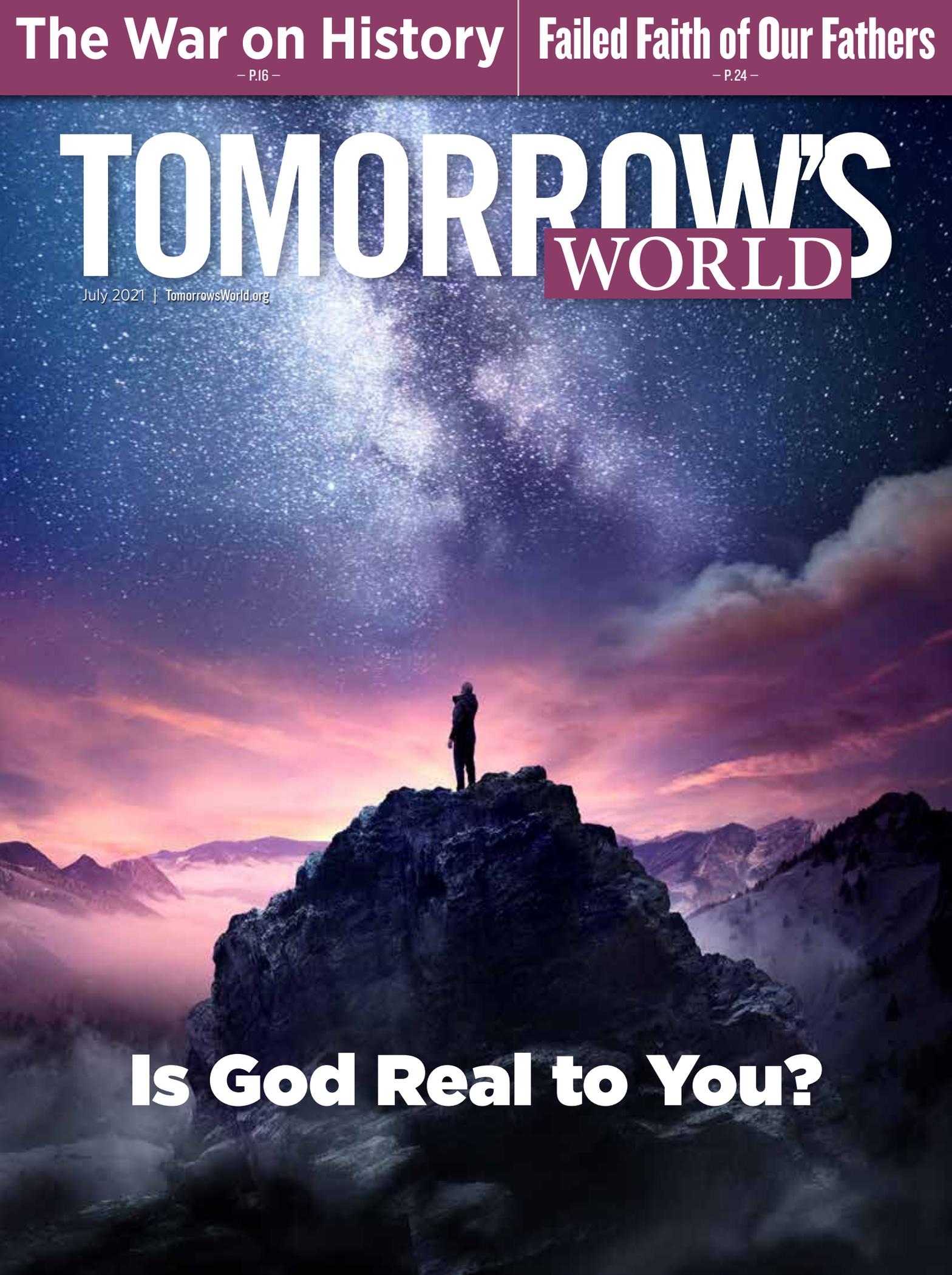


TOMORROW'S WORLD

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Is God Real to You?

Say Goodbye to “Mum” and “Dad”

To quote British journalist and TV personality Piers Morgan, “Has the world gone nuts?” So it would seem, but sadly, there is more to it than that—a planned agenda behind the nuttiness. We need to understand the big picture of what is happening, because as much as I try to show the positive side of things in these columns, our world is hurtling toward destruction at warp speed.

There *is* a light at the end of the tunnel, and this is shown in the pages of the Bible, but that same source reveals that mankind will first come to the brink of total destruction (Matthew 24:21–22). Our world is being set up for that destruction even as you read this, and the end is not far off. We cannot know every twist and turn, nor the exact timing, but we do know the big picture as revealed in that book of all books. This big picture, contained in biblical prophecy, is something we have proclaimed for decades—but even though we know our world will continue in a downward spiral, it is still painful to watch.

Our Australasian Regional Director, Mr. Rob Tyler, recently sent me a link to an article from the *Daily Mail* with this headline: “Melbourne schools are urged to stop saying ‘mum or dad’ in a push to be more ‘gender inclusive.’” Can anything be nuttier than that? Where did we come from? Try as they might, we still need an egg from a biological female and a sperm cell from a biological male. That’s science—something we hear a lot about these days! Disgustingly, even so-called “science” has become a political club for beating one’s opponents into submission.

Why the Biblical Family Matters

What appears to be a world going insane is the handiwork of social revolutionaries who operate strategically. They are masters of changing societal behavior through a variety of means—especially through the use of language. As I have written before, in the mid-1960s I was working my way through college, earning my tuition and expenses as a janitor. One day, I was told that we were no longer called janitors. We were now called custodians, but nothing else had changed.

I was still cleaning toilets and urinals and washing windows. As innocent as it seemed, the change was part of a larger push to alter our thinking on numerous fronts. Housewives became homemakers, later to become domestic engineers—but, eventually, staying home to take care of the family under any label was frowned upon. It’s amazing that in a world priding itself on making everyone feel good, these wives and mothers are derided. But should that surprise us? “Inclusion” almost never includes biblical values.



While they wrap themselves in the mantle of care and concern, that is not the endgame for these social revolutionaries—whether they realize it or not. The real game in altering language is that of normalizing abnormal choices. “Homosexual”

became “gay,” and anyone who disagreed with that lifestyle was styled “homophobic”—a lie now firmly embedded in our culture. While some few may be “phobic” of homosexual activity, most simply disagree with it and see danger for a nation that embraces it. We have been subtly taught to refer to one’s live-in of the opposite gender (itself now a concept under attack) as a “partner” or “significant other” rather than a spouse, husband, or wife. The idea is to normalize non-marital couplings—an effort that has proven very successful.

Now, we are asked to replace *mother* and *father* with the neutral *parent*. Why? What do these social engineers want? In the words of former UCLA psychiatrist Miriam Grossman, “Their goal is an androgynous culture, where the differences between male

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and female are discounted or denied, and the bond between them robbed of singularity” (*Unprotected*, p. xxi). Not only do they seek to blur the differences between male and female; they want to do away with any semblance of sexual order. Girls now want to become boys, and vice versa—but that makes no sense, because the very terms *boy* and *girl* are under attack. Indeed, practically no aspect of our individuality is not under attack, accused of offending some new attempt at social engineering.

Some have wondered why we at *Tomorrow's World* talk so much about the LGBTQIA+ movement. The reason is simple: Our Creator is working out a plan, and family is central to that plan. The prayer outline Jesus gave His disciples begins by addressing

Male, female, marriage, family—these are not only important but essential to fulfilling the purpose for which we were created.

God as “Our Father” (Matthew 6:9). Christians are called “sons of God,” “children of God,” “heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ” (Romans 8:14–17). This passage continues, “For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of

God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now” (vv. 20–22). Yes, we have the potential of being born into the Family of God!

The human marriage relationship is likened to the relationship between Christ in the role of the Husband and the Church in the role of His wife. “For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church” (Ephesians 5:29–32). The book of Revelation looks into the future, when the Church will be married to Christ

(Revelation 19:6–9). This is not describing a polygamous relationship—rather, the Church, as a whole, will fulfill for Christ the supporting role of a wife in the Kingdom of God.

Resist the God of This Age

Male, female, marriage, family—these are not only important but *essential* to fulfilling the purpose for which we were created. Yet there is a powerful spirit being who hates what God is doing, who enlists spiritually blind human beings in his attempt to thwart God’s plan for mankind. The Bible refers to this rebellious being as “the god of this age” who blinds people’s minds to the truth of the great potential given to us (2 Corinthians 4:3–4). No wonder Jesus three times referred to this spirit as “the ruler of this world” (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11). He is also called “the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience” (Ephesians 2:2).

We at *Tomorrow's World* understand biblical prophecy and know where these social trends are heading—straight for our children and grandchildren, as seen by the aforementioned news out of Melbourne. What our children absorb today will become the norm in a very few years as they become indoctrinated adults; just imagine this next generation growing up without referring to “Mum and Dad.”

The Bible tells us that the end of this age will be like the days of Noah (Luke 17:26–27), a time when mankind was “filled with violence” and “every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually” (Genesis 6:5, 11). Furthermore, the time of the end is compared to the ancient city of Sodom, which was known for sexual promiscuity and perversion (Luke 17:28–29; Genesis 19). Isaiah warns, “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (Isaiah 5:20).

Yes, the world has gone insane—and there are both physical and spirit beings behind the nuttiness we see. Keep reading *Tomorrow's World* magazine for more understanding of what is ahead!



5 Is God Actually Real to You?

None of us have seen God face to face, yet billions claim to believe in Him. How real is God to you?

10 Brexit: The Quest Continues

Two contentious issues caused by “Brexit” may come to threaten the integrity of the United Kingdom.

12 Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

Peace will come to Jerusalem and Israel in due course—but not by human politics and diplomacy.

16 What’s Behind the War on History?

History is under siege, but why? What forces are working behind it all? And how will the war on history end?

24 The Failed Faith of Our Fathers

Many sense that society has taken a wrong turn and lost its way. Where have we turned off the path?

14 “Excruciating? Really?”

22 China Rising in a Post-Pandemic World

26 The Value of “No”

9 Questions and Answers

28 NewsWatch

30 Letters to the Editor

31 Television Log

Circulation: 474,000

Will Jerusalem Ever Have Peace?

-12-

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Is God Actually Real to You?

By **Gerald E. Weston**

None of us have seen God face to face, yet billions claim to believe in Him in one form or another. Since you are reading this magazine, you are likely to be among these believers. That is good—but how *real* is God to you? Are you willing to go “all in,” knowing that He exists, that you know Him, and that He will reward you if you diligently obey Him? Or will you only go so far, drawing a line that you will not cross?

Consider the following, and take a serious look in the proverbial mirror. The Bible tells us that a man walked the dusty roads of Israel 2,000 years ago, claiming that He came from God and would return to Him. He was killed, and many say that He was resurrected to life and seen by hundreds of witnesses. Further, He proclaimed that He will come back to give rulership to a group of individuals who in this life are called, chosen, and faithful (Luke 19:12–27; Revelation 17:14).

Frankly, that is a lot to accept. Even those who followed Him and knew Him in the flesh—who saw all His miracles and were mentored by Him for three-and-a-half years—had difficulty, at first, accepting His resurrection. They knew there was something different about Jesus, and even proclaimed Him to be the prophesied Messiah, but their

faith wavered on many occasions. And after He was crucified, they did not expect the resurrection, even though Jesus had proclaimed before His death that it would happen.

Is Seeing Really Believing?

The Bible tells us little about the Apostle Thomas, but if there is one thing readers know about him, it is that he was the one who said, in effect, *Show me the evidence!* After the other Apostles claimed that they had seen Jesus alive, “doubting Thomas” protested: “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe” (John 20:25). Of course, he did believe once Jesus appeared to him. We can thank Thomas for giving us an opportunity to pause for some self-reflection, for “Jesus said to him, ‘Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed’” (v. 29). Do we believe, having not seen Him?

It was not as though a resurrection from the dead had never occurred before. These disciples must have been familiar with the account of the man who came back to life when placed in the tomb of Elisha (2 Kings 13:21). They must have known the scriptures that prophesied a resurrection from the dead (Job 14:14–15; Psalm 17:15; Daniel 12:1–2).

They also had a closer witness—a resurrection many saw with their own eyes; Jesus resurrected a man named Lazarus after he had been in the grave for four days, even as his sister warned that the body would stink by then (John 11:39). It must have been quite a sight when Lazarus walked out of the tomb alive and well, albeit wrapped in burial clothes (v. 44)! The resurrection of Lazarus was such an established fact that even Jesus’ detractors could not deny it. Some even wanted to kill Lazarus in a vain attempt to destroy the evidence of this miracle (John 12:9–11).

Many others were healed. There was practically no kind of disease or affliction that Jesus did not heal. He healed the leprosy, the blind, the mute, the lame, the demon-possessed, and more. Many of these individuals were well-known in their communities—not strangers slapped on the forehead by a bellowing “evangelist,” as one might see on a modern-day television program.

I remember seeing a television sideshow where a child, deaf supposedly as a result of a demon spirit, was brought out. The “evangelist” (“charlatan” is probably more accurate) put his fingers in the child’s ears and cried “Come out!” to the supposed spirit. Then, putting his face in the child’s face, this man commanded several times in very distinct and loud tones, “Say, *‘Bay-bee.’*” The confused and frightened child repeated, “*Bah-bah.*” Of course, even a child can read the lips of someone over-enunciating “baby.” The music struck up, the child was pronounced healed, and the audience waved their hands with tears streaming down their cheeks, shouting, “Praise the Lord!”

By contrast, the people Jesus healed were often well-known in their communities for suffering from their various afflictions. These healings weren’t clever tricks to fool a gullible audience. We have the examples of Lazarus (John 11:39–44), the demon-possessed man in the country of the Gadarenes (Mark 5:1–17), a paralyzed man (Mark 2:3–12), and many more. The populace knew that these were real healings; even the contentious Pharisees had to admit that Jesus’ miracles of healing were real, as evidenced by Nicodemus’ confession (John 3:2).

We read that Jesus turned water into wine, calmed a stormy sea, and walked on water. So, the questions remain: Do you believe these miracles hap-

pened? Do you believe there is an all-powerful God who is working with mankind on this small planet orbiting an average-sized star—one of tens of billions in our galaxy, which itself is only one galaxy among the currently estimated one-to-two trillion that make up our universe?

Truly, we ought to wonder, as King David did when he looked up at the awesome sight of a clear night sky, “What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him?” (Psalm 8:4). That, dear friends, is a question of great magnitude! And how much more we understand today regarding the scope of our universe and how truly small we are in comparison!

“Show Me a Miracle!”

Most of us think that we would believe if we could only see a miracle—but that is a fallacy, not backed by the facts. The people of ancient Israel saw miracle after miracle that allowed their flight from Egyptian slavery. They experienced three plagues and saw their Egyptian neighbors endure seven other plagues that were miraculous in nature and timing. They escaped through the Red Sea and were fed supernaturally with manna that came every day of the week but the seventh. And this continued for *40 years*. Time and again, God provided for them in the desert.

Yet we see that all those miracles survived in their minds only until the next challenge appeared. “For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? So we see that they could not enter in *because of unbelief*” (Hebrews 3:16–19).

Miracles are like food and water; those whose belief relies on miracles must have miracle after miracle to satisfy their recurring need. This is not to say that miracles are not important—we read of many in the Bible. Perhaps you have experienced one yourself. As a matter of fact, *you have!* Life itself is a miracle of such magnitude that every day we are learning more about how amazing it is.

We are told that “since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being under-

stood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20). Do you, dear readers, not see the miraculous all around you?

My wife and I saw one small miracle just recently. We noticed that the Carolina bluebirds did not nest in one of our birdhouses this year, so I decided to investigate. When I looked through the hole, I saw a large eye staring back at me. The hole was too small

MOST OF US THINK THAT WE WOULD BELIEVE IF WE COULD ONLY SEE A MIRACLE—BUT THAT IS A FALLACY, NOT BACKED BY THE FACTS.

for a grown squirrel, but it looked like the eye of a small rodent. Was it a rat? When I removed the top, it came out. To our surprise, it was a flying squirrel. Its mate came and hung upside down on the tree trunk a few feet away, glaring at me for several minutes as we called over a little neighbor girl so she could see them. What beautiful little creatures!

Now, maybe you don’t think this is a miracle—but what life is *not* a miracle? There are so many species and sub-species, distinct but related. There are gray squirrels, red squirrels, black squirrels, and flying squirrels, but they are all squirrels and perfectly suited to be part of an integrated ecosystem. Some were created distinct by God; others—like our domesticated dogs and cats—display their wonderful variety because of careful “design” by human masters. Whether we are discussing birds, reptiles, rodents, fish, flowers, or any other kind of life, we see exquisite design and beauty. And how can we forget what we see in the mirror? As David wrote regarding the pinnacle of God’s physical creation, “For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well” (Psalm 139:13–14). Think about that; does *your* soul know this very well?

Faith is elusive. It must not be blind—but, as I have shown above, belief based on miracles never

lasts. Even John the Baptist may have doubted at one point in his life. We cannot know for sure, as there is more than one explanation for the following passage, but one does have to wonder whether John took offense at something Jesus said or did. “And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, ‘Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?’ Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Go and tell John the

things which you hear and see: The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them” (Matthew 11:2–5).

We can’t be sure whether John sent his disciples to Jesus for *their* benefit or for his own. John knew Jesus from an early age, and as an adult saw evidence that He was the Messiah (John 1:32–34). Jesus pointed to the

miracles He performed, but then made this interesting comment: “And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me” (Matthew 11:6). Did something happen to cause doubt in John’s mind?

How Strong Was Their Faith?

We tend to think of the early Church as full of great faith, unlike today—and that is no doubt true, though maybe not to the degree we imagine. Remember how often Jesus groaned over the lack of faith of those around Him. How many times did He say to His disciples, “O you of little faith”?

Consider the rather humorous account of Peter’s escape from prison. Herod was fully set on executing Peter, as he had recently done with James, the brother of John, but God sent an angel to rescue him. This was a traumatic time for the early Church, and many had gathered to pray for Peter. They were without doubt praying for him to be rescued from death, but when he arrived after a truly miraculous escape, those praying for a miracle couldn’t seem to accept that the miracle was there at the front gate.

And when Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people.” So, when he had considered

this, he came to the house of Mary... where many were gathered together praying. And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a girl named Rhoda came to answer. When she recognized Peter's voice, because of her gladness she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter stood before the gate. But they said to her, "You are beside yourself!" Yet she kept insisting that it was so. So they said, "It is his angel." Now Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished (Acts 12:11-16).

Are you and I any different from these dedicated people? Would we be astonished in a similar situation? Or would we expect an answer to our prayers? I ask again: *How real is God to you?*

Why Is This Important?

Hebrews 11 is known as the faith chapter, and in it we read, "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (v. 6). Why is it impossible to please God unless we believe that He exists and that He rewards the diligent seeker?

Everyone listed in Hebrews 11 had the kind of faith that generated action. Abraham obeyed God when he left his comfortable home to go to a land where he would be a stranger. He also trusted God when he was told to sacrifice his son Isaac, believing that God would raise him up once again. (This was done as a type of what God would do with His Son, but God stopped Abraham at the last instant.) Noah built a huge boat, with his neighbors most likely mocking him. Then there was Moses. "By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible" (Hebrews 11:24-27).



Though God spoke directly to some in dreams and visions, many others down through the ages have only had Scripture and a personal relationship built on prayer, study of the word of God, and fasting to give them hope. "They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us" (Hebrews 11:37-40). God was real to them!

If God is real to us—and if we truly believe there is a reward for obeying Him—we *will* strive to keep His commandments. We will forsake the holidays of this world that put the name of Christ on pagan practices. We will keep His Sabbaths—the seventh-day weekly Sabbath and the annual Sabbaths. We will allow nothing and no one to deter us from obedience to our Lord and Savior. "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it" (Matthew 10:37-39). Yes, if God is real to us, we will put Him first, above all else! Those words come straight from Jesus Himself!

So, I ask again: Is He real to you? Is He real enough for you to obey Him and put Him before all else? If not, isn't it time to change? 

MAY WE SUGGEST?

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Does God Call Us, or Do We Choose Him for Ourselves?

Question: I read in John 6:44 that it is God the Father who calls us to His truth, and that we cannot choose Him unless He draws us to Him. I thought we were free moral agents, able to choose for ourselves, but this verse makes it seem that we don't have a choice. Do we?

Answer: First, we should understand that it is God's will for all to receive the genuine opportunity for eternal life (John 3:16–17; 2 Peter 3:9). God will not withhold His offer of salvation from anyone who has ever lived, calling each of us in our own time as it pleases Him (Romans 9:15; 1 Timothy 2:3–5).

Many, however, do not realize that *God is not calling everyone now*. Were He trying to save all mankind at this time, we would have to call His effort a colossal failure. Indeed, if God *were* truly trying to save the whole world now, He would succeed! Did God not intend salvation for the countless millions who have died without ever hearing the name of Jesus Christ? Of course He did—Scripture tells us of a future time when all who have lived will hear the true Gospel and receive God's calling (Ezekiel 37:1–14; Romans 11:26; Revelation 20:5, 11–13). Yet we also read that God calls some as “firstfruits” (James 1:18)—giving them the opportunity to respond to the Gospel even in this evil age.

Our Great Responsibility

From the moment Adam and Eve chose to follow Satan rather than obey the instructions of their Creator (Genesis 3), God has allowed mankind to

experiment with countless human-devised solutions to the world's problems. The Bible and secular history amply demonstrate mankind's abysmal failure at ruling its environment and itself. God is letting us learn, by trial and error, that doing things our way will not bring us the lasting joy, success, and fulfillment we all desire. Even so, in the midst of this sin-sick world, God *does* call some now to serve Him. Ultimately, all will be called to become members of His Family (Hebrews 2:9–11). God moves those whom He is calling to the body of Christ, which is His Church (1 Corinthians 1:2; 12:13). He brings us to repentance (2 Timothy 2:25–26).

Those who have been called now to repentance and given the Spirit of God have a greater responsibility to overcome sin through the power of that Holy Spirit (Colossians 3:5–10). And once we have been called and placed in the Church that Christ built (Matthew 16:18) through the power of God's Holy Spirit, we continue to be free moral agents. We are still at liberty to disobey the divine will—but the penalty for stubbornly continuing to break God's law will eventually bring stern and certain punishment (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27–28; Hebrews 10:26–27).

Our Amazing Opportunity

God has called some in every age to be witnesses against the evils and sins of this world (Deuteronomy 8:19–20). Isaiah 59 eloquently testifies to God's attitude regarding mankind's rebellious ways of living. Even today, God is calling some to have a part in His final warning to this dying and disobedient world. You have come into contact with the Work that God is doing through His Church today—so, if you sincerely seek the truth of God, and wish to learn more about His plan for your place in His Kingdom, keep studying your Bible and keep perusing what the Living Church of God offers at TomorrowsWorld.org.

Ask God to show you what you should do and what part He wants you to play. If God is calling you now, you are being blessed with the opportunity to be part of the first resurrection (Revelation 20:5–6) and to serve God, reigning under Jesus Christ in the soon-coming Millennium. What an amazing calling! 





Brexit: The Quest Continues

The goal of “Brexit” was to extract the United Kingdom from the European Union to become once again an independent, stand-alone nation. It was always expected to be a fiendishly complicated task after 47 years of integration, requiring an extended period of disentanglement.

So, where are we in the Brexit process? How does it affect Scotland and Northern Ireland within the UK? What is the prospect of a unified post-Brexit UK?

Let us consider two specific issues that potentially threaten the integrity of the United Kingdom. First, how does Brexit impact Scotland, where the ruling Nationalist Party (SNP) is eager to completely break away from the UK and return to the EU? Second, what of Northern Ireland, where tensions are running high as it is the only part of the UK being forced to continue keeping EU trading rules? Is Northern Ireland slowly slipping out of the UK?

Brexit Timeline

The shocking result of the June 2016 referendum was that, across the whole UK, a majority of voters (52 percent) sought to leave the EU. But 62 percent of voters in Scotland preferred to stay in the EU, as did 56 percent in Northern Ireland.

It took four years of sometimes tortuous and hard-fought negotiations before the UK, under Prime Minister Boris Johnson, succeeded in negotiations with the EU, and the UK withdrew from the European Union on January 31, 2020.

But there followed a one-year transition period, during which the UK continued to follow EU rules while

details of a 1,200-page Trade and Cooperation Agreement were hammered out. This would define how the UK and EU would live, work, and trade together.

On January 1 of this year, the UK was legally recognised as an independent nation in its own right. The UK was at last free to set its own trade policy and make deals with other countries. Trade with the EU would be tariff-free. The UK would gradually regain control of fishing in its own coastal waters.

But the following four months would also be a transition period to test how the provisional trade arrangements worked in practice. Only on May 1 of this year did the UK-EU free trade agreement fully enter into force.

EU Border Checks

How to manage the land border of Northern Ireland with the Republic of Ireland became a big issue. All parties agreed that there should be no hard border on the Irish mainland; otherwise, the Good Friday Agreement that ended Irish troubles back in April 1998 could be compromised.

So, EU rules had to continue in Northern Ireland, allowing goods coming from the UK mainland, intended for the Republic of Ireland, to be checked at their ports. But this decision—a set of rules called the Northern Ireland Protocol—mischievously forces part of the UK to stick with EU rules, and effectively establishes a virtual economic border through the Irish Sea. Many consider the rules unworkable in practice; they have caused much tension, even including loyalist violence and riots. The resignation of Northern Ireland’s First Minister, Arlene Foster, was partly attributed to this issue. The EU has even threatened legal action against the UK for supposed

treaty violation. Prime Minister Johnson is committed to urgently resolving the matter, but exactly how is unclear.

Clearly, tough times lie ahead for Northern Ireland, which turned just 100 years old on May 3. Though a majority of the Northern Ireland electorate remains staunchly loyal to the UK, many feel betrayed by Brexit. The EU has clarified that Northern Ireland could rejoin the EU under the Republic of Ireland's membership if and when both parts of Ireland become unified, and momentum for a united Ireland is slowly building—especially with Sinn Fein, the Republican Party, gaining ground with the electorate on both sides of the border.

Another Scottish Referendum

North of the English border, the ruling Scottish National Party (SNP) wants to leave the UK and rejoin the EU. On May 6, elections took place to elect members of the Scottish Parliament for the next five years. SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon seeks to increase pressure on the UK government to allow a second independence referendum, but Prime Minister Boris Johnson is not giving way to such demands. A majority of Scots voted to remain part of the UK in the 2014 Scottish referendum, supposedly settling the matter for a generation, but the SNP takes comfort in polls showing greater desire for independence, even though polls that widened in favor of leaving the UK narrowed on the eve of the 2014 election. The SNP was returned to power, but failed to achieve its much-coveted overall majority.



The economic case for independence has markedly deteriorated since 2014, but this seems not to be a part of the SNP narrative. North Sea oil revenues have dwindled, while welfare spending has risen. The COVID-19

crisis may have left a deficit of up to 25 percent of GDP, despite the safety net provided by being part of the UK. This deficit would only worsen should financial support from England cease due to such an exit.

Furthermore, if Scotland leaves the UK and becomes part of the EU, a hard border will likely be erected with England. This would harm Scottish exports, which are four times greater to the UK than to Europe. The entanglement of Scotland with the UK is many times more complex than that of the UK with the EU and would surely bog down the nation's governance. All of this suggests that a serious reality check is needed along with some hard thinking about the way forward. The Scottish question—a potential threat to the future of the UK itself—is not going to go away anytime soon.

The EU has been fighting long and hard to preserve its interests and frustrate those of the UK. Nevertheless, the UK's quest continues, and it may one day gain the benefits it hoped for from Brexit. But equally likely is that such benefits will *never* be fully realized—and Brexit might even lead to the disintegration of the Union.

A Time for Everything

What might we learn from this? The Bible proclaims that God is the true sovereign over the affairs of men. He presides over the rise and fall of nations (Daniel 2:20–21; 4:34–35). He is the one who is sovereign over our lives (James 4:13–16).

The famously wise King Solomon reflected on life and the lessons we might learn from it (Ecclesiastes 3:1–12). He observed that *everything has its time*—a time to plant and a time to pluck up; a time to gain and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to love and a time to hate; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time of war and a time of peace.

It's a beautiful poem of 14 opposites that resonate with life's experiences—both personally and for nations. It shows God's sovereignty over the affairs of mankind—events over which we humanly have little or no control. Solomon's point is that we should enjoy life and do good, in the fear of God (vv. 12–14).

We live in a time of great upheavals, when the order of things may well change in an instant, perhaps dramatically. This is the time to make sure God is at the centre of our lives. It is through Him that we will gain the strength to cope with all that life throws at us.

—John Meakin

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

By **Peter Nathan**

Since the creation of the modern state of Israel on May 14, 1948, some 73 years ago, diplomats and politicians have sought to bring peace to Jerusalem and the surrounding area. Yet, during that time, the nation has seen numerous wars, acts of terrorism, and civil disobedience—resulting in much loss of life. Peace has been elusive.

It may not then be a surprise that the biblical psalmist encouraged us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, now as vital a need for this place as ever (Psalm 122:6). The irony, of course, is that the name of the city in the Hebrew language simply means “city of peace”—the city of peace needs us to pray for what is supposed to define it. What is going on?

The Abraham Accords, a diplomatic breakthrough negotiated during the administration of United States President Donald Trump, were named for the biblical patriarch Abraham. He was the father of two sons, Ishmael and Isaac, who were in turn the progenitors of the Arabic and Jewish peoples. These accords have allowed Israel to establish diplomatic relations and normalize ties with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, together with other Islamic countries throughout the Muslim world, for the first time since Israel’s inception in 1948.

Driven by a deep-seated hatred, much of the Arab and Islamic world has denied the right of the State of Israel to exist. Before the Abraham Accords, Israel had only been able to enter into peace accords

with Jordan and Egypt. Other states have not yet established formal diplomatic relationships with Israel, but through the Abraham Accords, their acceptance of Israel’s presence in other ways conveys the same message. For instance, Saudi Arabia allows the Israeli national airline, El Al, overflight rights to reach the Persian Gulf countries. Recently, the UAE has made a US\$1 billion investment in Israel’s Tamar offshore gas field. Technological partnerships with Arab financiers are blooming in Israel, while the beaches of the Gulf states have become popular for Israeli tourists.

Self-Identity Politics?

But the Abraham Accords are not the only changes affecting Israel. Other changes in relationships are taking place between states in the area. As revolutionary as the Abraham Accords may be, they are part of a larger picture of shifting relationships. With the United States scaling down involvement in the area, Russia and China are seeking to fill the vacuum. This is causing a realignment of interests between the various states in the region.

Within Israel, a political stalemate appears to be continuing after its fourth election in two years. Israel’s longest-serving prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, is struggling to gain enough support to form a new government, yet no other politician or political party appears to have any better chance. Netanyahu’s problems as leader of the Likud party reflect the seismic movements and realignments taking place throughout the Middle East,

reminding us that the peace of Jerusalem depends on both internal and external factors.

The opposition parties in Israel are united by only one idea—to remove Netanyahu from the role of the nation's prime minister. Observers have described the current impasse as “the politics of self identity” (“Israel is entering the era of cultural self identity politics,” *Arutz Sheva*, April 26, 2021). Why? Unlike the U.S. with its two major political parties, Israel's most recent election saw ten political parties elected to its legislature, the Knesset. Voters made their choice not of a party best suited to lead a functioning government, but rather of the one that best represented their individual ethnic, religious, political, and social identities. Other nations experience this to varying degrees, but Israel leads the pack—potentially to its own destruction.

Those familiar with the Bible may notice that this situation sounds like a replay of another period in Israel's history as set out in the biblical book of Judges. That book's closing verse recounts a situation twice explained in previous chapters, and summarizes the entire book: “In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25).

Alliances Shifting Quickly

But “self-identity politics” is not just an internal Israeli problem. Throughout the Middle East, alliances are changing faster than a chameleon can adapt to its environment.

Thanks to President Biden, the U.S. is re-engaging Iran on its nuclear ambitions, a cause for alarm among the other Middle Eastern states as well as in Israel. News reports tie Israel to a number of strikes against the Iranian nuclear program, dating back to the Stuxnet virus in 2010 and more recently to the assassination of Iran's leading Iranian nuclear expert in 2020. Most recently, an April 2021 incident at the Iranian enriching facility at Natanz crippled or destroyed many of its centrifuges used to enrich uranium. Israel has not accepted responsibility for these events, which have intensified Iran's implacable desire to destroy Israel. But Israel is also clearly involved in actions against Iranian shipping that it claims delivers arms to Syria or to Hezbollah, Iran's proxy in Lebanon. Israel has long openly targeted Iranian facilities and activities in Syria.

The climate for the Abraham Accords was bolstered when in 2016 Saudi Arabia broke diplomatic

relations with Iran, concerned not only about Iranian nuclear ambitions but also its support of Houthi rebels in Yemen, on Saudi Arabia's southern border. More recently, however, the Saudis have re-engaged

The opposition parties in Israel are united by only one idea—to remove Netanyahu from the role of the nation's prime minister.

in discussions with Iran. Will the Saudis succeed in befriending both Iran and its most hated enemy, Israel? Meanwhile, NATO member Turkey—a nation that has long supported a secularized or Westernized approach to Islam—is reaching out both to Iran as the leader of Shiite Islam and Saudi Arabia as the kingpin in the world of Sunni Islam. Will the former three-way split among secular, Sunni, and Shiite interests remain? Or will shifting alliances enable the smaller players to seek their own interests?

One way or another, peace in the Middle East proves to be elusive. Through His prophets, God warned ancient Israel to be wary of claims of peace (Jeremiah 4:10; 6:14; 8:11; Ezekiel 13:10). In the times of Jeremiah and Ezekiel, Jerusalem faced an impending subjugation and eventual captivity by the Babylonian Empire. Today, someone might be called a “Jeremiah” for making repeated, fervent pleas—as Jeremiah fervently and repeatedly warned his nation to see past the allure of man-made peace treaties.

Peace, internally and externally, will come to Jerusalem and Israel in due course. But it will not come by human politics and diplomacy. Writing after the Babylonian captivity, the prophet Zechariah warned that Jerusalem will be “a very heavy stone” by which all nations who meddle in her affairs will be hurt (Zechariah 12:2–3).

The peace that the psalmist told us to pray for will not result from a humanly devised peace deal, but from living in harmony with the revealed will of God. That revealed will is set out within the pages of the Bible, which show that Jerusalem will be the center of world peace following the return of Jesus Christ. If you would like to know more about the amazing changes that are about to break out in this area, request our free booklet *The Middle East in Prophecy*. It's yours for the asking. [TW](#)

“EXCRUCIATING? REALLY?”

What meaning should this word have in our lives today?

“**T**hat was excruciating!” We hear this statement after the breaking of a bone, or hammering an ill-placed thumb rather than a nail, or stubbing a big toe on the bedpost while stumbling our way through a darkened bedroom. But we might ask, “Excruciating? Really?”

The word *excruciating* has been used since at least the 1590s to mean “very painful,” so it is commonly and rightly used in our modern vernacular to describe a variety of painful situations. However, a closer look at the root of the word can be enlightening. The root of *excruciating* is, of course, *excruciate*. What does *excruciate* mean? Does an everyday injury live up to *excruciating*’s root meaning?

According to *EtymOnline.com*, the word *excruciate* means to torture, torment, or inflict very severe pain on, as if by *crucifying*. The Latin root is *crux*, referring literally to an instrument of torture, often an upright pillar, stake, or “cross,” and figuratively to the torture and misery inflicted by means of such an instrument. But what was crucifixion like?

Maximum Pain and Suffering

A March 1986 article in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* discussed in great detail what crucifixion would have been like for Jesus Christ. It states, “Although the Romans did not invent crucifixion, they perfected it as a form of torture and capital punishment that was designed to produce a slow death with maximum pain and suffering. It was one of the most disgraceful and cruel methods of execution and usually was reserved only for slaves, foreigners, revolutionaries, and the vilest of criminals. Roman law usually protected Roman citizens from crucifixion, except perhaps in the [case] of desertion by soldiers” (“On the Physical Death of Jesus Christ”).

Jesus was arrested in the dark of night in the Garden of Gethsemane. The next day He was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor of the Roman province of Judea, who presided over an unjust trial and later ordered His scourging and crucifixion. This scourging was carried out using a *flagrum*, otherwise known as a “cat-of-nine-tails,” which inflicted deep

wounds on its victim. This especially brutal flogging preceded every Roman execution. Christ was beaten and then hung from an upright stake of uncertain design (Matthew 27:26; Mark 15:15; John 19:1).

He was hung on the stake (or *cross*, or *tree*; Matthew 27:32; Acts 5:30) with nails (John 20:25; cf. Psalm 22:16). According to the *JAMA* article, these nails would have measured five to seven inches in length. The article describes how nails were driven through the wrists and feet of the victim, whose legs most likely were bent and rotated, truly making every inhalation and exhalation excruciatingly painful.

The Supreme Act of Love

Why is it worthwhile to consider crucifixion and the excruciating pain that it was designed to elicit?

Our words may mean more than we realize. Understanding the origin of the word *excruciating* can provide us with a deep appreciation for what Jesus was willing to endure to make eternal life available to each of us—as well as give us pause to consider our use of this word more carefully in the future.

Christ truly was the Word of God, who emptied Himself to come down from heaven and be born as a human being. Prior to His human birth, He had existed eternally with the Being we now know as God the Father (John 1:1–2, 14). Philippians 2:8 tells us that, “being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.” This was the supreme act of love, as we see from Romans 5:8: “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

And, when we consider John 3:16, we realize what tremendous hope this brings: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Nearly all who hear this verse think they understand it—but do you truly know why Jesus Christ was willing to endure such an excruciating death? To learn more about the neglected, but powerful, truth of this verse, read our eye-opening booklet *John 3:16: Hidden Truths of the Golden Verse*.

—Adam J. West

God's Plan for Happy Marriage

With so many arguing over what marriage is, far too few are talking about how to have a happy one!

In a world where no one can even agree on what defines marriage, should it surprise us that more and more people are failing to achieve harmony *in* marriage? As we observe so many cultures today, getting a divorce seems as commonplace as graduating high school, and unrepentant adulterers are made out to be guilty of no worse than breaking a business contract. Even if one is dedicated and courageous enough to *try* to improve one's marriage, a barrage of online "experts" will give advice that is totally contrary to the intent of the One who created marriage and to the way of selfless, outgoing compassion that is essential to every loving relationship.

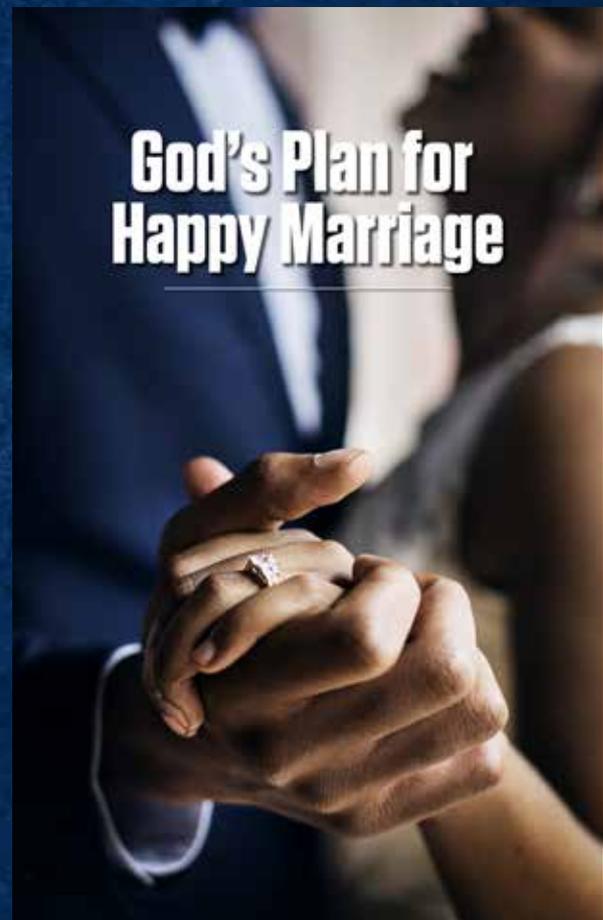
Perhaps you are one of those who have *not* fallen for the devil's deception that human beings can define marriage in whatever way they want. Maybe you know exactly what marriage actually is—a covenant relationship before God, between one man and one woman (Matthew 19:4–6). You might even be firmly convinced that God hates divorce (Malachi 2:16) and have a solid, stable marriage of your own—but maybe, like so many others who are genuinely trying their hardest, you still need something more to bring your marriage into the joyous harmony God intends for it.

Make Your Marriage a Greater Delight

Whatever the state of your marriage, you do not want to pass up the chance to benefit from our free booklet *God's Plan for Happy Marriage*. You can *know*, beyond any doubt, the steps you need to take to experience the deep fulfillment your Creator makes possible in a marriage that follows His design. God did not intend marriage to be anything less than one of life's greatest delights, and He did not leave us without the insight

we need to make it so. The truth contained in this booklet will help you to do just that.

God's Plan for Happy Marriage can transform your life and the life of your spouse—and it is completely free. You can read or order it at TomorrowsWorld.org, or you can contact any of our Regional Offices, listed on page 4 of this magazine, and request that a copy be mailed to you.





Statue of Christopher Columbus defaced by graffiti

What's Behind the War on History?

History is under siege. Long-acknowledged facts are being “rewritten” as heroes are made villains and students of Western civilization are taught to hate their heritage. But why? What forces are working behind it all? And how will the war on history end?

By **Douglas S. Winnail**

Why have Western nations—even the United States, often seen as the very symbol of democratic order and stability—seen violent activists rioting in the streets, looting, burning, fighting with police, and toppling statues of important figures who have influenced the course of history? Why are students at prestigious universities learning to hate their own nations and despise their own culture? What is going on?

On one level, the reasons are profound and go back to ideas conceived centuries before. Yet, as we will see, on an often-ignored level there are reasons that few understand and only God makes plain—for those with eyes to see.

To understand those reasons, consider the current war on history.

Casualties of War

If you haven't noticed that there is a war on history, consider just a few casualties the conflict has generated.

In the summer of 2020, television screens and news feeds worldwide were filled with images of angry mobs across the United States, suddenly defacing and destroying statues. Initially explained as anger over racial injustice targeting Confederate flags and statues of men who fought to preserve slavery, the aggression was soon directed to statues of George Washington and Christopher Columbus. Before long, the angry masses moved to vandalize a statue of Abraham Lincoln, who *freed* American slaves, and throw into Wisconsin's Lake Monona a statue of Hans

Christian Heg—an abolitionist who died in the U.S. Civil War fighting for his anti-slavery ideals.

Yet, the war on history does not stop with statues, nor is it waged only by mobs. Even more passionate efforts are taking place in our classrooms and newspapers.

Consider that radical historian Howard Zinn's book *A People's History of the United States* is widely used in schools across America as a popular textbook. Biased by design, his book has been described by some historians as little more than cynical propaganda—inspiring author and researcher Mary Grabar's book *Debunking Howard Zinn: Exposing the Fake History That Turned a Generation Against America*.

Then there is the *New York Times*' massive publishing effort *The 1619 Project*. Seeking to “reframe the country's history” by making slavery and its consequences the central defining element of the United States, the project has been assailed by leading historians for its *multiple* inaccuracies and for being driven by *ideological goals* instead of a desire to communicate accurate, historical facts. Yet, it, too, is widely promoted in American schools.

These historians' critique applies to far more than *The 1619 Project*. Ideology is at war with history on multiple levels. But why? Why is history under attack—in schools and university campuses, in the media, in Hollywood, in churches, and even in the halls of government?

What we see around us is not truly the spontaneous result of recent events, such as acts of police injustice, real or perceived. The roots of the disruption go far deeper. And the answers begin with historical facts that are rarely discussed truthfully today.

What Is Behind the War on History?

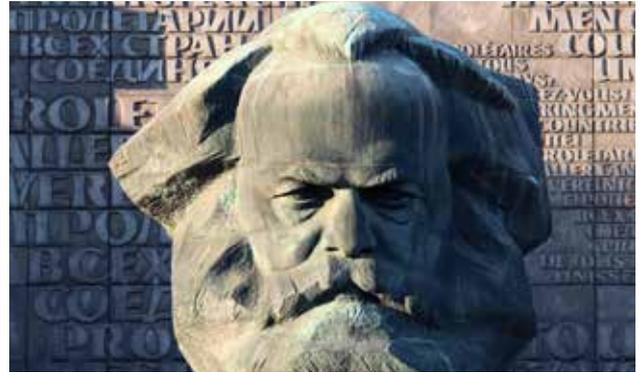
The stage for the modern war on historical reality and the foundations of morality was set by many fertile-minded but misguided secular thinkers in America and Western Europe. One could point to Charles Darwin of Britain, Georg Hegel of Germany, America's John Dewey, and Austria's Sigmund Freud, to name just a few of many. In our current cultural moment, however, perhaps none of these influencers are having as great an impact as German philosopher Karl Marx, who described all of history and society in terms of a class struggle between oppressors and victims. He expected a future in which the “victimized” and “exploited” workers of the world would unite and forcibly seize the means of production from “oppressive” owners, establishing a worldwide socialist utopia that would eventually be perfected in global communism.

Obstacles to this revolution would need to be removed—including religion and all biblical ideas of morality and family—along with any sense of individual, private ownership. Realizing the ideal world, according to Marx, would require state control of factories, media, and all social institutions, including schools, universities, and healthcare.

In the eyes of Marx, religion was like opium, keeping people drugged and blind to their actual misery. He believed that the traditional family kept women and children enslaved to men, private property prevented resources from being utilized by the state to care for others, and state control of education was essential, so children's minds could be turned away from the ideals and beliefs of their parents and toward the ideals of the new, utopian society.

To aid such efforts, the destruction of history had to play a crucial role, so that the values and traditions of old could be replaced by new values and traditions of the state. In Russia, bringing Marxism to life led to confiscating all private property, burning churches, and killing thousands of priests and millions of commoners who resisted the state's attempts to achieve the revolution Marx envisioned.

“Pure” Marxism failed to spread for a number of reasons, such as the prosperity most workers have experienced in capitalistic systems and the brutality demonstrated by “Marxist” states that adopted it, though these massive failures are rarely mentioned in history classes today. But Marx's utopian dreams



The ideas of German philosopher Karl Marx continue to provide fuel to the fires of social revolution and cultural transformation.

and his philosophy of society as a struggle between oppressed and oppressors lived on, serving as the foundation of newer theories that adapted Marxism to our modern day.

The “Long March Through the Institutions”

“The Frankfurt School” is the popular name for the theories hatched by social engineers at the Institute for Social Research in Frankfurt, Germany, founded in 1923 to apply communist theory to culture, much as Marx had done with economics. Where Marx sought to bring utopia by capturing the means of production, the neo-Marxist Frankfurt School philosophers sought to capture the *culture*—working *within* capitalist society to overthrow capitalism.

Perhaps the most significant development of the Frankfurt School came to be known as “Critical Theory”—first popularized as Critical Legal Theory to undermine Western legal systems, and more recently as Critical Race Theory. This family of theories promotes the idea that oppressive societal structures, not individual human sins or failings, are at the heart of social inequity, and that these structures must be toppled to bring social equity.

Moving to Geneva and then to New York, the Frankfurt School found a home at Columbia University. In an academic environment of moral relativism fertilized by the secular ideas of Darwin, Dewey, Marx, and Freud, the ideas of Critical Theory and its intellectual offspring spread—a direct cause of the situation we see today, in which modern colleges and universities continue to be hotbeds of Marxist thinking.

This protracted effort of slowly dominating liberal academic environments and seeking increasing influence over the culture was dubbed the “long march through the institutions” by Marxist activist Rudi Dutschke. Prominent Frankfurt School philosopher Herbert Marcuse once wrote Dutschke to say that this “long march” effort of “working against the established institutions while working within them” was “the only effective way” of achieving the utopia they sought (*Marxism, Revolution and Utopia: Collected Papers of Herbert Marcuse, Volume 6*, p. 336).

The 1960s saw these intellectuals increasingly target disenchanting and marginalized groups—such as racial minorities fighting discrimination or feminists and homosexuals seeking to change social policy—to fan the flames of their concerns and resentments into a cultural revolution that served their agenda. Marcuse and his comrades became the “gurus” of the hippie era, promoting ideas like “Make love not war,” “Turn on, tune in, and drop out,” and “Think for yourself and question authority.” During that era, radicalized students burned their draft cards and sang the praises of social revolutionaries like Fidel Castro and Che Guevara, chanting slogans such as “Marx, Mao, and Marcuse.”

Eventually, the turbulent '60s settled into a “new normal,” but the aims of the socialist cultural revolutionaries of academia never changed. They continued advancing their goals of transforming the culture of Western civilization from inside its own institutions.

Tools of Transformation

The tools wielded to achieve this transformation have been varied but are related in their orientation toward highlighting the evils and errors of the West and defaming or devaluing any good it has achieved.

One of the most powerful is “political correctness.” Called the “new Inquisition” by historian Victor Davis Hanson, political correctness has been a useful tool for punishing and stigmatizing—even “canceling”—dissenting ideas by controlling the language used to discuss them. Those who dare to publicly utter “incorrect” ideas face intimidation and ridicule, intended to break the will of those who oppose the desirable “progressive” direction. Its tactics are well described in activist Saul Alinsky’s infamous *Rules for Radicals*, which he dedicated, shockingly, to “the first radical known to man who rebelled against

the establishment and did it so effectively that he at least won his own kingdom—Lucifer.”

By controlling language, activists and practitioners of “identity politics” seek to set various groups against one another, dividing people into categories of “oppressed” and “oppressors” in a neo-Marxist framework that looks to race, sexual and gender self-identification, and other categories instead of economics. Instead of valuing people as individuals, advocates of identity politics—as with Critical Race Theory mentioned above—seek to promote *group* identity and foster “class consciousness” to engender guilt and hatred and make room for a new socialist revolution.

In the hands of the neo-Marxists controlling language and despising history, all cultures are to be treated as equal and praiseworthy as long as they stand in *opposition to biblical values*. As a result, Islam is promoted in schools that would never be allowed to treat Christianity with equal respect. Cultures that practice infanticide, “honor killings,” and even female genital mutilation are considered morally equal, or even superior, to those with values derived from the Bible.

One More Tool: The Destruction of History

In this collection of tools, the destruction of history is a key device. George Orwell’s observation, “Who controls the past controls the future”—the slogan of the Party in his classic dystopian novel *1984*—is not far from the truth.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn, a famous Russian critic of Soviet communism, once observed, “To destroy a people, you must first sever their roots”—that is, you must erase their memory and alter their understanding of history so that they lose any knowledge of who they are and what earlier generations have achieved. And Karl Marx himself, whose ideas inspired the communism Solzhenitsyn resisted, is noted to have observed, “A people without a heritage are easily persuaded.”

So, if the effort to radically change a culture was going to succeed, then war would need to be waged on its history. Sure enough, that gradually escalating war has been successful. In 1987, when American activist Jesse Jackson led a demonstration on the campus of Stanford University to remove a required Western Civilization course, few Americans took seriously the demonstrators’ chants of, “Hey, hey, ho, ho, Western Civ has got to go!” Yet now, a little more than 30 years

later, Western Civilization indeed seems to be on its way out at many major universities.

The rise of violent riots and vandalism seen today in Western cities is no accident. The real target is not just the historical figures depicted on statues, but everything that Western civilization represents. What we are witnessing today is the culmination of efforts by determined activists who hate Western civilization and who want to change and fundamentally

IN RUSSIA, BRINGING MARXISM TO LIFE LED TO CONFISCATING ALL PRIVATE PROPERTY, BURNING CHURCHES, AND KILLING THOUSANDS OF PRIESTS!

transform the West until it conforms to the socialist, Marxist model—and the control of history plays a vital role in those efforts.

The Vital Missing Dimension

At one level, we have answered the question of why history is under siege. The war on history is simply one front in a much broader effort to radically change the culture of Western civilization.

Yet there is a deeper dimension to what we see happening in the culture of the West—deeper causes that no one on *either* side of the culture war truly understands.

The source for understanding that dimension is the Bible. Even as our secular society continues to remove references to the Bible from schools, government, and media, it remains true that there is a God who guides the course of history. His word contains the *real* answers to why America, Britain, and the West have dominated the world for the last 500 years—and the answers to why that dominance is crumbling today.

The United States, Great Britain, and many of the peoples of northwest Europe are descendants of the ancient Israelites. Our free booklet *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy* proves this fact from the pages of the Bible and demonstrates the truth of it with the facts of history. The Bible records that God made promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—whose

name was changed to *Israel*—that their descendants would become great and be a blessing to the world (Genesis 12:1–3). Additional promises clearly state that the descendants of Jacob's two grandsons Manasseh and Ephraim would become a great nation and a great company of nations (Genesis 48:14–22). Those promises of God, not any “inherent greatness” of the American and British-descended peoples (such as the peoples of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa), have enabled them to rise to the heights of the earth. But this knowledge has been lost today.

God's word also records that the Almighty chose the Israelites for a special mission (Exodus 19:5–6) and gave them His laws so that they could be examples to the world of a better way to live (Deuteronomy 4:1–10). The Israelites were told that they would be blessed if they

obeyed God's laws but would reap *serious consequences* if they rejected Him and disobeyed His laws.

For instance, from the Bible we learn that marriage is between one man and one woman (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4–6), that adultery and fornication are wrong (Exodus 20:14), and that homosexuality, prostitution, and transgenderism are forbidden behaviors (Leviticus 18:22; 19:29; Deuteronomy 22:5; 1 Corinthians 6:9–10). These prohibitions, derided by today's cultural engineers, are not “Western” values—they are eternal! Yet these biblical instructions have been cast aside today in modern Israelite nations. God warned the ancient Israelites about turning to other gods (Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:14), but they did—and even sacrificed their children to those false gods (Jeremiah 32:35). Today, we have created and follow false gods of the mind—such as the ideas of Darwin, Dewey, Marx, and others—and we abort millions of babies, assuming there will be no consequences because we have chosen to ignore the lessons of history recorded in the Bible (1 Corinthians 10:1–11).

The biblical prophets record that the *leaders of Israel* caused the nation to go astray (Isaiah 9:16; Jeremiah 23:13). Today, political, intellectual, and religious leaders are doing the same thing by sanctioning and promoting ideas and behaviors that are totally contrary to God's laws, such that yesterday's individual temptation becomes today's celebrated way of life.

Moses warned that because of disobedience to God, Israel's downfall would come *suddenly* (Deuteronomy 28:20). He warned, as well, "The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail" (Deuteronomy 28:43–44). We see this curse reflected in the multicultural focus of modern days. Centuries later, Jesus warned that one of the signs preceding His return would be widespread *ethnic strife* (Matthew 24:7) as individuals of different races and cultures clash. (The Greek word in this verse translated as "nation" in the *New King James Version* is *ethnos*.) Indeed, racial and ethnic strife has exploded in recent years—not only in Western nations, but around the world.

Because of their continual sin, God declared through the prophets that He would remove the protective "hedge" He had placed around the Israelite-descended nations and make their lives increasingly difficult (Isaiah 5:5; Hosea 2:6). The blessing of protection they had enjoyed from God—not because of their own strength, but because of His mercy and promises—they would enjoy no more. Having sown vanity and sin, they would "reap the whirlwind" (Hosea 8:7). In the pointed words of the *King James Version*, God declares, "O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself" (Hosea 13:9, *KJV*).

Remember—biblical prophecy is history written in advance, and we are living in prophetically significant times.

The Real Villain—and the Real Savior

Scripture reveals one more missing dimension that politicians, professors, and pundits on *all* sides of the culture war are unwilling to talk about today. The real villain of the story of human civilization, whether that of the West or of any society in the world, is not Marx or Dewey or Darwin, but *Satan the devil*. He really *does* exist and is an active influence in this world (2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:2).

When Saul Alinsky devoted his book to Lucifer—the devil—he probably had no idea that the object of his devotion is a very *real* spirit being!

The Bible indicates that Satan knows the plans and promises God made for the nations of Israel and His plan to bless the entire *world*, beginning with the Israelite nations and extending to include all of humanity (Romans 1:16). And from the very beginning, the devil has opposed that plan—using whatever human instruments he can deceive into helping fulfill his aims, painting himself and them as sources of light and righteousness (2 Corinthians 11:4, 13–15) and their philosophies as wisdom (Colossians 2:8). Today, we see the results of his efforts, but most are unable to identify the real cause of our troubles—in large part because we have been conditioned to ignore the only trustworthy source of information about this powerful supernatural entity.

The nations of the West are heading for a momentous day of reckoning. This is why the Bible records the history of ancient Israel, both the good and the bad, "for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come" (1 Corinthians 10:1–11). The modern attempts to alter and destroy any memory of this history, the attempts to remove God from the public consciousness, the rejection of biblical values, and the effort to discredit and disparage the contributions of Western civilization are all part of the war on history. It is a war waged by academics, institutions, and elites, but—unbeknownst even to them—it is being waged by Satan the devil.

The bad news is that God is allowing the foundations of the West to crumble because the nations that should have been most grateful for His mercies and guidance have turned away from Him—and continue to do so. However, the good news is that Jesus Christ is going to return and fulfill His desire to make these nations the example to the world He always intended them to be (Isaiah 2:2–4). When He does, the war on history will finally be over.

Jesus Christ—not Marx—will radically change the culture of the world. But He has chosen not to accomplish this alone. You can be part of His solution—which will involve restoring true values to the world alongside Him (Revelation 20:4)—if you learn the lessons of history, because a time of reckoning is coming. TW

MAY WE
SUGGEST?

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CHINA RISING IN A POST- PANDEMIC WORLD

By **Timothy Mager**

On July 1 this year, the Chinese Communist Party will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its founding in 1921. Movie theatres in China have been ordered to show patriotic films, and revolutionary heroes are being highlighted to stir the spirit of “the Chinese dream” in its 1.4 billion people. The official slogan for the celebrations is “Follow the Party Forever” (“‘Follow the Party Forever’: China Plans a Communist Birthday Bash,” *NYTimes.com*, April 19, 2021). The People’s Republic of China (PRC) wants the world to know that it is emerging as a true superpower amid an out-of-control pandemic. While powers such as the United States and the European Union struggle to overcome the COVID-19 crisis and focus on kickstarting their economies, China’s gross domestic product “jumped 18.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2021 compared to a year earlier.... That was the fastest growth since quarterly records began in 1992 and was up from 6.5 per cent in the fourth quarter last year” (“China’s economy grew 18.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2021, but it looks like its COVID-19 rebound is levelling off,” *ABC.net.au*, April 16, 2021).

Many nations in Southeast Asia see this sudden economic rise as a cause for concern. Although the world may never know exactly how the COVID-19 pandemic began, the PRC is ready to move past a disease that much of the world associates with China—and wants to demonstrate that it will not back down from acting on its global aspirations. What can we

expect from China in a post-pandemic world? What does Bible prophecy say about China’s future?

Chinese Expansion Ahead?

After the Chinese Revolution of 1949, the Chinese Communist Party began its rule by seeking to expand its presence and encourage communism throughout Southeast Asia. This led to multiple conflicts, including the Korean and Vietnam Wars, as well as the Malayan Emergency (1948–1960). Since then, China has only become more influential as a world leader in manufacturing, exports, and imports. Today, most of Southeast Asian economic stability relies heavily on trade with China.

Recently, China has worked to expand its presence in key, strategic waterways, such as the South China Sea and the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Expansion in the South China Sea is of great concern to neighbouring countries who know that “China has been transforming the reefs and atolls it occupies on the disputed Spratly Islands since 2015, turning them into artificial islands. It has also built airstrips and other military facilities and deployed equipment such as anti-aircraft guns and close-in weapons systems” (“China’s manmade islands in the South China Sea are vulnerable to attack and may not be worth much in a war,” *BusinessInsider.com*, December 7, 2020). Chinese research vessels were spotted close to Australia in March, increasing tensions with that country and prompting Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison to boost the four-way alliance it has with the U.S., Japan, and India.

Other Southeast Asian countries, such as Malaysia, are experiencing growing tensions because of China's maritime claims in the South China Sea, even while relying on the nation as a trade partner. The Philippines is also disturbed by China's growing South China Sea presence. Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has stated that he would rather build an alliance with China than start a war he knows his country would lose, though he recently said he would indeed send the Philippine navy to assert the country's claim to valuable oil and mineral resources ("Duterte would send Philippine navy to South China Sea to claim resources," *Asia.Nikkei.com*, April 20, 2021). Claims concerning the origins of the COVID-19 virus have generated tension between Australia and China, with the latter imposing tariffs on wine up to 200 percent and barley up to 80 percent, greatly inhibiting Australia's exports. After the PRC's move in 2020 to establish a new security law over the city of Hong Kong, many have expressed concern that the law diminishes many freedoms long enjoyed under the "one country, two systems" principle, though some business leaders have endorsed the measures.

China in Biblical Prophecy?

What do these recent events mean for the future of China and Southeast Asian countries, from the perspective of Bible prophecy? We at *Tomorrow's World* understand that much of the population of the Asia-Pacific nations of Australia and New Zealand is descended from the ancient Israelite tribe of Ephraim and will be enslaved by foreign nations during the time immediately preceding Jesus Christ's return. Despite having previously received abundant bless-



ings, the security of these nations will be breached because of their continual sins and rejection of God and His ways.

How will this happen? God warned of specific curses the Israelites would experience if they disobeyed Him. He told Moses that foreign subjugation would be one curse for disobedience: "The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail" (Deuteronomy 28:43-44). A time will come when the United States and former British Commonwealth nations will be overtaken and enslaved by foreign powers, economically and even physically. No longer will the world look to these nations for strength, security, and alliances. Is it possible for China to rise higher from a post-pandemic world and play a part in this biblical prophecy?

Revelation 16:12 describes the river Euphrates drying up as God's sixth bowl of divine punishment, "so that the way of the kings from the east might be prepared" as they march toward Jerusalem. This Asian army is described in Revelation 9:16 as numbering 200 million. Could Asia assemble a 200 million-man army without Chinese soldiers?

Even today, according to *Statista.com*, China holds the largest army in the world with 2.2 million active military personnel, followed by India with 1.4 million, North Korea with 1.3 million, and Russia with 1.0 million ("The biggest armies in the world ranked by active military personnel in 2021," March 30, 2021). Asia, already hosting the two most populous countries in the world (as well as the world's largest Muslim nation, Indonesia), could easily field a 200 million-man army at the end of this age, fulfilling biblical prophecy. And the "Gog and Magog" of Ezekiel 38-39 can plausibly be associated with Russia, China, and other eastern nations.

Although life may appear peaceful now for the Israelite nations, the Apostle Paul warned Christians, "For when they say, 'Peace and safety!' then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape" (1 Thessalonians 5:3). Be diligent to follow Christ's exhortation, "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass" (Luke 21:36). TM

THE FAILED FAITH OF OUR FATHERS



By **Bryan Fall**

Lost and alone in the Maine woods, 66-year-old Geraldine Largay picked up her black notebook on August 6, 2013 and wrote her last entry: “When you find my body, please call my husband George and my daughter Kerry. It will be the greatest kindness for them to know that I am dead and where you found me—no matter how many years from now.” Mrs. Largay’s body, zipped up in her sleeping bag, was found years later by a surveyor, her remains only two miles from the well-traveled Appalachian Trail. She was presumed to have tragically misread her maps, making more than one wrong turn (“Lost Hiker Was Two Miles From Appalachian Trail When She Died,” *NBCNews.com*, May 27, 2016). Every year, somewhere, a traveler’s wrong turn has disastrous results.

Many sense, too, that society itself has taken a wrong turn and lost its way. From how we organize our government, to how we practice our faith, we seem stuck in a continuing decline of standards and morals in many spheres of modern life. Where have we turned off the path?

Failed Government

Is our government inspired by God? Americans often think of the United States as a “Christian nation” without a state-established creed. But is that a fair assessment? Consider that at least seven of America’s wars have been fought against professing Christian com-

batants. This includes the nation’s Civil War, wherein hundreds of thousands of those calling themselves Christians slaughtered other self-described Christians on the battlefield. Might the Jesus Christ of the Bible want something better from us (Luke 3:14, *MEV*)?

Jesus pointed out that “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight” (John 18:36). Here, the Messiah distanced Himself from governments and wars of this world. Tellingly, Jesus Christ made no effort to reform humanly contrived governments during His earthly ministry. Regarding the plots, counsel, and alliances of governments, the psalmist says, “He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision. Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure” (Psalm 2:4–5). Daniel wrote of a time when “the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which... shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms” (Daniel 2:44). In Revelation 11:15, Jesus Christ revealed to John a future time when all the “kingdoms of this world” will “have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!” Far from being an “inside” reformer, God seems to prefer starting from scratch.

Why does God include every humanly devised form of government in these declarations? The governments of man, including the heralded American republic, have failed. Today we are merely seeing the consequences of the slippery slope man embarked on long ago. The U.S. Constitution and all other human

documents intended to guide in the development of just and equitable societies, no matter how praiseworthy their positive attributes, cannot replace the Holy Scriptures in directing human behavior and relationships. After all, “it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps” (Jeremiah 10:23). As Solomon was inspired to record in two passages of Scripture, “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12; 16:25).

Failed Religion

Government is one matter, but are we willing to ask whether even our *religion* is inspired by God? Is religion at the heart of today’s moral decline? Many conservative pundits would have us reject postmodern influences and go back to the “faith of our fathers.” Others, however, see the problem as a harsh and judgmental spirit that they don’t believe Christ would have condoned.

In any case, we must admit that society’s wrong turn began long before the chaos of 2020, long before social media, and even long before the drug-laced counterculture of the 1960s. The roots of today’s religious breakdown were, in fact, planted long before Christianity ever reached the shores of North America.

How can this be? In the formative years of “Christianity,” dominant church organizations rejected tenet after tenet delivered by Christ and taught by the Apostles and instead adopted expedient teachings that appealed to pagans throughout the Roman Empire. Christ and His Apostles did not teach a Christmas or Easter observance, an immortal soul, an eternity in hellfire for sinners, or a soul’s ascension to heaven at the time of death. Scholars and theologians admit that all of these beliefs have pre-Christian roots, and that what came to be called Christianity broadened its appeal by progressively incorporating non-Christian teachings and beliefs, as well as by using governments—from that of Roman emperor Constantine onward—to promote or even enforce observance.

Why does this matter? Because the Apostle John tells us that the whole world is deceived by Satan, the god of this world (Revelation 12:9; 2 Corinthians 4:4). If the whole world is deceived, that must include the third of the world’s population that professes Christian belief. Indeed, as Christianity is fractured into thousands of sects and denominations, each vig-

orously asserting its own interpretation of Scripture, how can they all be right?

And yet, Christ said that He does have a “little flock” on the earth (Luke 12:32). This little flock of true Christianity does not just profess Jesus’ name—it strives to abide by the divinely revealed code of moral behavior (Matthew 7:21–23).

True Faith Will Prevail

The vast majority of humankind forgot God’s true identity long ago. The prophet Isaiah spoke in ancient times of the human tendency to forget our Creator: “I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against Me; the ox knows its owner and the donkey its master’s crib; but Israel does not know, My people do not consider” (Isaiah 1:2–4). Paul wrote of this tendency shortly after the resurrection of Christ, saying that while many in his day “knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools” (Romans 1:21–22). As recorded in Genesis 3, at the beginning of human history, our first parents quickly and readily traded truth for a lie. Likewise, within a hundred years of Christ’s crucifixion, mainstream “Christianity” came to have more in common with paganism than with the Bible. As the culmination of that degradation, today’s society is merely sinking more overtly and abjectly into its pagan origins.

Utopia will not occur under our flawed, corrupt human governments. When we get past raw patriotic emotions, we see that human government is failing regardless of which party is in power. Christians as ambassadors and citizens of the heavenly country must “seek first the kingdom of God” (Matthew 6:33) and that Kingdom will only come at Christ’s return, announced by the last of seven trumpets (Revelation 11:15).

Geraldine Largay and many others of today’s “lost travelers” will yet awaken from the grave to a bright, wonderful world. There will be a truly “golden era” of peace, prosperity, harmony, and justice. It will only occur one way—under the rule of the returning “King of kings,” the all-powerful, Spirit-glorified Jesus Christ. God has given us a magnificent guidebook in the Bible, much like a map, and He promises that He will yet lead mankind “in the paths of righteousness” (Psalm 23:3). ^[TW]



The Value of “No”

Watch a little child learning to walk, and you will witness pure joy. Chubby hands grasp the edge of a small table and little legs hoist the child up to a wobbly standing position; a big smile lights up the face, as if to say, *Look at me, I did it!* Exhilaration radiates from wide eyes and an open-mouthed smile. He or she has conquered a new challenge, and it is a thrilling experience! These are mental snapshots that parents remember for years to come.

But there's another experience that creates a very different reaction; it's when a child first comes face-to-face with the word “no.” Mommy or Daddy says a forceful “No!” for throwing food on the floor, poking a metal key into an electrical socket, or punching a playmate. What happens to that bright and beautiful smile? It melts away. Shock, disappointment, and even anger may follow. The previously exuberant face falls into furrows and creases of hurt and sadness. Before too long, an ear-piercing cry erupts.

Baby has been exposed to the word “no.”

Do you remember your parents ever using that word when you were growing up? If so, be grateful, because they gave you one of life's greatest gifts: an understanding that happiness is more than just demanding and receiving your wants and desires. Believe it or not, not everyone walking around today has received that precious gift. Modern parenting has often focused on pleasing children at all costs and eliminating any source of discomfort, instead of on teaching the enduring values of character and self-discipline.

Not to Be Told “No”

This trend has been around for a long time. Thirty-five years ago, my teenage sister worked in a daycare center. The policy at the nursery was that children were not to be told, “No!” Misbehaving children were to be given a distraction. If they were having an altercation with other children, they were to be offered a toy. If they were grouchy, cranky, or unwilling to comply, they were to be directed toward a different activity. But never was the word “no” to be used. To those of us whose parents didn't bend to our every whim, this sounds a little strange—but not everyone was blessed with such parents.

And maybe that's the problem; for some, the clear line between good and bad behavior has long since been blurred. Some never even learn that there is a boundary between good and evil. Why else do we see so many commit such heinous acts as adultery, murder, and fraud? Could it be that their wants were never refused in childhood, and they think on some level that adult life should be the same? They are just acting out the values they have, intentionally or accidentally, been taught. Yet there is a better way.

Why “No” Is Important

Why do we need to learn the meaning of “no” as children? If we are never told “No,” we grow up thinking we can have our way all the time—and that sets us up for disaster in real life. If we grow up believing we are always right, we will struggle in relationships, because relationships demand understanding of the other person and willingness to accommodate that person's wants and needs. If we grow up never having our de-

sires curbed, we will go into adulthood as self-centered takers, instead of givers who have learned that, in the words of Christ, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). If we never learn to understand the word “no,” we can’t have a real relationship with Christ, because the Christian walk takes personal dedication and sacrifice. As Jesus said, “He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it” (Matthew 10:39).

Understanding and maturely responding to being told “No!” at a young age is a barometer of future success—as a student, a young adult, and onward throughout life. Some years ago, a dear friend was recounting her experiences as a first-grade schoolteacher. She was a wise and gentle Filipino lady who had worked for decades in elementary schools in the Philippines. She explained how, over the years, she had found that she could pick out, even in first grade, which students would succeed throughout their school years. It wasn’t about how smart they were. It wasn’t about how popular or good-looking they were or how many friends they had. She explained that in her experience, those who, by the time they entered first grade, had learned to understand the word “no” were the ones who would do well in school; by understanding and complying when they were told “No,” they were already laying the foundation to self-regulate and discipline themselves in choosing the right and resisting the wrong.



“No” Brings Freedom

Why is learning the value of “no” so important in childhood? Because childhood prepares us for adulthood, and adulthood prepares us for the Kingdom of God. This physical life is meant to be a training ground to prepare us to enter God’s Kingdom. It’s not just meant to be a time of self-indulgence and soaking up as many fun experiences as we can. We are here to practice living God’s way!

This doesn’t mean that Christian parents should constantly be harping on their children about every detail of their lives. “No” should not be the only—or even the predominant—word our children hear us say! There should be plenty of times when we praise, laugh with, and positively interact with our children, without barking out orders. But there *are* times when parents have a responsibility to outline clearly what God expects of us—including what God says “No” about (Exodus 20:1-17).

God’s way is called “the perfect law of liberty” (James 1:25). Why is it called that? Because by doing



what God says—and avoiding what He says *not* to do—we keep ourselves free from the unpleasant penalties

of sin. Not breaking God’s law against murder frees us from the penalty of being tracked down, arrested, tried, and imprisoned. Avoiding adultery frees us from the pain of broken promises, shattered trust, destroyed marriages and families, and disillusioned, heartbroken children and spouses. Living a life free from lying frees us from the guilt and shame that come from being dishonest—and the stress of trying to cover it up!

Keeping God’s law means telling ourselves “No!” when it comes to sin, and that pattern should begin in childhood. After all, as Solomon wrote in Proverbs 20:11, “Even a child is known by his deeds, whether what he does is pure and right.” Our children will be far better off if we ingrain in them that it’s right and good to tell themselves “No!” rather than engage in actions or behaviors that are dangerous or destructive.

If you had a parent who had the courage and fortitude to tell you “No!” when necessary, let them know how thankful you are. And whether you had that kind of parent or not, give that wonderful gift to *your* children.

—Rod McNair



Germany’s Military Preparing for Growth

A strategic white paper published by Germany’s defense minister and the inspector general of the Bundeswehr highlights the increasing threat to Europe that Russia represents (*German Foreign Policy*, February 15, 2021). It also highlights China’s rise as a military superpower and the need for Germany to balance that rise.

The paper calls for more than just military defense; it calls for a drastic increase and advancement in offensive military capabilities. “The Bundeswehr ‘urgently’ needs hi-tech capabilities and innovations. ‘Critical’ sectors, such as a ‘comprehensive and modern air defense’ and the capability for ‘rapid deployment of fully operational forces must be prioritized.’” The paper also calls for national defense to become a “whole of government” effort that is embraced by the entire nation, not just the meager military defense budget. The paper also proposes that Germany become both the military leader in Europe and the military logistical hub of central Europe.

German ambition, organization, and industrial capabilities are known throughout the world, and Germany’s capacity to quickly create a pow-

erful military industrial complex is illustrated in its national history. The nation is on the rise and its leaders have ambitions for the future—just as God long ago declared would take place in our day.

Worldwide Blight of Crime

Recently in South Africa, criminals strapped an explosive device to an ATM technician and forced him to open the machines he was hauling so that they could steal the money (*Institute for Security Studies*, February 18, 2021). Thankfully, the victim was released after the ordeal. Methods like this are being used with increasing frequency by cartels and gangs around the world.

Experts say that such tactics demonstrate the extreme lengths to which crime syndicates are willing to go. For all the measures taken to defend against them—by law enforcement agencies and the financial industry—criminal organizations continue to display a dangerous willingness to raise the stakes themselves, even by using stolen explosives.

God warned that at the end of the age, especially in Israelite-descended nations like South Africa, terrorist acts should be expected

(Leviticus 26:16). Biblical prophecies have also warned that the social and moral fabric of these nations would begin to decay rapidly: “Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. So truth fails, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey” (Isaiah 59:14–15). Individuals and organizations that do not follow these evil ways will stand out and invite attacks because they are trying to act morally.

Followers of the God of the Bible ought to “sigh and cry” over the abominations they see in the land (Ezekiel 9:4)—and pray more fervently, “Your kingdom come” (Matthew 6:10). Jesus Christ promised that He will return (John 14:1–3), and His return will bring peace and justice to this earth.

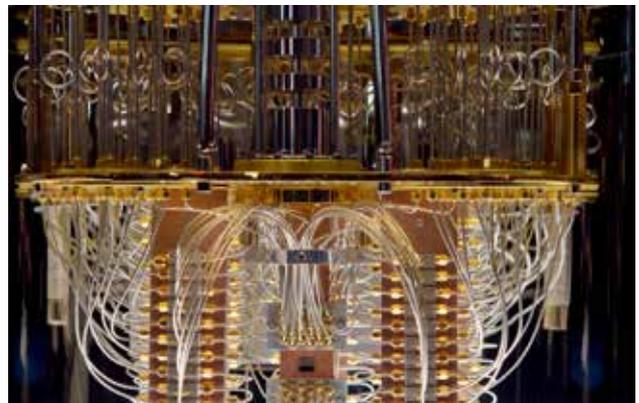
Quantum Apocalypse?

Quantum computers have been discussed for years, and many companies and nations are working to make the proposed technology a reality. Many believe that the first nation to master this technology will have a powerful advantage over other nations, leading to what some call a “quantum apocalypse.”

As the *Jerusalem Post* reports, “The implications could be no less than to remake who are the world’s military, economic and technological powers and redefine industries as diverse as communications, health, finance and energy” (January 29, 2021).

Quantum computers will have the ability to process data at an astonishingly greater rate than the fastest computers today. Problems that would take decades or longer to solve with today’s technology would be solvable in minutes with such supercomputers. Nations without scruples could crack encryption codes and steal the secrets of their rivals and vast sums of money from foreign banks. This advanced technology could feasibly be used to advance technologies in many other fields at a rate of progress never before seen. Quantum computing holds the promise of being a “game changer” for civilization as we know it.

When God divided the languages of humanity at the ancient city of Babel, He inspired a record of His motivations: “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them” (Genesis 11:6). Language differences



IBM Q System One quantum computer at the 2020 Consumer Electronics Show

have slowed innovation, to be sure, but they are posing less and less of a barrier in a world in which knowledge is now shared readily and globally, and this may soon bring serious consequences.

their written statement, the bishops also cited the pressures brought about by COVID-19 as evidence for the importance of this “free time.”

During the pandemic, many more people than usual are working

from work due to psychosocial illness for sustained periods of time.” The group urged EU leadership to make this day of rest a high priority, citing the Council of Europe’s *Social Charter*, which already recommends that a weekly day of rest from work “coincide with the day recognised by tradition or custom in the country or region concerned as a day of rest.”

Tomorrow’s World readers understand that the coming European “beast” power will eventually mandate Sunday worship for its citizens and even those who trade with it (Revelation 13:16–17). A “free time” law or mandate may help set the stage for the fulfillment of other end-time prophecies concerning Europe and the coming “beast.”

again hold the volume of water they once did—reducing the water available to the growing cities.

These collapsed aquifers also result in sinking ground above. From 1900 to 1970, California’s central valley sank roughly 28 feet (about nine meters). In some areas of Jakarta, Indonesia, land is sinking at a rate of ten inches per year (about a meter every four years). Sinking land also impacts infrastructure such as pipes, bridges, and building foundations. Lower areas are more prone to flooding, especially in areas near the coast. It remains to be seen how the current “megadrought” in the United States will impact cities, water supplies, aquifers, and infrastructure (BBC, April 16, 2020).

God warned Israelite-descended nations that, because of their spiritual rebellion, “I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze” (Leviticus 26:19), and “your land shall be desolate and your cities waste” (v. 33). Mankind has failed to be a wise steward of the creation over which God gave us dominion (Genesis 1:26–28), and we are beginning to reap the consequences. Yet the time is coming when these destructive activities will end and the earth and its people will again be blessed by God. [TW](#)



St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican

Mandatory Sunday Rest in Europe?

According to Roman Catholic bishops in the European Union, “Synchronised free time should be a priority in the EU social-policy agenda” (*Vatican News*, March 4, 2021). This is a message the bishops are sending to EU leaders, and the day on which most European nations traditionally observe this “free time” is Sunday. In

from home, and people need a weekly rest. A joint statement with the European Sunday Alliance notes that the erosion of boundaries between life and work creates a great deal of stress for workers, “affects their work-life balance,” and “compromises the health and wellbeing of workers, making them not only sick in the long run but also causing increasingly more often their absence

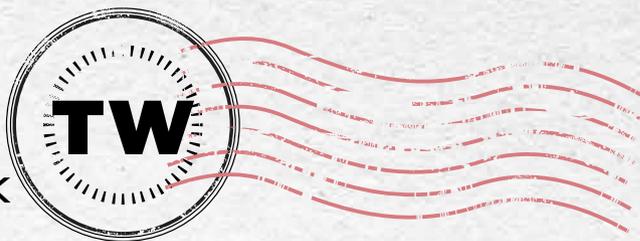
Hidden Risks of Water Use

The United Nations expects that by 2050 nearly 70 percent of the world’s population will live in cities—up from 55 percent today (*UN.org*, May 16, 2018). Cities put stress on aquifers, naturally occurring underground water reservoirs. As droughts continue and aquifers empty, the structure of the clay and sand in the aquifers changes and begins to collapse. Once underground aquifers collapse and are restructured, they can never



LETTERS TO

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



I watched *Tomorrow's World* telecast about the Christian Sabbath and was convicted that, as a Christian, I should keep Saturday as the Sabbath day and not Sunday.

—Viewer in Kenya

Editor's Note: *That is exciting to hear! If you are interested in information about a congregation of the Living Church of God, sponsor of the Tomorrow's World telecast, you can contact any one of our Regional Offices listed on page 4 of this magazine or click on "Meet the Church Behind TW" on our home page at TomorrowsWorld.org.*

Bought a "must-have antenna." Went off Direct-TV, and I can pick up Charlotte, NC, locally. Saw Richard Ames on *Tomorrow's World*. LOVED IT. Teaching what we need to know NOW! Please send me the monthly magazine and the free CD "The Day of the Lord." Thank you!

—Subscriber in South Carolina

Thank you so much for the DVD on what is going on in our country and schools. I knew things were bad but had no idea how bad. I love your magazine and am thrilled to hear we will be getting ten issues a year now. Your program and magazine are such a blessing to me. Jesus is on His way. It won't be long now. Keep up the good work.

—Subscriber in Oklahoma

Editor's Note: *The DVD mentioned by this subscriber is "A World Gone Mad," exposing the truth behind many*

of the cultural and societal changes we see happening at breathtaking speed all around us. You can obtain a free copy for yourself by contacting the Regional Office nearest you, listed on page 4, or by visiting our website.

Is it possible you can send me another copy of your booklet, *Biblical Principles of Health*? You have already sent me a copy that I have used to show my friends when I see them eating what God has forbidden to eat in Scripture. The booklet you sent me is almost worn out from being used so often, and because it has so much biblical information, it is one of the best books available on this very important subject.

—Subscriber in Australia

I would just like to thank you for renewing my free subscription of *Tomorrow's World* magazine, I really appreciate it. You have no idea how happy I am every time I read it. It's very enlightening, informative, and enriching.

—Subscriber in the Philippines

I would like to compliment you on and thank you for the article "New Gods, New Sins," published in your magazine of March 2021. It is one of the best analyses of our society in the 21st Century that I have read in recent months, and very encouraging for Christians.

—Subscriber in the Netherlands

I have been receiving your monthly magazine. Your work is tremendous. I learn a lot. God bless *Tomorrow's World* and all who work to keep it going. Thanks.

—Subscriber in Trinidad and Tobago

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of this magazine, or send email to Letters@TomorrowsWorld.org. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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TOMORROW'S WORLD

TELEVISION LOG



AUSTRALIA

Nationwide 7two SU 7:00 a.m.

BARBADOS

St. Michael CBC 8 SU 9:30 a.m.
St. Michael CBC 8 SU 2:30 p.m.

JAMAICA

Kingston TVJ SU 7:00 a.m.

NEW ZEALAND

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

PHILIPPINES

Nationwide TV5 MO 11:30 p.m.

PUERTO RICO

Nationwide WSJP SU 7:30 a.m.

SOUTH AFRICA

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

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Nationwide CNC3-TV SU 7:00 a.m.
Nationwide CNC3-TV WE 4:00 p.m.

UK & NW EUROPE

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



CANADA

Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

Vision SA 3:30 a.m.
The Cowboy Channel SU 8:00 a.m.
FAITH TV SU 5:30 p.m.
MO-FR 10:30 p.m.
TU 5:00 p.m.
CHNU MO-FR 10:00 p.m.
CTV (Maritimes) SU 7:30 a.m.
CTV (Alberta) SU 1:30 p.m.
V-Télé (en français) SU 6:30 a.m.

UNITED STATES

Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

The CW Plus SU 8:00 a.m.
MO 2:00 a.m.
FOLK TV SU 9:00 a.m.
getTV SU 7:30 a.m.
Impact TV SU 11:00 p.m.
MO 10:30 p.m.
NewsNation (formerly WGN) SU 6:00 a.m.
WE 6:00 a.m.
The Word Network SU 6:00 a.m.
SU 7:30 p.m.
FR 7:00 p.m.
Z Living SU 7:30 a.m.
DISH Network* (All times Eastern)
Impact Ch. 268 SU 11:00 p.m.
DIRECTV* (All times Eastern)
Word Ch. 373 SU 6:00 a.m.
SU 7:30 p.m.
FR 7:00 p.m.

For the most up-to-date listings please go to:
TomorrowsWorld.org/tune-in

AK Anchorage KYUR SU 6:00 a.m.
Fairbanks KATN SU 6:00 a.m.
Juliau KJUD SU 6:00 a.m.
AL Birmingham WABM SU 10:00 a.m.
Dothan WTVY SU 7:00 a.m.
Huntsville WAMY SU 9:30 a.m.
Huntsville WHDF SU 7:30 a.m.
Montgomery WBMM SU 7:00 a.m.
AR El Dorado KNOE SU 7:00 a.m.
Fort Smith KHBS SU 7:00 a.m.
Fort Smith KFTA SU 9:30 a.m.
Jonesboro KAIT SU 7:00 a.m.
Little Rock KASN SU 10:30 a.m.
AZ Tucson KMSB SU 8:30 a.m.
Yuma KEYC SU 9:00 a.m.
CA Bakersfield KGET SU 8:00 a.m.
Chico KHSL SU 8:00 a.m.
El Centro KEYC SU 9:00 a.m.
Eureka KECA-LD/KVIO SU 8:00 a.m.
Monterey KION SU 8:00 a.m.
Palm Springs KCWQ SU 8:00 a.m.
Salinas KION SU 8:00 a.m.

San Francisco Public Access WE 1:30 a.m.
San Francisco Public Access FR 7:00 a.m.
San Francisco Public Access FR 1:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara KSBY SU 8:00 a.m.
Santa Maria KSBY SU 8:00 a.m.
CO Colorado Springs KXTU SU 10:30 a.m.
Grand Junc. KJCT SU 7:00 a.m.
DC Washington DC WDCA SU 7:30 a.m.
FL Gainesville WCJB (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.
Jacksonville WCWJ SU 6:30 a.m.
Miami WBFS SU 6:30 a.m.
Ft. Lauderdale WBFS SU 6:30 a.m.
Gainesville WCJB SU 6:00 a.m.
Panama City WJHG (CW) SU 7:00 a.m.
Tallahassee WTLF SU 8:00 a.m.
Tampa Bay WTOG SU 8:00 a.m.
GA Albany WALB (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.
Albany WALB SU 11:00 a.m.
Augusta WAGT (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.
Columbus WLTZ SU 7:30 a.m.
Thomasville WTLF (CW) SU 8:00 a.m.
IA Des Moines KCWI SU 7:00 a.m.
ID Boise KYUU SU 7:00 a.m.
Idaho Falls KIFI SU 7:00 a.m.
IL Chicago WIYS SU 8:00 a.m.
Moline Mediacom MO 5:00 p.m.
Peoria WHOI SU 7:00 a.m.
Quincy WGEM SU 7:00 a.m.
Springfield Insight TU 5:00 a.m.
Springfield Insight TU 1:00 p.m.
Springfield Insight TU 10:00 p.m.
IN Fort Wayne WPTA SU 7:30 a.m.
Fort Wayne Comcast SU 9:00 a.m.
KS Parsons TWPAP WE 7:00 p.m.
KY Bowling Green WBKO SU 7:00 a.m.
Latonia PEG WE 6:30 p.m.
Latonia PEG TH 10:00 p.m.
Lexington WTVQ SU 7:00 a.m.
Lexington Insight Various
Louisville WBNA SU 9:30 a.m.
LA Alexandria KBCA SU 7:00 a.m.
Alexandria KLAX SU 9:30 a.m.
Baton Rouge WBRZ SU 10:00 a.m.
Lafayette KATC SU 7:00 a.m.
Lake Charles KVHP SU 9:30 a.m.
Monroe KNOE SU 7:00 a.m.
New Orleans WNOL SU 7:00 a.m.
Shreveport KSHV SU 10:00 a.m.
West Monroe KMCT SU 6:00 a.m.
MA Malden Access SU 11:00 a.m.
MD Baltimore Community SU 9:00 a.m.
Westminster Adelphia TH 10:00 a.m.
Westminster Adelphia FR 10:00 a.m.
ME Bangor WABI SU 8:00 a.m.
Brunswick TV3 SA 8:30 a.m.
Brunswick TV3 SU 6:30 a.m.
Presque Isle WBPQ SU 8:00 a.m.
MI Alpena WBAE SU 8:00 a.m.
Lansing WLAI SU 11:00 a.m.
Marquette WBKP SU 8:00 a.m.
MN Cloquet MEDCLO SU 8:00 a.m.
Duluth KDLH SU 7:00 a.m.
Minneapolis MTN TH 12:00 a.m.
Minneapolis NWCT SA 10:30 p.m.
Minneapolis NWCT SU 4:30 a.m.
Minneapolis NWCT SU 10:30 a.m.
Rochester KTTT SU 7:00 a.m.
Roseville CTV WE 4:00 a.m.

Roseville CTV TH 9:30 a.m.
St. Paul Nbd. Network TH 10:30 a.m.
MO Columbia KOMU SU 7:00 a.m.
Joplin KFJX SU 8:30 a.m.
Kansas City KCWE SU 7:30 a.m.
St. Louis KPLR MO 6:30 a.m.
MS Biloxi WXXV SU 7:00 a.m.
Columbus WCBI SU 7:00 a.m.
Greenwood WBWO SU 7:00 a.m.
Jackson Spectrum SU 10:00 a.m.
Jackson Spectrum WE 4:00 p.m.
Meridian WTKO SU 7:00 a.m.
MT Billings KTVQ SU 7:00 a.m.
Butte KBZK SU 7:00 a.m.
Butte KXLF SU 7:00 a.m.
Glendive KWZB SU 7:00 a.m.
Great Falls KRTV SU 7:00 a.m.
Helena KMTF SU 7:00 a.m.
Missoula KPAX SU 7:00 a.m.
NC Charlotte WAXN SU 9:00 a.m.
Charlotte WMYT SU 8:30 a.m.
Greenville WNCN SU 8:00 a.m.
Hickory WHKY MO 7:30 p.m.
Raleigh WRZA SU 7:30 a.m.
ND Fargo WDAY-TV 6.3 XTRA SU 7:30 a.m.
NM Albuquerque KWQB SU 8:00 a.m.
Albuquerque KCHF MO 7:30 p.m.
Albuquerque KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.
Santa Fe KCHF MO 7:30 a.m.
Santa Fe KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.
NV Reno KREN SU 8:00 a.m.
NY Albany-Troy Spectrum MO 3:00 p.m.
Binghamton Spectrum WE 10:00 p.m.
Binghamton Spectrum FR 8:00 p.m.
Binghamton WBNG SU 8:00 a.m.
Brooklyn BCAT MO 4:30 p.m.
Canandaigua Finger Lakes SU 11:30 a.m.
Elmira WENY SU 8:00 a.m.
Oneida Access TH 2:00 p.m.
Oneida Public Access TH 7:00 p.m.
Queens Public Access MO 11:00 p.m.
Queens Public Access TU 4:30 p.m.
Riverhead Public Access SU 7:00 p.m.
Rochester Cablevision SU 7:00 a.m.
Finger Lakes SU 7:00 a.m.
OH Cincinnati WSTR SU 9:00 a.m.
Cincinnati Spectrum TH 8:30 a.m.
Cincinnati Spectrum SU 11:30 a.m.
Cincinnati Spectrum SU 11:30 a.m.
Cincinnati Spectrum TU 1:00 p.m.
Cleveland WUAB SU 8:30 a.m.
Fairborn CAC TU 12:00 p.m.
Fairborn CAC SU 7:00 a.m.
Lima WBOH SU 7:00 a.m.
Lima WBOH MO 7:00 a.m.
OK Ada KTEN SU 7:00 a.m.
Lawton KAUZ SU 7:00 a.m.
Tulsa KQCW SU 8:00 a.m.
OR Bend KTVZ SU 8:00 a.m.
Eugene KMTR SU 8:00 a.m.
Medford KTVL SU 8:00 a.m.
Portland Community SU 12:30 p.m.
PA Erie WSEE SU 8:00 a.m.
Johnstown Atl. Broadband MO 10:00 p.m.
Philadelphia WPSG SU 7:30 a.m.
SC Charleston WCBG SU 8:00 a.m.
Columbia WOLO SU 11:00 a.m.
Greenville WYCW SU 9:30 a.m.
Greenville WYCW SU 11:30 a.m.
Myrtle Beach WWMB SU 8:00 a.m.
SD Rapid City KWBH SU 7:00 a.m.
TN Jackson WBJK SU 7:00 a.m.

WE 12:00 p.m. Knoxville WKNX SU 7:30 a.m.
SU 8:30 p.m. Knoxville WKNX SU 6:00 p.m.
LaFollette WJFL WE 6:00 p.m.
Memphis WLMT SU 10:00 a.m.
TX Abilene KTXS SU 7:00 a.m.
Amarillo KVHJ SU 7:00 a.m.
Amarillo KVII SU 7:00 a.m.
Beaumont KBTV SU 6:30 a.m.
Beaumont KFDM SU 7:00 a.m.
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT2 SU 7:00 a.m.
Dallas KDAF SU 8:30 a.m.
Laredo KYLX SU 7:00 a.m.
Laredo KTXW SU 7:00 a.m.
Lubbock KLCW SU 7:00 a.m.
Lufkin KTRE SU 6:30 a.m.
McAllen KCWT SU 7:00 a.m.
Midland KOSA/KWAB SU 7:00 a.m.
Odessa KOSA/KWAB SU 7:00 a.m.
San Angelo KTXE SU 7:00 a.m.
San Antonio KABB SU 5:30 a.m.
Sherman KTEN SU 7:00 a.m.
Tyler KLTV SU 6:00 a.m.
Tyler KYTX SU 7:00 a.m.
Wichita Falls KAUZ SU 7:00 a.m.
Victoria KVCT SU 7:00 a.m.
VA Charlottesville WVIR SU 8:00 a.m.
Charlottesville ADELVA WE 6:30 p.m.
Chesterfield Comcast TH 6:30 p.m.
Fairfax Public Access MO 5:30 p.m.
Fairfax Public Access FR 1:00 a.m.
Fairfax Public Access SA 10:00 a.m.
Norfolk WSKY SU 9:30 a.m.
Roanoke WWCW SU 8:30 a.m.
VT Bennington CAT WE 9:30 a.m.
Bennington CAT WE 12:00 a.m.
Bennington CAT TH 9:30 p.m.
Bennington CAT TH 12:00 a.m.
Bennington CAT SA 8:00 a.m.
Bennington CAT SA 4:30 a.m.
Burlington Access WE 2:30 a.m.
Burlington Access TH 11:00 a.m.
WA Everett Comcast WE 4:30 p.m.
Kennewick Spectrum SU 8:00 a.m.
Pasco Spectrum SU 8:00 a.m.
Richland Spectrum SU 8:00 a.m.
Seattle KSTW SU 2:00 a.m.
WI La Crosse WXOW SU 7:00 a.m.
Milwaukee WMLW SU 8:00 a.m.
WV Bluefield WVVA SU 8:00 a.m.
Charleston WQCW SU 7:00 a.m.
Clarksburg WVFX SU 8:00 a.m.
WY Cheyenne KGWN SU 8:00 a.m.

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The End of America

Bible prophecy is clear: America's future is dire. You need to know the reasons why.
July 1-7

Cold War Secrets Revealed!

Most are totally unaware of how close we came to annihilation. The truth can now be told!
July 8-14

Will You Go to Hell?

Many fear going to Hell, while others dismiss it. Few understand the biblical truth!
July 15-21

Just What Is the Kingdom of God?

Most who consider themselves Christian don't know—but you don't have to be in the dark!
July 22-28

Hope in Tough Times

When leaders and revolutionaries offer so little, can we find hope in God's word?
July 29-August 4

What Happened to the Christianity of Christ?

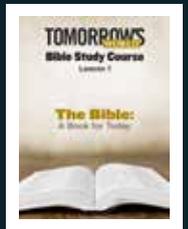
How has "Christianity" changed to become the religion we see today? You need to know!
August 5-11

Schedule subject to change

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