

TOMORROW'S WORLD

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When Cancel Culture Comes for the Bible

Your Future in a Book

A few years ago, futurist Dr. Michio Kaku predicted that, over a period of ten years, the world would transition “from an Internet to a brain-net, in which thoughts, emotions, feelings, and memories might be transmitted instantly across the planet.” Like many futurists, Dr. Kaku painted a rosy picture.

He explained to Jacqueline Howard of *Huffington Post*, “Teenagers will go crazy on social media, sending memories and sensations from their senior prom, their first date, etc.” He continued, “Historians and writers will be able to record events not just digitally, but also emotionally as well.” And most encouraging of all, “Perhaps even tensions between people will diminish, as people begin to feel and experience the pain of others” (“7 Top Futurists Make Some Pretty Surprising Predictions About What The Next Decade Will Bring,” May 26, 2015).

Sounds exciting, doesn't it? But we are now six years into his ten-year forecast and have long since learned that the future of technology has a dark side. Some of the biggest names in the Internet revolution, the technologists and entrepreneurs who built social media, have become disillusioned with the monster they helped build and are now sounding a warning—even sheltering their own children from it (see our March-April 2018 cover article “Taming the Social Media Monster” at *TomorrowsWorld.org*).

Since Dr. Kaku's 2015 predictions, we've seen the world become more divided than ever. It is difficult to comprehend the rapidity at which our world is changing, and one could hardly say that it's changing for the better. The more that people are relying on the Internet for human interaction, the more depressed they are becoming. This trend was noted even before COVID-19, and has only increased. Meanwhile, online pundits engage in an ongoing battle between ideals of fostering “free” speech and of censoring “hate” speech.

If teens today feel that they are missing out on perceived fairytale lifestyles portrayed by their peers on social media, how much more hurt will be felt by the 16-year-old girl who was *not* asked to the prom? Will she feel compelled to join the bandwagon of

girls trying to become boys in an attempt to mend her emotional emptiness? Bullying has always been a problem for boys and girls alike, and social media has provided another powerful way to bully one's enemies, rivals, or the weak, for sadistic pleasure. Do we really want social media on emotional steroids to enter the picture? No, thank you!

Futurists often portray technology as the solution to our intractable human problems, but is this realistic? When and where has technology or science solved the

problem of human nature?

Certainly these have made some aspects of life easier and more comfortable—but as for curing the destructive forces of self-will, greed, pride, prejudice, and hatred? No way!

This is not meant to condemn Dr. Kaku or

the numerous other futurists and think tanks that peer into the path ahead for mankind. The future of science and technology—of artificial intelligence and medical advances—is yet to be fully seen. Remarkable advances are clearly on the horizon, such as driverless cars and trucks, along with drones delivering your latest online purchases. Even human travel to Mars is no longer out of the question.

But will any of this bring peace to our troubled planet? Will it prevent divorce and the heartache of children caught in the middle, wondering what to do? Will technology solve the problem of corrupt government leaders who exploit their citizens? Will it stop gang warfare and violence between competing cartels? Sadly, history does not show us much encouragement.



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Man's Advances Were Foreseen

We at *Tomorrow's World* do not have the technical intelligence that Professor Kaku and his current colleagues possess. And we tip our hats to his brilliant predecessors, including Leonardo da Vinci, Jules Verne, and George Orwell. There are many others, yet none previewed the future from the greatest source of all—a source virtually ignored by this world's futurists. That source is the Bible. Before you check out, consider the following.

Somewhere between a quarter and a third of the Bible is prophetic. Much of that is prophecy concerning “the last days” or “the end of the age”—the years just ahead. Many are surprised to find that the Bible foretold technological and scientific advances thousands of years in advance, which is a far greater feat than one might imagine.

It is difficult to conceive how static our world has been throughout most of human history until the time we now call the Industrial Revolution, which lasted from about 1760 to 1840. While the world began “the process of change from an agrarian and handicraft economy to one dominated by industry and machine manufacturing” (“Industrial Revolution,” *Britannica.com*), most of the world continued moving about by foot, wind power, or literal “horse power.” Yet, today, we can travel around the world in commercial jets in less time than it took 200 years ago to travel the 140 miles (225 km) from Washington, DC to Philadelphia. At the beginning of the 1800s, there were no superhighways and no automobiles in which to travel them. Travel as we know it today had to wait another century and a half.

Amazingly, it is evident that the Bible predicted such technological advances. Daniel 12:4 describes “the time of the end” as marked by a transportation and knowledge explosion. Revelation 9 speaks of futuristic weapons very similar to helicopter gunships, along with chemical or biological munitions that torture—but do not kill—on a grand scale not yet seen. Revelation 11 tells us that two prophets of God will be killed in Jerusalem, and that the whole world will see their dead bodies over a period of three-and-a-half days—indicating a visual communication network not in place until very recent decades.

Man's Corruption Is Forewarned

Even more importantly, the Bible tells us about the state of mankind's moral degradation at the end of this age. The time of Christ's return was foreshadowed by two catastrophic conditions. Scripture foretells that the immoral and violent behavior preceding the days of Noah and Lot will also precede the return of Christ (Luke 17:26–30). During the days of Noah, “the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and... every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually,” and the end result was that the “earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence” (Genesis 6:5, 11). The days leading up to the destruction of Sodom witnessed great sexual perversions (Genesis 19).

The prophet Isaiah tells us that moral standards before Christ's return will be turned upside down. “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). He further describes our age, saying, “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).

The Bible also warns us that a powerful, charismatic leader will arise in Europe, along with a miracle-working religious leader. These two may bring temporary stability to the world, but their rule will be disastrous. Conditions will become so awful that mankind will only avoid total destruction by intervention from above (Matthew 24:21–22).

Tomorrow's World predicts these developments—not based on great intellect, but rather on faith in the truth of the Bible. A rosy picture of mankind's future does not come from technology helping us “feel and experience the pain of others,” but from the Spirit of God dwelling in the hearts and minds of people everywhere. For greater insight into that future, order our free study guide *The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like?*



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Amazing Bible Prophecies Fulfilled!



By **Richard F. Ames**

Most people who call themselves Christians know in a general way that the first Christians had as their scriptures only what is known today as the Old Testament. They know that people in Jesus of Nazareth's day read those scriptures and understood from them that He was the prophesied Messiah.

But not so many know about the many amazing prophecies found throughout your Bible. Depending on exactly how you count, somewhere between a fourth and a third of your Bible is, in fact, prophetic. According to J. Barton Payne's *Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy*, your Bible contains 1,817 predictions about the future. Not only do those prophecies foretell the coming of Jesus Christ; they explain much about the rise and fall of nations and the end-time disasters and plagues that would result in the end of all human life if Jesus Christ were not prophesied to return and establish on this earth the Kingdom of God.

In this brief article, we will consider just a few amazing examples—and what they mean for your faith and your future.

The Messiah Foretold

One of the most amazing examples of fulfilled Bible prophecy is the extensive number of specific

mentions of the prophesied Messiah. The Old Testament contains more than 300 references to His coming. What are the odds of 300 prophecies all being fulfilled? In his book *Science Speaks*, the late mathematician Peter Stoner (1888–1980) examined the probability of one person fulfilling just 48 of those prophecies. The chance of that happening would be one in 10^{157} . To put that in perspective, that would be like trying to find one specific electron out of all the electrons in all the known universe on the first attempt—and that's considering just 48 of the 300 prophecies.

Some skeptics attempt to reason around this with ideas that try to diminish the inspiration of the Bible or treat the first Christians as fools. If you do not already appreciate the astonishing consistency and historical veracity of Scripture, read our informative booklet *The Bible: Fact or Fiction?* You'll be encouraged by what you learn.

Let's look very specifically at a few of the best-known Messianic prophecies and their fulfillment. *Halley's Bible Handbook* gives us a helpful list:

That He would be Born of a Virgin (Matthew 1:23; Isaiah 7:14).

That He would be Born in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:6; John 7:42; Micah 5:2).

That He would Sojourn in Egypt (Matthew 2:15; Hosea 11:1).

That He would Live in Galilee (Matthew 4:15; Isaiah 9:1, 2)....

That His coming would be Announced by an Elijah-like Herald (Matthew 3:3; 11:10–14; Mark 1:2–3; Luke 3:4–6; 7:27; John 1:23; Isaiah 40:3–5; Malachi 3:1; 4:5)....

That His Ministry would be one of Healing (Matthew 8:17; Isaiah 53:4)....

Betrayed by a Friend for 30 Pieces of Silver (Matthew 27:9–10; John 13:18; Zechariah 11:12–13; Psalm 41:9)....

[And that] His Side would be Pierced (John 19:37; Zechariah 12:10; Psalm 22:16) (pp. 421–422).

These are just a few of the many prophecies fulfilled regarding the Messiah. Another very important prophecy involves the timing of His coming. The Jews of Jesus' day were aware of the prophet Daniel's vital prophecy foretelling the Messiah's appearance: "Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy" (Daniel 9:24).

Notice that this prophesied figure was to make reconciliation for iniquity! Many scriptures showed that the Messiah would die for the sins of the world so that we could be forgiven and reconciled to God. John the Baptist testified, referring to Jesus, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29). Regarding Christ, we also read, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

Daniel's prophecy reminds us that one of the major purposes of the Messiah's coming was to make reconciliation for iniquity. Each of us can be forgiven for our sins through the blood of Christ, if we do as Jesus commanded: "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). Later, the Apostle Peter preached to a

crowd on the Day of Pentecost, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). Have *you* repented? Do *you* believe in the true Gospel of the Kingdom of God?

But there is much more to Daniel's prophecy. In prophetic terminology, a "day" often symbolizes a year in fulfillment. Daniel's prophecy states that there are 69 weeks leading up to the Messiah, each consisting of seven days—483 prophetic years. "Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks" (Daniel 9:25).

So, if we know when the prophecy's timeline began, we can know when Christ would begin His work of reconciliation! Interestingly, many scholars point to the decree of Artaxerxes as the starting point, which historians place at 457 BC. What year is 483 years later? Since there is no year 0, we see that according to Daniel's prophecy, the Messiah's ministry was to begin in AD 27!

Sure enough, Luke's gospel tells us that, just after John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River, "Jesus Himself began His ministry at about thirty years of age" (Luke 3:23). So, when was Jesus born? If we subtract 30 years of age from AD 27, we come to 4 BC—when scholars predominantly believe Jesus was born! Yes, Jesus Christ fulfilled Daniel's prophecy, to the exact year, beginning His ministry of reconciliation for iniquity in AD 27!

Of course, there are other aspects of Daniel's prophecy for Christ to complete when He returns. Daniel describes three more missions yet future. When He returns, the Messiah will fulfill prophecies "to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy" (Daniel 9:24).

Note that "the Most Holy" here refers to the Temple in Jerusalem, which will be established and active during the coming Millennium (cf. Ezekiel 40–43), as you can see in English-language Bible translations that read "the Most Holy Place," such as the *Modern English Version* and *English Standard Version*.

A Kingdom's Fall Foretold

We should not be surprised that Almighty God can give us prophecies centuries and even millennia before their fulfillment. Through the prophet Isaiah,

He declares, “Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure’” (Isaiah 46:9–10).

One fascinating but less-known example of prophecy being fulfilled concerns the fall of ancient

fore you and make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze and cut the bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the LORD, who call you by your name, am the God of Israel” (Isaiah 45:1–3).

The reference to the “double doors” shows how God opened the way for Cyrus’s army to capture the city. The city of Babylon seemed impregnable with its massive walls and defenses. And the city had supplies that could outlast a 20-year siege—so the Babylonians just laughed at Cyrus’ army when it came to attack the city.

The river Euphrates passed through the middle of Babylon under the massive gates in its wall. Cyrus

used an ingenious method to circumvent this obstacle; some of his men dug channels upstream to divert the flow of the river.

More than 100 years before his birth, your Bible prophesied by his very name that Cyrus the Great would overcome the great fortress of Babylon. The secular Greek historian Herodotus also wrote of this event. Cyrus and his non-combatant troops...

... so greatly reduced the depth of water in the actual bed of the river that it became fordable, and the Persian army, which had been left at Babylon for the purpose, entered the river, now only deep enough to reach about the middle of a man’s thigh, and, making their way along it, got into the town.... The Babylonians themselves say that owing to the great size of the city the outskirts were captured without the people in the centre knowing anything about it; there was a festival going on, and they continued to dance and enjoy themselves, until they learned the news the hard way. That, then, is the story of the first capture of Babylon (*The Histories*, translated by Aubrey de Sélincourt, book 1, chapters 191–192).

Amazing! The secular historian Herodotus confirms, as do other sources such as Xenophon’s *Cyropaedia*, that Bible prophecy was dramatically

IMAGINE SOMEONE DURING WORLD WAR I DECLARING THAT BORIS JOHNSON WOULD BECOME PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. IMPOSSIBLE?

Babylon. At the time God revealed this prophecy, Babylon was the greatest empire in the world. Human logic would not have predicted its demise. Yet Bible prophecy foretold that this great power would punish other nations as a tool of God’s judgment, and then would itself be judged for its sin.

Imagine someone during World War I declaring that Boris Johnson would become Prime Minister of the United Kingdom. Impossible? Well, more than a hundred years before the overthrow of the great Babylonian empire, the prophet Isaiah named the man who would be responsible for Babylon’s fall. God “says of Cyrus, ‘He is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, saying to Jerusalem, “You shall be built,” and to the temple, “Your foundation shall be laid”’” (Isaiah 44:28). Cyrus was king over the Persians from about 558 BC to 529 BC. So, Isaiah was prophesying in the eighth century BC about a king who wasn’t even born until the sixth century BC!

But not only did Isaiah foretell Cyrus by name; he also foretold just how Cyrus would enter Babylon to conquer it. Cyrus was instrumental in allowing the Jews to return to Jerusalem and build the second temple. Centuries earlier, God proclaimed that He would use Cyrus in a special way: “Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—to subdue nations before him and loose the armor of kings, to open before him the double doors, so that the gates will not be shut: ‘I will go be-

and accurately fulfilled! The prophet Daniel was in the city of Babylon on the night the Persian army of Cyrus conquered it. And, through this prophet, God also let King Belshazzar know what would happen to him and the empire. That's the famous story of God's handwriting on the wall. King Belshazzar prepared a feast, a great party, for thousands of his nobles. They drank wine out of the plundered golden vessels from the Temple in Jerusalem. "In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other" (Daniel 5:5–6).

Daniel was called upon to interpret this inscription. "And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN" (Daniel 5:25). Daniel then told King Belshazzar, "This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians" (vv. 26–28). "That very night Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old" (vv. 30–31). The kingdom of the Medes and Persians replaced the kingdom of Babylon, just as God had foretold.

God's Hand in World Affairs

Even in modern times, God is intervening to guide nations and peoples. Remember, the British Empire was not always the dominant force it came to be before its more recent decline. In his powerful booklet *Prophecy Fulfilled: God's Hand in World Affairs*, the late Dr. Roderick Meredith (1930–2017) described how God once saved English naval forces by using the power of weather:

In 1586–87, Catholic domination of the English throne was made impossible by the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots. The following year, Spain's King Philip II unleashed his "invincible" 124-ship Armada against England in an effort to reassert



Catholic control. Though the English naval forces tenaciously fought, eventually they exhausted their gunpowder! At that critical point, an unprecedented gale-force wind arose and drove many of the heavily armed, lumbering Spanish galleons to their doom. The weather-beaten ships that limped home to Spain were so damaged that many could never again be used (p. 20).

Yes, God intervenes in weather to fulfill His plans! Dr. Meredith stated:

He uses this power on occasion to intervene in human affairs, "as when You break the ships of Tarshish with an east wind" (Psalm 48:7).... Queen Elizabeth, commemorating the Spanish defeat, issued a silver medal bearing the inscription, "God blew and they were scattered." She **knew** who took charge of those winds at that critical hour in the history of her people!

AMAZING BIBLE PROPHECIES FULFILLED! CONTINUES ON PAGE 22

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Should We Keep God's Sabbath?

Question: I have just discovered that, according to the Bible, the weekly Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and ends at sunset on Saturday. What should I do to “keep it holy” as we are commanded in Exodus 20:8?

Answer: Some mistakenly think of the Sabbath as a day when God oppresses us by forbidding us from doing what we want. But it is actually a time He created for our good, giving us relief from the week's stress and the opportunity to focus our attention on the One who made that day and set it apart for His holy purpose. “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27–28).

Why do we keep the Sabbath? To obey one of the Ten Commandments, which God gave and Jesus Christ Himself observed and taught His followers to observe (Matthew 19:17). The Fourth Commandment reads:

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Six days you shall labor and do all your work,
but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the
LORD your God. In it you shall do no work:
you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor
your male servant, nor your female servant,
nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is
within your gates. For in six days the LORD
made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and
all that is in them, and rested the seventh day.
Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day
and hallowed it (Exodus 20:8–11).

To keep each Sabbath holy, we turn away from our labor and from activities that draw our attention away from God and His plan for us. This frees our time to read Scripture, pray, and meditate on the things of God. On the Sabbath, we are to focus on worshiping God and learning about Him. Those who live within a manageable traveling distance of a group of true Christian believers should come together in worship and fellowship unless their health makes it unwise or impossible. “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, *not*

forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day [of Christ's return] approaching” (Hebrews 10:24–25).


Jesus explained that “it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath” (Matthew 12:12). A person who saves an endangered life on the Sabbath is not violating God's law; Jesus healed the sick on the Sabbath, for which the Pharisees plotted to destroy Him (vv. 13–14). However, Christians must examine themselves to be sure they are not misusing Jesus Christ's command. It is proper for a Christian to save a life on the Sabbath, but it is not proper to earn money on the Sabbath by

It is proper for a Christian to save a life on the Sabbath, but it is not proper to earn money on the Sabbath by doing one's regular business with the excuse of “helping” people.

doing one's regular business with the excuse of “helping” people.

When we keep God's true seventh-day Sabbath properly, He blesses us richly. “If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honorable, and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father” (Isaiah 58:13–14).

God's Sabbaths are a time of joy and of physical and spiritual refreshing. “When I remember these things, I pour out my soul within me. For I used to go with the multitude; I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept a pilgrim feast” (Psalm 42:4).

To learn more about the meaning and observance of the seventh-day Sabbath, you can request free copies of our booklets *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?* and *The Holy Days: God's Master Plan* or read them online at TomorrowsWorld.org. 



THE Works OF HIS HANDS

Paths of the Sea, Highways of the Heart

What comes to mind when we see ocean waves crashing against the shore? Do we think of raw power, unchecked? In fact, though seemingly wild and uncontrolled, these waves conceal an order found in the waters' offshore movement.

The Creator has orchestrated a precise rhythm to the ebbs and flows of ocean water on our planet. Sea currents are unmistakably arranged in consistent, directed movements of massive amounts of water—so massive that, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Gulf Stream carries 150 times the volume of water of the Amazon River. Ocean currents' location, direction, and speed are influenced by a complex interplay of the Earth's rotation, winds, water densities or temperatures, tides, and coastal and sea floor features. These "paths of the seas" influence movement of otherwise immobile animal species, circulations of phytoplankton, migrations of whales, and even patterns of earth's weather ("Ocean Currents," NOAA.gov, August 2011).

The father of modern oceanography, Matthew Fontaine Maury (1806–1873), was a renowned scientist of his day. He was also an accomplished astronomer, meteorologist, geologist, and cartographer—as well as a student of the Bible. As Maury's daughter records in her biography of her father, "Matthew's father was very exact in the religious training of his family.... He would assemble them night and morning to read the Psalter for the day, verse and verse about; and in this way, so familiar did this barefooted boy become with the Psalms of David, that... he he could cite a quotation, and give chapter and verse, as if he had the Bible open before him" (Diana Corbin, *A Life of Matthew Fontaine Maury*, 1888, p. 8). A Richmond, Virginia monument to his

memory even depicted a Bible beside his left leg. Today, Matthew Maury would have been destined for academic and professional oblivion with his insistence on scriptural veracity. But was he naïve—or was he wise and perceptive?

Charting the Paths

After a fractured leg sidelined Maury's naval career, he spent 19 years poring over old ships' logs and naval records and setting adrift weighted bottles to prove a theory. Exhaustively compiling charts and maps, he suspected that sea currents were governing the earth's waters. What served as the inspiration for his theory? The psalms imprinted in his heart and mind from his youth by his father. Psalm 8:8 tells of the "birds of the air, and the fish of the sea that pass through the paths of the seas."

Charts and maps of a few surface ocean currents won Maury accolades, tributes, and statues. However, the full complexity of the interplay of seemingly infinite variables that create planet Earth's weather defy today's scientists. Meteorologists crunch many terabytes of data in supercomputers with sophisticated modeling, yet we see short-range weather forecasts fail somewhere almost daily. Long-range forecasts are just that much more suspect. With even the most advanced computer, none can perfectly model what the Creator has assembled and harnessed to His bidding.

If a Creator God, thousands of years in advance of scientific discovery, could record indications of currents—paths—of the sea, what else is buried within Scripture? Does the same God who created you shed light on our own deep motivations and innermost needs? The Bible has been referred to as a "life map." Could that same God record highways of the human mind and heart?

Creating the Highways

Columbia University researcher and psychiatrist Norman Doidge, MD, describes researcher Paul Bach-y-Rita's use of a device that enabled the blind to see. According to a 1969 *Nature* article, his work allowed even those blind from birth to report sight ("Vision Substitution by Tactile Image Projection"). Bach-y-Rita used a large dentist's chair, a vibrating back, and a tangle of computers, wires, and a studio camera, together weighing over 400 pounds. The blind person would settle back in the chair behind the camera. Signals from the camera were carried to 400 vibrating stimulators set in rows on a metal plate inside the chair back. Functioning like pixels, the stimulators served as a "tactile-vision device" enabling the subjects to read and recognize objects like a telephone or vase. Seemingly miraculously, all subjects reported a remarkable shift, going from tactile sensations to "seeing" people and objects, even flinching as a ball was thrown toward them (Norman Doidge, *The Brain That Changes Itself*).

Albeit impractical, this device demonstrated a principle now known as neuroplasticity, the capacity of the brain to rewire and change its functions to meet demands. Without fanfare, the brains of these blind subjects rerouted tactile information to the visual areas of the brain. The brain was not only mapping a different route or neural highway for neural messages, but also selecting a new destination for them—something previously thought impossible. Since then, neuroscientists have demonstrated many other examples of neuroplasticity, even showing how the brain can repurpose the surface of the cerebral cortex to make up for damaged areas. It has even been applied to show that criminal or deviant sexual fetishes are formed as a habit rather than acquired from birth. As neuroscientist Carla Shatz summarized, "*Neurons that fire together wire together*" (Doidge).

Demands placed on your thoughts and feelings make deeply grooved highways in your mind and heart. Our choices—indeed, our very thoughts—have lasting consequences. The things that we give our attention to imprint themselves in our brain circuitry and wire themselves into the fabric of our hearts. Wonderfully, a wise man of old understood this long before Doidge or Bach-y-Rita. King Solomon stated,

"Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established. Do not turn to the right or the left; remove your foot from evil" (Proverbs 4:25–27). What we give attention to "establishes" itself as an embedded groove or habit in our life, whether for good or for evil.

We choose our thoughts, emotions, actions, and—eventually—our habits. Can we choose a desired consequence without selecting the paired highway of the heart that leads to that result? That would be like trying to travel from Los Angeles to Ohio by driving to Seattle.

Trusting the Instructions

Human beings distrust our God-given maps because of Satan's first lie. He told Adam and Eve that God wants to deprive us (Genesis 3:4–5). In fact, God gives us a

Demands placed on your thoughts and feelings make deeply grooved highways in your mind and heart. Our choices have lasting consequences.

path leading to joy (Psalm 16:11; John 15:11), abundant life (John 10:10), peace (Philippians 4:7), and healthy relationships. He implores us to choose that abundant life (Deuteronomy 30:15–20; John 10:10) by making choices in harmony with His guiding law of liberty (James 1:25; 2:12), the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1–17; John 14:15).

Our choices and thoughts matter. First, they imprint themselves in our brain circuitry and wire themselves into the fabric of our hearts. Then, they bring inexorable and lasting consequences. The Creator knows this well. He lovingly fashioned and shaped the myriad of mechanisms that form everything from the paths of the sea down to the highways in our hearts. No loving, selfless parent casts a child adrift in the world to sink and drown. God, our loving Father, has not left us adrift to be buffeted by the chaotic waves of our own misguided emotions, thoughts, and actions.

Maury studied old ships' logs for 19 years, searching for the storied paths through the sea, all to create a few maps. Maury spent far more time, however, searching the Bible. Does your heart's instruction manual, the Holy Bible, not also warrant your study?

—Bryan Fall



THIS IS London CALLING

A Life of Service



“He is someone who doesn’t take easily to compliments but he has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years, and I, and his whole family, and this and many other countries, owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim, or we shall ever know.” With these words Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II honoured her husband, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, at their golden wedding anniversary in November 1997.

Twenty-four years later, after 73 years of marriage, the duke’s death was not unexpected—yet those words of appreciation and respect ring as true as ever, after a full and remarkable life of service and selfless support to his wife, the queen. Let us consider the lessons of duty, service, and family that we may learn from his example.

Early Life

Philip was born on the Mediterranean island of Corfu in June 1921 and christened Philippos Schleswig Holstein Sonderburg Glücksburg, a prince of both Greek and Danish royal heritage. He came to England in 1922 as a refugee, rescued by a Royal Navy frigate after his uncle King Constantine I was forced to abdicate the throne of Greece. Philip’s subsequent childhood was traumatic, as his parents’ marriage collapsed and he was shuttled from one set of relatives to another. Yet he very much came into his own when attending Gordonstoun School in Scotland in 1934. Kurt Hahn, Gordonstoun’s founding headmaster, noted that Philip was universally trusted, liked, and respected, and that he had the greatest sense of service of all the boys

in the school. With considerable prescience, he also noted that Philip would need “the exacting demands of a great service to do justice to himself” (Obituary 3:1, *The Telegraph*). And so it was to be.

When World War II arrived in 1939, Philip was age 18 and training at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth; he later became the youngest first lieutenant in the Royal Navy, seeing active service with commendations in the Mediterranean, protecting convoys in the North Sea and with the British Pacific Fleet. He would later be present in Tokyo Bay at the capitulation of the Japanese Imperial Forces in 1945.

Royal Consort

It was while training in Dartmouth that Philip first met his future bride Princess Elizabeth and her sister Margaret. He was five years Elizabeth’s elder, but they were both great-great-grandchildren of Queen Victoria, so Philip was assigned to look after these distant cousins. It was in the subsequent years that the romance blossomed into what became the longest partnership in British royal history. Some objections arose around a Greek-born prince with German connections marrying into the British royal family, but in 1947 Philip took British citizenship and chose his maternal grandparents’ anglicised surname, Mountbatten. Their post-war wedding on November 20, 1947, was celebrated by a 2,500-strong congregation at Westminster Abbey. Afterward, they had a few years of relatively normal family life with the births of Prince Charles and Princess Anne, and a naval posting to Malta.

In 1952, King George VI died at age 56, and Prince Philip—a few days into a visit to Kenya—had to inform



Philip and Princess Elizabeth touring Canada with Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent one year before the death of King George VI

his young wife of her father's death. The destiny of the princess, now Queen Elizabeth II, had arrived sooner than she likely ever imagined. Her coronation and anointing, setting her apart for her high office, took place on June 2, 1953, and at the prince's insistence was the first to be televised. Prince Philip's role was to swear allegiance to his wife of five years as she was crowned queen; she now embodied the roles of head of state for the United Kingdom and other nations, head of the Commonwealth, and supreme governor of the Church of England. In performing this act, Prince Philip gave up a very promising naval career and made the choice to support Queen Elizabeth ("Lilibet" to him) in a remarkable way as her consort, always a few steps behind her. Yet no one would ever doubt his leadership within the family. His wry sense of humour would often encourage the queen to smile, and his relaxed demeanour helped her engage with people. This was contrasted by his forthright presence—and, on occasion, his outspoken nature—which did not suffer fools gladly, if at all.

Philip became a champion of many causes in British sport, science, and industry, attending more than 300 solo engagements per year. He was also an accomplished artist, polo player, and (horse-drawn) carriage driver, and a manager of the Royal Estates. In 1956, he founded the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme for young people, encouraging self-sufficiency, teamwork, and leadership skills; it has since reached 5 million individuals in 140 countries (see "Character and the Duke of Edinburgh Award" in the September-October 2017 issue of *Tomorrow's World*). He was a serious

and genuine conservationist in the 1950s when it was not a fashionable thing to be, forming the World Wildlife Fund in 1961 and serving as the charity's president.

Monarchy's Future

The majority of British and Commonwealth citizens have known no other royal couple reigning over them. They have been a constant presence, steady and stalwart in the face of international and national changes, including the last 14 U.K. prime ministers and U.S. presidents. An April 10 *Telegraph* article expressed the impact Prince Philip had on so many people: "The Duke was such an important, colourful part of British life, a man of such indomitable spirit, that many felt they really did know him and will find it hard to imagine public life without him" ("In Prince Philip, the nation mourns a man of character, humour and principle").

The Telegraph also posed an important question for us to consider, not just about Prince Philip's life but about the future of the British monarchy: "As we look back at this remarkable life, and learn more about this remarkable man, it is impossible to avoid the realisation that we are marking, if not the end, then the beginning of the end, of an era" ("Prince Philip gave old institutions new life. We must now do the

The majority of British and Commonwealth citizens have known no other royal couple reigning over them.

same"). The era coming to an inevitable close in the next few years is what we might call the second Elizabethan era. Queen Elizabeth I, a distant relative of the queen, reigned from 1558-1603, a golden age for England. During Queen Elizabeth II's record-breaking reign, she has seen the post-World War II years, a growing Commonwealth of Nations, Britain

entering and leaving the European Union, devolution of the constituent nations of the U.K., widespread liberalisation of social mores—and, on a personal level, the breakup of three of their four children's marriages.

For most of his 72 years of life, Prince Charles has been in training as *heir apparent* to the British throne, and in recent years has assumed many formal ceremonial roles on behalf of the queen. Some have suggested that he could adopt a modern "Prince Regent" role and take more control over day-to-day royal affairs while the

queen remains monarch. Others have suggested that Her Majesty might abdicate following the death of Prince Philip, but royal experts are strongly of the opinion that after a period of mourning she will return to “business as usual.” On her twenty-first birthday, four years before becoming queen, she indicated this would be the case when she said, “I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong.” She has certainly been stoically faithful to that promise and to her duty for nearly 70 years.

Prince William, Philip’s grandson and second in line to the throne, made a statement on April 12 regarding the Duke of Edinburgh’s service and exceptional life, acknowledging their shared commitment: “I will miss my Grandpa, but I know he would want us to get on with the job.... My grandfather’s century of life was defined by service—to his country and Commonwealth, to his wife and Queen, and to our family” (“Prince Philip: William and Harry pay tribute to grandfather,” *BBC.com*, April 13, 2021).

Servant Leadership

Prince Philip’s character was one that would normally be associated with a natural tendency to lead rather than serve. However, he chose to lead a life defined by service to others—an admirable quality and one that undoubtedly stemmed from his personal faith. Longtime *Tomorrow’s World* readers will remember the many times this magazine’s founder, Evangelist Roderick Meredith (1930–2017), wrote about the vital Christ-like quality of *servant leadership*. In his usual modest way, Prince Philip would not have claimed to be a particularly good example of this, but vital aspects of his life might indicate otherwise.

He came from a generation with a solid work ethic and a determination to “keep calm and carry on” no matter what life brought one’s way. He had a sense of personal responsibility to the wider community and sought to make the world a better place for everyone. His effective style of leadership was not primarily focused upon charm and charisma, although he had a good dose of both. He exhibited a quality of calm confidence and humility in his servant leadership—a trait modern leadership models are increasingly recognizing. For example, Dr. Ryne Sherman, the chief science officer of a company that designs workplace personality tests, has observed, “Humble leaders can also be highly competitive and ambitious. But they tend to avoid the spotlight and give



Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh during a visit to Titanic Belfast on June 27, 2012

credit to their teams.... They also ask for help and listen to feedback from others, setting an example that causes subordinates to do the same” (“The Best Bosses Are Humble Bosses,” *WSJ.com*, October 19, 2018).

Far too few would acknowledge that these realisations echo priceless counsel found in the pages of your Bible. Both King Solomon and Jesus Christ recognized that service with humility brings honour (Proverbs 29:23; Matthew 23:11–12). Jesus taught and lived a life of servant leadership (Matthew 20:20–28), identifying this as a biblical characteristic of truly godly leaders. He encouraged His disciples, including those He is calling today, to exemplify the same quality, urging that “whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant... just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:26, 28).

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth undoubtedly feels the continued call to duty and service she has had all her adult life, to get on with the job—but now, sadly, without her “strength and stay” of 73 years. It will be a challenging transition for her, as she mourns Prince Philip’s death in her ninety-sixth year of life as the longest-living, longest-reigning British monarch.

Prince Philip leaves behind a remarkable legacy. Perhaps more than anyone else he ensured the extraordinary success of the queen’s reign by forging a highly successful and harmonious partnership with his wife. This was his lifelong goal—to create a marital bond that would provide the strength to withstand the shocks of life and accomplish good for others. Representing Britain into their nineties, the queen and her “strength and stay” contributed to a kind of golden age of stability in today’s fast-changing world.

—Simon R.D. Roberts

The Bible: Fact or Fiction?

The Bible is either truly God's word or a fantasy that can be ignored. But which? Prove the answer for yourself!

The Great Question: Is the Bible True?

Many have recognized that the Bible is the most powerful book in the world. It has inspired sweeping social reforms among nations and has moved individuals to dramatically change their lives forever. Men and women have allowed themselves to be tortured to death rather than recant the beliefs they gained from its pages.

Yet the Bible claims to be more than simply a "powerful book." From its first pages to its last, the Bible claims to be the divinely revealed *word of God*—the voice and mind of the Creator put into print!

If this claim is true, then we cannot—we *dare* not—treat this book as we would any other. The commands in its pages must be treated as the commands of the Almighty! The history it proclaims must be taken as accurate and true. And the way of life it explains must be recognized as the *only* way of life we should seek, revealed to us in Scripture by the Designer of life itself.

If the Bible is *fiction*, then its claims can be safely ignored. But if it is *fact*, then we ignore its claims at our peril, for doing so would be ignoring the very word of God. We need to *know*!

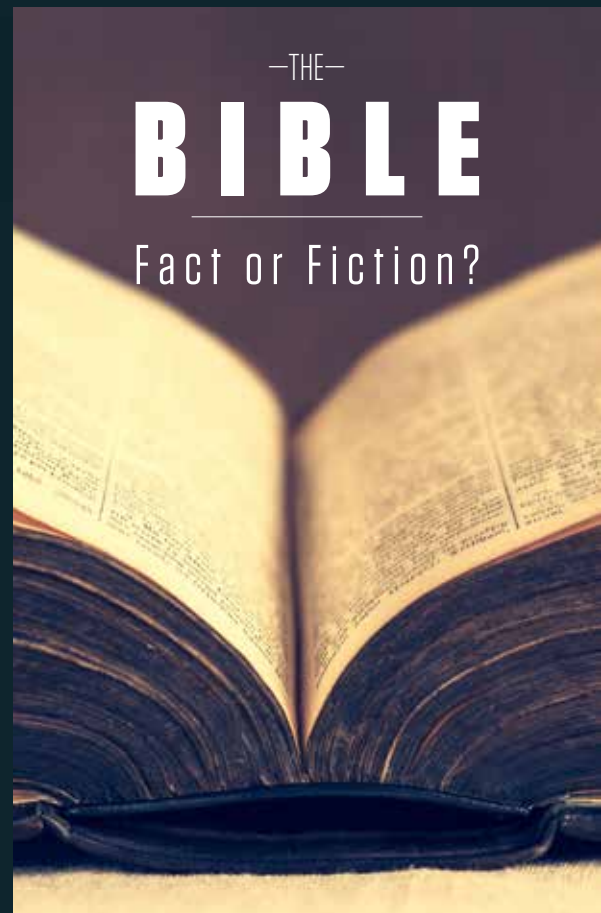
Prove the Bible for Yourself!

Our free booklet *The Bible: Fact or Fiction?* will help you to determine the truth of the Bible for *yourself*. It will guide you not only through the words of Scripture, but also into the historical development of the Bible, the archaeological findings that support its ancient authority, and the prophecies that place God's unique stamp of approval on its pages!

In a world that constantly seeks to demean and delegitimize the Bible and destroy its credibility,

you need to prove for yourself that the Bible is God's word. Let us show you how.

The Bible: Fact or Fiction? is completely free to all who request it. You can order your own copy at TomorrowsWorld.org, or you can contact any of our Regional Offices, listed on page 4 of this magazine, and request a copy to be mailed to you.



Cancel



Are you sure you
want to cancel?

Yes

No

The Subtle Art of Canceling the Bible

Surely, in our modern society of religious freedom, no one would dare to ban the Scriptures—would they?

By **Wallace G. Smith**

The Bible has been a powerful force shaping modern civilization. To be sure, it is increasingly ignored, and very few even try to put its principles fully and truly into practice; the real meaning of Scripture is avoided, disavowed, and rationalized away by so many. Yet, even though imperfectly followed, no other single book has been more influential in the building of modern civilization. Many cultures that have never accepted the Bible have indirectly accepted some of its principles as they have imported ideas from the West. The Bible has informed our thoughts on economics and finance, government, race relations, sexual ethics, family structure, individual responsibility, social obligations, and a host of additional facets of our civilization. Even in our increasingly secularized society, it *continues* to inform our thinking.

So, if anyone wanted to restructure civilization—to rewrite the norms of human interaction and self-understanding—they would need to *remove* the Bible from its place of public influence. But even as our society grows progressively ignorant of the Bible's words, such a task is easier said than done. With its ideas interwoven into the fabric of Western culture, time has shown the Bible to be a hard book to keep down.

There have been direct assaults, of course. In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that school-led reading of the Bible in a religious context was unconstitutional. Many centuries before, in the Middle Ages, Roman Catholic leaders initiated persecutions

to prevent the translation of the Bible into the common languages of the people, favoring Latin to guard against those who saw glaring differences between the teachings of that church and the clear words of Scripture.

Yet, despite prohibitions and persecutions, the Bible to this day remains the most printed book in the world. According to Wycliffe Bible Translators, as of October 2020 the entire Bible had been translated into 704 languages.

How to Cancel an “Uncancelable” Book

In most of the developed world, outright banning of the world's most popular book is unthinkable—for now. The pretense of religious freedom ensures that actual prohibition of Scripture would seem the height of religious intolerance, even in secular-minded cultures where the Bible is rarely read and its values are scorned. For the moment, censorship of Scripture would be unacceptable to most civilized people.

Still, self-appointed transformers want nothing to stand in the way of the changes they desire to inflict on our world. Not popular sentiment. Not logic. Not God. And certainly not a book.

Enter “cancel culture”—the popular term for the growing tendency of modern society to self-censor individuals who espouse unpopular or socially disfavored viewpoints. Cancel culture has poisoned many college campuses—places supposedly devoted to rational and impartial discussion—where speakers are increasingly shouted down or uninvited based on student reaction and professors have faced demotion

or outright dismissal for expressing points of view deemed offensive. In fact, cancel culture has cost actors, journalists, politicians, scientists, teachers, and many others their jobs.

Truly, there can be no doubt that we are entering a time of astonishing willingness to censor and ban content in nations that, until recently, were considered examples of the value of free and unhindered information.

In this oppressive environment, many see opportunity: One need not ban the Bible itself—one need only purge from acceptable public discourse the individual elements of a biblical worldview. You don’t need to ban the book if you can ban the ideas *within* the book.

Those who would recast society in their own image have adapted. Cancel culture is coming for the Bible, one idea at a time.

Canceling Biblical Ideas About Abortion

One biblical principle increasingly under attack is that of life in the womb. Scripture is clear that human life is not animal life, but is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26). The famous biblical statement concerning measured and equitable punishment of crimes—“life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth”—is declared by God in the context of a man injuring a pregnant woman and causing harm or loss of life to her unborn child (Exodus 21:22–25). And God speaks on multiple occasions of how He considers life in the womb a living human being and takes personal credit for the creation of that individual (e.g., Job 31:15; Psalm 139:13–14; Jeremiah 1:5).

Increasingly, those who hold to this biblical view of the life in the womb are finding it harder to express that view publicly.

In 2018, U.S. Senate candidate Marsha Blackburn sought to publish campaign advertisements on Facebook highlighting her anti-abortion position. Initially, Facebook refused to run those ads, resulting in accusations of political censorship. Facebook later apologized, stating through official channels that their removal of these campaign ads had been a mistake, but others have had similar experiences followed by no apologies at all.

The popular “Women’s March” in Washington, D.C. draws thousands of feminists from all over the United States seeking to press for what they see as

rights and legislation that will benefit women. But they would not allow some feminists to be included—namely, pro-life feminists who believe in a biblical concept of children in the womb. As the situation was described in the *Atlantic* in January 2019:

Pro-life women have also been excluded from the national march. Although a number of self-described pro-life feminist groups signed up to be sponsors and march alongside the original Women’s March, they were removed from the march’s official list of supporters because of their anti-abortion views.

As the article in the *Atlantic* goes on to highlight, the exclusion is ironic, since women lead many of the most politically powerful pro-life organizations. Yet, in the eyes of Women’s March organizers, the necessity of rejecting anyone espousing biblical principles concerning life in the womb trumps all other concerns—regardless of all other “pro-women” ideas with which they may agree. To them, belief that the unborn child must be respected as a human being made in the image of God is cause enough for one to be rejected as a sponsor of the march.

Canceling the Bible on Creation

In March 2021, Dr. Joshua Swamidass wrote an op-ed for the *Wall Street Journal*, “A Compromise on Creationism,” that seemed, on the surface, to extend a laurel branch to educational institutions that teach the idea that God created life on planet Earth. But a closer reading reveals the opposite intent. Swamidass recommends that schools teaching any form of creationism that “deviates from national norms” should “prominently disclose” the presence of such instruction on transcripts and materials to ensure that those classes are not allowed to contribute toward recognized science degrees.

To be sure, there are mistaken theories of “creationism” that ignore both biblical and scientific facts. For more information on this, we recommend our free booklet *Evolution and Creation: What Both Sides Miss*, available from any of the Regional Offices listed on page 4 of this magazine. However, too often the phrase “deviates from national norms” means “does not embrace evolution as the origin of life.”

Indeed, many have seen their careers damaged for recognizing that there is significant scientific evidence for intelligent design behind the origin and diversity of life—a position too close to the Bible’s description of God to be allowed to go “uncanceled.”

For example, when it came to light that microbiologist Scott Minnich—who has performed experiments that lend credence to intelligent design theories—was going to testify on behalf of intelligent design in court, his university president drafted a letter sent to all faculty, staff, and students, stating

now been banned from the site—and when Amazon’s share of the retail e-commerce market in the United States has grown to approach 50 percent, such a ban has quite an impact on sales!

In a response to inquiries by four United States senators, Amazon explained that it was banning from sale all books that “frame LGBTQ+ identity as a mental illness.” Yet, one would be hard pressed to read the book and find any such statement from the author. Anderson *does* focus very directly on the question of how to best help those suffering

from confusion over their gender, arguing that studies show body-altering surgeries and a life of hormone treatments produce negative outcomes. In particular, the book makes a case against “transitioning” children this way, especially since gender confu-

ONE NEED NOT BAN THE BIBLE ITSELF. YOU DON'T NEED TO BAN THE BOOK IF YOU CAN BAN THE IDEAS WITHIN THE BOOK.

that *only evolution* is “appropriate to be taught in our bio-physical sciences.” The letter implied that disagreeing with evolution is only possible through philosophical and religious concerns—contradicting Dr. Minnich’s own research—and effectively banned any comments to the contrary from the university’s science classes.

Dr. Minnich is hardly alone. Double-Ph.D. biologist Richard Sternberg faced professional persecution for allowing the publication of a peer-reviewed paper friendly to the idea of intelligent design. Distinguished paleontologist Dr. Günter Bechly was pressured to resign from his museum position—after a 17-year career and a vast number of publications—when he expressed public support for the idea that scientific evidence points to an intelligent origin to life. These stories and more are documented at the website *FreeScience.today*. The theme of all their messages is the same: Even a hint of biblical ideas of life’s origins and diversity and disagreement with the dogma of evolution is enough to be canceled.

Canceling the Bible on Amazon

For some time, one could purchase Ryan T. Anderson’s 2018 book *When Harry Became Sally: Responding to the Transgender Moment* on the website of global power-merchant Amazon. Yet the book has

sion often resolves itself as children age—in fact, estimates of the number of children who experience “gender dysphoria” and eventually simply grow out of it, without intervention of any kind, range from 80 to 95 percent.

But the biblical teaching of Jesus Christ that, from the beginning of creation, God “made them male and female” (Mark 10:6; cf. Genesis 1:27) is a high-value target on the hit list of those who would reengineer society. Suggestions that, instead of being an aspect of creation actively planned by God as an inherent—and binary—part of our design, “sex” and “gender” exist on a “spectrum” as malleable characteristics that humanity is free to redefine as desired are the dogmas of the day, and the Bible’s teachings stand in the way of those dogmas. So, backed by scientific studies or not, those teachings are increasingly pushed out of the marketplace of ideas—and, in Amazon’s case, our literal marketplaces.

Canceling the Bible in Congress

Beyond the private and corporate realm, desire to cancel the Bible has invaded our systems of government. Over the years, the fight to cancel any semblance of the Bible within government has deepened in intensity and broadened in scope—and has become far more explicit.

In January 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives changed its ruling document to “honor all gender identities by changing pronouns and familial relationships in the House rules to be gender neutral”—ensuring the *House Rules and Manual* would no longer use terms like *father*, *mother*, *son*, or *daughter*. On February 25, as the House was debating expanding the 1964 Civil Rights Act to include “sexual orientation” and “gender identity,” Representative Greg Steube from Florida read from Deuteronomy 22:5 concerning God’s desire to maintain distinctions between men and women. Representative Jerry Nadler responded, “Mr. Steube, what any religious tradition describes as God’s will is no concern of this Congress.”

Of course, the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution has long maintained that the American government has no right to establish a national religion. And, frankly, longtime readers of this magazine will understand our skepticism about any worldly government’s ability to properly understand Scripture. Still, Rep. Nadler’s statement is a bold declaration that the Bible and the will of God have *no place* in the halls of government.

A perhaps more dramatic illustration of the growing desire to exclude biblical concepts from government came in 2018 with the U.S. Senate confirmation hearings of the then-nominee for Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo. Prompted by comments made by Mr. Pompeo in 2015 when the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex “marriage,” Senator Cory Booker grilled the nominee about his views on homosexuality, asking, “Is being gay a perversion?” and “Do you believe gay sex is a perversion, yes or no?” In 2019, Sen. Booker similarly quizzed a nominee to the D.C. Circuit Court, asking, “Are gay relationships in your opinion immoral?” and “Do you believe they are a sin?” In a nation whose Constitution bans religious tests for those wishing to serve in public office, this line of questioning was a concern for some—yet seen as the “right call” by others.

It seems that many are working to create a world in which the teachings of the Bible are not merely to be kept out of the halls of government, but even out of the privately held beliefs of those who serve there.

The Consequences of Canceling the Bible

Most who seek to ban the teachings of the Bible from public discussion are not actually seeking to ruin the world or destroy civilization. Many have their own vision of a just, fair, and “good” society, and they simply see Scripture as an obstacle in their quest.

But such dreams are, in reality, delusions. While the Bible’s teachings have rarely been fully adopted by *any* people, the fact is that many foundations of civil society are, indeed, built on principles found in Scripture. However imperfectly they may be applied, those principles are at the heart of what makes our modern world civilized, safe, and sane.

We turn our backs on the Bible at our peril.

The philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche is most remembered, perhaps, for famously declaring, “God is dead!” Those three words have often made Nietzsche a popular man in atheistic circles—and the philosopher was certainly, himself, not a believer in God. Yet the context of his infamous declaration is often missed, and his observations of what it means to live in a God-less world are worth noting. Nietzsche recognized that without God, civilization loses any real ground for objective morality and meaning in life; the many values and morals that make civilized life possible—such as honesty, mercy, compassion, and selflessness—no longer have any basis for being considered “values” or “morals” at all. The result is nihilism—the idea that all of existence is senseless, meaningless, and useless.

Nietzsche embraced the coming of nihilism because—like the self-appointed social engineers of our day—he felt that it could be overcome and God-less mankind could somehow discover how to redefine its values in such a way as to reach its ultimate potential.

Of course, Nietzsche never finished his project of reinventing all values, because it is a fool’s quest. The moment we decide we know better than God—that we don’t need Him to determine the “real” values of the world—we find ourselves a ship unanchored in chaos. There is no fantasy utopia beyond the nihilism that comes from casting aside the God of the Bible. There is only a brutal world of meaningless, competing animals, each seeking to simply survive.

The Apostle Paul spoke prophetically of such times in one of his letters to the young evangelist Timothy:

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! (2 Timothy 3:1–5).

Can we admit to ourselves that we see this world growing around us? Brutal. Blasphemous. Unforgiving. Lacking in self-control. Focusing on self and pleasure. *Having a form of actual godliness—religion-like passion and zeal—but denying the power of real godliness.*

Paul's prophecy is like a mirror held up to our increasingly Bible-less world. A host of new ideologies—such as identity politics, climate change, social and economic reengineering, sexual and gender anarchy, and critical race theory—are ready to act as new religions, eager to embrace the zealous. Meanwhile, our urban centers increasingly erupt in chaos, and our fellow citizens seem ready to view their neighbors as little more than animals, merely because of differing opinions on a particular politician or the efficacy of vaccines.

We are becoming tribal—and brutal. Just as Alfred Tennyson described nature, the world of man, too, is becoming “red in tooth and claw”—because one does not ban the word of God from civilization without consequences.

The Canceling to Come—and a Restoration!

Happily, in the end, all such efforts will not prevail. The Bible will *not* be permanently banned, because God Almighty will not be denied a voice. Jesus Christ foretold that, as His return draws near, His message of the coming Kingdom of God will blanket the entire world (Matthew 24:14). That message includes not only the good news of His return, but also the warning that the ways and worldviews of this “perverse gen-


eration” (Acts 2:40) will be overcome at His arrival by objective truth, biblical morality, and a renewed reverence for the things of God.

That doesn't mean the preaching of that message to the world will always be smooth sailing. Quite the opposite! While we currently see resistance to the message of the Bible from many secular quarters, the time will come when the strongest resistance is *religious* in nature—swelling from a state-sanctioned version of “Christianity” with the whole world under its sway.

The Apostle John wrote of this global religious power and its unholy union with political, economic, and military powers. In a vision of that future—*our* future—John saw how these world-straddling religious and political entities will speak “great things and blasphemies” against the true God and “make war” against those who live and teach the truths of the Bible (Revelation 13:5–7).

As that time approaches, those who seek to preach the Bible's truth may increasingly be seen as outlaws, understanding what the Apostle Peter proclaimed for when obligations to God and the laws of man come into conflict: “We ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).

No, Jesus Christ will not be censored—not by secular zealots seeking to shut down any discussion that runs counter to their delusional worldviews, and not by religious behemoths who seek to crush any and all who would dare expose their corruption of the true Christian faith. As in the first century—when Christ's growing body of followers faced increasing resistance from governments and rulers made uncomfortable by talk of “righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come” (Acts 24:25)—regulations, laws, and restrictions may be thrown in the path of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. But its message *will* go out.

Canceling the Bible is truly a subtle art, at which many forces in this world excel as unwitting pawns of the devil. But, ultimately, the word of God will not be canceled and the voice of God will not be silenced. All we can tell you, dear readers, is to continue watching this space for the proof. 

MAY WE
SUGGEST?

The Bible: Fact or Fiction? Prove to yourself just how “uncancelable” the Bible truly is! Request this **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at TomorrowsWorld.org. PDF, ePub, and Kindle are also available.





Your Amazing Future

We have seen that your Bible accurately predicted the first coming of Jesus Christ, and that God also prophesied accurately the fall of a great empire. Even though He is currently letting sinful mankind rule itself—to learn for itself the painful lessons of rebellion against God’s way—He still intervenes to bring to pass what He has prophesied. And He has many, many more prophecies than we can cover in this article. Bible prophecy even foretells the rise—and fall—of the United States and the British Empire, once one learns to recognize the ancestors of those nations. To learn more, read our booklet *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy* and see for yourself another powerful example of God’s amazing prophecies being fulfilled—in this case, thousands of years after He inspired those prophecies!


In closing, let’s consider the amazing prophecy of Christ’s return to establish His Kingdom at His second coming:

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with

judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this (Isaiah 9:6–7).

Yes, of the “increase of His government and peace there will be no end.” We have seen the fulfillment of the many prophecies that foretold Christ’s first coming, which gives us the sure knowledge that His second coming will soon occur, just as prophesied, to usher in the Kingdom of God under His firm and benevolent rule. To learn much more about this wonderful time foretold in prophecies throughout your Bible, read our powerful booklet *The World Ahead: What Will It Be Like?*

Dear readers, we are in the prophetic time of the end, waiting for Jesus Christ to return and establish His everlasting government. He will save the human race from total extinction. He will bring lasting peace to all nations of the earth. We need to prepare for His coming Kingdom. We need to follow His instructions and pray, “Your kingdom come” (Matthew 6:10).

And we can prepare in faith. God’s word—the Bible—has shown itself true not only in prophetic fulfillment, but in the Way of life it proclaims. May God bless you as you apply the greatest guidance in life, as given by our Savior: “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:33). 

**MAY WE
SUGGEST?**

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NEW PRESIDENT, SAME RESPONSIBILITIES

Are we allowing politics to become an idol?

It is customary in American politics to take stock of a new president after his first 100 days in office. By the time most of you are receiving this, President Joseph Biden will have been in office for a little more than 120 days, after an election that showed the United States to be more divided than it has been since the American Civil War.

From riots, to accusations of cheating, to charges of profiteering from the gullible—and an unprecedented second impeachment of a sitting president—both sides have expressed dismay at the election outcome. Conservatives bemoan the election of a man they see as a socialist enabler who could by “executive order” put a practical end to American democracy. Many liberals, by contrast, are elated at the result and have cast President Biden into an almost-messianic role—expecting him and Vice President Harris to save a nation on the brink of ruin.

However, true Christians should not be swayed by the extreme emotions that may be affecting those who do not use the Bible as the foundation of their lives. The Scriptures reveal that Christians have universal responsibilities to their civil leaders, regardless of who they are and the changes they may or may not bring. Are we fulfilling our responsibilities, 100 days into the new administration?

Responsibilities as Ambassadors

Christians act as ambassadors of God’s government, wherever we reside (2 Corinthians 5:20; Philippians 3:20). We should be obeying civil laws, paying taxes, respecting the offices our leaders hold, and praying for them so that we can live peaceable, godly lives (Matthew 22:15–22; Romans 13:1–7; 1 Timothy 2:1–2). These verses were written when a brutal and corrupt Roman emperor ruled most of the civilized world—hardly a man most Christians agreed with on religion or policy.

And these verses are still difficult to follow today! Many things the United States government does—and will almost certainly do in the future—should not sit well with true Christians. Yet God’s word declares that, while we must not participate in evil-doing, we must offer our godly obedience to our governments as fully as God’s word allows.

The Bible says to pray for our leaders, regardless of their party or politics. The Bible says to show respect to our leaders, regardless of what they post online. The Bible says to pay taxes, regardless of whether those taxes go to paying for a wall, universal health care, military expeditions, or a host of other government policies that we may or may not agree with. Christians should ask themselves if they are truly acting as citizens of the Kingdom of God and *Christian* ambassadors.

Responsibilities in Prayer

Another point to consider is how we Americans have done in praying for Mr. Trump over the last four years. He was president for more than 1,400 days. On how many of those days did we offer a prayer for God to guide him? Even weekly prayers would come to more than 200 prayers for Mr. Trump. I know I have some room for improvement.

Are we planning on praying more—or less—for Mr. Biden than we did for Mr. Trump? This question might help us identify a bigger issue we need to address in our lives. If we plan to pray more for Mr. Biden because we realize we need to improve our prayers *regardless* of who the president is and we are trying to grow in Christian maturity, that is wonderful. Growth is always good.

However, if political motivations prompt us to pray more—or less—for God to guide Mr. Biden, we have a lesson to learn. If we allow politics to dictate how we follow the Scriptures, we are allowing our nation to become an idol and are failing to follow the Bible’s *plain instructions*. Praying more for a Democrat than for a Republican—or vice-versa—simply because of their political party shows us that we *still have work to do* if we are truly to be Christian ambassadors.

True Christians will never completely agree with this world’s political leaders, but they will recognize that our attitude toward our political leaders is a matter of obedience to God, not about which individual is in office. To learn more, read the November–December 2020 article “A World Without Politics?” at TomorrowsWorld.org.

—Mark Sandor

h Canada!

Can We Save Ourselves?



A long time ago, in the ancient land of Mesopotamia—so long ago that the land was not yet known by that name—a young civilization flourished under a common language, a cohesive culture, and the shared purpose of subduing the perceived threat of mankind's extinction. In what were known as the plains of Shinar, civilization's very survival was at the forefront of the fledgling community's minds and the driving force behind the focus of their efforts.

A little over a century had passed since God had intervened in human history by nearly annihilating all life on the planet with a devastating global flood. The physical and psychological effects of the deluge led the masses to follow a strong dictator, a man of renown called Nimrod, under whose leadership began one of the largest architectural feats of the ancient world—construction of what we know as the Tower of Babel. Nimrod's expansionist objectives—with the construction of various cities in the region and specifically that of the Tower of Babel—may have been touted as an attempt to prevent another catastrophic event from bringing civilization, as he knew it, to an end. The tower was a symbol of mankind's efforts to take matters into its own hands and to devise its own methods of self-preservation on the rather miraculous "blue marble" we call home, as it spins on its axis at a speed of 1,000 mph (at the equator) and hurtles through space at 67,000 mph. The arrogance of those involved in building this tower is staggering, and it has persisted throughout time. Various languages and cultures were formed in the confusion of Babel, all of which inherited—and still propagate—the same carnal premise motivating Nimrod and his follow-

ers: that we are capable of taking matters into our own hands and dictating the terms of our own existence.

So, let us now fast-forward to the present age—a time when humanity finds itself surrounded by technological advancement unlike anything imaginable to the ancient world.

The Age of Mankind—Or the End of It?

Science and human reason have reached new heights of achievement, yet mankind faces the supposed threat of catastrophic global climate change. Heads of nations around the world convene to discuss the various implications that might be brought about by an increase of just one or two degrees Celsius. Agreements are made, climate pacts are drawn up, and targets are set. Mankind is determined to take matters into its own hands and change the predicted direction of the earth's climate in order to save us from the threat of extinction.

In Canada, Chief Justice Richard Wagner of the Supreme Court recently stated, "The undisputed existence of a threat to the future of humanity cannot be ignored" (CTVNews.ca, March 25, 2021). The Court recently ruled in favour of federal enforcement of regulatory charges, requiring all provinces to enact equivalent levies in order to somehow reduce carbon emissions. Chief Justice Wagner further stated in his ruling that the charges "cannot be characterized as taxes; rather, they are regulatory charges whose purpose is to advance the GGPPA's [Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act's] regulatory purpose by altering behaviour" ("Reference re Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, 2021 SCC 11," *CanLII.org*, March 25, 2021).

This approach to promoting various methods of changing behaviour in order to avert climate catastrophe is not new. Greenpeace, an organization established primarily by Canadians, has been trying to save the planet since the late 1960s. Peter Wilcox, a sea captain and activist for Greenpeace, wrote about the primary goal of climate activists:

One of the main reasons that environmentalists and activists do what they do is that we are trying to save us from ourselves. When boats are in mortal danger, they send out an S.O.S. call. Our ship, Planet Earth, and the passengers on it are in mortal danger so I'm sending out a different S.O.S. signal: "Save Our Selves." Only we can rescue us from ourselves so I hope we get the message (*Greenpeace.org*, June 17, 2016).

Society, specifically that of the Western world, appears to be firmly committed to trying everything in its power to reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. It is not the intent of this article to examine the potential threat or benefits to an increase in CO₂. It is important to note that our responsibility is to tend and keep the planet and not pollute or disregard its state; however, any attempt to save ourselves from extinction is folly if it does not include complete submission to our Creator and His laws.

Whether or not carbon dioxide is a pollutant or plant food, the hubris required to believe that mankind has the ability to fully master the climate far exceeds that of Nimrod and his followers in building a tower to the heavens. God appears to have been completely removed from all consideration in the hearts and minds



of our leaders. The people of Babel needed only to look up at the sky, as the sun broke through the rain clouds, to see the symbol of God's eternal promise that "the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh" (Genesis 9:15). Should we be willing to heed, God has recorded these events in the Bible for our admonition. His promise is clearly written in the preceding chapter:

We live in an age not much different from the ancient world. Leaders falsely believe that it is within their power and ability to avoid a future extinction event.

Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease" (Genesis 8:21-22).

Pride Goes Before the Fall

We live in an age not much different from the ancient world. Leaders falsely believe that it is within their power and ability to avoid a future extinction event. For them to believe this means that they have concluded that God doesn't exist or have lost touch with the reality of their human limitations—or both. God is removed from the picture. The greatest threat to civilization right now is not rising sea levels, the global climate, or any other pollutant—it is, in fact, the widespread corruption of character exhibited by the arrogance of Nimrod and society today.

If you are reading this and have come to the conclusion that God is very much a part of the picture, you can be encouraged by the fact that He is in control and will not permit any catastrophic event that will lead to the extinction of life on our planet. If you would like to know more about just how completely in control God is, specifically regarding the climate, you can request a free copy of our booklet *Acts of God: Why Natural Disasters?*

—Jonathan Riley



Myanmar's Military Coup and the Future of Democracy

By **Paul Kearns**

In the midst of a devastating worldwide coronavirus pandemic, civil wars and unrest across Africa, European worries over the consequences of refugee migration and Brexit, and almost unprecedented internal instability within the United States, it is no surprise that many are barely aware of the distress in Myanmar, a troubled Asian nation that recently saw a military coup overthrow its fragile young democracy, returning the country to the military rule it had endured from 1962–2011.

Why should we care about Myanmar? Not only may the destabilizing ramifications of the coup spill over into neighboring countries; we see in Myanmar's troubles a foretaste of what other nations may soon endure.

Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, is bordered by Thailand, Laos, Bangladesh, China, and India. Most of its approximately 54 million people are Buddhists, yet there are significant minorities such as the Rohingya Muslims. As a result, ethnic tensions are intertwined with conflicting religious and political interests. For nearly a decade, these tensions were kept in check by the powerful influence of Nobel Peace Prize-winner Aung San Suu Kyi, whose National League for Democracy stood against military rule and won the November 2020 general election with a landslide of support. When the military seized control on February 1, Aung San Suu Kyi—president of the NLD since 2011 and “state counsellor” since 2016—was taken into detention at an unknown location.

Aung San Suu Kyi now faces a variety of charges that most media outlets and reporters label as ridiculous, such as violating the country's official secrets act, possessing illegal walkie-talkies, and publishing information that may “cause fear or alarm” (“Myanmar coup: What is happening and why?,” *BBC News*, April 1, 2021).

Military Machinations

Ever since it ostensibly handed power back to Myanmar's civilians, the military's performance has widely been considered poor; its negligible results during the 2020 election led many observers to conclude that its power was eroding away. Therefore, drastic action—such as a brutal coup—was the only way the military could hold on to the influence it desired.

Myanmar's military, having failed to succeed through democratic means—and losing a case against the NLD in the country's Supreme Court—had threatened to “take action” (“Myanmar's Coup and Violence, Explained,” *New York Times*, April 12, 2021). Its threats were swiftly implemented with the arrest of key government leaders—including Aung San Suu Kyi—and, finally, with the brutal suppression of protests from civilians in the streets. More than 600 citizens have been killed as of March 27, and no doubt more blood will have been shed by the time you read this article. Additionally, the military has reportedly assaulted, detained, or tortured thousands of others, according to one monitoring group (*New York Times*).

As the military continues to crack down on demonstrators, many within Myanmar—and an increasing

number of observers outside it—are concerned that more blood will be spilled before this coup is resolved. Dissenting civilians are organizing themselves into militias with the plan to launch guerrilla warfare against the domineering and merciless military, which some observers believe will lead the divided country into a full-scale civil war (“Myanmar Is on the Precipice of Civil War,” *ForeignPolicy.com*, April 8, 2021).

Apart from the obvious disruption, hurt, and turmoil this latest coup has brought, it has been interesting to note the response of neighboring countries and other far-off powerful nations that understand how much is at stake. The day after the coup, Japan’s State Minister of Defence Yasuhide Nakayama told *Reuters*, “If we do not approach this well, Myanmar could grow further away from politically free democratic nations and join the league of China” (“Japan’s response to the coup in Myanmar,” *EastAsiaForum.org*, April 17, 2021). The Japanese government understands Myanmar’s geostrategic significance, and is justifiably concerned that the Chinese Communist Party may exploit the nation’s distress to press forward with its own initiatives on the Asian continent.

Global Implications


It is not just nearby countries that are concerned about the recent developments in Myanmar. On April 20, 2021, the European Union adopted a new round of Myanmar sanctions in response to the coup, targeting ten people and two military-controlled companies. The European Council, explaining its actions, made the following statement after instituting the sanctions: “Today’s decision is a sign of the EU’s unity and determination in condemning the brutal



Citizens of Myanmar took to the streets to protest the military coup.

actions of the military junta, and aims at effecting change in the junta’s leadership” (“EU sanctions 2 military-linked companies,” *Asia.Nikkei.com*, April 20, 2021). Interestingly, the USA and the UK also have imposed sanctions on the same two companies (*Asia.Nikkei.com*), demonstrating that there are “plenty of hands in the pie” with diplomatic tensions clearly evident regarding how to handle the volatile Myanmar situation. Indeed, the events on the ground in Myanmar—as well as the actions of China, the EU, the US, and the UK in response to the coup—would be worth watching. There is a lot at stake for the Asian region—and, potentially, the world—as developments in Myanmar continue to progress.

Many believe that the only way to see peace restored in Myanmar will be through the reinstatement of democratic rule. However, although one would be hard-pressed to find a neutral observer who can argue that the recent actions of the nation’s military were justified, it may surprise some newer *Tomorrow’s World* readers that democracy is actually *not* a system of government that God or the Bible holds up as the ideal. Although God is allowing mankind to try out different forms of governing itself under Satan’s rulership as the god of this age (2 Corinthians 4:3–4; 1 John 5:19), there is a better type of government that will soon be established over the whole earth, which will eventually spread to all corners of the globe, including the Asian continent and the country of Myanmar. It will be a theocratic form of government with God the Father and Jesus Christ at its head (1 Corinthians 15:24–28) and faithful saints under their direct authority (Revelation 5:8–10). It will be a kingdom of peace because it will be governed by the laws of God, which have been codified for human beings in the form of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1–17; Isaiah 2:2–4; Matthew 5:17–28). Christ’s return will mean no more coups, wars, or murders, as God will take charge of the destiny of mankind and guide it into the way of peace (Daniel 2:44–45; Isaiah 9:6–7).

Although we do not know exactly what the fallout from this coup will be, we can be confident that Jesus Christ is coming back to this earth soon with a benevolent theocratic government administering God’s law. That Kingdom will ultimately bring peace to all nations of mankind—and will never, ever be overthrown or removed! 



Poultry being transported in Bangalore, India

Bird Flu Epidemic Ravaging India

In addition to struggling against COVID-19, India is facing two different strains of bird flu (*Deutsche Welle*, January 14, 2021). The nation has culled thousands of birds and warned citizens that the flu can spread through human-to-human contact, though the highest risk comes from contact with poultry.

In reaction to these new virus strains, the prices of chicken, eggs, and other fowl plunged and many shops and stores that sell such foods were closed. Shop owners who defied the closure laws were threatened with having their licenses revoked (*NDTV*, January 13, 2021) and restaurants were forbidden to serve chicken or eggs.

Avian flus are yet another plague afflicting nations around the globe, and at least one of these bird flu strains (H5N1) is deadly to humans. Bible prophecy reveals that many devastating events will erupt in the world before Christ's return, including disease epidemics (Matthew 24:7). Yet Jesus Christ warned that these are just “the beginning of sorrows” (v. 8). It is sobering to see world events lining up with end-time prophecies, but these events also point to the imminent

return of Jesus Christ to establish His everlasting, peace-filled Kingdom over the whole earth.

Europe the Global Pacesetter?

There are those who continually point out problems within the European Union, bringing up squabbles between nations, trade disputes, financial crises, and problems with the rollout of the coronavirus vaccine. Yet *Der Spiegel* editor-in-chief Ullrich Fichtner observes, “Despite its long list of crises in recent years... the European Union has become a global pacesetter. Its laws and regulations have established global norms. This has made the bloc a 21st century model” (February 4, 2021).

Europe is the primary export market for Russia, the U.S., India, and South Africa, and is the largest



financial partner of emerging African nations—providing 40 percent of all African investments and providing the market for a third of all African exports. The EU provides more than half of all development aid funding in the world and is the world's most influential global regulator. As Fichtner points out, “A global player like today's Europe has never existed in this form in the history of the world.”

While the configuration of nations in the end-time “beast” superpower may differ from what we see today (Revelation 17:12–14), the EU is well on its way to leading the world in regulation, trade, standard of living, and other factors. In the years ahead, it could also lead more powerfully in military and religious matters.

Arab Nations Finding New Relationships

The United Arab Emirates, Sudan, Morocco, and Bahrain last year signed onto the Abraham Accords—a peace deal some call “the most significant

analysts are now watching Saudi Arabia to see if the powerful Islamic nation will follow suit with its own agreement with Israel (*Washington Post*, December 15, 2020).

Cooperation is increasing among Gulf states that have recently been at odds with each other. In early January, *Deutsche Welle* reported the claims of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman that “the Gulf states had signed an agreement on regional ‘solidarity and stability’ at a summit aimed at resolving a three-year embargo against Qatar” (January 4, 2021), noting also that he thanked the U.S. and Kuwait for their mediator roles. Now Egypt has resumed diplomatic relations with Qatar, making Egypt “the first country to officially do so under an Arab deal to end a long-running dispute” (*Reuters*, January 20, 2021). Saudi Arabia plans to reopen its embassy in Qatar, and Bahrain and Egypt have both reopened their airspace to Qatar.

How might these events impact the future of the Middle East and



Benjamin Netanyahu (Israel), Donald Trump (USA), Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani (Bahrain), and Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan (United Arab Emirates) attend the Abraham Accords ceremony at the White House

breakthrough in the Arab-Israeli conflict since the 1990s” (*Foreign Policy*, December 21, 2020). Many

the Arab nations? Bible prophecy states that at the end of the age a powerful “king of the South” will face

off against a European “king of the North,” with control of Jerusalem at stake (Daniel 11:40–43). The current efforts at cooperation could lead to the formation of the prophesied “king of the South.”

Strong Families and Workplace Success

Many articles in the popular press pit family life against work success. But a new University of Georgia study found that those with a strong family life were better managers at work (*News.UGA.edu*, January 18, 2021). The new study “found that positive interactions with your child during your off hours can make you a better leader.” The study’s lead author observed that “leaders could be more effective *because* of their family life.”

The research found that managers with strong family lives had important leadership characteristics, such as showing consideration, providing assistance, and demonstrating concern for employees. These same attributes are seen in strong family interactions. The study suggested that if companies encouraged more employee-family interaction, it could benefit both the workers and the

“bottom line” of their company. Individuals who have good relationships with their family members not only set a good example for others, but also develop character traits that enhance their leadership potential in endeavors and responsibilities outside the home.

Will North Korea Start an Arms Race?

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un recently “boasted of deploying hypersonic missiles, spy satellites,



multi-warhead intercontinental ballistic missiles and the North’s own nuclear-powered submarine” (*Deutsche Welle*, January 14, 2021). In

response, South Korean officials are contemplating developing their own nuclear-powered submarine. Analysts are concerned “that North Korea is provoking an arms race with its southern neighbor and, potentially, Japan.”

North Korea appears to be concerned about a preemptive attack by the United States and feels that nuclear submarines will give them one way to stave off such an attack. Related to its leader’s boasts about a submarine, the North Korean government has displayed what appeared

Does China-EU Trade Deal Herald Tighter Ties?



As 2020 drew to a close, the European Union and China tied up a trade deal known as the “Comprehensive Agreement on Investment”—a deal that, only a year earlier, Chinese leaders thought very unlikely (*The Diplomat*, January 4, 2021). Ultimately, the agreement seeks to level the playing field for EU investments in China. In turn, more sectors of the European economy will open up for Chinese investment.

Critics of the agreement note that the EU and China have different intentions behind their investments in each other’s nations. Under the agreement, Chinese investments in Europe will be a boon to China’s political goals (*Politico*, January 6, 2021). Meanwhile, European investments in China are almost completely focused on profit.

Bible prophecy offers some interesting insights into the future of the European economic machine and agenda. The Apostle John foretold that a future German-led European “beast” power will emerge as a powerful trading entity that will bring wealth to much of the world (see Revelation 18). Watch Europe’s global economic efforts as prophecy marches forward! TW

to be ballistic missiles designed for submarine launch (*Reuters*, January 14, 2021). Despite a severely strained North Korean economy, Kim Jong Un is still focused on continued military advancement and buildup—to the detriment of his people.

As relationships between nations deteriorate and despot nations appear more emboldened, we need to remember Jesus Christ’s admonition that “wars and rumors of wars” will abound before Christ’s return (Matthew 24:6). Yet Jesus warned that we should not become overly worried, as these events must come to pass! The world does not know the way to peace (Isaiah 59:8). It is only through the return of the “Prince of Peace” that true peace will come to this earth.

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Lately I have been receiving your free magazines and I appreciate them. Reminding me of God's goodness and sovereignty, your inspirational stories and write-ups make me even closer to Him. *Thank you* for your kind gesture of reaching out to us, especially in this time of pandemic, and for me personally, who am in my deepest "down" moments, now. God indeed used your organization to strengthen my spiritual life and [help me to] continue believing and trusting His will over the difficult trials I am facing recently. Thank you for being a blessing to people around the world. May our Almighty Father bless your organization more and more.

Subscriber in the Philippines

I know we are in rare times, and I am interested in finding a Living Church of God in my area. I have been watching *Tomorrow's World* telecasts for a while and am interested in getting in contact with a local congregation. Thank you.

Viewer in Kentucky

Editor's Note: *These are rare times, indeed! And we pray that God blesses you in your effort to seek Him. Anyone interested in speaking with a local representative of the Living Church of God, sponsor of the Tomorrow's World magazine, can contact one of our Regional Offices, listed on page 4 of this magazine, or visit our homepage at TomorrowsWorld.org and click "Meet the Church Behind TW."*

I am grateful for your program, *Tomorrow's World*. I've always experienced hatred and rejection because I always wanted to understand and know the truth and to worship God in spirit and truth. I grew up in a very legalistic church that believed and practiced traditions I can't find in the Bible. I know that I will experience more hatred and rejection, even from my loved ones.

But I always remember what Jesus said to His disciples: "If they hated Me, they will hate you also."

Reader in Australia

Reading this magazine has opened my eyes to see many things that I didn't understand. Thanks to our Creator and this group of teachers. Through the wisdom given to you, I can see more clearly those things that were once a puzzle. Thank you for remembering me when it is time to mail the magazine.

Reader in Florida

Thank you, I have enclosed a small donation. I have received so much great information and learned so much! *Tomorrow's World* is on top of everything. I am 83 years old, and I have learned far more from you than I ever did in church. You are truly a blessing. I look forward to everything I receive from you!

Subscriber in Texas

John 14:1-3 is why I cannot be a co-worker with you unless you are willing to repent. Thank you for the offer. I like your magazine, but you are leading people to hell with your Millennium teaching. Sorry but sometimes the truth hurts, but truth is truth even if we don't like it.

Subscriber in North Carolina

Editor's Note: *Thank you for writing, and you are correct; truth is truth! That's why we'd recommend that you reconsider your misunderstanding of the Bible's teaching concerning the "mansions" Christ is preparing. Properly understanding that passage helps to prove the very teaching you are decrying. To prove this for yourself, and to learn what that passage means, please request our free booklet What Happens When You Die?—available at any of the Regional Offices listed on page 4 and at our website.*

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AUSTRALIA

Nationwide 7two SU 7:00 a.m.

BARBADOS

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

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SOUTH AFRICA

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

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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.
Juneau 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 KCWO 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.
Denver KCDO SU 8:30 a.m.
Grand Junc. KJCT SU 7:00 a.m.

DC Washington DC WDCA SU 7:30 a.m.

FL Gainesville WCJB SU 8:00 a.m.
Jacksonville WCWJ SU 6:30 a.m.
Miami WBFS SU 6:30 a.m.
Ft. Lauderdale WBFS SU 7:00 a.m.
Panama City WJHG SU 8:00 a.m.
Tampa Bay WTOG SU 8:00 a.m.

GA Atlanta COW SU 9:30 a.m.
Atlanta WATL SU 10:00 a.m.
Albany WALB SU 11:00 a.m.
Augusta WAGT SU 8:00 a.m.
Columbus WLTX SU 7:30 a.m.
Columbus WXTX SU 8:30 a.m.
Macon Cox SU 5:00 p.m.
Macon Cox TU 7:30 a.m.
Macon Cox FR 2:00 p.m.

IA Des Moines KCWI SU 7:00 a.m.
Dubuque Mediacom MO 3:30 p.m.
Dubuque Mediacom MO 7:30 p.m.
Dubuque Mediacom TU 10:00 a.m.

ID Boise KYUU SU 7:00 a.m.
Idaho Falls KIFI SU 7:00 a.m.

IL Chicago WJYS SU 8:00 a.m.
Moline Mediacom MO 5:00 p.m.
Peoria WHOI SU 7:00 a.m.
Quincy 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 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 WNOI 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 WBQP SU 8:00 a.m.

MI Alpena WBAE SU 8:00 a.m.
Lansing WLJA SU 11:00 a.m.
Marquette WBKP SU 8:00 a.m.

MN Cloquet MEDLO SU 8:00 a.m.
Duluth KDLH SU 7:00 a.m.
Minneapolis MTN TH 12:00 a.m.

Minneapolis NWCT SU 7:00 a.m.
Minneapolis NWCT SU 7:00 a.m.
Minneapolis KTTT SU 7:00 a.m.
Rochester CTV WE 4:00 a.m.
Roseville CTV WE 12:00 p.m.
Roseville Nhd. Network SU 8:30 p.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 KPRL MO 6:30 a.m.

MS Biloxi WXXV SU 7:00 a.m.
Columbus WCBT SU 7:00 a.m.
Greenwood WBWO SU 7:00 a.m.
Jackson Spectrum SU 10:00 a.m.
Meridian Spectrum WE 4:00 p.m.
Meridian WTKO SU 7:00 a.m.

MT Billings KTVQ SU 7:00 a.m.
Butte KBTZ SU 7:00 a.m.
Butte KXLF SU 7:00 a.m.
Glendive KWBZ 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 SU 7:30 a.m.
Raleigh WRAX SU 7:30 a.m.

ND Fargo WDAY-TV 6 SU 7:00 a.m.
Fargo WDAY-TV 6.3 XTRA SU 7:30 a.m.

NM Albuquerque KWBQ SU 8:00 a.m.
Albuquerque KCHF MO 7:30 p.m.
Albuquerque KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.
Albuquerque KCHF MO 7:30 p.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 Spectrum FR 8:00 a.m.
Brooklyn WBNG MO 4:30 p.m.
Canandaigua BCAT SU 11:30 a.m.
Elmira Finger Lakes SU 11:30 a.m.
Oneida WENY SU 8:00 a.m.
Oneida Access TH 2:00 p.m.
Queens Access TH 7:00 p.m.
Queens Public Access MO 11:00 p.m.
Queens Public Access TU 4:30 p.m.
Riverhead Cablevision SU 7:00 p.m.
Rochester 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.
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 KOCW SU 8:00 a.m.

OR Bend KTVZ SU 8:00 a.m.
Eugene KMTV 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 WCBT SU 8:00 a.m.
Columbia WOLO SU 11:00 a.m.

SA 10:30 p.m.
SU 4:30 a.m.
SU 10:30 a.m.
SU 10:30 a.m.
WE 4:00 a.m.
WE 12:00 p.m.
SU 8:30 p.m.

SD Rapid City KWBH SU 7:00 a.m.

TN Jackson WBJK SU 7:00 a.m.
Knoxville WKXN SU 7:30 a.m.
Knoxville WKXN SU 6:00 p.m.
LaFollette WLAF WE 6:00 p.m.
Memphis WLMT SU 10:00 a.m.

TX Abilene KTXS SU 7:00 a.m.
Amarillo KVII 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 KYLE 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 KLTU SU 6:00 a.m.
Tyler KYTX SU 7:00 a.m.
Wichita Falls KAUZ SU 7:00 a.m.
Victoria KVCZ SU 7:00 a.m.

VA Charlottesville WVIR SU 8:00 a.m.
Charlottesville WE 6:30 p.m.
Charlottesville TH 6:30 p.m.
Chesterfield Comcast MO 5:30 p.m.
Fairfax Public Access FR 1:00 a.m.
Fairfax Public Access SA 10:00 a.m.
Fairfax WSKY SU 9:30 a.m.
Norfolk WWCW SU 8:30 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 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 2:00 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 WOCW SU 7:00 a.m.
Clarksburg WVFX SU 8:00 a.m.

WY Cheyenne KGWN SU 8:00 a.m.

Greenville WYCW SU 9:30 a.m.
Greenville WGGG 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.
Knoxville WKXN SU 7:30 a.m.
Knoxville WKXN SU 6:00 p.m.
LaFollette WLAF WE 6:00 p.m.
Memphis WLMT SU 10:00 a.m.

TX Abilene KTXS SU 7:00 a.m.
Amarillo KVII 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 KYLE SU 7:00 a.m.
Laredo KTXW SU 7:00 a.m.
Lubbock KLCW SU 7:00 a.m.
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Bennington CAT WE 12:00 a.m.
Bennington CAT TH 9:30 p.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.
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Burlington Access TH 11:00 a.m.

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Richland Spectrum SU 2:00 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 WOCW SU 7:00 a.m.
Clarksburg WVFX SU 8:00 a.m.

WY Cheyenne KGWN SU 8:00 a.m.

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UPCOMING TELECASTS

Seven Myths About Angels & Demons

The spirit world is very real, but most ideas of it are false. Uncover the reality behind the myths!

June 3-9

Is COVID Just the Beginning?

As disruptive as COVID-19 has been, could we soon face far more earth-shaking challenges?

June 10-16

The End of War

Will we ever see peace on this earth? Learn what must happen before it is attainable.

June 17-23

The Seven Laws of Success

When properly practiced, these living laws lead to lasting fulfillment!

June 24-30

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 Armageddon. The truth can now be told!

July 8-14

Schedule subject to change

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