rolling, Greek consumers kept

importing, borrowing at attractive rates to pay for the imports, and all seemed well... *Except that it wasn't*. So the not-to-be-wasted crisis is upon the euro zone" (*ibid*.).

Germans—who are now being asked to cough up €100 each to enable Greeks to retire earlier than any German can hope to-may soon be asked to give similar support to Spain, or Portugal, or another south European country. Is it realistic to expect Germany to keep paying more and more, without demanding greater representation in the fiscal affairs of the beneficiary countries? Selzer observes: "We are about to learn just how much additional sovereignty each euro-zone nation is willing to surrender as Europe takes another step—a giant step-down the road to more complete economic integration" (ibid.).

A centrally governed, federal European Union may be more plausible now than ever before. In a recent speech, Adrian Hilton, author of *The Principality and Power of Europe*, put it bluntly. He said, "*There will be a single fiscal policy... and a single taxation.*"

(Continued on page 29)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Your ministry has been of great help! Especially to me as a migrant worker from the Philippines. I thank God for having one such as this, teaching and bringing people to the true worship of our Divine Creator. The magazine is very informative guiding people to the right path. It strengthens my faith as you explain in detail the fulfilled prophecy happening in our present time. My sincere thanks and gratitude to the Tomorrow's World staff.

G. J., Fujairah Fujairah, United Arab Emirates

After reading "Satan's Agenda" in the January-February 2010 issue, I thought I would send in a comment simply agreeing with the prayer that God will wake up America, individually or nationally, before it is too late. Unless the Lord Himself removes the blinders from the eyes, individually or nationally, America cannot see or understand the wrongs being done through the nation. America must see its own error by faith and not by sight. I truly hope more Americans read this magazine and then believe. They can change things, then. God will intervene and remove some blinders. I know this.

M. D., Guelph, ON, Canada

I just read "Break Free from Loneliness!" (Tomorrow's World, March-April 2010), and am very impressed. It was just what the doctor ordered concerning a death in the family and missing that person—my mom in this case. So, thank you very much. The article is very caring and personable—very special. So many folks nowadays are lonely and this is the perfect and simple answer that people are looking for.

J. M., Spring, TX

Thanks for your ever-inspiring articles in *Tomorrow's World*. I happened to read "Satan's Agenda" in your January-February 2010 issue, and I couldn't help but ponder on your sentiments. Materialistic prosperity does not mean one is blessed. I am a Zimbabwean and I have witnessed many politicians prosper and live a glamorous life yet they obtain all this from the suffer-

ing of the ordinary Zimbabwean. "Blood money," so to speak. There are also many things that the so-called-blessed British did. Slavery, Australian aboriginal elimination, wars, diseases, "bio warfare," etc. I don't mean to be judgmental, but the British have done more evil in the world than good. All that is wrong with the world is because of them. Nonetheless, I enjoy your articles.

B. M., Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

My husband has a subscription to your magazine, and I saw it laying on the table one day and decided to start reading. I couldn't put it down until I had read it from cover to cover. Ever since then, we fight over who gets to read it first. I would just like to thank you for the moving and educational information you write in your magazine. I have learned so much and become so hungry for knowledge of the word of God. Growing up, my parents taught me that there was no God and until I got hold of your magazine I still had that thought in my head, but now there is no way I would believe that and I have also been able to break the cycle with my own children. They know that there is a God and love and worship Him, which I wish I could have been doing my whole life instead of starting in my late 20s. So here is a huge thank you for bringing me to my senses!

K. W., Mena, AR

About two years ago I discovered (quite by accident) the *Tomorrow's World* program. I also ordered the booklet being offered, *Satan's Counterfeit Christianity*. At that time, I realized that my entire "Christian" belief system had been nothing but lies and deception. Since that time I have been voraciously studying God's word, and trying to research various areas of questions I have. I have accepted the fact that Satan is indeed the great deceiver and I believe that the Church of God is indeed the remnant referred to in the Bible. I know that the Bible says God's people are not of this world, but "the world" sure does make it difficult to live in it and still be true to our Heavenly Father. Satan certainly has done a fantastic job of "deceiving the whole world."

K. R., Palmdale, CA

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.

# COMORROWS Why "Looking Hot" Is Not What makes you an attractive person? welcomed by all. Then, as a daughter grows into her tod-

Some would say it is your character—the values you uphold, and the way you interact with other people. But for many young people growing up today, the reality is far different. Even before young people reach sexual maturity, they are bombarded with images that

equate "attractiveness" with "looking hot"—with sexual appeal and seductiveness.

The American Psychological Association has a term for this crass physical approach: sexualization. Sexualization is defined as a process in which people are sexually objectified (i.e. treated as a tool for another person's sexual satisfaction), such that a person's primary value is derived from his or

her sexual appeal or seductive behavior, to the exclusion of other characteristics (*APA Task Force Report on the Sexualization of Girls*, American Psychological Association, 2007).

We are used to seeing politicians, athletes, actors and actresses caught up in public scandals that can be traced back to the misuse of sexuality. But the false values of sexualized society have also, at one time or another, seduced countless millions who live outside the public spotlight into making decisions that have ruined their lives and the lives of their loved ones. The problem is so pervasive that even innocent and healthy beginnings can become twisted to an unhealthy and dangerous end.

#### **Innocent Beginnings**

The first words of praise many infants will hear is, "What a beautiful baby!" This innocent encouragement—meant more for the parents than the unknowing child—is

welcomed by all. Then, as a daughter grows into her toddler years, parents naturally want to encourage her, "My, you look so pretty!" Soon she is school age, and is surrounded by peers and playmates who take keen notice of each other's appearance. Compliments are given for "beauty"—and beauty is usually measured by physical appear-

> ance. It is not hard to understand why many young girls become preoccupied with their looks throughout their formative years.

> The media reinforce this message. Notice how much of the "entertainment" for little girls today emphasizes physical appearance. From Disney princesses to Barbie dolls, it is no wonder that many girls internalize the idea that their selfworth is based on how they

look. Even more troubling is the way shrewd marketers exploit this by promoting edgier—more sexualized—appearances as girls grow older. Think of the Bratz line of dolls, which feature pouty, long-eyelashed female characters wearing miniskirts, fishnet stockings and feather boas. When "tweens" (girls of ages 7–12) see such clothing on their dolls, they naturally want to emulate it in their own dress.

How pervasive is this trend? In their book *Packaging Girlhood*, authors Sharon Lamb and Lyn Mike Brown report: "In the little girl section, there is a bra and panty area that actually carries as small as size 4. The poster above the bras and panties shows two girls' faces. One girl looks about 10; the other about 7; both so small and thin that surely neither is wearing a bra yet. They are both wearing lipstick as if to say, 'Mommy, I'm more grown up than you think I am. Buy me a bra!" (p. 28).

By their teenage years, most girls have been trained to believe deeply that physical attractiveness is essential.



Yet how is that attractiveness defined? By the time a girl reaches her teens, most of the popular media influencing her is overtly sexual. Now, not only must she be physically appealing—society tells her that she must be sexually appealing. Add to this the desire for peer approval, and the easy availability of modern technology like camera phones and Web cameras, and we end up with trends like "sexting"—in which young people flirt with each other by sending sexually explicit pictures.

This is not just a problem in the United States. In England, a recent report on children's increased exposure to sexual imagery warned that "this 'drip-drip' exposure was distorting young people's perceptions of themselves, encouraging boys to become fixated on being macho and dominant, while girls in turn presented themselves as sexually available and permissive" ("Children 'over-exposed to sexual imagery," *BBC News*, February 26, 2010).

Combining the twin draws of sex and clothing, Polish teens known as "mall girls" trade sex with strangers for designer jeans, cell phones or other articles of status. This lifestyle is the subject of a movie released last fall that has shocked this predominantly Catholic country regarding how far morals have fallen in the 20 years after the fall of Communism ("Dark Film on Teenagers Echoes From Mall to Church," *New York Times*, March 4, 2010).

These and many similar examples reinforce the media's message that sex is power—and that young people are learning that they can use that power to get what they want. Sadly, only a few recognize the grave dangers of this approach.

#### Why Sexualization?

You do not need a doctorate in psychology to realize that *the desire to be accepted* is a natural and normal human trait. Across generations and cultures, however, what vary are *the criteria* for acceptance. When a society values modesty and chastity—as did the U.S. for most of its history until recent times—the desire for acceptance will bring out the virtues of modesty and chastity in young people.

Today, however, when much of our society revels in a "girls gone wild" attitude—in which anyone with a

camera and an Internet connection can be a porn star—the desire for acceptance can lead many into accepting values that once were considered shameful and degrading. Yet the motivation remains much the same as always. According to California therapist and high school counselor Michael Simon, "It doesn't have anything to do with their sexual pleasure. It has to do with pleasing somebody else—the grasping for attention" ("Living in a porn-driven, 'look-at-me' culture," *Associated Press*, June 4, 2007).

Now that embracing sexualization is one of the most effective ways to receive attention—and thereby social acceptance—more and more people pursue it with abandon. The problem, of course, is that sex in and of itself will ultimately leave a person feeling empty and disconnected from others. To understand what will bring true acceptance—and the role sex can play in that acceptance—we must look to the One who designed sex with a beautiful purpose in mind.

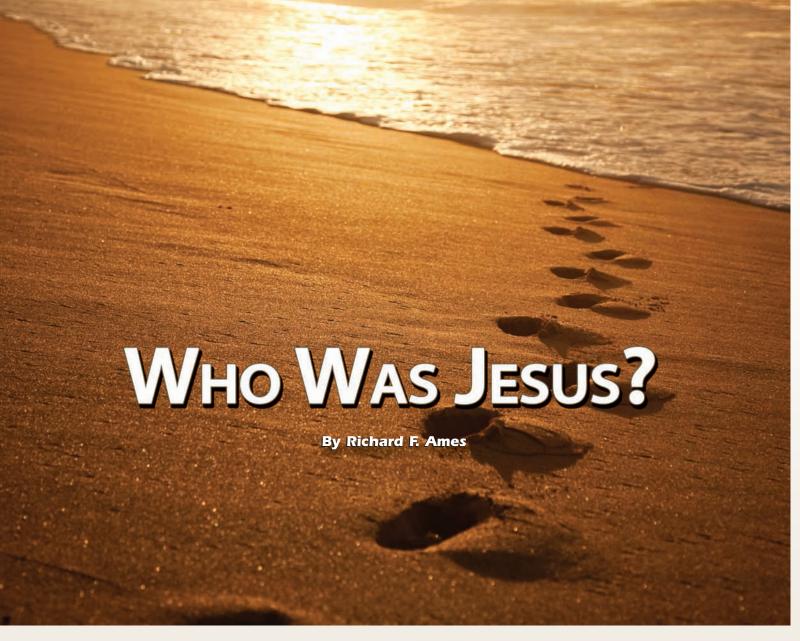
#### Why Sex?

What is that purpose? God told the first couple to "be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 1:28). Notice that He created them without clothing, "And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed" (Genesis 2:25). Talk about sexual openness! Yet this verse also shows the context for that openness, and for sex as God intended: they were man and wife—married.

God designed sex for the intimacy of a monogamous relationship. God's way places sex at the center of a committed relationship in which husband and wife become "one flesh," bonded to each other for life. This fulfills the human need for acceptance in a way modern sexualization never can.

As a young person, you have choices to make. You may face tremendous pressure to give in to the expectations of our sexualized society, but you do not have to! You can look beyond the physical! By living God's way you can experience fulfillment far beyond what our sexualized society can offer. Will you?

-Phil Sena



Even most skeptics concede that there probably was a first-century man, living in the Roman province of Judea, who preached a controversial message and was killed for doing so. But was this Jesus just another itinerant preacher around whom some legends developed? Or was this the Son of God, who came preaching a message that very few today understand? Even if you think you believe in Jesus, the answer may surprise you!

bout one-third of Earth's inhabitants call themselves Christian. But even among them, relatively few really know what Jesus taught, or what the Bible reveals about the true Jesus Christ. He Himself said there would be many imitators—He called them "false christs" (Matthew 24:24). The Apostle Paul warned against "another Jesus whom we have not preached... a different spirit which you have not received... [or] a different gospel" (2 Corinthians 11:4). Do you know the true Messiah—the real Jesus Christ?

What does the Bible reveal? Was Jesus just a teacher? Or was He that *and more*? In John 4, Jesus is speaking to a woman at Jacob's well near the city of

Sychar in Samaria. This woman became convinced that He was the promised Messiah—the Christ. She told the whole community about this man whom, she said, "told me all that I ever did" (v. 39). As a result, many other Samaritans came to hear Jesus speak, and they persuaded Him to stay for two days. What was their impression of Jesus? "And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, 'Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world" (John 4:41–42).

The name Jesus signifies "Savior." Was Jesus the Savior of the world? One should rather ask: "Is He the

Savior of the world?" The proofs of fulfilled prophecy, historical accuracy, the preservation of the text and the revelation of life's mysteries and meaning, all support the truth that He is! Yes, Jesus became the Savior of the world. But how did He become so? He was Immanuel. "God with us"—God in the flesh! Where did He come from? "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made" (John 1:1-3).

This Word of whom the Apostle John spoke was the One who became Jesus Christ in the flesh. Notice: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). He sacrificed His life to pay for the sins of the world, as only He could do. He was pictured as the sacrificial lamb. Notice how John the Baptist testified of Him: "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). He was betrayed for 30 pieces of silver, as prophesied (Zechariah 11:12-13). Having entered Jerusalem on a donkey, He would be like a smitten shepherd (Zechariah 9:9; 13:7).

Altogether, there are more than 100 prophecies in the Old Testament foretelling the coming of the Messiah. Some cynics say that somehow Jesus "arranged" His ministry to fulfill those prophecies, or say that the New Testament writers invented the gospel narratives that demonstrate their fulfillment. But did hundreds of Jesus' own contemporaries—who lived at the time Paul was writing his letters and who knew firsthand many of those who had witnessed the events being described (1 Corinthians 15:6)— allow themselves to become martyred for a fiction? Yes, there are always skeptics—like those today who doubt firsthand accounts of wartime atrocities in World War II, Kampuchea and Iraq—but Paul and the other writers of Scripture were writing to their contemporaries, at a time when thousands were willing to die under persecution for their beliefs, because of what they had seen and heard for themselves!

Yes, you can believe in the words of Scripture! But it is shocking to realize how many preachers will tell you to believe-but never tell you to repent. But Jesus Himself told us all to repent! Our Savior commands every human being on earth to repent and believe. Does God really demand action from those who believe? The Apostle Peter said that He does. What did Peter say on the day of Pentecost, addressing thousands in his inspired sermon on the day the New Testament Church began? He said: "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission [forgiveness] of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Thousands who heard him were convicted of their sins, and were baptized on that day, receiving the promised gift of the Holy Spirit.

Perhaps you feel the pain of guilt and sin. There is a way to turn your life around. Jesus, the Lamb of God, took upon Himself your sins. But in order to be reconciled to God, you must believe-and respond to-the true gospel. As Jesus proclaimed: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15).

#### A Revolutionary Jesus?

When I was about 12 years old, I questioned the teachings I heard in church. I said to myself: "I won-

der if Jesus even exists." So, I thought: "Well, I will just read what these biographers Matthew, Mark, Luke and John said about Him." Even as a 12-year-old, I was amazed by what I found, particularly when I started reading the "Sermon on the Mount." For example, Jesus said: "But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also" (Matthew 5:39). I thought: "His teachings are revolutionary!" And in my own limited way, I changed my approach to life, though I would not be called to real repentance until many years later.

Many, when they finally read the Bible for themselves, have experiences like mine. Author Bruce Barton was "turned off" by the false Jesus presented in a Sunday School class. He wrote: "The little boy [Barton, writing about himself] looked up at the picture which hung on the Sunday-school wall. It showed a pale young man with flabby forearms and a sad expression. The young man had red whiskers. Then the little boy looked across to the other wall. There was Daniel, good old Daniel, standing off the lions. The little boy liked Daniel. He liked David, too, with the trusty sling that landed a stone square on the forehead of Goliath. And Moses, with his rod and his big brass snake. They were winners—those three.... But Jesus! Jesus was the 'lamb of God.' The little boy did not know what that meant, but it sounded like Mary's little lamb. Something for girls sissified. Jesus was also 'meek and lowly,' a 'man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.' He went around for three years telling people not to do things" (The Man Nobody Knows, pp. i-ii).

Like Barton, I once had a false concept of the real Jesus. Perhaps you have, too. But if you will read the Bible for yourself, you may be surprised to discover that many of the popular images, concepts, and teachings often presented as "Christianity" are quite different from the truths found in Scripture.

Barton came to see a contradiction between Jesus' preaching and the world's false image of Him. Barton wrote of his re-discovery of the biblical Jesus Christ: "The more sermons he [Barton] heard and the more books he read the more mystified he became. One day he decided to wipe his mind clean of books and sermons. He said, 'I will read what the men who knew Jesus personally said about him. I will read about him as though he were a new historical character, about whom I had never heard anything at all.' The man was amazed. A physical weakling! Where did they get that idea? Jesus pushed a plane and swung an adze; he was a successful carpenter. He slept outdoors and spent his days walking around his favorite lake. His muscles were so strong that when he drove the money-changers out, nobody dared to oppose him! A kill-joy! He was the most popular dinner guest in Jerusalem! The criticism which proper people made was that he spent too much time with publicans and sinners... and enjoyed society too much. They called him a 'wine bibber and a gluttonous man'.... When the man finished his reading he exclaimed, 'This is a man nobody knows'" (ibid., pp. iii-iv).

#### Truth Hidden

But how can we come to know the true Jesus? Surprisingly, some of the most common religious traditions can be deceiving—even about something as basic as His birth. Why was Jesus born? Notice what the angel told Mary before His birth: "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called



the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:31–33).

Jesus' message was about the Kingdom of God on earth! He will return as King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 17:14; 19:16). He will sit upon the throne of David, and rule over all the nations. As Isaiah wrote: "Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end" (Isaiah 9:7). That is great news, and we all need to pray, as Jesus taught us: "Your Kingdom come!"

When was Jesus born? Was Jesus born in December on Christmas Day? It may be surprising to some, but we can be sure that He was not. Luke recounts that Joseph and Mary had traveled back to Bethlehem for the census mandated by Caesar Augustus. The city was crowded, so Joseph and Mary had to accept less than the best

accommodations. After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, He was placed in a manger (Luke 2:7). Notice the setting and the time of year: "Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night" (v. 8).

Most Bible scholars plainly admit that shepherds were not in the field in December. The cold, rainy season began long before December 25. Jesus was probably born in late September or early October, as most reputable Bible commentaries acknowledge. Why do we so often accept traditions and teachings without checking up on them? Some of our concepts and ideas disagree with the Bible! Jesus never observed His birthday, and neither did the Apostles! As the Encyclopaedia Britannica states: "According to a Roman almanac, the Christian festival of Christmas was celebrated in Rome by AD 336" ("Christmas," p. 903). Notice also the following: "The Fathers of the 2nd and 3rd centuries, such as Clement of Alexandria, Origen, and Epiphanius, contended that Christmas was a copy of a pagan celebration" ("Christianity" p. 499).

When you read the book of Acts, you see that the Apostolic Church of the first century—the New Testament Church—never observed Christmas or the birth of Christ. The true Apostolic Church of the first century observed the biblical festivals: the New Testament Passover, Days of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day. Scripture records plainly that Jesus Christ observed the Last Great Day of the Feast. The Apostle John referred to this Feast day when he wrote: "On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as

the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" (John 7:37-38).

Jesus observed the biblical festivals, and genuine Christians strive to follow His example. As the Apostle Peter stated: "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps" (1 Peter 2:21).

Is traditional Christianity following in Jesus' steps? Is it observing the weekly Sabbath—the seventh day of the week—as Jesus did? Christ stated that He, "the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:28). As we know from Genesis 2:3, God sanctified the seventh day at creation. And for whom was the Sabbath made? Jesus stated: "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27). The Sabbath was made for all humanity as a day of rest, and as a memorial of God's great creation. Remember, God created all things, including the Sabbath day, through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:9).

#### The Historic Jesus

The Jewish historian Josephus referred to Jesus' brother, the Apostle James, who wrote the New Testament book of James. In the first century AD, Josephus wrote the following: "Festus was now dead, and Albinus was but upon the road: so he assembled the Sanhedrin of judges, and brought before them the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James, and some others, [or, some of his companions]; and when he had formed an accusation against them as breakers of the law, he delivered them to be stoned" (Antiquities of the Jews, Bk. 20, chap. 9, sec. 1).

Yes, there is historic evidence for the existence of Jesus Christ. Amazingly, some will accept the testimony of a historian like Josephus, yet ignore the eyewitness testimony of Jesus' contemporaries. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John all wrote and testified about the life, miracles, and teachings of our Savior. The Apostle John even wrote: "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us" (1 John 1:1-2).

The Apostle John testifies in this passage that not only did he and the other Apostles hear and see the Word of Life-Jesus, the Messiah-but they also touched Him. After His resurrection, Jesus told doubting Thomas to put his hand into the

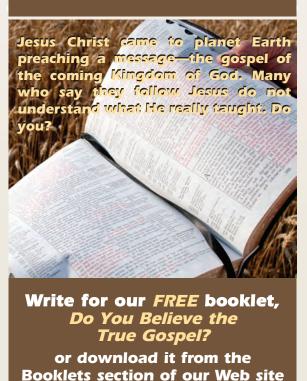
spear wound that killed Him. He commanded: "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing" (John 20:27). What was Thomas' response? "And Thomas answered and said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!" (v. 28).

Jesus Christ died and was resurrected. He is alive today. If He were not, we would still be in our sins. As Paul wrote: "For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!" (1 Corinthians 15:16-17). But the good news is stated next: "But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become

the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead" (vv. 20-21).

So who was Jesus? The more important question is-who is Jesus? He is our living Savior! He is our great High Priest, as the Apostle Paul explains (Hebrews 3:1; 4:14). He is at the right hand of God in heaven, where He "makes intercession for us" (Romans 8:34). He will soon come back to planet Earth as King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:16), to establish the Kingdom of God right here, to bring world peace! Will you be ready for His return? Will you accept His sacrifice, repent and live a life of obedience to Him? Thank God that the Bible reveals Jesus Christ-the living, loving Savior of the world! ■

#### Do You Believe the True Gospel?



www.tomorrowsworld.org.

## PROPHECY CON

#### THE CRIMINALIZATION OF CHRISTIANITY!

Can you believe that in the United States—which claims in its Pledge of Allegiance to be "one nation under God" and on its coins proclaims, "In God We Trust"—citizens are facing lawsuits and jail time for quoting the Bible or professing to believe in biblical teachings?

Can you believe that in the United Kingdom, Canada—and a cross former British Commonwealth nations where "God Save the Queen" is sung—people are being threatened with fines and penalties for professing the same beliefs as their Anglican, Methodist and Baptist forefathers?

Around the world, people who profess belief in the teach-

ings of Jesus Christ are increasingly being treated as criminals for taking a stand on biblical principles. Why is this happening, and what does it mean?



In 1954, U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill adding the words "under God" to his nation's Pledge of Allegiance. Fifty years later, those words are under attack. Prayer in public school is forbidden, and inscriptions of the Ten Commandments are barred from schools and public buildings. Teachers who dare to utter almost any word or perform any action hinting at a professed Christian belief are increasingly subject to legal attack.

Not long ago, a California schoolteacher was charged with violating school regulations for assigning readings in the Bible and reading the Bible in class. A school in Idaho was threatened with the loss of its charter for planning to incorporate the Bible into its curriculum. A teacher in Colorado faced disciplinary action for leaving a Bible on his desk where students might see it. A social worker in Maine faced the loss of his license for telling a co-worker his belief that marriage should be

between one man and one woman. In Michigan, a graduate student in counseling was dismissed for declining "on religious grounds" to provide counseling to a homosexual who was having problems with his partner, and a man filed a \$10 million lawsuit against two reli-

gious publishers because their Bibles accurately conveyed God's prohibition against homosexuality (see *The Culture of Disbelief*, Carter, pp. 11–12). All this has happened in a nation once known for its "freedom" of religious expression.

The U.S. is not the only country where professing Christians face attack. Not long ago in western Canada, after

homosexual activists completed a week-long "Pride" celebration, a man and a newspaper were fined and charged with a "hate crime" for publishing an advertisement containing Bible references—not even quotations—describing God's condemnation of homosexual conduct. Mere reference to Bible verses was termed "dangerous" because it was said to expose homosexuals to "hatred and ridicule." In Ontario, a mayor was fined \$10,000 for refusing to proclaim a "Gay Pride Weekend." In Sweden, a clergyman was sentenced to prison for reading Bible verses about homosexuality. In England, police investigated a bishop for stating that some homosexuals can "reorient" themselves (see The Criminalization of Christianity, Folger, pp. 17-31). The Council of Europe has announced plans to step up pressure on countries that still allow corporal punishment of children (Mail Online, June 22, 2009)—even though the Bible advises that parents may use corporal punishment responsibly to correct their children (Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 22:15; 29:15, 17). Violations of Council directives will be subject to criminal charges meaning that EU directives will supersede God's instructions in Scripture! Will a time come, as some legal experts now predict, when "hate crime" laws



could be used even to outlaw the Bible and to criminalize expressions of biblical truth?

#### **Prophecies Come Alive!**

To millions who accept the modern secular liberal mindset, these moves to prohibit plain biblical teaching may seem long overdue. However-especially in the

U.S. and in the northwestern European nations—a significant number recognize these actions as little more than "political correctness" and even a kind of "theo-phobia" and blatant attempt to let vocal secularists silence peoples of faith.

Jesus Christ's disciples asked Him, "What will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Matthew 24:3). He told them: "Then they will deliv-

er you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake" (v. 9). On another occasion, Jesus warned His followers, "But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles" (Matthew 10:17-18).

To whom did God's warnings apply? Not to the non-Christians or to false Christians—this was a plain warning to His "spiritual Israel" that they would be a testimony to the "Gentiles." Yet we live in a world today where simply the word "Christian"-even when applied to false teachings Jesus Himself would have condemned—can be enough to stir persecution!

#### **Calamities Ahead!**

Where will today's anti-Christian sentiments lead? What are the current consequences, and will there be future unanticipated results of this shocking phenomenon?

In the U.K., weekly attendance at Protestant worship services has fallen dramatically in the last few decades, and aggressive atheists make headlines. In such an environment, it is no surprise that surveys find that nearly two-thirds of British teenagers do not believe in God, and that nearly half feel that organized religion should not have any place in the world.

Another U.K. study revealed that in some parts of the increasingly secular nation, almost three-fourths of births now occur outside of marriage (The Sunday Times, April

> 18, 2010). This shocking figure confirms the ancient prophecies by Hosea, regarding the Israelite peoples, that because they have "walked by human precept" chosen to "do their own thing"they have "begotten pagan children" (Hosea 5:7, 11). Long ago, God warned the Israelites, to whom as His chosen people He had revealed His laws—"if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, and if

you despise My statutes... I will even appoint terror over you... you shall be defeated by your enemies... I will break the pride of your power... I will lay your cities waste... I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you" (Leviticus 26:15-33).

In light of these ancient prophecies, it is hardly a coincidence that America, Britain and other modern Israelite nations are facing serious financial woes, increasing social strife and a loss of influence in the world—at the same time that they are turning away from any pretense of worshiping God-and are even making it a criminal offense to speak out or stand up for biblical truths or, indeed, any teachings in the name of "Christianity." It is certainly a sad day when governments decide that it is appropriate to ban the Bible in public schools, and when nations that once proclaimed themselves "Christian" now suffer from what U.K. Member of Parliament Mark Pritchard has called "Christianophobia" (BBC News, December 4, 2007). Unless we repent as nations, acknowledge our mistakes and turn to God, the "handwriting is on the wall" for the modern nations descended from ancient Israel!

—Douglas S. Winnail

#### Loyalty: Lesson in a Dog's Life

You may know the famous story of Lewis and Clark's expedition across the North American continent to the Pacific Ocean and back. But you may not have heard the story of a lesser-known member of the party, a brave black Newfoundland dog named Seaman. He was just a dog, but his story is a lesson of faithfulness and loyalty—a lesson that husbands and wives should consider.

Covering thousands of miles, Captain Meriwether

Lewis, Second Lieutenant William Clark and their small band of companions made their way into American folklore. Captain Meriwether Lewis' faithful dog, Seaman, accompanied the expedition the entire distance.

Seaman was Lewis' faithful companion on a dangerous journey of many thousand miles. He defended his master's party; he witnessed Indian skirmishes, death, disease, success and failure and he endured freezing winters and long hot summers. He was injured many times, but he pressed on.

Once, deep in the wilderness, Lewis had to perform painful surgery

on Seaman to repair a life-threatening injury the dog had received from a wild animal. When a tribe of Native Americans stole Seaman, his master took the risk of retrieving him at gunpoint. Undaunted, the two pressed on.

Although the records are incomplete, there is even strong evidence that Seaman was loyal to his master unto death. According to Timothy Alden's multiple volume history, A Collection of American Epitaphs and Inscriptions with Occasional Notes (5 vols.), after Lewis' tragic and violent death in 1809, Seaman remained at Lewis' grave until he himself died: "The fidelity and attachment of this animal were remarkable. After the melancholy exit of Gov. Lewis, his dog would not depart for a moment from his lifeless remains; and when they were deposited in the earth no gentle means could draw him from the spot of interment. He refused to take every kind of food, which was offered him, and actually pined away and died with grief upon his master's grave!" (vol. 5, p. 98).

Seaman's loyalty was a very good quality, and is a lesson for us in many ways. How loyal should we be? How faithful should fathers and mothers be to their children? How faithful should children be to their parents? How much *more* faithful should Christians be to their Lord and Master?

How loyal should a husband and wife be to each other during the long journey—consisting of numerous adventures, injuries and successes—that is called

marriage? "Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. 'For the LORD God of Israel says that He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment with violence,' says the LORD of hosts. 'Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously'" (Malachi 2:15–16).

In his powerful booklet, God's Plan for Happy Marriage, Tomorrow's World Editor in Chief Roderick C. Meredith comments on that passage from Malachi, noting that, "among other things, marriage is a 'test.' It is a test to see how loyal you will be to God's instruction regard-

ing marriage and to your mate with whom you share this sanctified relationship. How much will you 'give' of yourself to this other human being? How much will you be patient, kind and humble in order to make it work?" (p. 9).

Meriwether Lewis had a faithful companion throughout one of the most amazing journeys in American history. His companion was not treacherous. His companion was faithful and loyal unto death.

But Seaman was just a dog. You and I are potential children of God and heirs to immortality (Romans 8:17)! We are created in God's image (Genesis 1:26)! We are told to have Christ's mind—His character—in us (Philippians 2:5)! Seaman was faithful—how much more faithful should we be? To God? To our spouse? To our family?

Husbands and wives, you are on a lifelong journey. Be loyal. Repair those injuries. Heal. Continue the adventure. Press on!

-Wyatt Ciesielka



#### Growth of a Stronaman (Continued from page 18)

The current 27-nation EU, through its current internal conflict, is laying the groundwork for the super-power ten-nation (or "kingdom") entity foretold in Scripture.

Great crises can become vehicles for great change. But it may require a crisis greater than the current one to produce what the Bible indicates will be the final outcome of these events.

#### The Return of Mitteleuropa?

Whether or not German leaders choose right away to pursue the century-old dream of Mitteleuropa, they are in a position to begin asserting economic hegemony over the rest of the EU. What changes can we expect to see in a future Europe? We can find the answer in Scripture.

The Bible is a unique book in that it focuses especially on a 7,000-year period of timehuman history—and does so from God's point of view. This God is not some abstract unknowable force; He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, who explains that He can tell the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:8-10). Scripture— His word—illuminates both past and future events in the context of His plan for humanity, which He has foreordained to carry out in a prophetic "week" of seven millennia.

It is important to keep this format in mind when reading prophecy. In biblical chronology, we are near the end of the sixth millennium of this period. The next thousand years, the seventh, will be the millennial Sabbath rest known as the Kingdom of God (Hebrews 4:1-11). When we view the Bible in this context, it is easy to see why God's word is as relevant today as it was long ago. A person living at any point in time can be informed by it. God's plan is constant, unchanging and important to everyone throughout history.

Much of Bible prophecy deals with events at the close of our present 6,000-year period of history and the start of the last day of the prophetic "week"—the thousandyear millennial reign of Jesus Christ as King of kings on planet Earth. Before Christ sits on His throne as supreme benevolent Ruler of this planet, He will be opposed by human governments including those of a great European superpower that will arise at the end of our present age. That superpower will be composed of ten kings or governments under the influence of a powerful religious entity.

Tomorrow's World has long explained that the German people are identified in prophecy as Assyria. Even though these remarkable people were crushed by Allied might in World War II, they are rising again

to power and prominence in Europe. Look for Germany to lead the way in trade dominance, finance, economic power, political muscle and revived military force in a federal EU.

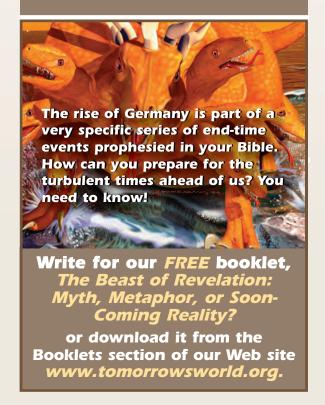
Through the prophet Isaiah, God said, "Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger and the staff in whose hand is My indignation. I will send him against an ungodly nation, and against the people of My wrath. I will give him charge, to seize the spoil, to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Yet he does not mean so, nor does his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy, and cut off not a few nations. For he says,

'Are not my princes altogether kings?" (Isaiah 10:5-8).

But lest we misunderstand the role of Assyria against the "ungodly nation," we must understand that God is using that nation to bring about His will. And the time will come when God will eventually use that remarkable people in a peaceful way. "In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come into Egypt and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians will serve with the Assyrians. In that day Israel will be one of three with Egypt and Assyria—a blessing in the midst of the land, whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, Blessed is Egypt My people, and Assyria the work of My hands, and Israel My inheritance.' (Isaiah 19:23-25). Keep watching events in Europe, and Tomorrow's World will continue to illuminate those events with the light of biblical prophecy.



Myth, Metaphor or Soon-Coming Reality?



#### Look to God! (Continued from page 2)

Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations'" (Jeremiah 25:8–9).

So when we see the foreign enemy beginning to invade and conquer modern America, Canada and Britain, we should not be horrified, confused or disheartened. Those of you who have read and truly understood the prophetic articles in this magazine undoubtedly realize by now that the great God will soon intervene and powerfully chasten our peoples, unless we deeply repent and turn to the true ways of God!

Yet during the greatest of trials and tests, God's true children will understand that "God is love" (1 John 4:16). They will realize that God brings trials and tests on us for our good. Fervently studying God's word, and drinking in more and more of the "mind" of God, God's people will realize in the years just ahead that God is intervening to bring this corrective punishment on His people because of His great love, and in order to teach them lessons for all eternity that they are unwilling to learn any other way. True Christians well understand that the great God says: "For I am the LORD, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob" (Malachi 3:6). Today, God is dealing with modern Israel-including the American and Britishdescended peoples—just as He did in sending ancient Judah into Babylonian captivity.

Remember what God said to those Jewish captives: "For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you" (Jeremiah 29:10–12).

As the storm clouds gather, and as the darkness falls over our people, we should remember, as Jeremiah said to Judah, that God wants to give us a "future and a hope." We should know that when our people finally

turn to God "with all their hearts," He will then bring them "back from captivity" and bless our peoples more than they have ever been blessed.

God tells us: "Behold, the days are coming,' says the LORD, 'when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah-not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them,' says the LORD. 'But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: After those days,' says the LORD: 'I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, "Know the LORD," for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,' says the LORD. 'For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more" (Jeremiah 31:31–34). At that time, there will be no false ministers teaching that God's holy law is "nailed to the cross" or "done away." All human beings will eventually learn to live by all ten of the Ten Commandments as a way of life. Then there will be genuine peace and overflowing joy over the entire earth.

As David was inspired to tell us: "For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust" (Psalm 103:11–14). When we come to surrender to this great God as our Father, when we come to genuinely "know" Him through Jesus Christ living within us, then we will be able to look to Him and fully understand that the absolute Source of all love and goodness is truly "in charge." As we grow in this understanding, truly "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7).

Robert Meredith

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## TOMORROW'S WORLD TELEVISION LOG

INTE	DNATIONAL.			IID.	Dates	MAIIN	SUN 9:00 a.m.
INTE	RNATIONAL:			ID	Boise Idaho Falls	KNIN KPIF	SUN 7:00 a.m.
AUST	RALIA:			IL	Bloomington	WHOI	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Brisbane	QCTV 31	SUN 9:00 a.m.		Chicago	WCPX	WED 11:30 p.m.
SA	Adelaide	Access 31	SUN 9:30 a.m.		Chicago	WGN	SUN 5:00 a.m.
SA	Adelaide	Access 31	TUE 11:00 p.m.		Peoria	WHOI	SUN 7:00 a.m.
VIC	Melbourne	MCTC 31	SUN 11:30 p.m.		Quincy	WGEM	SUN 7:00 a.m.
WA	Perth	WTV	SUN 9:00 a.m.	IN	Fort Wayne	WPTA	SUN 8:00 a.m.
DADD	ADOC.		FRI 12:00 p.m.	100	Indianapolis	WIPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	ADOS: ichael	CBC 8	SUN 9:30 a.m.	КҮ	Bowling Green	WBKO WUPX	SUN 7:00 a.m. THU 12:30 a.m.
CANA		CDC 0	30N 7.30 a.m.	LA	Lexington Alexandria	KBCA	SUN 7:00 a.m.
ВС	Vancouver	CHNU	SUN 1:30 a.m.	LA	Lafayette	KLWB	SUN 7:00 a.m.
			SUN 5:00 p.m.		Lake Charles	WBLC	SUN 7:00 a.m.
BC	Victoria	CHEK	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Monroe	KNOE	SUN 7:00 a.m.
NS	Halifax	CIHF	SUN 8:30 a.m.		New Orleans	WPXL	WED 11:30 p.m.
JAMA				MA	Boston	WBPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
Kings		TVJ	SUN 7:00 a.m.		Vineyard Haven	WDPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	ZEALAND: onwide	Prime TV	SUN 8:30 a.m.	ME	Bangor	WABI	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	nwide H AFRICA:	Prime IV	30N 8:30 a.m.	MI	Presque Isle	WBPQ	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Town	CTV	SUN 11:00 a.m.	MI	Alpena Detroit	WBAE WPXD	SUN 8:00 a.m. THU 12:30 a.m.
	DAD & TOBAGO:		30H 11.00 a.m.		Grand Rapids	WZPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	of Spain	CNC3-TV	SUN 7:00 a.m.		Lansing	WLAI	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	NW EUROPE:				Marquette	WBKP	SUN 8:00 a.m.
Gosp	el	Sky TV 590	MON 7:00 p.m	MN	Duluth	KDLH	SUN 7:00 a.m.
Lond	on, UK	KICC-TV 594	SUN 8:00 p.m		Mankato	KWYE	SUN 7:00 a.m.
			TUE 4:30 p.m.		Minneapolis	KPXM	WED 11:30 p.m.
			WED 3:30 p.m.		Rochester	KTTC	SUN 7:00 a.m.
WOR	D	Sky TV 591	MON 12:30 a.m.	MO	Columbia	KOMU	SUN 7:00 a.m.
					Joplin		SUN 8:30 a.m.
UNIT	ED STATES:				Kansas City	KPXE	WED 11:30 p.m. SUN 6:30 a.m.
				MS	Springfield Biloxi	KSFX WBGP	SUN 7:00 a.m.
AK	Anchorage	кімо	SUN 6:00 a.m.	1113	Columbus	WCBI	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Fairbanks	KATN	SUN 6:00 a.m.		Greenwood	WBWD	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Juneau	KJUD	SUN 6:00 a.m.		Hattiesburg	WBH	SUN 7:00 a.m.
AL	Birmingham	WPXH	WED 11:30 p.m.		Meridian	WTOK	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Dothan	WTVY	SUN 7:00 a.m.	MT	Billings	KTVQ	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Montgomery	WBMM	SUN 7:00 a.m.		Bozeman	KXLF	SUN 7:00 a.m.
AL AR	Opelika Fort Smith	WLGA KHBS	SUN 7:00 a.m. SUN 7:00 a.m.		Butte	KBZK	SUN 7:00 a.m.
AII	lonesboro	KJOS	SUN 7:00 a.m.		Glendive Great Falls	KWZB KRTV	SUN 7:00 a.m. SUN 7:00 a.m.
ΑZ	Phoenix	KPPX	WED 4:30 p.m.		Helena	KMTF	SUN 7:00 a.m.
CA	Bakersfield	KGET	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Missoula	KPAX	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Chico	KHSL	SUN 8:00 a.m.	NC	Charlotte	WAXN	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Eureka	KUYU	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Fayetteville	WFPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Monterey	KION	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Greensboro	WGPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Palm Springs	KESQ	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Greenville	WEPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Redding	KHSL	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Greenville	WNCT	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Sacramento San Bernardino	KSPX KPXN	THU 12:30 a.m. THU 12:30 a.m.		Hickory	WHKY	MON 7:30 p.m. THU 12:30 a.m.
со	Denver	KPXC	WED 11:30 p.m.		Jacksonville Raleigh	WPXU WRPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Grand Junction	КЈСТ	SUN 7:00 a.m.	ND	Bismarck	KWMK	SUN 7:00 a.m.
СТ	Hartford	WHPX	THU 12:30 a.m.		Fargo	WDAY	SUN 7:00 a.m.
FL	Gainesville	WCJB	SUN 8:00 a.m.	NE	Lincoln	KCWL	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Jacksonville	WPXC	THU 12:30 a.m.		North Platte	KWPL	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Miami	WPXM	THU 12:30 a.m.	NH	Concord	WPXG	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Orlando	WOPX	THU 12:30 a.m.	NV	Reno	KREN	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Panama City	WJHG	SUN 8:00 a.m.	NY	Albany	WCWN	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Tampa W. Palm Beach	WXPX WPXP	THU 12:30 a.m. THU 12:30 a.m.		Albany	WYPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
GA	Albany	WBSK	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Binghamton Buffalo	WBNG WPXJ	SUN 8:00 a.m. THU 12:30 a.m.
	Atlanta	ION	THU 12:30 a.m.		Elmira	WENY	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Augusta	WAGT	SUN 8:00 a.m.		New York	WPXN	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Brunswick	WPXC	THU 12:30 a.m.		Syracuse	WSPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Columbus	WLGA	SUN 8:00 a.m.	ОН	Cleveland	WVPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Macon	WBMN	SUN 8:00 a.m.		Lima	WBOH	SUN 8:00 a.m.
HI	Kailua-Kona	KLEI	WED 11:30 p.m.	OK	Oklahoma City	КОРХ	WED 11:30 p.m.
	Kaneohe	KPXO	WED 11:30 p.m.		Oklahoma City	КОКН	SUN 6:30 a.m.
IA	Cedar Rapids	KPXR	WED 11:30 p.m.		Oklahoma City	KOKH	SUN 6:30 a.m.
	Des Moines Ottumwa	KFPX KWOT	WED 11:30 p.m. SUN 9:00 a.m.	OB	Tulsa	KTPX	WED 11:30 p.m.
	o countina			OR	Bend	KTVZ	SUN 8:00 a.m.

	Eugene	KMTR	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Medford	KTVL	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Portland	KPXG	THU 12:30 a.m.
PA	Erie	WBEP	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Philadelphia	WPPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Wilkes-Barre	WQPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
RI	Providence	WPXQ	THU 12:30 a.m.
SC	Charleston	WCBD	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Myrtle Beach	WWMB	SUN 8:00 a.m.
SD	Rapid City	KWBH	SUN 7:00 a.m.
TN	lackson	WBIK	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Knoxville	WPXK	THU 12:30 p.m.
	Memphis	WPXX	WED 11:30 p.m.
	Nashville	WNPX	WED 11:30 p.m
TX	Abilene	KTXS	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Amarillo	KVIH	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Beaumont	KFDM	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Corpus Christi	KRIS	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Dallas	KPXD	WED 11:30 p.m
	Harlingen	KSFE	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Houston	KPXB	WED 11:30 p.m
	Laredo	KGNS	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Lubbock	KLCW	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Lufkin	KTRE	SUN 6:30 a.m.
	Midland	KWWT	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	San Antonio	KPXL	WED 11:30 p.m
	Tyler	KLTV	SUN 6:30 a.m.
UT	Salt Lake City	KUPX	WED 10:30 p.m
VA	Charlottesville	WVIR	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Manassas	WPXW	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Norfolk	WPXV	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Roanoke	WPXR	THU 12:30 a.m.
WA	Seattle	KWPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Spokane	KGPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
WI	Eau Claire	wxow	SUN 7:00 a.m.
	Milwaukee	WPXE	WED 11:30 p.m
	Wausau	WTPX	WED 11:30 p.m.
wv	Bluefield	WVVA	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Charleston	WLPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Clarksburg	WVFX	SUN 8:00 a.m.
	Martinsburg	WWPX	THU 12:30 a.m.
	Parkersburg	WCWP	SUN 8:00 a.m.
WY	Casper	KTWO	SUN 10:00 a.m.
	Cheyenne	KLWY	SUN 10:00 a.m.
	Riverton	KGWC	SUN 7:00 a.m.

#### Nationwide Cable

WGN—SUN 6:00 a.m. ET WORD—SUN 7:30 p.m. ET ION-THU 12:30 a.m. ET/PT CW-PLUS—SUN 8:00 a.m. ET/PT

#### **DirecTV**

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#### Dish Network

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

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August 15	Tulsa, OK	August 24	Montreal, QC
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