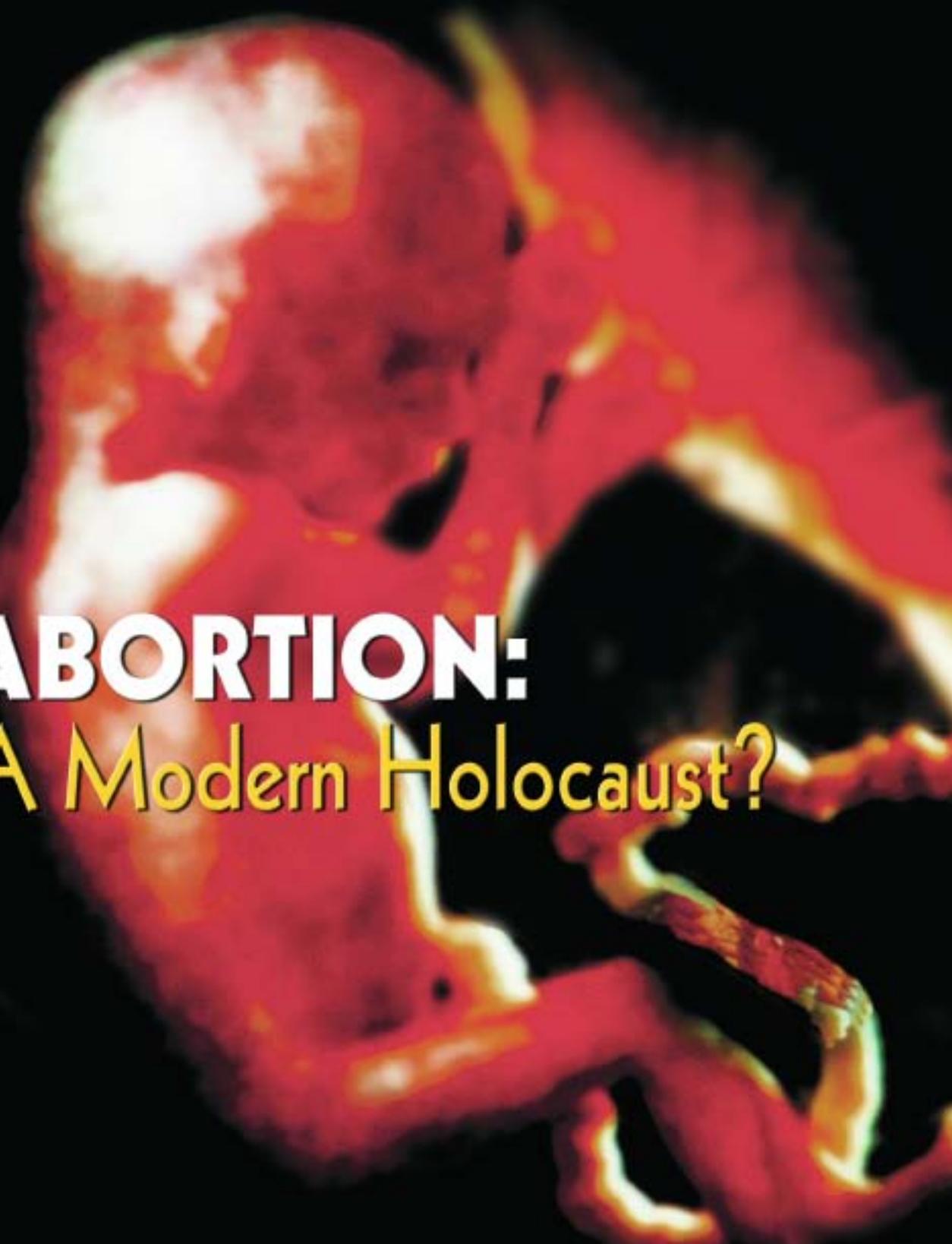


March-April 2005

# Tomorrow's World

...For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.



## **ABORTION:** A Modern Holocaust?

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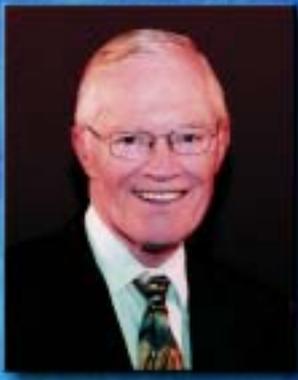
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## Personal

By Roderick C. Meredith, Editor in Chief

# Are You a Compromiser?

I grew up in a mainstream church where the word “tolerance” was often used. We were taught to be “broad-minded” and to tolerate other peoples’ beliefs and ideas. In a democratic and “multicultural” society, this approach has its merits, for people do not want someone else’s religion or other ideas forced down their throats.

But there is a *grave danger* in this approach.

Although it is good to be kind, and to be “tolerant” of others’ ideas and religions, this approach can very easily degenerate into religious confusion—into a situation where millions of people begin to assume that there *are no absolute truths*. We are at risk of reflecting the worldly cynicism that Pontius Pilate, Governor of Judah, showed when he examined Jesus Christ. When Jesus said, “Everyone who is of the **truth** hears my voice,” Pilate uttered his famous reply: “What is truth?” (John 18:37–38).

If you truly believe in the God of the Bible, you must believe that there is *absolute truth*! For the inspired Word of God clearly indicates this, again and again. Jesus Christ said: “Your Word is truth” (John 17:17).

In our desire to be “nice” or “tolerant,” we may unwittingly water down our entire concept of right and wrong. In this “tolerant” spirit, some assume that all religions are equal—that God has not revealed unique truth through His Word or through Jesus Christ. However, *if* you truly believe the Bible, you will understand that this is **wrong**. Even the Apostle Paul—whom many think of as “broadening” the Christianity that Jesus preached—gave a pointed reminder to the uncircumcised Gentiles of Ephesus, describing their condition before coming into the Truth: “At that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenant of promise, having **no hope** and *without God* in the world” (Ephesians 2:12).

How would *that* message be received in today’s “tolerant” society?

Similarly, preaching to the Jews of his day, the Apostle Peter powerfully proclaimed the uniqueness of Jesus Christ’s name and authority, stating: “This is the ‘stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.’ Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is **no other name** under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:11–12).

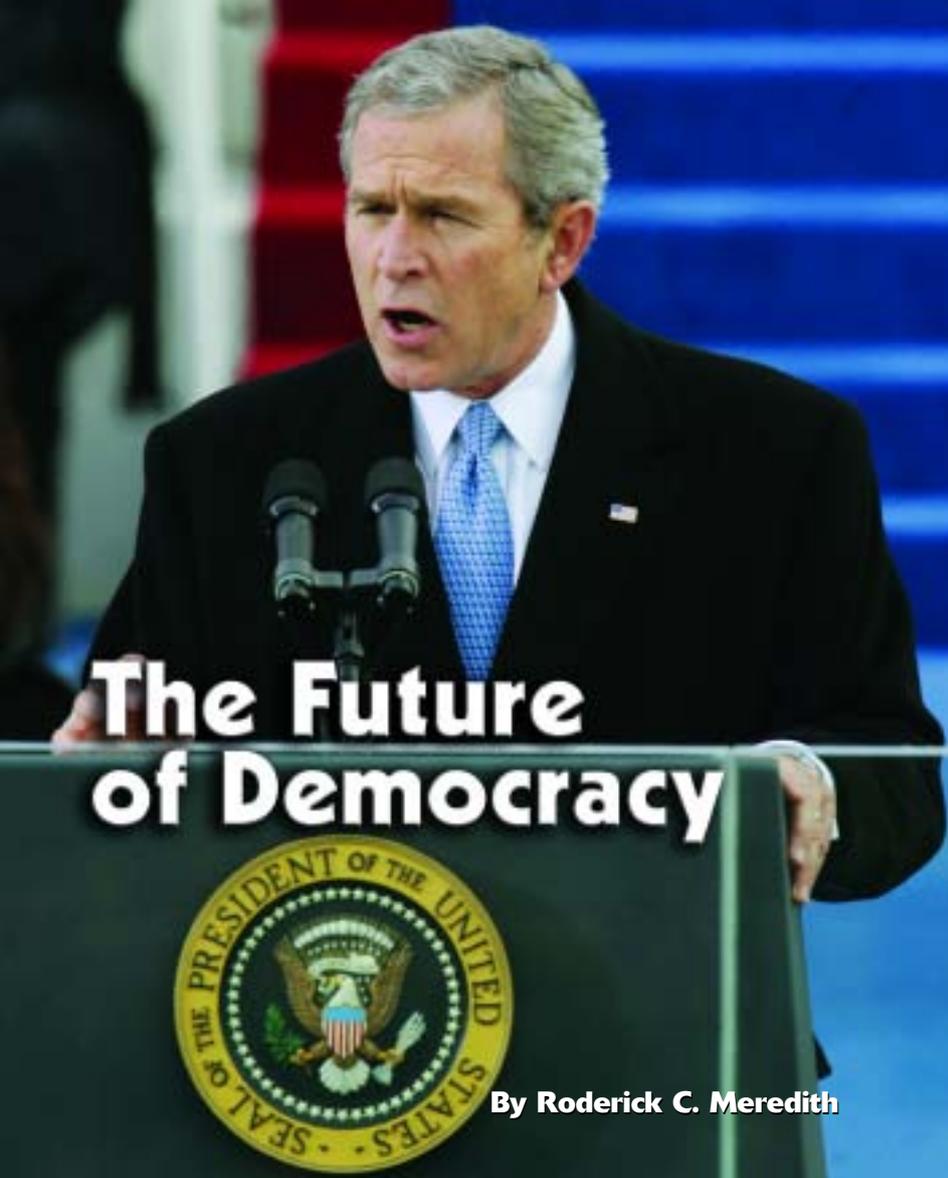
This inspired passage certainly gives no hint of “inclusivist” or “ecumenical” feeling, or that “all religions are the same.” And the Word of God repeats this point, again and again!

Millions of professing Christians attend church each Sunday, singing songs, clapping hands and wanting to “feel good” about their acceptance of the Person of Christ—at least *their idea* about Christ. Yet the *true Christ* of the Bible warns us all: “But **why** do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and **not do** the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46).

Jesus pointedly told the people of His day that He was **not** their Lord unless they *obeyed Him*: “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘**I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!**’” (Matthew 7:21–23).

In decrying lawlessness, Jesus was talking about mankind’s failure to keep God’s *spiritual* Law, the Ten Commandments. Many churches today give “lip service” to the commandments, but their members become *apoplectic* if they are reminded that the *fourth* commandment directly tells us to worship God on the *seventh* day of

**Continued on page 30**



# The Future of Democracy

By Roderick C. Meredith

In his very first press conference after last November's election, United States President George W. Bush said: "If we are interested in protecting our country for the long-term, the best way to do so is to promote freedom and democracy." In that November 8, 2004 press conference, Bush spoke of pursuing, along with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, their "vision of spreading freedom throughout the greater Middle East."

Most Americans, and millions of others in the Western world, seem pleased with this approach. In fact, many believe that American voters gave President Bush—who received the most votes ever for a President, and was the first President elected with a majority of the popular vote since 1988—at least a limited "mandate" to pursue his major goals of conquering terrorism, improving education, keeping the Social Security program solvent, and making an effort "to promote freedom and democracy" in the Middle East and around the world.

These are all worthy goals, and it would be hard not to *hope* that President Bush would achieve success in reaching them. After all, we *all* want peace in the world, financial security for the elderly and good education for young people.

But is it *realistic* to believe that President Bush will attain all of his objectives? Is it realistic to think that millions of people in the

Middle East—many of whom are Muslims unfamiliar with democracy—will all learn and successfully practice a *democratic* form of government? And with its ever increasing, *gargantuan national indebtedness*, how can we imagine that "all will be well" within not just Social Security but indeed the whole American economy—that it will sustain the affluent lifestyle to which Americans have become accustomed?

Who is *kidding* whom?

In fact, partly *because* of democracy, America is headed for a *financial catastrophe* over the next decade unless **major** changes occur! As *USA Today* pointed out in a front page article last October: "American taxpayers have a hidden debt of at least \$53 trillion in government obligations, mostly from Medicare, Social Security and the federal debt. This debt equals \$473,456 per household, dwarfing the \$84,454 in personal debt per household owed for mortgages, car loans and other borrowing. The federal government would have to double taxation or cut benefits in half immediately to make good on its promises of providing health care and pension benefits for retirees in the coming decades. Both major political parties and the presidential candidates have avoided confronting the problem for fear of angering voters" (October 4, 2004).

As the above article states, the "fear of angering voters" made it certain that *neither* candidate in the 2004 presidential campaign talked openly about the issue of America's massive indebtedness. So the voters were "kept in the dark." The voters were *not even informed* that a colossal financial "iceberg" is about to hit "Battleship America"—and possibly even sink it!

Why?

Because, in our modern "democracies" (whether pure democracies or representative republics), the politi-

cians campaigning for public office must be *very selective* about which facts to tell the voters. Generally, they must tell the public only what the people want to hear—*whether it is true or not*. If the politicians confront the public with too much reality, it is equivalent to committing *political suicide*! Additionally, the successful politicians are usually the ones who promise the most: “I’ll cut your taxes and still give you greater benefits.”

This is “democracy at work.”

However, from a historical point of view, the “game” is almost over. As Eugene Steurele, a highly respected economist at the Urban Institute in Washington, DC, stated: “It’s a game of chicken, and nobody’s moving even though we have a crash coming” (*ibid.*)

Top economists and financial experts agree about the looming catastrophe caused by our growing financial indebtedness. In the last few decades, the fiscal policy of Democratic and Republican administrations alike—from President Lyndon Johnson and his “Great Society” to the current President Bush—has contributed to the risk of the U.S. soon facing *total bankruptcy*. And the American people have certainly been complicit in this. For the public wants *more* and *more*. People will *vote*—in our “democratic” system—for the politician who promises the most “goodies,” even though he completely avoids telling the public *how* he plans to pay for them.

## **We Must LEARN From History**

In his informative book, *America the Broke*, economist Gerald J. Swanson explains: “History teaches that, sooner or

later, all great nations perish. According to eighteenth-century Scottish historian Alexander Tytler, the average life span of leading civilizations is just 200 years. If true, the United States, at 200-plus years, may be living on borrowed time. Yes, we are still the world’s undisputed superpower. But we are frittering away the economic strength that supports our dominance. In a very short time, we could go from being a superpower to becoming super-powerless. Tytler foresaw the explanation for our present plight. ‘A democracy is always temporary in nature,’ he wrote. ‘It simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government,’ because, sooner or later, ‘voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the Public Treasury. From that moment on,’ Tytler observed, ‘the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the Public Treasury, with the result that every democracy will always collapse due to loose fiscal policy’.... Alexander Tytler, whose ideas are sadly neglected these days, made another observation worth pondering. Since the Athenian Republic two millennia ago, he wrote, all democracies have progressed through the same stages: ‘From bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to selfishness; from selfishness to complacency; from complacency to apathy; from apathy to dependence; from dependence back again into bondage.’”

*All democracies pass through these stages? Most Americans are not aware of this. Most Americans pay very little attention to history. For we want “fun” and we want it now!*

“But *really*,” most Americans will say, “in spite of all these potential problems, isn’t democracy the best and safest form of government?”

Certainly democracy has proven itself a better form of government than communism or fascist dictatorship. As Sir Winston Churchill said, speaking in the British House of Commons: “No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time” (November 11, 1947).

Sir Winston certainly knew that modern democracy is a relatively *new* phenomenon. For thousands of years, nations all over the world got along without it. Many successful nations and empires thrived for hundreds of years without practicing democracy. But millions of younger Americans, Britons and Canadians perhaps just *assume* that a nation has to practice democracy in order to be wealthy and strong. Our booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*, thoroughly explains that the American and British-descended peoples became wealthy and powerful because Almighty God has specifically *blessed* them in these latter days, to fulfill His promise to the patriarch Abraham. Be sure to request and *study* this eye-opening booklet if you have not already done so. It will be sent absolutely *free* upon your request.

## **The American Experiment**

The American “experiment with democracy”—as it was called for many years—has been successful primarily because of

this magnificent promise of national greatness that God has fulfilled. However, an *additional* reason for America's success is its founding fathers, who have been described as a most unusual group of men, *uniquely qualified* to establish and carry on the type of government America now has. George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin and many other of the original American leaders were extremely intelligent, highly educated and thoroughly familiar with English common law and the *principles* upon which American democracy was built.

Therefore, *totally unlike* the vast masses of uneducated people in the Middle East, for instance, who have *never* had any experience with these institutions, these men were able to establish the kind of government we now have and make it successful. Many of our own early leaders *deeply understood* that not just any people, anywhere, could make democracy successful. In fact, John Adams, the second President of the U.S., stated: "We have no government armed with the power capable of contending with human passions, unbridled by morality and true religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

What constitutes a "moral and religious people"? Millions of Muslims in the Middle East feel that "American democracy" has generated and is now exporting wretched films, magazines and music that glorify illicit sex and violence, tear down the family structure and other institutions, and even *blaspheme* God.

*It is hard to argue with that!*

Although democracy *appears* to give the people what the majority want, in practice it often turns out that a *small* select group of people actually control the government. George Will is one of the most highly respected columnists and news analysts in America, and has written of his fears that America is becoming a "judgocracy"—that activist judges are *taking away* legislators' power to write laws, and are instead *pronouncing* laws based upon their own political persuasions. This has been happening repeatedly in recent years, even to the great consternation of President Bush and other leaders.

Author Gene Edward Veith commented about this very matter: "This puts conservatives at a significant disadvantage. Liberal jurists can throw out laws they do not like, while insisting that people follow the laws they do like to the letter. This puts conservative jurists, who on principle follow all laws, at their mercy. This judicial stranglehold leads to constitutional crisis. When courts make laws—and not the people or their elected representatives—we have passed from democracy to oligarchy. When the courts are no longer bound by the Constitution, then their power is unbounded" (*World*, September 11, 2004).

Regarding "oligarchy," U.S. House of Representatives member Bernard Sanders (I-VT) wrote: "Oligarchy refers not just to the unfair distribution of wealth, but to the fact that the decisions that shape our consciousness and affect our lives are made by a very small and powerful group of people. The mass media (television, radio, newspapers, magazines, publishers, movie and video com-

panies), for example, are largely controlled by a few multinational corporations that determine the news and programming we see, hear and read—and, ultimately, what we believe. While violence, scandal, horror, sports and Rush Limbaugh are given much attention, we are provided with virtually no in-depth analysis of the problems facing working people or their possible solutions. Economic decisions that wreck the lives of millions of American families are made by a handful of CEOs. While these corporate leaders bemoan the breakdown of 'morality' and 'law and order,' they

**What constitutes a "moral and religious people" who watch wretched films, magazines and music?**

close down profitable companies, cut wages and benefits, deny retired workers their pensions and transport our jobs to Third World countries. American workers, who have often given decades of their lives to these companies, have absolutely no say as to what happens to them on the job. They are powerless and expendable, which is what oligarchy is all about."

So, again, who is kidding whom?

America is not only in danger of becoming a "judgocracy" because of the activist judges changing our entire way of life. We are also increasingly becoming an "oligarchy" because of the domination of our thinking, our corporations and many facets of our lives by a *very small* and very powerful group of people. Although this is **not** what the "founding fathers" envisioned, it is what the U.S. is swiftly becoming.

Therefore, *why* should we possibly imagine that an

American type of government ought to be imposed on the primarily uneducated masses of the Middle East—who have *no familiarity whatsoever* with this form of government or with democratic institutions, and who are often opposed to democracy on very strong religious grounds?

## Democracy for Muslim Nations?

Professor Bernard Lewis is widely regarded as one of the most respected historians and analysts of the Middle East and its problems. In his landmark volume,

representatives, [the Islamist religious leaders]” (p. 111).

Many religious Muslims see the very practice of democracy as an act of turning against God. So they are often *violently* opposed to it, and will fight to the death to stop the continuing practice of any sort of genuine democracy, though they may use “democracy”—the act of voting—for a short time if it allows them to overthrow the current regime and set up in its place an Islamic republic which then becomes a *totally* undemocratic and dictatorial regime!

In view of the problems associated with democracy, *is there a*

*ribly neglected* by most professing ministers of Jesus Christ, one of the primary emphases of Jesus’ message was the coming *Government of God*. As the Apostle Peter preached the Gospel, he spoke of “Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the **times of restoration** of all things which God has spoken by the mouth of **all** His holy prophets since the world began” (Acts 3:20–21).

Jesus told the Apostles: “And I bestow upon you a **kingdom**, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit

**people”? Millions of Muslims in the Middle East feel that “American democracy” has generated and is now exporting that glorify illicit sex and violence, tear down the family structure and other institutions, and even blaspheme God.**

*The Crisis of Islam*, he describes the dangers of trying to impose democracy on Muslims, and how Islamic fundamentalist regimes have often come into power through democracy and voting: “Similar problems arise in Egypt, in Pakistan, and in some other Muslim countries where it seems likely that a genuinely free and fair election would result in an Islamist victory. In this, the democrats are of course at a disadvantage. Their ideology requires them, even when in power, to give freedom and rights to the Islamist opposition. The Islamists, when in power, are under no such obligation. On the contrary, their principles require them to suppress what they see as impious and subversive activities. For Islamists, democracy, expressing the will of the people, is the road to power, but it is a one-way road, on which there is no return, no rejection of the sovereignty of God, as exercised through His chosen repre-

*better way*? Is there a better form of government that would bring real and *lasting* peace, prosperity and well-being for the inhabitants of this earth?

Yes!

That, in fact, is what the “Gospel” of Jesus Christ is all about! For Jesus Christ came to this earth not only to die as our Savior, but to bring the **Good News** of the coming **Government of God** that will soon be set up on this earth and bring *peace* and **joy** to all humanity! “Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel’” (Mark 1:14–15).

## The Soon-Coming Government of God

The word “kingdom” means *government*. And although it is *ter-*

on **thrones** judging the twelve tribes of Israel” (Luke 22:29–30). So the Apostles will be given thrones upon which to sit and rule over the twelve nations of Israel in Tomorrow’s World. They will be *assisting* Jesus Christ in ruling and carrying out *righteous judgment*. For after the “seventh trumpet” is sounded, “the **kingdoms** of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall **reign** for ever and ever” (Revelation 11:15).

In Revelation 19:16, we find that one of Jesus’ titles is: “**King of kings and Lord of lords**.” So Jesus will be *King of* the other kings who will be ruling under Him and helping Him manage the affairs of the entire earth. As Daniel was inspired to tell us: “Then the **kingdom** and dominion, and the greatness of the **kingdoms** under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His **kingdom** is an everlasting kingdom,

and all dominions shall serve and obey Him” (Daniel 7:27).

In the parable of the minas (or “pounds,” as the *King James Version* has it), Jesus described how the “overcomers” will be granted ruling **authority** over cities in the coming Government of God. The servant whose mina had become ten minas came to Jesus and was told: “Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, *have authority over ten cities.*” And the second came saying, ‘Master,

you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life? If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed by the church to judge? I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren?”

Notice that in God’s Church, Christians should learn to

a thousand years” (Revelation 20:6). And in Revelation 5:9–10, we read the “song of the saints” praising Christ and saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us *kings* and *priests* to our God; and we shall **reign** on the earth.”

Throughout the entire Bible, it is made very clear that there will be *no* “democracy” and *no*

**Throughout the entire Bible, it is made very clear that there will be *no* “democracy” and *no* “voting” in Christ’s Government. For as we read in Hebrews 13:8: “Christ is the *same* yesterday, today and forever.”**

your mina has earned five minas.’ Likewise He said to him, ‘You also be **over** five cities” (Luke 19:16–19). The true saints of Jesus Christ, who understand and are willing to genuinely *obey* His teachings, are now “in training” to become kings and priests under Jesus Christ in His coming Kingdom. As Jesus promised His followers: “And he who **overcomes**, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—‘He shall **rule** them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’—as I also have received from My Father” (Revelation 2:26–27).

The Apostle Paul was inspired to describe how true Christians should now be preparing to assist Christ in *ruling* this world. Please read carefully this New Testament instruction in 1 Corinthians 6:1–5: “Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints? Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by

“judge” the different problems that come up between them—*not* resort to dragging a brother before a worldly court. Then Paul reminds us that “*the saints will judge the world*” and thus should learn to judge the human difficulties and arguments that arise among ourselves.

*All through this passage*, Paul is clearly telling Christians that their future responsibility is to judge the world, and even to “judge angels” (v. 3). **Why** are professing Christians *not being taught* that *this* is their actual goal? The genuine future of true Christians is to assist Christ in **ruling** this earth—*not* floating off to heaven with *nothing to do!*

### **The REAL Future Government**

The Apostle John tells us in God’s inspired word: “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall **reign** with Him

“voting” in Christ’s Government. For as we read in Hebrews 13:8: “Christ is the *same* yesterday, today and forever.”

As the “Rock of Israel” (1 Corinthians 10:4), Christ guided Moses to *appoint* the leaders under him in governing the entire nation of Israel: “Moreover you shall **select** from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens” (Exodus 18:21). This was definitely practiced through all the history of ancient Israel.

When Samuel was told to select a king to replace Saul (who had disqualified himself), he was tempted to anoint one of David’s older brothers who looked more impressive. But Christ explained why this was wrong: “For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, *but the LORD looks at the heart*” (1 Samuel 16:7).

**Continued on page 27**

# Questions & Answers

**Q** In Isaiah 26:14, the prophet Isaiah seems to indicate that the dead will not be resurrected. However, we know that Jesus Christ taught the hope of the resurrection. To what, then, was Isaiah referring?

**A** The Bible in many places describes the resurrection (see 1 Corinthians 15:50–54; 1 Thessalonians 4:13–17; John 5:28–29; Revelation 20). However, Scripture also explains that a time will come when the incorrigibly wicked will be burned up, never to be resurrected again (Malachi 4:3; Revelation 21:8; Revelation 20:4–15). Therefore, when Isaiah describes the dead not being resurrected, he is describing the future condition of the incorrigible.

Isaiah wrote: “They are dead, they will not live; they are deceased. They will not rise. Therefore You have punished and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish” (Isaiah 26:14). Understanding the context of Isaiah’s words will help us understand the identity of these incorrigible ones.

In Isaiah 24:1, God says: “Behold the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, distorts its surface and scatters abroad its inhabitants.” Notice, also, that the “inhabi-

tants of the earth are burned (v. 6)—culminating in a great earthquake (vv. 19–20). Here, Isaiah is describing the “day of the Lord”—the day of God’s “wrath and fierce anger” when He will shake heaven and earth (Isaiah 13:13; Joel 3:16). This is the same “day of the Lord” that Jesus Christ describes in Revelation 16, during which seven “bowls” of divine judgment will be poured out on unrepentant mankind.

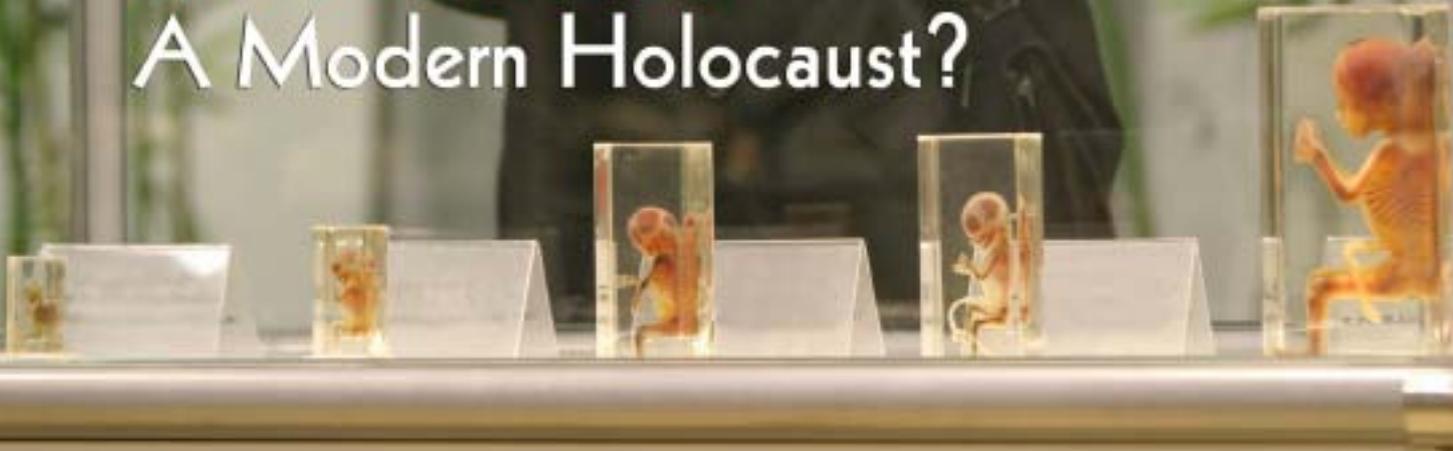
Notice further the end-time context of Isaiah’s prophecy: “It will come to pass in that day that the LORD will punish on high the **host of exalted ones**, And on the earth the kings of the earth. They will be gathered in the pit, and will be shut up in the prison” (Isaiah 24:21–22). Could these “exalted ones” be Satan and his demons, who have deceived and held captive all nations throughout the course of human history? Yes, indeed (see Isaiah 14:12–17; Revelation 12:9; Revelation 20:1–3)!

The Apostle Paul clearly identifies the “host of exalted ones,” calling them the “rulers of darkness of this age” and “spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12). Satan and his demons, at the end of this age, will be delivered into “chains of darkness” (2 Peter 2:4). They will be shut up in *tartarus* (a Greek word meaning “place of

restraint”), until their time of judgment (Jude 6, 13). God will also punish “the kings of the earth” (Isaiah 24:21). This will occur when the Beast and the False Prophet will be thrown alive into the Lake of Fire (Revelation 19:20)—and all others that fight Jesus Christ at His return will be killed and given to birds to consume (Revelation 19:21).

It is significant that the word “they” in Isaiah 26:14 refers to the “masters besides You” who “have had dominion over us,” mentioned in verse 13. Indeed, these end time “masters”—the Beast and False Prophet—will be burned up in the Lake of Fire reserved for the incorrigible. “They are dead, they will not live; they are deceased, they will not rise.” The incorrigible Beast and False Prophet will not be resurrected after they are sent into the Lake of Fire; they will be dead forever. As the *Amplified Version* renders it: “They are dead, they shall not live and reappear; they are powerless... they shall not rise and come back. Therefore, you have visited and made an end of them, and caused every memorial of them to perish.” This could only occur if the Beast and False Prophet, burned up in the Lake of Fire, were completely annihilated forever, never experiencing the resurrection to which all true Christians look forward.

# ABORTION: A Modern Holocaust?



By Douglas S. Winnail

## What is the real significance of the abortion controversy?

In the last 40 years, the subject of abortion has erupted on the world stage and provoked international controversy—polarizing people, dividing countries and setting churches against states. Zealous supporters of abortion, calling themselves “pro-choice,” debate and demonstrate with passion and zeal, countered by equally zealous opponents of abortion, calling themselves “pro-life.” Confrontations between these two perspectives are often emotional and bitter, sometimes becoming violent—or even fatal! Battle lines have been drawn. One observer noted that “few issues have more thoroughly fragmented contemporary society” (*The Ethics of Abortion*, Baird & Rosenbaum, p. 7).

To understand this emotion-charged issue, it is helpful to know *why* abortion has emerged as such a controversial topic in our time, and to recognize what is *ultimately* at stake. Even more important is the question: *where* is the acceptance of abortion leading our society?

Why has abortion become a controversial issue in many countries of the world today? For centuries, abortion was scorned or forbidden in many countries around the globe. Yet in the last half of the 20th century, abortion was not merely accepted—it was embraced! With the declining influence of Judeo-Christian values, and the resulting rejection of biblical morality, many turned to permissive sexual

behavior, and “reproductive rights” became a rallying cry as women abandoned traditional gender roles and sexually promiscuous men sought pleasure without any regard for the consequences. Simultaneously, amid fears of global overpopulation, governments began to subsidize—and sometimes even to *require*, as in China—abortion as a means of “birth control.”

More than in most countries, the United States is divided on the issue of abortion, as many still respect biblical standards of morality. In Europe, abortion is a far less volatile issue, as only about 10 percent of the population attends church services regularly, compared to nearly half in the U.S.

### A Global Concern

In the U.S., pro-life activists are motivated by the magnitude of the abortion problem, yet the problem is even greater worldwide. Since the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion with the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973, approximately 1.5 million abortions have been done every year—for a total of more than 40 million young lives snuffed out! More than six million babies have been killed in Britain since abortion was legalized there in 1967. In the former Soviet Union and East Bloc countries, the majority of pregnancies are terminated by abortion. In China, where

abortion was legalized in 1957, more than 100 million abortions have occurred in the last four decades. In 1979, China adopted a “one child” policy, severely restricting most parents’ opportunity to have a second child. With the development of ultrasound technology (through which parents can learn the gender of a child in the womb) has come the phenomenon of “sex-selective” abortions, in which families restricted to one child will kill their unborn daughters so that they can have a boy. Not surprisingly, observers note that the current generation of young urban Chinese includes noticeably more men than women!

In many countries—especially across Africa and Latin America—abortions are routinely done under conditions so unsafe that the mother is at grave risk of complications and suffering, or even death.

Around the world, it is estimated that between 40 and 50 million abortions occur annually (see *The Abortion Debate*, Kulczycki, p. 5). This means that about one in every four pregnancies are ended by induced abortion—poisoned, dismembered or suctioned out and discarded!

In Germany, during World War II, Adolf Hitler’s Nazi movement killed an estimated six million Jews in what has become known as the Holocaust. After the war, those responsible for this barbaric act of cruelty were tried and convicted of crimes against humanity, and a morally outraged world saw them hanged for their crimes. Today, however, tens of millions of unborn babies die every year—many in the very same nations that sat in judgment at Nuremberg.

It is no wonder that many today call widespread abortion a *modern holocaust*. The mass murder of unborn babies, legal and socially acceptable in our modern nations, has exceeded by far the numbers killed in Germany under the Nazis, in Russia under Stalin, in China under Mao Zedong and in Cambodia under Pol Pot—yet few today are shocked or outraged! In fact, those who speak out against abortion are commonly labeled as backward and right-wing religious fanatics.

## Clouded by Arguments

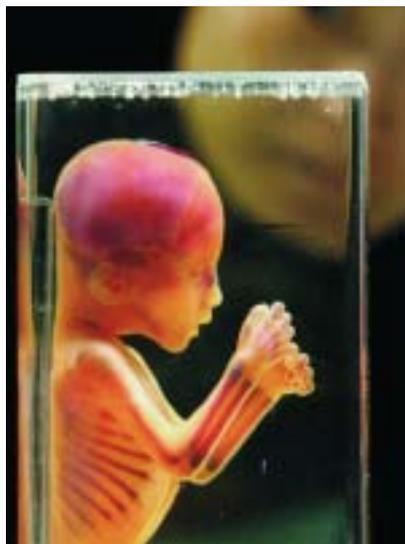
But *how* did we reach a point where modern, educated people—with a heritage of Christian values that regard abortion as illegal and immoral—now accept and even demand that abortion be recognized as a legal right? The answer lies in the arguments used by pro-abortionists, which cloud the real issues at the heart of the controversy. When examined closely, these arguments—though labeled “intellectual” and “progressive”—are revealed as shallow and one-sided, willfully ignoring basic facts of biology.

Pro-abortionists commonly argue that in the early stages of pregnancy a developing embryo is not really a human life, as it is only a “blob of tissue” that looks more like a tadpole than a human being. In

fact, however, this differentiating collection of cells is developing in a way that will *never* result in a tadpole, or a tree or a monkey! By 10 to 12 weeks, this little individual will have a recognizable human face, arms, hands and fingers, legs, feet and toes. It appears to smile and suck its thumb, and it even responds to sounds! It is a miniature human being. Just because it does not *appear* human in the early weeks of development does not make it a “sub-human” creature!

Pro-abortionists like to cloud the issue of when life begins. They have argued that life does not begin until movement is felt, or the first breath is drawn, or until the fetus is viable on its own, to justify that abortion before these milestones is not really taking a human life. However, the *biological* fact is that life begins at the moment

of conception. From that point, every cell in the developing embryo contains the exact number of chromosomes and all the genetic material that distinguishes this new human being from its parents. Some say that the fetus is just an organ—a part of the mother’s body like the appendix or a hangnail—and that it is up to the mother to decide if she wants it removed. However, from conception a fetus has a *different genetic makeup* from any organ in the mother’s body. Terminating this life by abortion takes the life of a genetically unique individual. Biologically, it is impossible to draw a line and say life begins *at any other*



**Plastinated fetuses at a Body Worlds exhibition in Beijing, China, at 22 weeks old (above) and from nine weeks to 22 weeks (top left), document the growth and development of human life in the womb.**

point than at conception. The fetus moves in the womb weeks before the mother feels any movement. While a fetus cannot survive on its own outside the mother's body, neither can a baby survive on its own after it is born! It must also be fed, nurtured and cared for by others for years before it can survive on its own.

Pro-abortionists have suggested that legal abortions, by reducing the number of "unwanted" pregnancies, reduce the incidence of child abuse since every child born will be wanted and loved. However, since abortion became legal, the incidence of child abuse has increased!

The argument that abortion must be legal in order to provide for cases of rape, incest or detectable birth defects ignores the fact that these reasons account for only a small fraction of abortions occurring today (see chart). Many abortions occur among sexually active adolescents for purely personal (and often selfish) reasons (Kulczycki, p. 1). Abortions on demand—"killing for convenience"—are frequently requested to avoid the responsibilities or embarrassment of unwanted conceptions (*Slouching Towards Gomorrah*, Bork, p. 180).

Noted jurist Robert Bork points out that the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision, legalizing abortion, was viewed by feminists as a "landmark on women's *march to equality*... the issue had nothing to do with the humanity of the fetus but was entirely about women's freedom" (Bork, p. 183). The pro-abortion argument likes to focus on a woman's rights—*unless the woman is in her mother's womb!*

## Historical Perspectives

Supporters of abortion rarely consider the lessons of history. In ancient pagan Greece and Rome, unwanted infants were exposed to the elements and left to die. Abortion was an accepted practice, and a variety of methods were available. Plato and Aristotle advocated abortion to limit family size. Although Roman law was pro-family, it was not anti-abortion. The decline of Rome saw an increase of crime, promiscuity—and abortion. Christianity, by contrast, forbade murder and taught that life was sacred, challenging pagan values and bringing about what some have called the "first abortion war" (see *Christianity Today*, October 6, 1989). This clash between Christian and pagan values (visible not only in Scripture, but in the early Church Fathers) shaped the anti-abortion attitudes of Western civilization for centuries.

Another "abortion war" erupted in the 1850s, when across the U.S. abortion began to gain new popularity, spurred by new values shaped by the Industrial Revolution. Medical doctors, however, backed restrictive laws to curtail abortions by unqualified practitioners, which also had the effect of limiting competition.

In the 1930s, Nazi Germany passed laws making it legal to kill the old and infirm. This principle was later extended to allow the murder of Jews, gypsies and other "unwanted" members of society. Nazi Germany actually restricted abortion, however, of those whose genetics were considered socially desirable.

It was not until the middle of the 20th century that the "abortion wars" reached their zenith. In the 1960s and 1970s, the U.S. and U.K. followed the examples set by China and the Soviet Union, legalizing abortion. Centuries-old value systems were now being replaced by *ancient pagan values of life* in many nominally "Christian" nations around the world.

Fifty years ago, decent people were outraged to learn that Nazi doctors had experimented on living human beings for "scientific" purposes, and had harvested body parts for commercial use. Today, few are concerned that human tissue from aborted fetuses is even used in making face creams! How society has changed! Since abortion and euthanasia were legalized in Holland, estimates suggest that 8 percent of infants who die each year in the Netherlands *are killed by doctors!* One observer commented that "it took the Dutch almost 30 years for their medical practices to fall to the point that Dutch doctors are able to engage in the kind of euthanasia activities that got some German doctors hanged after Nuremberg."

## The Biblical Dimension

The historical dimension of the abortion controversy is sobering. But what about the moral question? Is abortion right or wrong? What does the Bible say?

The Apostle Paul wrote: "But if anyone does not provide for his own [family]... he has denied the faith" (1 Timothy 5:8). Would anyone argue that a Christian can provide for a family member by killing him? Remember: one of the Ten Commandments specifically condemns murder (Exodus 20:13). In other words, any birth control method that induces abortion is wrong.

Moses warned the Israelites not to practice the wicked customs of their Canaanite neighbors—which included infanticide—the killing of children.

# Children of Carthage

He instructed: "You shall not learn to follow the *abominations* of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire... for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods" (Deuteronomy 18:9-14; 12:31).

King David described that the Israelites *angered* God because they "sacrificed their sons and daughters to demons [false gods], and *shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and daughters*" (Psalms 106:32-39). The prophet Ezekiel thundered God's warning that, having forgotten God, they had "*slain My children... blood is on their hands. They have... sacrificed their sons whom they have born to Me, passing them through the fire, to devour them*" (Ezekiel 16:21; 23:37).

In direct defiance of God's instructions, ancient Israel had adopted barbaric pagan practices of child killing! In response, the prophet Jeremiah warned: "*Also on your skirts is found the blood of the lives of the poor innocents... Behold, I will bring such a catastrophe on this place, that whoever hears of it, his ears will tingle, because they have forsaken Me... therefore behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, that this place shall no more be called Tophet or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom [where children were sacrificed], but the Valley of Slaughter [when God uses foreign nations to punish His people for killing their own*

Today's nations should learn a grim lesson from the way children were treated in ancient Carthage, and from the fate that befell the city. In 300BC, Carthage was the center of a rich trading empire, and was a rival of Rome. Its citizens were wealthy, cultured and educated, yet remarkably callous about taking human life. Unwanted orphans and widows were killed "to reduce the amount of poverty and suffering in the city" (*When Nations Die*, Black, p. 164). Carthaginians burned thousands of their own children to appease their patron goddess, Tanet. Ancient writers report that frequent public sacrifices "took place in front of a bronze statue of the god, with arms outstretched over a blazing fire; the child slid down over the arms and fell" into the flames (*The Phoenicians and the West*, Aubet, p. 211). The necropolis at Carthage contains more than 20,000 urns with charred remains of infants and children. This gruesome practice finally ended when the Romans besieged and destroyed Carthage in 146BC.

Historian Jim Nelson Black wondered *how* the murder of unborn children in modern societies is any different from the murder of children in ancient

Carthage? He asked: "Isn't the rite of abortion our culture's sacrifice to the gods of materialism and greed? The Phoenicians killed many thousands of children... But in the entire history of Carthage or of Rome, they never killed 30 million in the name of "a woman's right to control her own body" (Black, p. 166).

The media lavished much attention on the famous Roman Catholic nun, Mother Teresa, but only infrequently reported her stinging rebukes of contemporary society. Mother Teresa likened abortion to "a war against the child, a direct killing of the innocent child, murder by the mother herself. And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another?... Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching its people to love, but to use any violence to get what they want. This is why the greatest destroyer of peace and love is abortion" (*ibid.*, pp. 214-215).

Carthage continued its barbaric practice of murdering children until the day it was destroyed. Will our society today, which permits far greater evil, do the same?

—Douglas S. Winnail

## Killing for Convenience

### Reasons given for abortion:

Having a baby will change my life . . . . .	76 percent
Cannot afford a baby now . . . . .	68 percent
Want to avoid single parenthood . . . . .	51 percent
Unready for responsibility . . . . .	31 percent
Don't want others to know of pregnancy . . . . .	31 percent
Not mature enough to have a child . . . . .	30 percent
Fetus has a health problem . . . . .	7 percent
Woman was victim of rape or incest . . . . .	1 percent

(*Family Planning Perspectives*, July/August 1988, pp. 169-170)

Continued on page 29

# TOMORROW

## *Who Decides Right from Wrong?*

Doing right and forsaking wrong has always been a challenge. But for today's youth, even knowing the difference between the two is a monumental challenge. Sadly, this problem is not confined to youth—and when adults cannot give an adequate defense of moral truth, is it any wonder that their children are left in a moral “no man's land” between right and wrong? Note the following from *The Barna Update* (November 3, 2003):

Of the ten moral behaviors evaluated, a majority of Americans believed that each of three activities were morally acceptable. Those included gambling (61 percent), cohabitation [living together before marriage] (60 percent), and sexual fantasies (59 percent). Nearly half of the adult population felt that two other behaviors were morally acceptable: having an abortion [murdering one's own unborn child] (45 percent) and having a sexual relationship with someone of the opposite sex other than their spouse [adultery] (42 percent).

Barna went on to report that co-habitation is considered acceptable by 49 percent—nearly half—of those who call themselves “born-again Christians.” This is a clear indication that moral relativism has become mainstream, and is replacing God as the arbiter of right and wrong. In the Western nations, the majority no longer believes that God defines an objective and absolute truth for everyone. Instead, most believe that individuals define their own truths, which are subjective and situational. Which view is correct? How can you know? Are modern social philosophers correct when they assert that truth is different for each person—that there are no absolutes and that there is no objective truth? Or is there an objective moral truth, revealed by an absolute Creator God, applicable for all peoples and all generations?

Many have not realized that the Bible provides an objective way of knowing the answer. The words of that remarkable book tell us that truth is objective, absolute and the same for all peoples and generations (Psalm 117; 100:5; 119:30). Moreover, it teaches us *how* we can *prove* this to be true.

Jesus warned: “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but

inwardly they are ravenous wolves” (Matthew 7:15). Secular false prophets have sought to “liberate” mankind from what they may call “oppression” or “repression”—but, if we are honest, we must admit that what they seek to liberate us from is God's law, as defined in the Bible! These “liberators,” however, have a problem, as the Apostle Peter explained: “For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who... live in error. While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage” (2 Peter 2:18–19).

Jesus Christ taught us how to tell the difference between a false prophet and one proclaiming the truth: “You will know them by their fruits” (see Matthew 7:15–20). In our scientific age, if an experiment produced failure again and again, the result would be noted and the experiment abandoned. Why, then, do modern social engineers refuse to acknowledge the failure of so many of their social experiments—and, in fact, continue to promote their failed ideas?

Freud, Kinsey, and a choir of similar secular prophets

# W'S YOUTH

have preached a message of freedom from sexual restraint. For decades, their disciples have continued to philosophize, reason, experiment, ridicule and preach against God's laws of sexual purity. If, as they have said, we will only be free if we cast off all restraint, why do we see so much heartache, suffering and death as a result of following their misguided amorality? If we follow the scientific method, evaluating the results of their experiments, what should be our logical conclusion? Any sincere and objective observer can see from experience that when a society gives itself over to licentious behavior, the following results occur: sexually transmitted diseases, unwanted babies, mixed-up and confused family arrangements and dysfunctional children—and death from suicide, disease and murderous “love” triangles.

Can a man truly call himself “liberated” when his body is carrying an incurable sexually transmitted disease? Does a woman know what it means to be “free” while she lives with the guilt of having murdered her own helpless unborn baby? And where is the liberty for the innocent children who are affected by their parents’ “freedom”? Some live with blindness or other birth defects as a result of sexually transmitted diseases. Others grow up knowing only one parent—or per-

haps three or four—because of their parents’ failure to sustain a healthy and loving marriage.

Compared to the law of God, personal definitions of truth are inadequate. As author Josh McDowell points out: “In the minds of our youth, love makes sex ‘right.’ They believe that true love makes sex perfectly moral—even beautiful. I happen to believe they’re right—love is the biblical standard for sex. The problem... is our youth’s counterfeit standard of love—one that says love permits sex without boundaries, outside God’s definition of love” (*Right from Wrong*, p. 152).

In today’s society, old and young alike tend to think of love as an emotion or feeling that one experiences, rather than a sincere outgoing concern that one practices for another. With a misguided definition of “love,” it is a short step to other errors. “Love” with no boundaries confuses the definition and purpose of marriage. “Over half of our youth define marriage and family in fluid, nebulous terms... seven in ten (69 percent) define family as ‘people living together,’ or ‘people sharing the same goals and values,’ **definitions that require no commitment, no risk**” (*ibid.*, p. 187, emphasis ours).

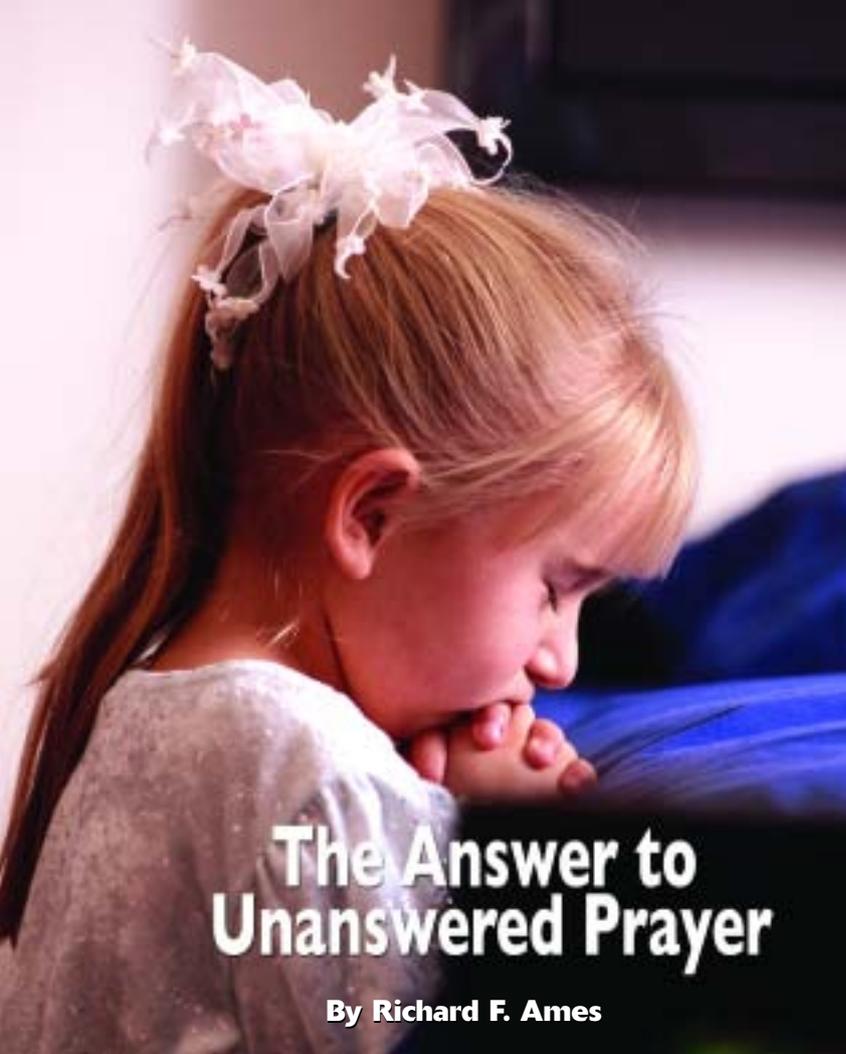
Surprisingly, many religious leaders have encouraged this wrong mentality, promoting love without law, when they

assert that God’s commandments have been “done away” and replaced by “the law of love.” When people define “love” in their own terms, rather than by God’s law, the biblical parameters for sexuality—and indeed for truth itself—quickly become lost. Is it any wonder that so many children become casualties of a world that does not know where to look for the answers to life’s most important questions?

God is no prude. He created sex as a wonderful gift to be enjoyed, in marriage, between a man and a woman who have committed their lives to one another publicly. He knows that love is more wonderful when saved for that one special person. He declared from the beginning that becoming husband and wife precedes becoming one flesh (Genesis 2:24), and that marriage “is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge” (Hebrews 13:4).

More and more young people now recognize that today’s society has “blown it,” and are seeking a better way. They have seen the consequences of modern immorality and are saying, “No thanks!” They are looking for others who want to live by God’s higher standards, are searching Scripture for solid provable truth and are putting into practice *today* the way of God’s kingdom.

—Gerald Weston



## The Answer to Unanswered Prayer

By Richard F. Ames

*Do you pray often? When you pray, do you expect an answer?*

**M**ore than 40 percent of Americans say that their prayers are “answered often,” according to a *U.S. News & World Report* poll released in December 2004. Just 1.5 percent say that their prayers are “never” answered. Nearly two-thirds—64 percent—say that they pray at least once per day.

Are your prayers often answered? If not, why not? Is there something you can do to make it likely—or even certain—that God will answer your prayers? Your Bible reveals the answer to this vital question.

First, we should ask: is God capable of answering even the most unlikely prayer? Here is what the Apostle Paul wrote: “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly *above all that we ask or think*, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:20). Do you believe that? God’s power to answer prayer is far beyond your ability to ask.

God has told us to come to Him in prayer. In His famous “Sermon on the Mount,” Jesus Christ taught: “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it

will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!” (Matthew 7:7–11).

Can you imagine? God—our Father—*wants* to give us good things! He wants us to rely on Him, to depend on Him and to trust Him! But sometimes, we pray and we do not seem to receive an answer. How, then, can we depend on Him and trust Him? Why does it seem that sometimes our prayers are not answered?

### How Does God Respond?

We can recognize several ways in which God may respond to our prayers. Sometimes, His response will be a quick and simple “yes.” Sometimes He will say “yes,” but only after we have waited patiently for a while. Other times, His response will be positive, though not the “yes” we expected—perhaps an unusual circumstance or event that affects the subject of our prayers. Sometimes He will answer a prayer but show that His answer is “no.” Finally—and this is usually the most challenging answer to receive—He will sometimes say, “not until you repent; until then, you must endure some trials and learn some lessons.”

Understandably, we all prefer a simple “yes” answer to our prayers. Sometimes we feel that we need God’s help or deliverance quickly. King David of ancient Israel certainly felt that way. When you read many of the Psalms of David, you can understand his heartfelt approach to communicating with God. You can learn from that, and apply it in your own prayers. Once, when David asked to be delivered from his enemies, he called out to God: “*Make haste*, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O LORD! Let them be ashamed and confounded who seek my life; Let them be turned back and confused who desire my hurt... O LORD, *do not delay*” (Psalm 70:1–2, 5).

David did not hesitate to ask God to hurry up and help him! Again and again, God heard

David's prayers, and delivered him from his enemies. You can read about David's life, and his overall closeness to God, in the books of 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Chronicles.

In the New Testament, we see many examples of answered prayer. When the Apostles were on a boat in the Sea of Galilee, on a stormy night, they were afraid until they saw Jesus approaching them, walking on the water. Jesus comforted them, and at His command Peter began to walk toward Him, on the water. Then, however, Peter lost faith. "But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, 'Lord, save me!'" (Matthew 14:30).

What was Jesus' answer? Did He say, "No, Peter, I'm going to let you drown"? No! Rather, "immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'" (v. 31).

When someone deeply cries out to God for help, God may intervene immediately—even if, like Peter, he has little faith. God may use such intervention to help increase our faith. Notice: "And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God'" (vv. 32–33).

Jesus can intervene for us because He is the Son of God. Christians have the authority and the privilege to come before God's throne in prayer. Jesus taught His disciples: "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you" (John 16:23). To ask in Jesus' name means to ask by His authority. When we come before God's throne, we are not coming on our own authority. We must come with humility, on the authority of our Savior. Just how important is humility? Remember, it was the publican (the tax collector), who prayed: "God, be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). Comparing this humility to the arrogance of the Pharisees, Jesus said, "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (v. 14).

How, exactly, should we pray? In Matthew 6:6, Jesus described going to your "closet" (KJV) or "room"—actually, any private place will do. Perhaps you will kneel by your bed, to pray after you rise and before you go to sleep. Find a private place, and just begin talking to God. Share your thanks. Share your hopes. Share your fears and concerns. Just talk to God as you would talk to a friend, with deep respect, honesty and openness. You do not need fancy words, or archaic King James language full of "thee" and "thou."

It is good to have your Bible with you when you pray. When you share your words with God, it is good to remember the words that He has given to you in Scripture. Sometimes, you may be inspired in your prayer by reading one of the Psalms. Read how David cried out to God. He wanted God's guidance—not just an answer, but the right and godly answer—when he prayed. David wanted to submit to God's will. Is that what *you* want? Read the Psalms and appreciate David's example.

We must pray with humility, seeking God's will. But Christians who follow God's instructions can also pray with confidence. The book of Hebrews describes the divine power of Christ as our intercessor—our great High Priest who, on our behalf, sits at God's right hand—beside Him—on His throne. Because He is on His throne, Christians can say, as recounted in Hebrews: "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

Are you in a time of need? We are all in a time of need—always! We always need God's guidance, blessings and care. And God has promised to extend mercy and grace in our time of need.

## **Expect the Unexpected**

We have seen that God will sometimes say a simple "yes" in answer to our prayers, just as Christ saved Peter from drowning in the Sea of Galilee. Sometimes, however, God may give us a positive answer, but not the answer we expected. He may arrange an unusual development of events, or an unforeseen circumstance. The ancient Israelites experienced this while in slavery in Egypt. They wanted freedom, and God secured their freedom by a series of miracles. When the Israelites were trapped between the Red Sea and the mountains, with Pharaoh's chariots fast closing in on them, no escape seemed possible. But God did the unexpected, and parted the Red Sea so that they could cross to safety, as we read in Exodus 14.

The Apostle Paul marveled at God's wisdom and power to intervene in such ways. He wrote: "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!" (Romans 11:33).

At the Red Sea, God gave the Israelites a sudden and unexpected answer to prayer. However, they had waited for many years for their deliverance from Egypt. Sometimes, God answers a prayer and grants us what we ask, but asks us to wait for a while before He grants it. We need to be patient. Years ago, I deeply desired to travel to Israel and to visit Jerusalem. I claimed the promise

of Psalm 37:4, “Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.” God did answer my prayer—17 years after I prayed it! God eventually fulfilled my request, but His answer along the way was, “Be patient!” Eventually, my wife and I had the wonderful blessing of participating in an archaeological excavation in the City of David, in Jerusalem. But I had to wait for God’s will, and accept His timing.

When God’s answer appears to be “wait, and be patient,” are you persistent in your prayers? Nowadays, in our time of microwave ovens, instant coffee, fast food and entertainment on demand, we often want instant gratification. The Bible, however, counsels patience: “For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise” (Hebrews 10:36). Do not give up on your prayers, if they are in line with God’s will. Be patient, and be persistent, until you know that God has answered.

Sometimes, though, God answers “no” to our prayers. How can this happen, if we are striving to do God’s will—if we are striving to be humble and obedient, and to live by faith? And if our will is in line with God’s will, what does a “no” answer mean?

When Jesus prayed in agony on the night before His crucifixion, He asked that the cup of suffering be passed from Him—if it were God’s will! Jesus prayed: “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me;

nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.’ Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground” (Luke 22:42–44).

Jesus asked that the cup of suffering pass from Him, but only if that were God’s will. Jesus’ prayer was *to do God’s will*. He submitted His will to His Father’s will. God answered Jesus’ prayer, and strengthened Him to endure His trial.

The Apostle Paul also asked God to remove an affliction from him: “And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (2 Corinthians 12:7–9).

## **When God Says “No”**

As He did with Jesus, and with Paul, God may sometimes give us a “no” answer—but when He does, He always gives us the power, strength and grace through which we can accept His answer as His will—

# **The Answer Is in Your Bible!**

The Barna Research Group recently reported: “The proportion of adults who read the Bible in a typical week, outside of church services, has remained flat [over the past several years] at about one out of every three adults...” It is *no wonder* that society seems to be breaking down. It is no wonder that so many turn to violence. Not only do many reject (or ignore) the Bible’s instructions—most of us are not even reading the Bible!

There was a time when most Americans had at least *some* appreciation for the Bible. Daniel Webster, the famous 19th century American statesman, said: “If there is anything in my thoughts or style to commend, the credit is due to my parents for instilling in me an early love of the Scriptures. If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity.”

How true and how prophetic those words are! That is what will happen to Bible-rejecting people in the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. But you and I do not need to go along with a society that rejects the first Commandment. God said: “You shall have no other gods before Me” (Exodus 20:3). We need to acknowledge the God of the Bible, the true Creator God and His Son, Jesus Christ—and we must do that every day! We need to read the Bible every day with an attitude of submissiveness and teachability. We need to get down on our knees every day without fail. Do not leave your home in the morning without praying, and thanking God for your life and His love for you. Ask God to bless you, your family, your country, your work and all your activities in a way that will honor Him! Remember, Jesus said: “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness” (Matthew 6:33, *KJV*). Our prayers *will* be answered if we do that!

—Richard F. Ames

as what is best for our lives. We need to have faith that our Creator knows what is best for us, and knows how to bless us.

Perhaps our greatest challenge in prayer comes when the answer is: “You need to repent and change before your prayer will be answered; until then, you must endure some trials and learn some lessons. Once you make the appropriate changes, God will *then* reconsider your petition!”

Many people think they can demand anything of God, even if it is clearly against His will and against His law. But God’s purpose is not to fulfill any carnal request we may have. The Apostle James warns about those who pray with wrong motivations, and his words are certainly an accurate commentary on our worldly society today: “You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your *pleasures*” (James 4:3). The KJV says “lusts” rather than “pleasures.”

If we pray with a selfish attitude, seeking to gain all we can without regard for God’s will, God will not grant our requests. James goes on to describe the approach appropriate for one who seeks answered prayer: “Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you doubleminded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up” (vv. 8–10).

If we repent—if we change and humble ourselves before God—He will lift us up. He will begin to answer our prayers when we are truly seeking to understand and carry out His will—as exemplified by the life and the teachings of Jesus Christ. As the Apostle Peter wrote: “Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps” (1 Peter 2:21).

As you seek the will of God—as you pray “Thy will be done” and as you practice and obey the instructions of your Lord and Savior—you *will* receive answers to your prayers. Notice this very important principle: “And whatever we ask we receive from

Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight” (1 John 3:22). The whole Bible tells us what is pleasing in God’s sight. We must be surrendered to God—willing to obey Him always and to keep His commandments.

Many today think of religion as just an emotional life-style, without the need for obedience. But Jesus asked: “Why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46). We need an attitude of obedience, and of understanding the commandments of Christ and the law of God.

Scripture also emphasizes our need to believe God and to trust in His promises. “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6). Yes, God will bless or reward those who diligently seek Him, who pray to Him every day, who read the Bible every day—because they desire to learn what God wants them to do with their lives.

Hebrews 11—the “faith chapter”—mentions men and women of faith: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Rahab the harlot, David and many others. How does faith come? Notice: “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). The Bible is the Word of God. Read it every day! Understand what the Creator God has done in history, and what He promises for you today! As you come to appreciate that God’s ability to help you is limitless, you will grow in faith.

So, with faith, pray every day! Pray for others around the world. Pray for the victims of tragedy and for their families. Pray for the Kingdom to come! Pray for the gospel to be preached in all the world! Thank God every day for all the blessings you enjoy! Read your Bible every day to understand the great future God has in store for you. And rejoice in the loving relationship you can have with our Father in heaven and our Savior Jesus Christ. Your life will be changed dramatically—and you will experience in your life the answer to unanswered prayer! ☐

## To Learn More...



Are your prayers being answered? Prayer can change your life—and it can change you!

Please request our **FREE** booklet, **Twelve Keys to Answered Prayer**, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site [www.tomorrowworld.org](http://www.tomorrowworld.org).



## Lovers Become Rivals!

Many modern scholars accept, as an article of faith, that it is impossible to predict the future accurately. Moreover, they say that the Bible was merely written by men, and is not a unique book inspired by God. Yet God, in the Bible, says that He can *predict* the future and *bring it to pass!* The One who inspired the prophet Isaiah proclaimed: “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). Today’s world headlines prove these astounding assertions, as prophecies given thousands of years ago are *coming alive* in our day!

### Ancient Prophecies

When God brought the ancient Israelites out of Egypt, He made a covenant with them. God promised that they would be blessed if they obeyed His laws, but that they would face difficult times if they disobeyed (see Leviticus 26; Deuteronomy 28). The sad story of Scripture is that the ancient nations of Israel and Judah chose to ignore God’s instructions, deciding instead to “do their own thing” (see Judges 21:25). Because the Israelites rebelled against God, and broke

the covenant—“My people have forgotten Me days without number” (Jeremiah 2:32)—God gave a series of detailed prophecies that would have a devastating impact on them in the future. The Bible foretold that when sinful Israelite nations would appeal to their allies for help in future difficulties, those allies would spurn them and turn against them: “*Your lovers will despise you; they will seek your life*” (Jeremiah 4:30).

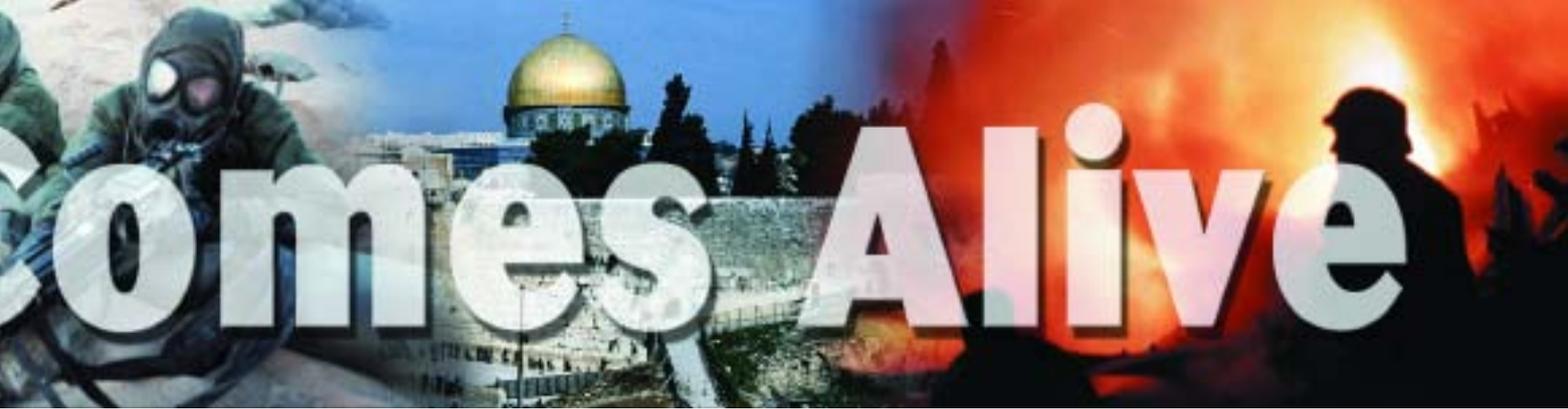
This prophecy is repeated, with other specific details added, in many other places in Scripture. God warned through the prophet Jeremiah that “*all your lovers have forgotten [forsaken] you... I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy... because your sins have increased... in the latter days you will consider [understand] it*” (Jeremiah 30:14, 24). To Jerusalem and the house of Israel, God warned: that “her friends have dealt *treacherously* with her; they have become her *enemies*... her adversaries have become the master... [and Israel will complain] I called for my lovers, but they *deceived* me” (Lamentations 1:2, 5, 19). Similarly, God used the prophet Ezekiel to describe what would happen to Israel and Judah: “I have delivered her into the hand of her lovers... Behold, I will stir up your lovers against you, from whom you have *alienated* yourself, and I will bring

them against you from every side... because you have forgotten Me” (Ezekiel 23:9, 22, 35).

These prophecies had an *initial* fulfillment more than 2,500 years ago, when the peoples of Israel and Judah were carried into captivity by neighboring nations in 721BC and 604BC, respectively. The prophecies are *dual*, however, and will find their *ultimate* fulfillment “*in the latter days*.” The American and other British-descended nations are the modern Israelite nations (for more on this topic, please request our free booklet *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*). Prophecy reveals that the allies of the modern Israelite nations will begin to despise them, will become their rivals, and finally will turn against their former friends and benefactors. Startling developments on the world scene today—especially in Europe—show us that these prophecies are approaching their *ultimate fulfillment!*

### Prophecies Fulfilled

The Anglo-American nations fought World War II to liberate Europe from fascism, and to free Pacific nations from Japanese imperial domination. For more than 50 years, the Anglo-American nations were the benefactors of the countries they had “defeated,” aiding their economies and helping them



guard against communist threats. Toward the end of the 20th century, however, things began to change. The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 removed the Soviet threat from Europe, eliminated the need for U.S. protection and opened the way for European unity. The September 11, 2001 attack on the U.S. spawned a global “war on terrorism” and invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. The American-led invasion of Iraq initially divided Europe, but produced an alliance among Germany, France and Russia that has “reinvigorated the Franco-German “European core” (*Super-State*, Haseler, pp. ix, 2).

Following these dramatic events, the exercise of American power in the world has become a highly contentious issue, with polls showing that Europeans “no longer trust American leadership” and are “increasingly fearful” of an Americanized future world order “sketched out by thinkers in Washington” (Haseler, p. x). In fact, opposition to the American-led war on Iraq “has united Europeans in a common cause” to build a new European superpower that “has the potential to balance and check U.S. power in the world” (*ibid.*, pp. 3, x). France has “led calls for a rival European superpower to *confront* Washington” (*London Daily Telegraph*, November 5, 2004). Dr. Stephen Haseler, a professor of govern-

ment in London, notes that this emerging European superpower will “become seriously competitive with the USA” and will *challenge* notions of American supremacy as it becomes a *rival* power whose interests *collide* with the interests and activities of the U.S. (*ibid.*, p. 6). He also observes that “events themselves will help forge European unity and help drive hesitant Europeans together” (*ibid.*, p. 3). The Bible reveals that God intervenes to guide world events (see Daniel 2:20–21; 4:17).

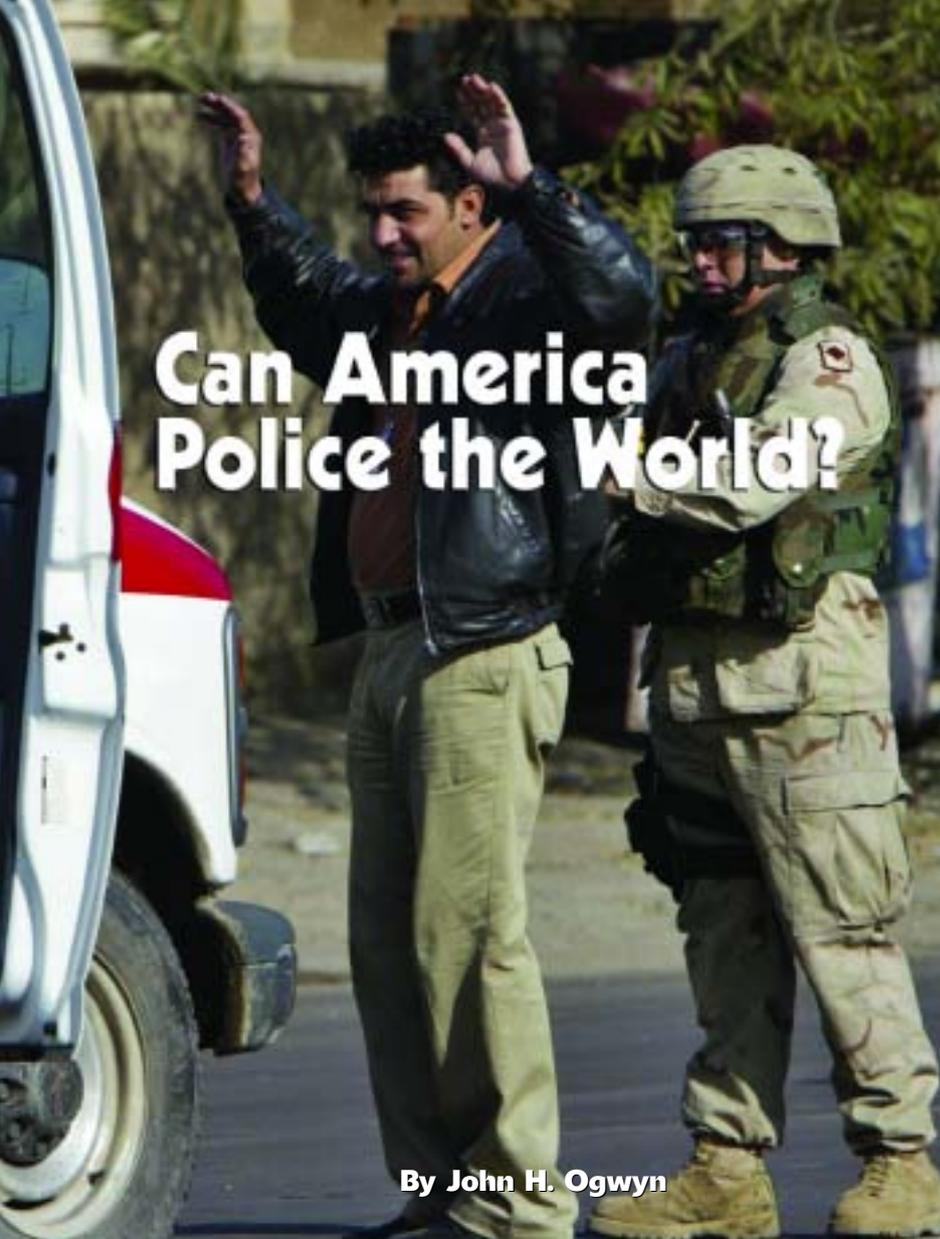
Emmanuel Todd, a French political theorist and demographer, has made a similar observation, that “the unsettling militaristic behavior of the United States... [and] America’s menacing unilateral behavior has accelerated the integration of Europe and moved the rapprochement with Russia irreversibly forward. Their combined strengths—the economic power of Europe and Russia’s strategic nuclear deterrent force—will suffice to contain future American trigger-happy agitation” (*After the Empire*, Todd, pp. xx, xxiii). Todd describes that Europeans and others in today’s world have come to view America as a major contributor “to disorder throughout the world... an obstacle to world peace” and a “troublemaker” instead of a peacemaker (*ibid.*, pp. xvii, 21, 169). He explains that America’s military adventurism, its promo-

tion of unregulated capitalism (threatening the cohesion and stability of Europe’s more socialized economic systems) and “its new intolerance of the rest of the world is... *alienating*” America’s former allies in Europe, and may “trigger the rise of the far right” (*ibid.*, pp. 180–181).

Todd notices, also, that “*profound forces are at work*” akin to the tensions that precede a divorce, and that these tensions are “going to force a separation” between America and Europe (*ibid.*, pp. 171, 175). Todd comments that, after World War II, America never imagined how a reconciliation between former enemies (e.g. France and Germany) “would lead to the birth of a competing strategic entity. The progressive slide from sympathy and encouragement to suspicion then bitterness and finally opposition is understandable” (*ibid.*, p. 172). As Todd puts it, “all the ingredients are there for a serious conflict between Europe and the United States in the near future” (*ibid.*, p. 186).

God prophesied long ago that if His chosen people forgot His laws and rebelled against His instructions, the allies (“lovers”) of Israelite nations would become their rivals and fierce adversaries. These prophecies, recorded in the Bible thousands of years ago, are *coming alive today*—alerting us that the end of this age and the return of Jesus Christ are just ahead!

—Douglas S. Winnail



# Can America Police the World?

By John H. Ogwyn

What has happened to the giddy optimists who predicted the “end of history” at the end of the Cold War? With the collapse of the “iron curtain” in 1989, and the subsequent demise of the Soviet Union a couple of years later, many in the West thought that we would soon enter a “post-ideological” time when Western values of capitalism, free markets and democracy would solve the world’s problems. Many were convinced that a time of universal peace and prosperity was on the horizon.

Those rosy predictions have not come to pass. Many Americans—including many high in government—naively assumed that the rest of the world not only needed to become, but also *wanted* to become, “more like us.” Democracy was touted as the answer to all of the world’s problems (see “The Future of Democracy” on page 4 of this issue). Free markets would bring a free world.

Then came the al-Qaeda attacks of September 11, 2001. Overnight, attitudes changed. America quickly mounted a retaliatory attack on Afghanistan, a

country whose Taliban regime had supported al-Qaeda, and won a quick “victory” by overthrowing the Taliban and occupying Kabul, the capital city. Policymakers were divided, however, as to what would come next.

In the 2000 presidential election campaign, then-candidate George W. Bush declared that unlike his predecessor, Bill Clinton, his foreign policy would stress America’s self-interest, and that he would not follow President Clinton’s example of committing American troops to “nation-building” missions abroad.

As the mission in Afghanistan began to bog down, policymakers found themselves faced with a “nation-building” dilemma not unlike President Clinton’s experience in the Balkan states. In response, accepting the counsel of his “neo-conservative” advisors, President Bush decided to pursue an “interventionist” foreign policy after all. If a strategically important nation did not willingly embrace American values and interests, the U.S. would reserve the right to project American power and insist that it do so!

Articulating this policy, President Bush spoke out regarding what he called an “axis of evil”—the nations of Iraq, Iran and North Korea. Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein’s bellicose posturing had long cast him as the perfect villain in a Middle East melodrama, so the invasion of Iraq came next. After a quick “victory” in war, it soon became evident that winning the war—overthrowing a corrupt regime in a backward country—would be easier than “winning the peace” by producing a stable successor to Hussein’s government.

What will come next for the U.S., and the world? For more than a decade, the world has looked to the U.S. as the world’s only superpower. But can that superpower bend other nations to its will, to produce a world

of peace and freedom? Will what “worked” in Afghanistan and Iraq be a model to apply to other international conflicts? Make no mistake about it: the rout of the Taliban and the toppling of Hussein does not guarantee that the U.S. can or will banish all brutal dictatorships from the world scene. With irreconcilable conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, genocide in Sudan—indeed, with ethnic and religious conflicts in so many places—can America expect to police the whole world?

## A Look at Results

Before the invasion of Afghanistan, many of President Bush’s critics forecast American defeat at the hands of the Taliban—or at least a long list of casualties. Similar predictions preceded the invasion of Iraq. In each case, the nay-sayers were proved wrong. The U.S. military—with its \$400 billion annual budget—rolled in to Kabul and Baghdad and toppled two bedraggled third-world regimes that had suffered under years of international sanctions.

Many took these “successes” as evidence that the U.S. is powerful enough to impose its will anywhere. Although the U.S. has faced more problems in Iraq than in Afghanistan, the illusion of U.S. omnipotence remains strong in the minds of many. Is this the pride that goes before the fall?

A closer look at Afghanistan—where the U.S. has been engaged the longest—should be instructive. Last November, Britain’s *Financial Times* newspaper carried an article with the headline, “Afghanistan is a ‘narco-economy’, UK says” (November 19, 2004, p. 6). The *Financial Times* was reporting Britain’s response to a just-released United Nations report that documented a 64 percent increase in Afghanistan’s opium production. Three years after the U.S. overthrew the Taliban, opium had become the mainstay of the Afghan economy, and accounted for a whopping 60 percent of the gross domestic product. Opium cultivation had risen from 8,000 hectares in 2001 to 131,000 hectares in 2004! As a result, Afghanistan has now surpassed both Colombia and the “Golden Triangle” of south-east Asia to lead the world in the production of narcotics. The value of Afghan opium production is approaching \$3 billion, and it accounts for 87 percent of the world’s total supply. Narcotics production has become



the main “engine of economic growth” for the Afghan nation. Who is profiting from this? Certainly warlords and government officials at almost all levels are reaping a bounty, but there is more. Antonio Maria Costa, executive director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, pointed out in the UN report that Taliban and al-Qaeda refugees near the Pakistan border were also reaping a financial windfall.

Obviously, then, America’s overthrow of the Taliban government did not solve the whole problem. A stable and democratic Afghanistan has yet to emerge—and, frankly, is not even on the distant horizon. The central government headed by Mohammed Kharzai has effective control of the capital and little else. The lucrative narcotics trade provides a corrupting influence that will not only undermine government efforts to control the country, but will also provide funding for future terrorism against America and its allies.

The situation in Iraq is no better. Divided among Kurds, Sunnis and Shiites, Iraq was one of several countries created at Versailles following World War I.

Its three main ethnic groups share deeply rooted antagonisms that lead many analysts to expect the nation to fracture along ethnic and religious lines. In the meantime, ongoing violence continues to damage the morale and test the resolve of America and its allies. Each new death fuels more protests at home, more unrest within Iraq and more talk of a “quagmire” reminiscent of U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

President Bush has made the spreading of freedom the centerpiece of American foreign policy. His vision is that each new democracy in the Middle East will be another cornerstone in the effort to promote peace and prosperity in that troubled region. The reality behind his words, however, is far different, and less encouraging. If there were truly “one man, one vote” throughout the region, regimes favorable to the West would be voted out and replaced by hostile ones. Remember that, for a time following the 9-11 attacks, “Osama” became the most popular name for newborn boys throughout much of the Arab world.

## The Cost of Empire

In the second Bush administration, neo-conservatives are playing greater and more visible roles. Is

the U.S. really ready to deploy America's unparalleled power to spread freedom around the world? If so, will American foreign policy quickly become a series of armed missions, with the unspoken rationale that if the cause is noble, almost any means is justified?

Writing in the *Economist* magazine, Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, observed: "America remains the world's pre-eminent actor, but it is also stretched militarily, in debt financially, divided domestically, and unpopular internationally" (November 6, 2004, p. 36). Before the war in Iraq, the American government took a very unrealistic approach to the costs of the venture. The explanation was that Iraqi oil sales would pay for costs of reconstruction in the country and even for much of our costs in "liberating" the nation. Reality has proven far different.

The annual U.S. budget deficit is currently above \$400 billion. The rising cost of homeland security and overseas military intervention has put a strain on the American economy—a strain that the Bush administration has been reluctant to acknowledge. Far more than most can imagine, the American economy is increasingly at the mercy of the bankers in Asia and Europe who finance the U.S. by buying its bonds. If it has not already, America will soon learn the truth of what wise King Solomon wrote nearly three millennia ago: "The borrower is servant to the lender" (Proverbs 22:7).

Coupled with the huge and ever-mounting financial deficit is the strain that is being put on the American military. With more than 150,000 troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, the U.S. would be hard pressed to respond to a crisis on the Korean peninsula or elsewhere. National Guard and Army Reserve units have been activated to fill in the gaps created by an overstretched American military, and "stop loss" orders are preventing some soldiers from leaving the armed forces. Can this go on much longer with an all-volunteer military, if the U.S. truly expects to police the world?

Another troubling factor is America's tremendous dependence on foreign oil. Currently the U.S. imports more than 12 million barrels of oil per day—accounting for *more than half* of its energy needs. In

our current environment, where energy producers manage their resources to assure maximum prices as demand shifts, there is no reason to expect significant reductions in energy prices anytime soon. Rather, if there were a disruption of oil production by a major producer such as Saudi Arabia, Venezuela or Nigeria, prices could skyrocket, creating drastic reverberations not just in America but around the world.

Americans, for all their power, are far more vulnerable than they wish to believe. After all, no nation can remain a great power for long if its economic foundation erodes. What is the real foundation of America's national greatness? How did it come about, and how long will it endure? These are questions that neither the Bush administration nor its critics can adequately answer!



**The United States currently relies on imported oil to meet more than half of its energy needs.** ©Photos.com Image.

## What the Future Holds

Few on either end of the political spectrum realize that the Bible explains what will happen as a result of America's aggressive desire to reshape and police the world. Some on the so-called "religious right" do acknowledge that God is the source of America's national blessings, but even they fail to understand *why* those blessings came about. Unaware that the U.S. and the other British-descended peoples are mentioned in Bible prophecy, they understand neither these nations' past rise to greatness nor their coming fall from that greatness. Some focus, selectively, on these nations' widespread sins, but fail to apply the consistent biblical standard; homosexuality and abortion are decried, but rampant unbiblical divorce and remarriage is generally passed over in silence. Unaware of the "big picture" from Bible prophecy, they fail to understand what is actually ahead—and why.

Neither Republicans nor Democrats truly know what lies just around the bend for America and its allies. Neither do the leaders of Britain, Australia, Canada or New Zealand. *You can* know, however! If you are willing to *really* look at the words of your Creator—the One who has declared the end from the beginning—you can know where America's efforts to reshape the world are headed in the years immediately ahead. (If you have not yet requested your own

copy of our free booklet on this vital topic, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*, please do so right away).

The Bible explains that the American and British-descended peoples have received the blessings of national bounty and greatness because of promises made anciently to the patriarch Abraham. As Moses prepared to lead the ancient Israelites—ancestors of the American and British-descended peoples—into the Promised Land, he reminded them: “Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today, lest—when you have eaten and are full... and all that you have is multiplied; when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God... then you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gained me this wealth.’ And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day” (Deuteronomy 8:11–18).

Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, the American and British-descended peoples enjoyed those blessings that were the fulfillment of ancient promises of the birthright blessings that Abraham’s grandson Jacob (Israel) conveyed to *his* grandsons, Ephraim and Manasseh, through the laying on of hands (Genesis 48:14–16). Speaking of the British and American nations and those who would oppose them, God inspired this ancient prophecy: “The archers have dealt bitterly with him, and shot at him, and hated him; but his bow abode firm, and his arms were made supple, by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob...” (Genesis 49:23–24, *JPS*). This prophecy was not intended primarily for ancient times, but for *the last days* (Genesis 49:1). It has certainly been descriptive of the history of the American and British-descended peoples since about 1800AD. In Deuteronomy 28, God further amplified these national blessings, promising: “The LORD will open

to you His good treasure... You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them” (vv. 12–13).

However, we cannot take God’s blessings for granted and simply live any way that we choose. With great blessings come great responsibilities. The English-speaking nations have increasingly rejected God and His laws, thumbing their collective noses at the One who gave them national greatness. God warned anciently, through Moses, what the consequences of such behavior would be. “But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments... Cursed shall you be when you come in, and cursed shall you be when you go out. The LORD will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do, until you are destroyed and until you perish quickly, because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me” (Deuteronomy 28:15, 19–20).

For the last two centuries, God did indeed use the American and British-descended nations to police the world. But that day is quickly drawing to a close. Nations that use the name of God while rejecting His commandments cannot continue to receive His blessings. Rather, He will break the pride of their power (Leviticus 26:19) in order to bring them to national repentance. Then, rescued from the consequences of the Great Tribulation by the returning Jesus Christ, the nations will emerge greatly humbled and anxious to seek the true God and His ways.

Jesus Christ will establish His government over the nations at that time. He will rebuke strong nations (Isaiah 2:4). *He* will successfully “police the world”—and He will do so in righteousness! ☐

## To Learn More...



God’s hand is operating in history. Can you recognize it—and what it means for your future?

Please request our **FREE** booklet, *How God Intervenes in World Affairs*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site [www.tomorrowworld.org](http://www.tomorrowworld.org).

# Letters to the Editor

I agree entirely that there is an absence of the “fear of God” in our society. Having recently read Mr. Meredith’s booklet, *Is This the Only Day of Salvation?*, I began thinking about those who have had the chance and willfully reject it. I see many of my peers succumb to the pressures surrounding them. I have continued on your *Bible Study Course* for over a year now and for me it has been vital in understanding the Bible. I also admire the way your magazine deals with contemporary issues relating to God’s word. Thank you and may God bless you for everything.

H. K., Sydney, Australia

I thank you so much for your wonderful *Bible Study Course*! I feel very honored that I have been brought to the Bible and am learning so much from you. I feel very blessed and thank you from the bottom of my heart. Keep up the wonderful work!

P. W., Armstrong, BC, Canada

I have your booklet, *Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?* It has helped me understand more about the seventh-day Sabbath. I have thought for years that we should be worshipping on the seventh day, but people kept telling me that we should keep the first day of the week. Your booklet gave me all the scriptures that I needed to find out about the Sabbath day. It has helped me much.

D. G., Cedar Creek, TX

I really enjoy your magazine. It has opened up my understanding to God’s word, and it has taught me some things. When I read the *Tomorrow’s World* magazine, I also have my

Bible beside me to read the scriptures that you have as references, and I notice that your articles pertain right to the word of God. I thank God for all the work each of you put into getting His word out to us.

D. H., Sledge, MS

I found one of your issues laying around. I thought it was just another magazine until I read it. You are not just another magazine. You are not afraid to tell it like it is. You do not tickle the ears of the people. Just one issue of your magazine helped change my life.

L. C., Hartford, MI

A few months ago I watched your telecasts and subsequently I requested your literature. From my previous religious training, I was amazed and even skeptical about your doctrines. Hopefully, as I go on with the *Bible Study Course*, I will increase my knowledge of the scriptures and be able to overcome numerous shortcomings and doubts and let go of my old beliefs. I sincerely want to know about God and practice His commandments. I genuinely want to thank you for all the material you have provided me.

M. P., Ontario, CA

I just received your booklet, *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*. I have read a few books on Bible prophecy through the years, but this one was extra special. It presented the information in such a clear and concise fashion, and is nothing less than astonishing.

L. L., Saginaw, MI

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

## THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY (continued from page 8)

In our democratic system, a small group of insiders usually guides the situation so that the public is only told about a few potential nominees for office. Then, the campaigns for the nominees of each party are carefully orchestrated, and finally the public is allowed to vote for someone “acceptable” to those insiders. When they finally vote for one of the presidential candidates, for instance, the “Joe Publics” may know *very little* about the actual ability, personal habits and sins, problems or even the actual strengths of the person for whom they are voting. How many people would have voted for John F. Kennedy if they had remotely realized the extent of his alleged womanizing, and that through vote fraud the names of thousands of *dead people* buried in the cemeteries of Chicago and West Texas would be used to put Kennedy into office?

Of course, it is well documented that *each political party* has committed various political shenanigans like this at one time or another. But the point is that the average voter often *knows very little* about the candidate for whom he is voting. The party insiders make sure that “bad stuff” does not come out until later!

How much better it will be in Tomorrow’s World, when Jesus Christ—who “knows the hearts” of men—selects leaders who will function under *His* direction as King of kings! For Jesus Christ is very God. And He has perfect *wisdom*, total *power* and infinite *love*. He has great *compassion* for every human being, and will exercise total outflowing concern for *our good*. “For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust” (Psalm 103:11–14).

The inspired word of God tells us: “But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked” (Isaiah 11:4). Also: “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea” (v. 9). So there will be **no more war!** And God’s knowledge—God’s approach to all things—will fill the earth.

In another prophecy for the “latter days” (Micah 4:1), God tells us: “But everyone shall sit

under *his* vine and under *his* fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken” (v. 4). God’s word clearly describes a time of *prosperity* when each family will **own** its own property; when God will bless the weather and the crops and men will learn a *way of life* based on God’s **law** of love. God describes that His people will be prosperous and happy when He redeems them from the soon-coming Great Tribulation: “Instead of your shame you shall have double honor, and instead of confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; *everlasting joy shall be theirs*” (Isaiah 61:7).

The current practice of “politicizing” and *voting* for leaders whom we really do not know or understand will soon cease. Although democracy may be one of the best *humanly* devised forms of government, it is not the “wave of the future” by any means. Truly, we all need to learn and understand *God’s* form of government, for the true saints of God will soon be called on to administer *that form of government* in Tomorrow’s World. All genuine Christians—and *all* men of goodwill—should learn to pray, with *understanding*: “Your kingdom come. Your will be done **on earth** as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10). [TW]

## To Learn More...



God has provided the blueprint for a society where mankind can live in peace, harmony and prosperity, following Jesus Christ’s example. By obeying God, you can have His blessings in *your* life!

Please request our **FREE** booklet, *The Ten Commandments*, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site [www.tomorrowworld.org](http://www.tomorrowworld.org).

# Easter: Egging on a Myth?

What does Easter mean to you? Is it a time to enjoy brightly colored eggs and tasty chocolates? Is it an opportunity to wear a new “Easter bonnet” to church? Or is it a day when Christians should commemorate the death and resurrection of their Savior, Jesus Christ?

If you answered “none of the above,” you are on the right track.

Some Easter customs, such as eating chocolate bunnies and wearing elaborate Easter bonnets, are fairly recent innovations. But did you know that “Easter” existed for many years *before* it became a “Christian” festival? And did you know that Jesus and His Apostles observed a *different* day as a memorial of His sacrifice?

Jesus’ final night with His disciples was a Passover observance, which He told them to repeat each year “till He [Christ] comes” (1 Corinthians 11:26). Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna in the mid-second century, testified that the Apostle John had taught him to commemorate Christ’s sacrifice through the annual Passover service. But within a generation of John’s death, some had begun to oppose this apostolic practice. Eventually, as more and more leaders around the Roman Empire found it convenient to profess “Christianity,” they found it increasingly desirable to purge their “Christianity” of its authentic Passover heritage and substitute an Easter Sunday observance.

Easter Sunday gained popularity, in part, because of the mistaken idea that Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday. In fact, careful Bible study shows that He rose on Saturday, near the end of the day, exactly three days and three nights after He had died and been buried, as He had promised (Matthew 12:40). Jesus died on a Wednesday afternoon, just before an “annual Sabbath”—the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread—and rose after 72 hours in the tomb, just before the end of the weekly Sabbath. The mistaken idea that Jesus died on Friday and

rose on Sunday actually invalidates the very sign of His Messiahship (v. 39)!

Is Easter in the Bible? Because of a *King James Version* translation error, many in the English-speaking world wrongly believe that the Bible mentions Easter. In Acts 12:4, the *KJV* translates the Greek *pascha* (referring to the Passover) as “Easter.” Virtually all other reputable translations, however, correctly render the word as “Passover”—the biblical observance that Jesus and His followers kept. Interestingly, in many modern languages, the word signifying “Easter” (e.g. *Pascua* in Spanish, *Pâques* in French) has its roots in this Greek word for the Passover.

In English and German, however, the modern Passover-replacement goes by the name of a pre-Christian goddess. The medieval English historian Bede traced the name “Easter” to a spring festival held in honor of the goddess Eostre, celebrating nature’s revived fertility using symbolism of rabbits and eggs—common Easter images in English and German-speaking countries.

“But can’t we honor God by ‘Christianizing’ pagan festivals?” some might ask. No! The prophet Jeremiah gave God’s warning to His people: “Learn not the way of the heathen” (Jeremiah 10:2, *KJV*). Abandoning the Passover that God established, and replacing it with a man-made holiday, is not only rejecting the sign of Christ’s Messiahship; it is *disobeying* God! If you would like to know more about the Holy Days that God established for His people, please write for your *free* copy of our informative booklet, *The Holy Days: God’s Master Plan*.

True Christians should do as Christ commanded, commemorating His sacrifice each year at the Passover, and should not perpetuate the myth of a “Christian” Easter! After sunset on April 22, this year, true Christians will be remembering Christ’s sacrifice as God intended. What will *you* be doing?

—William Bowmer

## ABORTION: A MODERN HOLOCAUST? (continued from page 13)

children]” (see Jeremiah 2:34; 19:3–7). These passages reveal how God views the slaughter of children, whether they are infants or unborn babies!

Modern “ethicists” like Peter Singer of Princeton University have offered arguments that an unborn fetus is less than human. This idea is not new; it was common to many ancient pagan philosophers as well. However, this approach is clearly refuted in the Bible. God told Jeremiah: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations” (Jeremiah 1:5). An angel told Zacharias, father of John the Baptist, that John would “also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb” (Luke 1:15). The Bible reveals that God regards unborn babies as human beings, and that killing human infants, born or unborn, will incur the wrath of Almighty God! Our modern secular society has *forgotten these powerful warnings!*

### A Sobering Future

But where is the drive to legalize abortion leading modern nations? What is the acceptance of abortion doing to our societies? Judge Robert Bork calls the U.S. Supreme Court’s *Roe v. Wade* decision, which legalized abortion, an attempt by liberal secular elites to *impose their values* on the rest of the nation (see Bork, p. 174). He observes: “Abortion has *coarsened* us” and it reflects “the *brutalization* of our culture” (*ibid.*, p. 182). He states: “The systematic killing of unborn children in huge numbers is part of a general disregard for human life that has been growing for some time. Abortion... deepens and legitimates the nihilism [disregard for traditional values] that is spreading in our culture and finds killing for convenience *acceptable*” (*ibid.*, p. 192).

British social critic Peter Hitchens makes a similar observation, that abortion “*corrupts* any society which freely permits it. The idea that innocent life

may be lawfully ended for the convenience of others or for the alleged good of society, once generally accepted, *devastates* the rule of law itself” (*The Spectator*, August 7, 2004). British columnist Bruce Anderson comments: “Over the last 40 years, the abortion clinic has become an indispensable part of the life-support system of the permissive society. The unrestricted enjoyment of sexual license requires not only contraception but retroactive contraception [abortion]” (*The Spectator*, July 17, 2004).

Even those who try to frame the debate in terms of “reproductive rights” cannot honestly deny the negative social trends that have accompanied the acceptance of abortion. They can only say that in their value system, these negative trends are a price worth paying. Ultimately, two questions are involved—whose values will prevail, and who will control society? Dr. Andrzej Kulczycki, a United Nations consultant, has observed that “the debate about abortion reflects a conflict over who runs society”—social liberals or religious and social conservatives—“their disagreements reflect very different understandings of the fetus, of the woman, and indeed of how the world should be structured” (*The Abortion Debate*, Kulczycki, pp. 157, 18). These conflicting views are at the heart of the bitter cultural wars that are polarizing people and dividing nations today.

It is significant that abortion is now widely accepted in many cultures that historically called themselves “Christian.” Bible prophecy warns that “in the last days” people will be “lovers of themselves [focused on their own rights and desires to the exclusion of concern for others]... unloving [callous and without natural affection—mothers for their own children]... brutal” (2 Timothy 3:1–5). These prophecies accurately describe our world today, yet these trends will grow far worse in years to come. Thankfully, the return of Jesus Christ will soon usher in the Kingdom of God, and bring about a return to biblical values that will include “turning the hearts of the fathers [and mothers] to their children.” Then, finally, the tragic modern holocaust of abortion will become a thing of the past! 

## To Learn More...



Modern values and morals have changed shockingly in the last few years. Is this a sign of progress, or is it a sign that the end of the age is approaching?

Please request our **FREE** booklet, **Fourteen Signs Announcing Christ's Return**, or download it from the Booklets section of our Web site [www.tomorrowworld.org](http://www.tomorrowworld.org).

## ARE YOU A COMPROMISER? (continued from page 3)

the week—not the ancient, pagan “day of the sun.”

“Oh, but that’s too strict,” some will say. “We don’t need to take Jesus’ statement so seriously.” Really? Perhaps we should not take Jesus’ statements about not killing so seriously, either. Perhaps we should not take Jesus’ prohibition of lying so seriously. Perhaps we should not take so seriously His condemnation of wanton divorce (except for the *very few* strict biblical exceptions). *Right?*

Of course not! The truth is that we have become, in large part, a society of “compromisers.” Many like to *profess* that they follow Christ. *But few actually follow Him!* Many like to *profess* that they believe in the Ten Commandments, but they are extremely quick to “water down” the commandments when it suits their purpose—and our modern “lifestyle.”

We like to think that we stand for **truth**. But how many of us resort to lying “a little” when it suits our purpose?

Again, the Word of God is very clear. For the Apostle John quotes God the Father promising: “He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and **all liars** shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death” (Revelation 21:7–8). Note how “liars” are lumped right in with *murderers* and those who are sexually immoral and idolaters! Unless they repent, their fate is “the second death” in the Lake of Fire! But since our western society is too “educated” and likes to “compromise,” we do not *really* want to believe in *this* either—**do we?**

Dear friend and subscriber, I pray with all my heart that—as *thousands have already done*—more and more of you will open your hearts and minds to be willing to *understand* and *practice* the **full Truth**. We *do* need to take seriously the inspired Word of God! The Apostle Paul was inspired to tell us that we are in a spiritual battle. He wrote: “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, *bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ*” (2 Corinthians 10:4–5). We all need to ask God to help

us and strengthen us, so that we can stand up against all the human argument and reasoning against the knowledge of God, and so that we can truly bring *every thought* into captivity to the **obedience of Christ!**

Certainly, none of us is perfect. We all need time to grow and to change. But we must start somewhere. We must be *willing*. And we need to learn to “go all out” with a zeal and enthusiasm that shows God that we want to be in His Kingdom and to fulfill *His will* in our lives *with all our hearts*. We must learn to aim high. For Jesus tells us: “Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is **perfect**” (Matthew 5:48). I hope that each of us can come to realize how *easy* and how *dangerous* it is to “compromise” and just “go along” with this world’s society. For the attitudes of lethargy and compromise are all around us. God **knew** that this would happen! That is the reason He specifically described the last era of the Church—the **Laodicean** era—in this way: “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are **lukewarm**, and neither cold nor hot, *I will vomit you out of My mouth*” (Revelation 3:15–16).

*Please understand.*

Millions of “lukewarm” people are very “nice.” They may be good friends or family members. They may be pleasant and agreeable workmates. God may not *yet* be “calling” them. But if He is calling *you*, be sure that you do *your part* to “make your calling and election **sure**” (2 Peter 1:10, KJV).

Certainly, one may “compromise” about which restaurant to visit, or which ballgame to attend; it can be good to be agreeable and let others decide in ordinary human situations. But when it comes to God’s law—obedience to the very Creator of heaven and earth—you and I must truly learn to **fear** “watering down” or “compromising” God’s Truth in the way we teach or live. We in this Work cannot help you by telling you anything less. May God help you to *understand*, and then to find where the *full Truth* is being taught—and to **act** on that Truth with all your heart!



# Tomorrow's World

## Television and Radio Log

### INTERNATIONAL:

#### —AUSTRALIA

**VIC, Melbourne:** MCTC—Ch 31, SUN 11:30 pm  
**NSW, Newcastle:** NBN—Ch 3, SUN 5:00 am  
**WA, Perth:** CETL—Ch 31, SUN 9:30 am  
**QLD, Gold Coast:** NBN—Ch 67, SUN 5:00 am

#### —BARBADOS

**St. Michael:** CBC—Ch 8, SUN 9:30 am

#### —CANADA

**ON, Toronto:** Vision—SUN 5:30 pm ET; SUN, MON—FRI 3:00 am ET

#### —JAMAICA

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

#### —NEW ZEALAND

**Nationwide:** PRIME TELEVISION—SUN 8:30 am

#### —PHILIPPINES

**Bansalan:** Bansalan Cable—Ch 10, SAT 10:00 am  
**Borongan:** Borongan Cable—Ch 4, SAT 3:00 pm  
**Camiguin:** Cable TV—Ch 21, SUN 8:00 am  
**Kidapawan:** Metro Cable—Ch 19, SAT 8:30 am  
**Nabunturan:** Nabunturan Cable—Ch 21, SAT 10:00 am  
**Maasin City:** Maasin Cable—Ch 13, SAT 10:00 am  
**Ormoc City:** Ormoc Cable—Ch 3, SAT 12:00 pm  
**Sogod:** Sogod Cable—Ch 13, SAT 12:00 pm

#### —TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

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

### UNITED STATES:

**AK, Anchorage:** GCI—Ch 16, SAT 10:00 pm  
**AL, Birmingham:** Bright House—Ch 4, THUR 2:30 pm  
**AL, Troy/Montgomery:** WRJM—Ch 67, SUN 6:30 am  
**AR, Fort Smith:** KFTA—Ch 24, SUN 6:30 am  
**AR, Fayetteville:** KNWA—Ch 51, SUN 6:30 am  
**AR, Fayetteville:** Access TV—Ch 8, SUN 8:30 pm  
**AR, Little Rock:** KASN—Ch 38, SAT 8:00 am  
**AZ, Lake Havasu City:** KLUH—Ch 45, SUN 10:30 am  
**AZ, Phoenix:** Access—Ch 22, WED 11:00 am  
**AZ, Prescott:** Cable—Ch 13, SAT 5:30 pm; SUN 6:30 am  
**AZ, Tucson:** Access—Ch 73, SAT 2:00 pm; SUN 11:30 pm  
**CA, North Orange County:** Adelphia—Ch 95/97/98, SUN 3:30 pm  
**CA, Eureka:** Cox—Ch 10, MON 8:00 pm  
**CA, Garden Grove:** Time Warner—Ch 6, SUN 9:30 am & 6:30 pm  
**CA, Modesto:** Access—Ch 8, TUE 3:00 pm  
**CA, Oceanside:** KOCT—Ch 18, SUN 5:30 pm  
**CA, Sacramento:** RCCTV—Ch 19, MON 5:30 pm  
**CA, San Diego:** Cox—Ch 18 & 23, THUR 6:00 pm  
**CA, San Francisco:** Access TV—Ch 29, SUN 10:30 am  
**CA, San Jose:** Community TV—Ch 15A, SAT 11:30 pm  
**CA, Sonora:** TCCCA—Ch 8, SUN 8:00 pm  
**CA, Turlock:** Charter—Ch 2, MON 8:00 pm  
**CT, Enfield:** Comcast—Ch 15, THUR 6:30 pm  
**CT, Naugatuck:** Tele-Media—Ch 10, TUE 9:30 pm  
**FL, Gainesville:** Cox—Ch 55, SUN 8:00 pm  
**FL, Ocala:** Cox—Ch 71, SUN 10:00 am  
**FL, Tampa:** WTTA—Ch 38, SUN 8:00 am  
**GA, Atlanta:** AIB—Cable, THUR 9:30 pm; SAT 1:30 am  
**GA, Atlanta:** PTV—Ch 24, FRI 2:00 pm  
**GA, Macon:** Cox Cable—Ch 18, SUN 5:00 pm; TUE 7:30 am; FRI 2:00 pm  
**HI, Hilo:** Na Leo—Ch 2, FRI 9:30 pm; SUN 12:30 pm  
**HI, Kahului:** Akaku—Ch 44, SUN 7:30 pm; MON 4:30 am  
**HI, Kailua-Kona:** Na Leo—Ch 14, SAT 10:30 pm; MON 1:30 pm  
**HI, Lihue:** Ho'iike—Ch 12, MON 1:30 pm  
**IA, Des Moines:** Mediacom—Ch 15, SAT 10:00 am; SUN 11:00 am  
**IA, Dubuque:** TCI of Iowa—Ch 16, THUR 8:00 pm; MON 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm; TUE 10:00 pm; WED 2:00 pm  
**ID, Boise:** TVTV—Ch 11, SAT 10:00 pm; SUN 12:00 pm

**ID, Pocatello:** Vision—Ch 12, WED 2:30 pm; FRI 1:00 pm  
**IL, Bloomington:** Insight—Ch 20, SUN 1:00 pm; MON 10:00 pm; TUE 4:00 pm; SAT 6:00 pm  
**IL, Chicago:** WGN—Ch 9, SUN 5:00 am  
**IL, Moline:** MediaCom—Ch 75, MON-WED 2:00 pm; THUR 6:00 pm; FRI 3:00 pm; SAT & SUN 2:00 pm  
**IL, Peoria:** Insight—Ch 20, SUN 7:30 pm  
**IN, Bloomington:** CATS—Ch 3, MON 5:30 pm  
**KS, Chanute:** Cablevision—Ch 5, SUN 7:30 am; TUE 5:30 pm  
**KS, Parsons:** Time Warner—Ch 21, WED 7:00 pm & 9:30 pm  
**KY, Latonia:** PEG 17—Ch 17, WED 5:30 pm; THUR 12:00 am  
**KY, Lexington:** Ch 14, Check Local Listing  
**KY, Paducah:** Public Access—Ch 2, WED 3:30 pm  
**LA, Baton Rouge:** KZUP—Ch 44, SUN 11:00 am  
**LA, Lafayette:** KATC—Ch 3, SUN 9:00 am  
**LA, Shreveport:** KSHV—Ch 45, SUN 8:30 am  
**MA, Cambridge:** CCTV—Ch 22, TUE 4:00 pm  
**MA, Malden:** Access TV—Ch 3, SUN 11:00 am  
**MD, Rockville:** Comcast—Ch 19, THUR 5:00 pm  
**MD, Westminster:** Adelphia—Ch 19, THUR & FRI 10:00 am  
**ME, Auburn:** GFTV—Ch 11, SAT 9:00 am; SUN 8:00 pm  
**ME, Brunswick:** Cable 7—Ch 7, SAT 8:30 am; SUN 6:30 am  
**MI, Traverse City:** TCTV2—Ch 2, SUN 5:30 pm  
**MN, Duluth:** Public Access—Ch 24, SAT 11:00 am; SUN 7:00 pm  
**MN, Hutchinson:** HCYN—Ch 10, FRI 4:00 pm; TUE 4:00 pm  
**MN, Minneapolis:** MTN—Ch 75, THUR 6:30 pm  
**MN, Minneapolis:** NW Community—Ch 19, SAT 10:30 pm; SUN 4:30 am, 10:30 am & 4:30 pm  
**MN, Roseville:** CTV—Ch 15, TUE 8:00 pm; WED 4:00 am & 12:00 pm  
**MN, St. Paul:** SPNN—Ch 14, SUN 8:30 pm  
**MO, Joplin:** KOAM—Ch 7, SUN 7:00 am  
**MO, Kansas City:** KCWE—Ch 29, SUN 8:00 am  
**MO, Springfield:** KSPR—Ch 33, SUN 8:30 am  
**MO, St. Charles:** Charter—Ch 47, SUN 9:30 am & 9:00 pm  
**MO, St. Louis:** Double Helix—Ch 22, MON 4:00 pm  
**MS, Jackson:** Time Warner—Ch 18, SUN 10:00 am; WED 4:00 pm  
**MS, Jackson:** WAPT—Ch 16, SUN 8:30 am  
**NC, Burlington:** Time Warner—Ch 5/10, SUN 9:00 pm  
**NC, Greensboro:** GCTV—Ch 8, SAT 7:30 am; SUN 8:00 pm  
**NC, Wilmington:** Time Warner—Ch 4, WED 10:00 pm  
**NE, Omaha:** KPTM—Ch 42, SUN 8:00 am  
**NH, Hanover:** CATV—Ch 6, SUN 6:00 pm; MON 12:00 am & 6:00 am & 12:00 pm; THUR 7:00 pm; FRI 1:00 am & 7:00 am & 1:00 pm  
**NJ, East Windsor:** Comcast—Ch 27, WED 5:30 pm  
**NJ, Oakland:** Cablevision—Ch 76, SUN 11:30 am  
**NJ, Trenton:** Comcast—Ch 26, MON 10:00 pm  
**NM, Albuquerque:** CCC27—Ch 27, SUN 6:30 pm  
**NM, Rio Rancho:** CABLE ONE—Ch 51, THUR 7:00 pm  
**NV, Carson City:** Access TV—Ch 10, SAT 9:00 pm  
**NV, Gardnerville:** Community Access—Ch 26, SAT 3:30 am & 3:30 pm; SUN 3:30 am & 3:30 pm  
**NV, Reno/Sparks:** SNCT—Ch 30/16, SUN 8:30 pm  
**NY, Batavia:** Time Warner—Ch 19, TUE 5:30 pm  
**NY, Binghamton:** Time Warner—Ch 6, FRI 5:00 pm  
**NY, Brookhaven:** Cablevision—Ch 20, FRI 10:30 pm  
**NY, Brooklyn:** BCAT—Ch 56/69, SUN 3:00 pm  
**NY, Canandaigua:** FLT—Ch 12, SUN 11:30 am  
**NY, Elmira & Corning:** Time Warner—Ch 1, SUN 8:00 am  
**NY, Fairport:** FACT—Ch 15, SUN 11:00 am  
**NY, Hauppauge:** Cablevision—Ch 20, FRI 10:30 pm  
**NY, Irondequoit:** ICAT—Ch 15, SUN 7:30 pm; WED 11:30 am & 7:30 pm  
**NY, Ithaca:** Pegasus—Ch 13, SAT 8:00 pm; SUN 7:30 am & 1:30 pm  
**NY, Manhattan:** MNN—Ch 67/110, FRI 7:30 am  
**NY, Oneida:** Community Access—Ch 99, THUR 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm  
**NY, Oneonta:** Time Warner—Ch 23, WED 8:30 pm  
**NY, Queens:** QPTV—Ch 34/35, THUR 12:00 pm & SUN 9:30 pm  
**NY, Riverhead:** Cablevision—Ch 20, MON 4:30 pm  
**NY, Rochester:** Community TV—Ch 15, SUN 1:30 pm  
**NY, Staten Island:** CTV—Ch 34, SUN 8:00 pm; TUE 12:00 pm  
**NY, Syracuse:** Community Access—Ch 98, SUN 7:30 pm  
**NY, Utica:** Adelphia—Ch 3, MON 9:00 pm  
**NY, Woodbury:** Cablevision—Ch 20, SAT 6:30 am  
**OH, Cambridge:** AVC—Ch 2, TUE 7:00 pm  
**OH, Centerville:** MVCC—Ch 23, MON 6:00 pm  
**OH, Cincinnati:** Time Warner—Ch 8 & 24, SUN 11:30 am; TUE 12:30 pm

**OH, Dayton:** DSTV—Ch 12, TUE 4:30 pm; FRI 7:30 am  
**OH, Fairborn:** CAC—Ch 23, TUE 12:00 pm  
**OH, Greenville:** GPAT—Ch 3, THUR 9:00 pm  
**OK, Tulsa:** KTFO—Ch 41, SAT 12:30 am  
**OR, Portland:** MCTV—Ch 11, SUN 12:30 pm  
**PA, Johnstown:** Atlantic Broadband—Ch 9, MON 10:00 pm  
**PA, Philadelphia:** Urban—Ch 5, THUR 9:00 pm; SUN 5:30 pm  
**PA, Sayre:** Time Warner—Ch 18, MON-FRI 5:00 pm  
**RI, Providence:** WPXQ—Ch 69, SUN 9:30 am; MON 11:30 am  
**RI, Chattanooga:** WDEF—Ch 12, SUN 8:30 am  
**TN, Knoxville:** WWLT—Ch 8, SUN 6:30 am  
**TN, LaFollette:** WLAF—Ch 12, TUE 10:30 pm  
**TN, Nashville:** WZTV—Ch 17, SUN 7:00 am  
**TX, Austin:** Community Access—Ch 11, WED 7:00 pm  
**TX, Dallas:** Community Television—Ch 14b, SAT 1:00 pm; SUN 11:00 am  
**TX, Lufkin:** KTRE—Ch 9, SUN 6:30 am  
**TX, Midland:** KMID—Ch 2, SUN 9:00 am  
**TX, Temple:** KPLE—Ch 31/45, SUN 7:30 pm  
**TX, Tyler:** KLT—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am  
**VA, Chesterfield:** Comcast—Ch 6, THUR 6:30 pm  
**VA, Roanoke:** WRDL—Ch 24/54, SUN 7:00 am  
**VA, Virginia Beach:** Cox—Ch 71 & 74, SAT 8:30 am  
**VT, Bennington:** CAT—Ch 15, WED 9:30 am & 12:00 am; THUR 12:00 am & 9:30 pm; SAT 8:00 am & 4:30 pm  
**VT, Manchester:** Adelphia—Ch 15, FRI 11:00 pm; SAT 11:00 am; SUN 11:00 am; MON 11:00 am; TUE 11:00 am  
**VT, Montpelier:** Community Access—Ch 15, TUE 9:00 pm; WED 3:00 pm  
**VT, Richmond:** Community TV—Ch 15, SUN 2:00 am & 9:00 am & 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm; MON 7:00 am & 1:00 pm  
**VT, Springfield:** SARA TV—Ch 8, THUR 10:00 pm; MON 12:00 pm  
**WA, Everett:** Comcast—Ch 77, MON 3:30 pm  
**WA, Kennewick:** Charter—Ch 13/99, SUN 8:00 pm; TUE 8:00 pm  
**WA, Seattle:** TCI—Ch 29, FRI 5:30 pm  
**WA, Spokane:** Comcast—Ch 14, MON 8:00 pm  
**WA, Vancouver:** FVCT—Ch 11, SUN 9:30 am  
**WI, Wausau:** Charter—Ch 10, THUR 9:00 pm; FRI 7:30 am  
**WY, Casper:** KWTO—Ch 2, SUN 8:00 am  
**WY, Cheyenne:** KLWY—Ch 27, SUN 8:00 am

### RADIO STATIONS:

**Argentina, Bahia Blanca:** Vida—107.7 FM, WED 10:00 am; THUR 8:00 pm; SAT 2:00 pm  
**Argentina, Buenos Aires:** La Nueva Radio—650 AM, SAT 1:30 pm; SUN 8:30 am  
**Chile, Santiago:** Alfa Y Omega—107.7 FM, Daily 4:00 pm  
**Chile, Santiago:** Radio Contacto—98.1 FM, Daily 4:00 pm  
**Costa Rica, San Jose:** Radio Fabulosa—890 AM, SUN 8:00 am  
**Martinique:** Radio Banlieue-Relax—103.4 FM, SUN 6:15 am  
**Mexico, Mexico City:** XEEST—1440 AM, SUN 9:30 am  
**Philippines, Cebu City:** DYLA—909 AM, SUN 6:00 am  
**Philippines, Davao City:** DXUM—See Local Listing  
**Philippines, Manila:** DWBL—1242 AM, THUR 10:30 pm; SUN 3:30 pm  
**Philippines, Ozamiz City:** DXOC—1494 AM, SUN 5:30 am  
**USA, LaFollette, TN:** WLAF—1450 AM, SAT 3:00 pm

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

• **Television Superstation**  
**WGN—SUN 6:00 am ET**

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**WGN:** SUN 6:00 am ET

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

## NEW TELEVISION STATIONS:

**TN, Memphis:** WPTY—Ch 24, SUN 6:30 am

## AUSTRALIA

**QLD, Gold Coast:** NBN—Ch 67, SUN 5:00 am

**NSW, Newcastle:** NBN—Ch 3, SUN 5:00 am

## COMING IN APRIL:

**TX, Houston:** KHWB—Ch 39, SUN 6:00 am



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