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TOMORROW'S WORLD

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**The Devil's
Deadly
Deceptions**

Pieces of the Prophetic Puzzle in Europe?

Brits were fed up with Brussels telling them which cucumbers met European Union beauty standards and could therefore be sold in market. That was minor compared to fishing quotas placed on waters the British considered to be their own. Then there were the payments to subsidize weaker EU economies. In short, Britain was losing its sovereignty, and many didn't like it.

British Prime Minister David Cameron took what appeared to be a well-calculated gamble to settle the issue. On February 20, 2016, he announced he would let the people decide whether to remain in the European Union or to leave it. "He said he would be campaigning to remain in a reformed EU—and described the vote as one of the biggest decisions 'in our lifetimes'" ("EU Referendum: Cameron sets June date for UK vote," *BBC.com*, February 20, 2016).

The referendum was set for June 23, 2016. The colorful former London Mayor Boris Johnson, flame-throwing firebrand Nigel Farage, and MP Michael Gove led the "Leave" forces, but the bet was that in the end, people would stick with the status quo rather than take a leap into the dark of an uncertain future. Few believed the British would do it. Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn wanted Britain to stay within the union, but *refused to stand with Cameron*, hoping rather to bring down the Conservatives and make his own "Remain" deal.

The Storm Arrives

I was in Brussels the evening of the vote, enjoying a Belgian-style burger at an outdoor restaurant near the EU Parliament. Toward the end of the meal, it was clear that a large thunderstorm was brewing, and my colleague and I decided it was time to leave—and none too soon. His satellite navigation system warned him just in time to exit off a major four-lane highway or be tied up for hours due to downed trees, severed power lines, and flooding. *It was a violent storm.*

Back in my hotel in Charleroi, I turned on the television to see the latest news. Both Boris Johnson and Nigel Farage expressed their disappointment that Brexit would come up short. That was the consensus

of the hour. With the one-hour difference in time zones and the polls closing late, I decided to wait until morning to hear the inevitable.

The violent storm that hit the Brussels area the night of the vote was nothing compared to the storm that hit Britain and the EU the next morning. Britons had done the unthinkable. They voted to leave the EU.

A divorce is rarely easy and usually not simple. Serving divorce papers is one thing. Working through the details is quite another. England and Wales voted Leave, but Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Gibraltar voted Remain. As recently as 2014, the Scottish National Party had called for a referendum to leave

the not-always-united United Kingdom. The Scottish threat to divorce the UK and hitch their wagon to Europe is not a matter of idle words. How to solve the border issue between the Republic of Ireland, which remains in the EU, and Northern Ireland, which is part of the UK, remains a "sticky wicket."



The Brexit crisis deepened this past January. The deal Prime Minister Theresa May made with the EU had to be ratified by Parliament, but Parliament voted "no deal" to the agreement by a stunning margin of 432 to 202. "Brexiters" claim the deal brokered by Prime Minister May—now rejected—would have tied the UK to the EU indefinitely, but without any influence over EU rules. They believe that accepting that deal would have been worse than staying in the EU, a point with which the "Remainers" agree. The result was a dramatic defeat for the exit plan.

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Many in North America fail to see the dangers brewing on the other side of the Atlantic. Will some kind of agreement between Britain and the European Union be cobbled together at the last hour? Or will there be no deal, what some call a “hard Brexit”? The answers will likely be much clearer by the time you read this, but no matter which way the worm turns, one thing is almost certain: Britain’s counterbalance to power on the continent, and its moderating influence, will be severely diminished.

Questions abound. What will happen to the British economy? There are differences of opinion, and only time will provide the answer. What will happen to the German economy? Twenty percent of Germany’s car exports went to Britain in 2016. An *Irish Times* article published this prediction on the eve of the January 16 parliamentary vote: “A no-deal Brexit could bring chaos to Germany’s crucial manufacturing and exporter sectors” (“Germany’s united front on Brexit crumbles ahead of London’s Tuesday vote” *IrishTimes.com*, January 15, 2019). *Cyprus Mail Online* chimed in, “‘The consequences of a “no deal” would be fatal,’ German auto industry association VDA said after the vote” (“German carmakers warn hard Brexit would be ‘fatal,’” *Cyprus-Mail.com*, January 16, 2019).

If the German economy tanks, what effect will that have on weaker European economies? Note this very sobering conclusion to a report titled “All or Nothing” from *German-Foreign-Policy.com*:

In the case of the “hard” Brexit, German industry stands to suffer losses in the double-digit billions.... The German government banks on an “all or nothing” policy—a maxim that has remained a characteristic feature of Berlin’s foreign policy for nearly 150 years, **which has twice plunged Germany into collapse, not to mention the damage caused to neighboring countries** (December 13, 2018, emphasis added).

The Bible Provides Insight!

The record shows that this Work has predicted for decades, based on Bible prophecy, that Britain will

not be part of the end-time Beast power that will rise in Europe shortly before Jesus Christ returns. Britain may be somehow part of a greater economic union, but it will not be part of the union of ten “kings,” who will be “of one mind, and... will give their power and authority to the beast.” That union will be very short-lived. It may look good at the beginning, but will result in destruction on a massive scale, and only come to a complete end when the King of kings returns to save mankind from self-inflicted annihilation (Revelation 17:12–14; Matthew 24:21–22).

Bible prophecy reveals that there will be ten “kings” (rulers or possibly countries) in Europe who “will give their power and authority to the Beast” at the end of the age (Revelation 17:12–13). It also reveals that this alliance will be fragile (Daniel 2:41–43). Germany is none other than the modern descendant of ancient Assyria and will be at the heart of this end-time power block. (For further details, see our July-August 2018 article “What Is Prophesied for Germany?”) On the other hand, the United Kingdom is part of the house of Israel. This is explained in greater detail in our eye-opening publication *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*.

Countries normally do not “give their power and authority” to another nation. A crisis is coming that will cause the European Union, as we know it, to be transformed. The Trump administration is pushing Germany to spend more on defense and has threatened to pull out of NATO. As the cliché goes, “Be careful what you wish for.”

On January 7, the business section of *The Telegraph* asked a sobering question in one of its articles: “Is this the year the world falls apart?” After laying out the facts and musing that the world will likely muddle through 2019, the article ends by saying, “The Western liberal order we took for granted at the end of the Cold War is under existential threat,” and noting the summary provided by one global analyst group: “We’re setting ourselves up for trouble down the road. Big trouble.” The wise will be watching as these puzzle pieces continue to come together.



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Millions all over the world claim to observe the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. But does this holiday truly honor the Son of God? You need to know the truth.

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When we examine the customs and traditions of the holiday known as “Easter” and compare them to the Bible, we come to an important question...

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Why Observe Easter?

The Hunt for the Truth



By **Gerald E. Weston**

What do celebrations surrounding Easter have to do with the biblical account of Jesus' death and resurrection? Truthfully, little to nothing at all.

Let us begin with the name. As many secular sources explain, the name *Easter* derives from the Anglo-Saxon goddess *Eostre*. This deity is widely known as the goddess of fertility and the Queen of Heaven, and her name is spelled differently in different cultures. *Easter* is connected to *Ishtar* and *Istra*, just to give a few of the different spellings of her name found in various languages. The Melkite Greek Catholic Church says this about the origin of the name *Easter*: "Our modern English word 'Easter' comes from Old English, and referred originally to the Norse goddess of fertility, Istra – who was symbolized by a rabbit" ("Great Lent and Holy Week," *Melkite.org*).

The connection of the name and many Easter customs to paganism is an indisputable matter of historical record. This ought to elicit questions from anyone with an active mind. Does it not seem strange to stamp the name of a pagan goddess on what is considered the most sacred holiday of professing Christianity? Why would leaders allow or do such a thing, when Scripture explicitly prohibits borrowing heathen practices? (See Deuteronomy 12:29–32; Jeremiah 10:2.) Why do leaders of mainstream Christianity not speak out about this?

Furthermore, blatant paganism surrounding the celebration of Easter does not stop with the name. Would not a curious person want to know what eggs, bunnies, hot cross buns, and Easter lilies have to do with the resurrection of Christ? The truth is, these too were borrowed from heathen customs. This is easily discovered by a little research, which the average person can conduct. Strange, isn't it? Why would Christianity embrace customs that are common in the worship of a foreign deity?

Few Sunday morning churchgoers are familiar with the history of their religious practices. That is because they never question handed-down traditions, and at one time, neither did I. Why should we? We trusted that our parents would never lie to us, at least not intentionally. Or would they? Why is it that when it comes to religion, it appears to be okay to lie to children? Consider Santa Claus. Not only do parents lie to their children, but so do priests and ministers. As did our parents, we—at least at one time—viewed religious figures as trusted sources of information. They are supposed to be the experts on the Bible. They went to seminary to study the Scriptures, and each week they stand up to tell us what the Bible teaches. At least that is the common conception of their role in our lives—but are they the experts? Sadly, that is not the case. The lies they tell us are not always discovered as routinely as the truth about Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. When tradition meets truth, tradition more often wins out. Truth will always win in the end, but the end can be a long way off.

What Difference Does It Make?

These facts about Easter's origins are not unknown to everyone. Some people are quite familiar with Easter's checkered history, but ask, "What difference does it make?"

The name *Easter*, along with its associated heathen customs, is not all that is wrong with Easter. There are far more serious problems, and these are not so widely known. Specifically, the commonly accepted days of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection are wrong. He was not crucified on a Friday and He was not resurrected Sunday morning. That may be shocking, but it is provable. How can that be? And what difference does it make?

When this truth is shown in the Scriptures, defenses are raised, but they fall in the face of facts. The key passage, and the reason why this whole question is important, is found in Matthew 12:38–40: "Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, 'Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.' But

He answered and said to them, 'An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.'"

Note carefully: This is the **only sign** that Jesus said would prove that He was who He claimed to be, the Son

of God. No matter how you try, you cannot count three days and three nights between late Friday afternoon and early Sunday morning. Try it yourself. Even

if you count a few minutes of Friday afternoon when He was put in the tomb right before sunset, and a few minutes of Sunday morning, you only have three days and two nights. And that is being generous by counting very small parts of days at the beginning and end.

Was Jesus Mistaken?

The Abingdon Bible Commentary bluntly tells us Jesus was mistaken: "The statement made is inaccurate, for Jesus was in the grave only from Friday evening to Sunday dawn." That is a very serious charge! Was Jesus mistaken when He described the **only** sign that He was the Messiah?

Most commentators do not accept His statement to be literal, as this contradicts tradition. Instead, they allege that a combined day and night simply means a single 24-hour day. They also claim that the first and third days only need to be a portion of a day each. However, there are serious problems with this reckoning. As seen from the commentary above, at least one authority does not buy this argument, and simply asserts, "The statement made is inaccurate...."

Even if we accept that the Greek expression means parts of three days (and that is far from certain), we must remember that Matthew 12:40 is not dependent on the Greek alone. Jesus points us back to Jonah, and that account is written in Hebrew. "For **as** Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, **so will** the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." So how long was Jonah in the

CONSIDER SANTA CLAUS. NOT ONLY DO PARENTS LIE TO THEIR CHILDREN, BUT SO DO PRIESTS AND MINISTERS.



belly of the fish? “And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights” (Jonah 1:17).

The Book of Jonah was written in the Hebrew language and we must also consider that language and its common usage to understand this expression. Appendix 144 in *The Companion Bible* explores the meaning of three days and three nights in Hebrew usage. After giving a technical explanation, it states definitively that “when it says that ‘Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights’ (Jonah 1:17) it means exactly what it says,” pointing out that “this can be the only meaning of the expression....”

The Good Friday/Easter Sunday tradition is further complicated by the timeline found in the gospel accounts. The biblical record is the only source that records the timeline of the crucifixion and resurrection, so why is it that most assume that Jesus was crucified on a Friday? The truth is that many have no idea but stand by the tradition they were taught. Those who know a little more about the Bible understand that Jesus died and was buried on a *preparation day*, a day leading up to a Sabbath. Upon His death, “This man [Joseph of Arimathea] went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb that was hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near” (Luke 23:52–54).

The weekly biblical Sabbath begins at sunset on Friday and ends at sunset on Saturday. Without investigating any further, then, it would appear that

Jesus was crucified on Friday morning at about 9:00, died around 3:00 p.m., and was put in the grave very late Friday afternoon. But is this what the Bible says? Many errors result from careless assumptions, and this is just such an error. There is no doubt that Jesus was crucified on a preparation day for a Sabbath, but *which* Sabbath was this? People carelessly assume it was the *weekly* Sabbath. But the annual Holy Days are *also* Sabbaths of rest, and each one has a preparation day that precedes it. Was this a *weekly* Sabbath or an *annual* Sabbath?

Jesus kept the Passover with His disciples at the beginning of the Passover day (shortly after sunset on Nisan 14). This is made clear by all three Synoptic Gospels. Here is what Luke records:

Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat.” So they said to Him, “Where do You want us to prepare?” And He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters. Then you shall say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, “Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?”’” ... So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover. When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. Then He said to them, “With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer” (Luke 22:7–11, 13–15).

The so-called “last supper” was, in fact, the Passover, as Mark and Luke also confirm.

It is important to remember that God measures each day from sunset to sunset, and this was the practice of the Jews in Christ’s day. Therefore, when Jesus sat down with His disciples *at the beginning* of the Passover day, it was evening, *shortly after sunset*. Most Bible students are familiar with the fact that He was arrested later that night and crucified during the daylight portion of the same sunset-to-sunset Passover day. He died around 3:00 p.m., and was put into the

tomb just before sunset. All this occurred during the 24 hours of the Passover day.

Two Sabbaths That Week

Few Sunday-morning churchgoers realize that Jesus, His Apostles, and first-century Christianity observed days very different from those many celebrate today. If they followed Christ's example of observing the biblical Holy Days, they would realize that the day after the Passover is an *annual* Sabbath day—the first Day of Unleavened Bread, Nisan 15 (Leviticus 23:5–7).

“So what?” you might ask. Yet this little-understood fact solves what would otherwise be a major contradiction among the gospel accounts.

The Apostle John clarifies that the preparation day was not for the *weekly* Sabbath, but for an **annual** high-day Sabbath, the day that follows the Passover. “Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath **(for that Sabbath was a high day)**, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away” (John 19:31).

If Jesus was crucified on the 14th of Nisan, on the biblical Passover, which we have seen in Scripture, then it follows that the next day was an annual high-day Sabbath. And in fact, the 15th of Nisan is *always* a high day. With this in mind, let us notice two passages that demonstrate that there were two Sabbath days that week—the annual high-day Sabbath and the weekly seventh day Sabbath, with a day in between: “Now **when the Sabbath was past**, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him” (Mark 16:1). But Luke tells us they prepared spices *prior to* resting on the Sabbath. “That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near. And the women who had come with Him from Galilee followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid. Then they returned and prepared **spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath** according to the commandment” (Luke 23:54–56).

You cannot prepare spices before you buy them! Mark tells us that they did not buy the spices until after the annual Sabbath. Luke tells us they prepared the spices and then rested on the weekly Sabbath. These two passages give incontrovertible proof that the women rested on the high day (the annual

Sabbath), then bought and prepared the spices on an ordinary day, before resting on the weekly Sabbath. This is the only way to harmonize these verses. Either there were two Sabbaths, with an ordinary day in between, or the Bible contradicts itself.

We can now construct the timeline given in Scripture as follows: Jesus kept the Passover after sunset on Tuesday. He was crucified and died during the day on Wednesday, and was put into the tomb just before sundown. Sunset that evening began the annual high-day Sabbath, which lasted through the daylight portion of Thursday. Friday was an ordinary day before the seventh-day Sabbath on Saturday. So, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights give us three nights. The daylight portions of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday give us three days—three days and three nights, just as Jesus said. He was resurrected late Saturday afternoon just before sunset, and when the women came to the tomb Sunday morning, He was gone.

There are some remaining unanswered questions so far, such as why Mark 16:9 appears on the surface to say that Jesus rose on the first day of the week (Sunday). This is easily explained by the fact that there was no punctuation in the original Greek. Translators supply all punctuation, sometimes according to their preconceived doctrinal biases. Most of the time they do a good job of making the text clear, but not in this case. The *New King James Version* and several other translations read, “Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene....” A comma is placed after “week.” Since there is no punctuation in the original, this is an arbitrary decision, and the comma could just as easily be placed as in these translations:

- After Jesus rose from death, early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene (*Good News for Modern Man*).
- Now after He had risen, early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary of Magdala (*Williams—In the Language of the People*).

As one can see, the phrase “early on the first day of the week” refers to when He appeared to Mary, not to when He was resurrected—that is, the appearance was

EASTER CONTINUES ON PAGE 32

ANSWERING THE GREAT QUESTION

It's the question of our lives. But where can we find the answer?

There is a natural curiosity that young children possess. They look upon scenic environments with wonder, awed by the beauty and the variety of plant and animal life they encounter. What a child sees is unfiltered and not yet fully processed and categorized—making what they see new and captivating.

Perhaps a vague thought occasionally flickers within the child's mind. What does all this mean? Why does all this exist? No matter—another item of interest soon distracts them and draws their attention away.

As individuals become preoccupied by the requirements of growing up, learning about self and society, they gradually spend increasingly less time and energy asking the question “Why?” For what purpose does this or that thing exist? Is there some overriding cosmic explanation that can give us what we once instinctively wanted to know—but had not the means to find out?

Victor Frankl, in his book *Man's Search for Meaning*, famously stated that “man's main concern is not to gain pleasure or to avoid pain but rather to see a meaning in his life.”

Idle speculations from numerous “authorities” concerning the meaning of life merely create more confusion than clarity. Reliance on philosophical dead ends provides no satisfying, objective answer to the question “Why do we exist?”

Acknowledging the Obvious

We can cut to the chase—it is obvious that things exist. They did not just come into existence out of nothing! They had to be created. What or who caused them to come into being?

One of the wisest men who ever lived, King Solomon, wrote, “He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end” (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

The Apostle Paul explains that this Creator shows Himself, but many refuse to see: “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God

is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:18–20).

God speaks through His prophet, Isaiah: “Remember what happened long ago, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and no one is like Me.

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I declare the end from the beginning and from long ago what is not yet done, saying: My plan will take place, and I

will do all My will” (Isaiah 46:9–10, *Holman Christian Standard Bible*). God has a plan and a purpose—though He has only given some the means to fully understand it, while many others have become willfully blind.

Mankind and all of creation exists for a purpose, and that purpose was determined by a Creator! Some scientists examine the material world and conclude that the Bible's words on these matters are fact. Yet sadly, many more dispute or ignore them.

Denying the Only Source of the Answer

For example, Francis Crick—molecular biologist, biophysicist and neuroscientist, and co-discoverer of the structure of the DNA molecule—stated in his book, *The Astonishing Hypothesis: The Scientific Search for the Soul*, “The Astonishing Hypothesis is that ‘You,’ your joys and your sorrows, your memories and your ambitions, your sense of personal identity and free will, are in fact no more than the behavior of a vast assembly of nerve cells and their associated molecules.” Or, as Carl Sagan once said, “The cosmos is all there is, or was, or ever will be.”

Such “experts” cannot provide real answers.

There is only one source that explains why you and I draw breath. The answers that mankind searches for are found in the pages of the Holy Bible. If you really want to know, challenge yourself and personally dig into the Word of God. For assistance, write for our free *Bible Study Course*, or you may enroll and take it online at TomorrowsWorld.org.

—Brian Pomicter

h Canada!

The Great Intendant



In the history of every successful nation, company, or team, there is at some point a person who provides groundbreaking leadership, making the difference between success and failure and between ordinary and great. This was truly the case in the history of Canada's earliest development.

The first permanent colony in what is now Canada was established in 1608 by the early French entrepreneur and explorer Samuel de Champlain at the current site of Quebec City. Known as "the Father of New France," Champlain served in a position equivalent to that of a governor from 1608 until his death in 1635. During this time, despite the territory's huge potential, little was accomplished toward the development of a viable and sustainable colony. In 1641, 33 years after the initial settlement, the population of the colony was only 240 (S.A. Cook, *Life in New France*, p. 17). Meanwhile, the English colonies to the south were home to about 25,000 colonists by 1640.

Prior to Champlain's death, the French government approved a new company to carry on trade, significantly expand permanent settlement, and develop an agricultural base. "The Company of 100 Associates" directed its energy toward building a profitable fur trade, but little effort or progress was made to develop a self-sustaining entity in the New World.

The Arrival of Jean Talon

Thus, King Louis XIV's senior minister, Jean-Baptiste Colbert, revoked the company's charter in 1663 and the government took direct control of the colony. To help ensure the new crown colony would be operated

with integrity, Colbert appointed a senior administrator called an *intendant*, responsible for justice, public order, and finance. The man selected for this position was an experienced administrator known for impeccable character. His name was Jean Talon. He was to be the king's eyes in the colony, guard against corruption, see that the army was well-equipped and provisioned, and work to make the colony economically self-sufficient. He arrived in New France on September 15, 1665.

Talon found the still-fledgling colony in a sorry state, neglected and disorganized. The French population in the region was still only about 3,000, at a time when the English colonies to the south had received over 100,000 settlers. The colony was also under constant threat of attack by Iroquois tribesmen, who sought to regain territory they had lost to Huron and Algonquin natives a century earlier. When Champlain arrived in 1608, the Algonquin had driven the Iroquois south, and the French had an alliance with the Huron and Algonquin peoples. Therefore, the French, too, were at war with the Iroquois.

Talon began by ensuring the security of the colony. One of France's best regiments, the 1,200-strong Carignan-Salières, had also been dispatched to New France in 1665. Talon ensured these men were well-provisioned and well-armed. With strengthened defenses, and well-supplied even at distant outposts, the regiment removed the Iroquois threat by 1667, giving New France the opportunity to develop in peace.

The Intendant now initiated a program of industrial development, which included shipbuilding, mining, the creation of iron foundries, and iron fabrication. Eventually, every farm household was supplied with a

loom for the weaving of hemp and wool products. Talon established courts of justice, policing, and imposed order on New France. Court time initially was taken up by lawsuits, so Talon designed incentives for out-of-court settlements. He administered justice in the colony with impartiality for rich or poor, thus earning a reputation for incorruptibility.

Still, the colony needed both settlers and natural population growth. Talon created a scheme to attract settlers from among landless citizens of France. For many young men, the dream of owning their own land in France was unattainable, but Talon provided an arrangement that required an immigrant to the New World to work for three years for another settler, after which he received a land grant and supplies (a plough and equipment to sustain for two years) to give him a start. By 1672, this policy had brought more than 1,500 indentured employees and future settlers to the colony. The colony was self-sufficient in wheat, and was exporting barley, peas, and hops by 1668 (*Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, "Jean Talon").

A Frontier in Need of Families

In contrast to England's policies, Colbert did not want massive emigration from France, so the growth of New

Talon's story shows what can be accomplished by a person who displays diligence, integrity, and courage.

France was gradual compared to the rapid growth of the English colonies. This presented another problem for Talon. In New France in 1665, there were six adult men for every adult woman. Such an imbalance did not allow for natural growth, and certainly did not encourage long-term settlement. Talon managed, with Colbert's approval, to have the French government select, train, and

send to New France women of marriageable age, and approximately 900 of these young ladies were sent out between 1665 and 1673.

These ladies were known as *les filles du roi*, the "daughters of the king," and were selected on criteria of health, good character, and probable ability to settle on the frontier. Many were orphans who had been raised in charitable institutions, but some were of "high birth" and were intended to marry officers of the Carignan-

Salières. Some later writers have incorrectly labelled them as women of ill repute. On the contrary, they were *required* to be of good reputation. Many were specially trained to be resourceful and skilled enough to make a home on the frontier.

When these courageous women arrived in Quebec, functions were held by the governor to allow them to meet the eligible bachelors. Each lady had the right to refuse proposals until she found a man she felt was suitable. Upon marriage, a substantial dowry of supplies was received from the governor in the name of the king.

To encourage the single men to seek such a marriage, young bachelors were charged a special tax and, if necessary, were forbidden to engage in hunting, fishing, or business. Under these conditions, many reluctant young men made the choice to seek a wife.

Talon then initiated the world's first paid incentive to have children. He approved an annual grant of 300 *livres* to every father upon the birth of his tenth child by a legal wife. This was raised to 400 *livres* annually on the birth of the twelfth child. Such was the success of Talon's efforts that in 1670 alone, more than 700 babies were born in the colony. In twenty years, from 1665 to 1685, the colony grew by 300 percent, mostly through natural growth.

Talon returned to France in November 1672, where he was eventually made secretary of the king's cabinet, one of the most powerful positions in the French administration. He never lost his love and concern for New France, and often spoke in support of the colony. He died in 1694 as Count of Orsianville.

Character and Dedication

Talon's story shows what can be accomplished by a person who displays diligence, integrity, and courage. He placed the good of the people of New France and loyalty to his superiors before his own interests. The foundation Talon laid contributes to the sustainability of French-Canadian culture to this very day.

If a man can be so diligent, so dedicated to his human leaders and to those he serves, how much more should one be dedicated to the service of a King who will soon return to rule this earth—a King who calls us to serve Him in eventually building a world that will eclipse every society mankind has ever produced?

—Stuart Wachowicz



What Is the Draw of Sharia Law?

By **Dexter Wakefield**

Reports out of many Muslim-majority countries tell of harsh penalties imposed on those who violate Sharia law, which is a body of religious law that is often incorporated into the civil law of Muslim societies. The severity of the punishment varies widely from country to country, but in some nations, it can include flogging, stoning, or the cutting off of a hand. Even the milder punishments for criminal activity often appear strict to Western observers. And depending on the country, Sharia family law may allow the arranged marriage of female children and severely limit the rights of women.

Are such laws being forced on these societies against the will of the people, or do the people willingly approve of these measures? It may be difficult for someone in a Western liberal democracy to imagine, but many in Muslim societies *strongly support* the Sharia legal system. The prestigious Pew Research Center for Religion and Public Life did a comprehensive study that demonstrates the high percentages of people in various Muslim countries who favor making Sharia official law in their nations. This study involved more than 38,000 face-to-face interviews conducted in

more than 80 languages, with Muslims across Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. Even in Western democracies, Muslim enclaves sometimes want to exercise Sharia law within their Islamic communities.

The Pew Research Center report states, “Overwhelming percentages of Muslims in many countries want Islamic law [Sharia] to be the official law of the land.” It should be noted that many supporters of Sharia say that it should apply only to their country’s Muslim population.

The percentage of Muslims who say they want Sharia to be “the official law of the land” varies widely around the world, from near unanimity in Afghanistan (99%) to fewer than one-in-ten in Azerbaijan (8%). But solid majorities in most of the countries surveyed across the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and Southeast Asia favor the establishment of Sharia, including 71% of Muslims in Nigeria, 72% in Indonesia, 74% in Egypt and 89% in the Palestinian territories. However, the study also noted that in most countries surveyed, there is considerably less support

for severe punishments, such as cutting off the hands of thieves or executing people who convert from Islam to another faith (*The World's Muslims: Religion, Politics and Society*, p. 9, April 30, 2013).

While this survey shows that many Muslims favor democratic government over authoritarian government, it also shows that they favor a democratic society governed by Sharia law.

In the West, people ask “Why Sharia?” Why would so many Muslim nations overwhelmingly favor the Sharia legal system as the law of their land? *Many in Islam are shouting back the answer to that question, but the West seems not to want to hear it.*

Sayyid Qutb, *Jahiliyyah*, and Moral Chaos

Most people in the West have never heard of the Egyptian intellectual named Sayyid Qutb (phonetically, *say-id ku-teb*), but he is widely regarded as *the father of modern radical Islam*. He was an early and highly influential member of the Muslim Brotherhood, and in 1966 was executed in Egypt for plotting against the Egyptian government. Qutb was also a prolific writer, and advocated violent *jihād* to establish an Islamic state. For several years, he studied and traveled in the United States, and was disgusted by what he viewed as its moral laxity and materialism. The experience influenced his later writings, which were very critical of the West. For Qutb, Sharia law was not only essential for the worship of Allah, but was also a *powerful force that opposed and resisted the West's moral permissiveness*.

Qutb and others used the term ***jahiliyyah*** (*jah-he-lee-ah*) in reference to the *moral chaos* and depravity of the pagan world as it existed before the advent of Islam and Islamic law in the 7th century AD. Qutb and other Islamic thinkers also maintained that *jahiliyyah* has reappeared in the moral chaos of Western secular society as a result of a lack of Sharia law. They believed that only through Sharia law could Muslims combat the moral chaos of Western secularism. Qutb's writings greatly influenced the development of radical Islamist views in modern times.

Sayyid Qutb himself acquired these ideas from an earlier Muslim intellectual, Abu'l-Hassan 'Ali Nadwi. An academic text describes his influence on Qutb:

Nadwi's term of choice for servitude to false gods and for the moral depravity and chaos that necessarily results from it is *jahiliyyah*... Nadwi applies this term much more broadly in referring to pre-Islamic cultures and civilizations in general. He uses it for modern, western cultures, which he sees as pervaded by materialism, godless ideologies, and sexual promiscuity. More strikingly, he deems the latter-day Muslims to have themselves relapsed into a new *jahiliyyah*, which is reprehensible not only for the **moral chaos** it entails but also because it signifies a virtual renunciation of Islam itself (*Princeton Readings in Islamist Thought*, p. 108, emphasis added).

Rapidly Changing Morals

While Western secular society has retained its democratic political tradition, it has lost its moral foundation. It now builds its morality upon the shift-

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ing sands of human reasoning, rather than upon the absolutes of the Judeo-Christian ethic that helped shape

Western views of right and wrong in earlier times. *So anything goes*. The Muslim world looks at modern Western culture and sees voyeuristic violence in its movies, the virtual abandonment of sexual boundaries, graphic depictions of sexuality in pornography and even in mainstream entertainment, gender confusion and chaos, and ridicule of traditional family structures. The morality that once governed Western public life has been marginalized and even reviled. Christophobia—the fear or loathing of Christian belief or influence—is openly expressed by public officials and academics, and orthodox Christianity is now mocked in blatant public displays of secular bigotry. These actions are met with no public disapprobation whatsoever. Whether one agrees with these changes or not, it is difficult to deny their speed and breadth.

Divine law is God's revelation of right and wrong, and the Bible cautions, “Where there is no revelation, the people *cast off restraint*; but happy is he who keeps the law” (Proverbs 29:18). In abandoning its biblical moral heritage in favor of an “anything goes” secular morality, Western society has “cast off all restraint.”

And the Muslim world has been watching.

Many in the West now consider morality to be nothing more than a “social construct.” Secularists insist that “you can’t legislate morality,” but in one way or another, civil laws reflect society’s view of right and wrong. For instance, if we think that it is wrong to rob banks, we pass a law against it. So, in an important sense, all laws legislate a morality. *It is not a question of whether we can legislate morality, but rather, it is a question of whose morality we are going to legislate.* The attempt to answer that question is called “the culture war,” and Judeo-Christian morality in the West is rapidly losing ground. The Muslim world watches and fears that Islam is next—just as Qutb said

this answer to the West, but the Western world does not hear! It has no interest in changing its course or acknowledging its moral failings. Many Western policymakers have the conceit that the solution to Islamist radicalism is instilling their own secular values in Muslim societies. But trying to cure Islamic radicalism in Muslim societies by promoting Western secular values is like pouring gasoline on a fire. The perceived moral chaos that results from those values—Sayyid Qutb’s modern *jahiliyyah*—is what Muslims are fleeing. *And they are fleeing to Sharia.*

Western Secular Imperialism?

The Western world looks at Islamist terrorism and *jihad* and sees *Islamic imperialism*. Islam looks at the spread of Western moral values and sees *Western secular imperialism*—not coming in the hard power of military or political dominance, but in the soft power of media dominance driving cultural change. Emmanuel Sivan, a historian and expert on Islam, notes that electronic media has been passionately condemned in the Muslim world due

SO, WHY ARE MANY CHOOSING SHARIA? ONE MAJOR REASON IS THAT IT PROVIDES A SOCIETAL DEFENSE AGAINST WESTERN SECULARISM’S MORAL CHAOS.

would be the case. And to Islam, the moral chaos—the *jahiliyyah*—of the West today is much worse than it was when Qutb wrote in the 1950s and 1960s.

The Pew Research Center report states,

Even though many Muslims enjoy Western pop culture, a clear majority of Muslims in most countries surveyed think that Western entertainment harms morality in their country. And it is not only Muslims who personally dislike Western music, movies and television who feel this way. In four of the six regions, medians of at least half of those who say they enjoy this type of entertainment also say Western cultural imports undermine morality: sub-Saharan Africa (65%), South Asia (59%), Southeast Asia (51%) and the Middle East-North Africa region (51%)” (*The World’s Muslims: Religion, Politics and Society*, p. 9, April 30, 2013).

So, why are many choosing Sharia? One major reason is *that it provides a societal defense against Western secularism’s moral chaos.* The Islamic world is shouting

to its invasive nature. He writes that Muslims detect “the Western poison” of immorality infiltrating their popular songs, communicating “ideas diametrically opposed to Arab and Islamic concepts, encouraging loose morality and immediate satisfaction, placing love and life and its pleasures over everything else, totally oblivious of religious belief, and of punishment and reward in the hereafter” (*Radical Islam: Medieval Theology and Modern Politics*, pp. 3–4).

Christendom’s Parallel Concerns

Similar forces are at work in the world of professing Christianity. Some in Christendom have sought to accommodate the rapidly changing moral landscape of Western society and have compromised ancient Judeo-Christian principles in the process. But others are resisting the secular forces, and are holding on to their faith’s immutable principles.

Will coercive secular social engineering drive professing Christians to seek religious refuge, as secular imperialism has done to Muslims? Trends in education hold some important indicators.

SHARIA LAW CONTINUES ON PAGE 26

A MEDITATION ON BREAD AND EMPTY SHELVES

Only one kind of bread never runs out.

The words “Winter Storm Watch”—or any kind of snow or ice in the forecast—seem to trigger an urgent need for bread. I’m sure you’ve seen it. Within minutes of a wintry weather forecast, supermarket and convenience store shelves are emptied. Jokes are made about it and fun is poked at those who react this way to routine news for the season. It shows the insecurity that people feel as a threat approaches. If we are going to be housebound due to inclement weather, having enough food on hand is essential, and bread is almost universally considered a necessity.

In some cultures, access to bread is serious business. Since the French Revolution in 1799, French bakeries have been required to remain continually open, closing only on national holidays. Even then, they close on mandated rotation, to ensure that there is always a supply of bread for the people. Such is the importance of bread in the hearts and minds of many. Perhaps because bread is on people’s minds even more often than they may realize, God uses it in the Bible to teach mankind lessons that they might not learn any other way.

Lessons from Bread

As the Israelites were liberated from centuries of slavery in Egypt, they found themselves in a barren wilderness. As they complained about the lack of food, God provided “bread from heaven” in the form



of *manna* (literally, “what is it”), which they had to gather daily. God used this “bread” to teach them

that the seventh day was holy time and that the manna should not be gathered on that day (Exodus 16:1–4, 22–30).

The Book of Proverbs also uses the analogy of bread to describe human behavior. “Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evil. Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn away from it and pass on. For they do not sleep unless they have done evil; and their sleep is taken away unless they make

someone fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence” (Proverbs 4:14–17). In praising the virtuous woman, Proverbs 31:27 states, “She watches over the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.”

Unleavened bread, eaten by the Israelites as they hastily left Egypt, is referred to as the “bread of affliction” (Deuteronomy 16:3) picturing humility. This bread is eaten annually during the Days of Unleavened Bread after Passover as a reminder to put sin out of our lives and to have humble attitudes.

Jesus, in teaching His disciples how to pray,

You may find the shelves at your store empty in time of need, but the “bread from heaven” is always plentiful in the pages of the Bible.

instructed them to request, “Give us this day our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11). Later, as Jesus was preparing His disciples for His departure, He told them, “I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this

bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world” (John 6:48–51).

The Apostle Paul, in describing the unity of the Church, the body of believers, said, “For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread” (1 Corinthians 10:17).

A Shelf Never Empty

The Bible uses the universal need for physical food, pictured by bread, to illustrate the daily need for spiritual food that only God, through Jesus Christ, can provide. You may find the shelves at your store empty in time of need, but the “bread from heaven” is always plentiful in the pages of the Bible. You have only to gather it each day.

—J. D. Crockett III

NATO: Guardian of Peace?



Soon after the conclusion of World War II, the victorious Allies formed a military counterbalance to resist the Soviet threat to Europe's newly won peace. They called it the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), and it is 70 years old this year. Since NATO's establishment, Western Europe has enjoyed an unprecedented period of peace and security. NATO has adapted itself to changing circumstances and widened its scope to include diplomatic and crisis resolution roles. Its membership has dramatically expanded from 12 to 29 countries and it has survived diverse threats to its survival.

Untenable Future?

This raises some important questions. With U.S. President Donald Trump insisting that reluctant NATO members should meet the agreed minimum contribution of two percent of their national budgets toward defence spending to support NATO operations, some are once again questioning the organisation's ability to survive in its current form. Should the United States of America continue to shoulder the largest share of NATO military costs in order to secure Europe's peace in the face of increased levels of Russian aggression? Should Europe be doing more to look after itself? What if the European Union decided to finance its own competitive military forces, if the U.S. were unwilling—or perhaps unable—due to more pressing issues in the Pacific? Will NATO always be there to guarantee the peace of Europe, or is there coming a time when there will be no more NATO? Biblical prophecy on this subject may well surprise you. The Bible points to a different and more lasting solution to the problems of Europe and the world. But before we

look into the prophesied future, let's first look at NATO's past and present successes.

Freedom and Security

The main aim of NATO is to defend the freedom and security of its member nations, especially those in Europe. In 1948, the discussions leading to the NATO Alliance were prompted by the Soviet consolidation of power and influence in Eastern Europe. The North Atlantic Treaty was signed on 4 April 1949, including the critical Article 5 for Collective Defence: An attack against one Ally is considered as an attack against all Allies. The 12 founding members were Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

For decades during the Cold War, the NATO Alliance minimised conflict with the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact countries through the imminent threat of nuclear annihilation of both sides (the so-called MAD doctrine—Mutually Assured Destruction!). By the 1960s, with nuclear deterrents in place, NATO essentially recognised its existence was critical to ensuring U.S.-Soviet nuclear parity. With relative peace as a result of NATO's protection, the nations of Europe were free to pursue closer economic, social, and political ties by forming the EU.

Internal conflict within NATO hampered its responses to both the 1961 erection of the Berlin Wall and the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. Such conflicts spurred NATO to develop and incorporate additional strategies to strengthen its military and diplomatic influence. NATO's role expanded from "peace-keeping"—maintaining the status quo of the Cold War armed stand-off—to "peace-building" in a wider arena through

international crisis resolution and managed support for political, economic, and social change.

With the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989, the Soviet threat melted away. However, this did not mean that NATO could disband. Peace and reconciliation did not bloom in Europe amongst those freed from Soviet influence. Local ethnic conflict flared in the Bosnian War, in which NATO fired its first shots in 1994, bringing down four Bosnian-Serb aircraft violating a U.N.-declared no-fly zone. In Bosnia, NATO learnt that a comprehensive approach was needed to resolve conflicts and build peace: the World Bank was needed for investment, the EU for governance, the U.N. for organising elections, and NATO forces of essentially European national composition for building lasting peace on the ground and to identify with the local population.

In the modern era of international terrorism, NATO's focus has shifted outside Europe and the North Atlantic to the source of present threats. Current peace-keeping efforts include missions in Kosovo, Iraq, and the Mediterranean Sea, as well as air-policing missions in the African Union. NATO led the U.N.-mandated International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan from 2003 to 2014 following the allied intervention, transitioning security to Afghan authorities, and involving personnel from 50 NATO and partner nations. More than a thousand NATO personnel lost their lives during this time. Man's effort to achieve peace has its price.

In July 2018, at a NATO Summit in Brussels, U.S. President Trump highlighted financial *burden sharing* as a big issue for NATO. He has called for NATO countries beyond the main contributors (the U.S., Germany, the U.K., and France) to take more responsibility for

financing their own defence. At the same time, Russia is becoming increasingly assertive in Europe, entering eastern Ukraine and annexing Crimea. This raises more questions: Will NATO face another crisis, as the U.S. threatens to become more isolationist and minimises its involvement? Will the EU be obligated to build a European military force to fill the vacuum created by a U.S. military absence—or even NATO's demise?

Prophesied Way to Peace

Tomorrow's World has long written about a European Beast power described in the book of Revelation, involving ten kings or national leaders (Revelation 17:12-13). But end-time biblical prophecy indicates that neither NATO nor any other military force will be able to build or maintain peace in Europe. The Bible states in Isaiah 59:8 that mankind has "made themselves crooked paths" and that humanity does not know the way to peace. The Bible also gives the reason why: As nations, we don't fear God or obey Him (Romans 3:17-18). We try to bring peace with superior force, and indeed, this is often the only thing to which tyrants will respond—but it is not the lasting solution.

Jesus Christ, the Messiah, will return to this war-torn earth to prevent the extinction of all mankind from superpower clashes in the Middle East involving Russia, China, and the European Beast power at the culmination of the coming Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:22). He is not going to use the forces of NATO or any other human power to bring about true peace. Only the intervention of the Prince of Peace, leading a glorified army of those who fear and obey Him, can stop catastrophic war and usher in an unprecedented time of world peace. Revelation 17:14 tells us, "These [mankind's misguided armies] will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."

Almighty God is the only one who truly knows how to build lasting peace, a fact that the many sincere individuals serving in NATO will come to appreciate fully in the future. For more information on the world events just ahead of us, read our booklets *The Beast of Revelation* and *Armageddon and Beyond* online, or contact the regional office nearest you for a free hard copy. Contact information is listed on page 4 of this magazine.

—Simon R. D. Roberts



The President of the United States during the 2018 NATO Summit

A lighthouse with red and white horizontal stripes stands on a dark, jagged rock formation. The rock formation is shaped like a human skull, with the eye sockets, nose, and mouth clearly visible. The lighthouse is illuminated from within, casting a bright glow. The background is a dark, cloudy sky. The title "The Devil's Deadly Deceptions" is overlaid on the image, with "The Devil's Deadly" in white and "Deceptions" in red.

The Devil's Deadly Deceptions

Jesus Christ describes Satan bluntly and powerfully: “When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.” And the book of Revelation tells us that the Devil has deceived the whole world!

What tools does Satan use to lure people into his web of lies and deception? How can we know if we have been deceived? And what can we do to defend ourselves against the wiles of this master deceiver? Read on for the answers!

By **Richard F. Ames**

For several years, the Illinois State Capitol building has hosted three holiday displays each December: a festively decorated tree provided by a church group, a menorah provided by Jewish citizens, and a solstice-themed placard offered by an anti-religion group. Last December, however, the three displays were joined by a fourth. As reported by *The New York Times*,

Among the twinkling lights and flickering candles... you will find a tribute to the prince of darkness by the Chicago chapter of the Satanic Temple, a group based in Salem, Mass., that has 15 chapters nationwide. It looks a bit different from the pine boughs and mistletoe often associated with this time of year: a woman’s hand presenting an apple as a serpent coils around her wrist. A pentagram and the words “knowledge is the greatest gift” are written on the pedestal below (“Satan Is in the Illinois Capitol. Because It’s the Holidays!,” *The New York Times*, December 6, 2018).

This is the same organization that in 2016 gained permission to bring a youth program, “After School Satan,” to the Parkrose School District in Oregon, offering elementary school children an alternative to “Good News Clubs” that promote Protestantism. Temple co-founder Doug Mesner told CBS News that students would be able to attend monthly hour-long meetings, operated by local volunteers vetted by his

organization. The group is also seeking to place its programs in Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Washington, DC (“Portland OKs ‘After School Satan’ for elementary kids,” *CBSNews.com*, September 28, 2016).

Perhaps surprisingly, the Satanic Temple claims that it does not seek to promote belief in a personal Satan. Rather, its members revere Satan as “a symbol of the Eternal Rebel in opposition to arbitrary authority” (*ibid.*). And yet, they are willing to personalize their object of worship when it suits them. In August 2018, the Satanic Temple unveiled a statue in front of the Arkansas state legislature in Little Rock. It was a statue of their so-called “Baphomet”—a creature with the horns and head of a goat, with a young boy and girl in his arms under his wings, gazing at him adoringly. Temple co-founder Lucien Greaves described the unveiling as meant to be “celebrating pluralism,” but it was also the group’s response to an earlier installation of the Ten Commandments (“Satanic Temple statue unveiled at the Arkansas State Capitol,” *KATV.com*, August 16, 2018).

Some will dismiss the Satanic Temple as a media-savvy group using Satan for its own purposes. But are Satanic Temple supporters toying with dangerous forces they do not understand? Are they promoting not just pluralism, rebellion, and the pursuit of knowledge, but also submission to an evil spirit being? Indeed, is it correct to equate Satan with “knowledge”? Your Bible gives this very clear answer: “So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him” (Revelation 12:9). Yes, the Devil is a **deceiver!** Wouldn’t his greatest deception be to

convince people that he does not exist, and is nothing more than the imagined creation of artists, sculptors, and fiction writers?

The Deceptive Devil

What do some scholars say about the Devil?

“According to Henry Ansgar Kelly, a research professor from the University of California, Los Angeles, there is actually ‘no evidence’ to suggest the devil

Occasionally, someone will tell me of a dream or prophecy that sounds interesting on the surface, but that on closer inspection is a rebellion against the teachings of Christ. Even if such a prophecy comes true, beware! Scripture exhorts us, “If there arises among you a prophet or a dreamer of dreams, and he gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or the wonder comes to pass, of which he spoke to you, saying, ‘Let us go after other gods’—which you have

SATAN THE DEVIL PRESENTS HIMSELF AS AN “ANGEL OF LIGHT.” BEWARE. IF HE CAN DECEIVE THE “WHOLE WORLD,” HE CAN DECEIVE YOU!

not known—‘and let us serve them,’ you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams, for the LORD your God is testing you to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your

should be portrayed as evil.... Professor Kelly suggests Christians have got it wrong and Satan was actually trying to do good and is on God’s side, but got ‘overzealous’ in his judgements. ‘A strict reading of the Bible shows Satan to be less like Darth Vader and more and more like an overzealous prosecutor’” (“SHOCK CLAIM: Christians were WRONG to brand Satan evil,” *Daily Express*, July 22, 2017).

Is Professor Kelly correct? Is Satan actually on the side of good? We read in Scripture that Satan the Devil presents himself as an “angel of light” (2 Corinthians 11:14). Would you not automatically assume that an angel of light is a force for good? Dear readers, you need to beware. If the Devil can deceive the “whole world,” he can deceive **you**, if you do not stay close to your Savior and His word, the Bible!

Yes, Satan can deceive the innocent, gullible, and self-willed into believing falsehoods that go completely against the Bible! These falsehoods include false visions and dreams. On many occasions over the years, people have told me of dreams or visions that I could understand were obviously Satan-inspired. For instance, some people think they have seen Jesus, but when they describe a Jesus with long, flowing hair, I can recognize that their vision was plainly false. Remember, the Apostle Paul wrote, “Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?” (1 Corinthians 11:14, *KJV*). Jesus escaped out of crowds on several occasions because He looked like the average Jewish man of His day.

soul” (Deuteronomy 13:1–3).

The Apostle John reinforces this teaching, instructing us not to accept every seemingly appealing message that comes our way. He wrote, “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1). Your Bible reveals that Satan is deceptive, not stupid. He and his demons are not atheists; they know very well that God exists. We read, “Even the demons believe—and tremble!” (James 2:19). The Devil even knows Scripture, and tries to use it against unprepared Christians. Remember that when Satan dared Jesus Christ to show His divine power by jumping off the pinnacle of the Temple, he quoted Psalm 91:11–12. Jesus, of course, knew better, and replied by quoting Deuteronomy 6:16, as recorded in Matthew 4:5–7.

Deceptive Teachers

Have you ever been deceived? All around us, countless con artists are out to defraud and to steal. Law enforcement agencies continually warn us of scams and deceptive practices that rob unsuspecting victims. But are you on guard against deceptions that come even in the name of Christianity? We read earlier that Satan transforms himself into an angel of light to deceive the innocent and foolish. Satan also has his own ministers. We read, “For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ” (2 Corinthians 11:13). Just because a man calls himself



a minister, or even an apostle, does not mean that his message is from Christ. Such false teachers will suffer the penalty for their false teaching: “Therefore it is no great thing if his [Satan’s] ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works” (2 Corinthians 11:15).

Jesus Himself warned that “false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect” (Matthew 24:24). As shocking as this may seem, your Bible warns of religious ministers who appear righteous, but are ministers of Satan. If you are a Bible student, you know that one of Satan’s religious deceptions is false doctrine. The Apostle Paul prophesied that many religious people will seek teachers who preach what they want to hear, rather than teachers who will preach the truth of the Bible. The Apostle Paul exhorted the young evangelist Timothy,

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables (2 Timothy 4:2–4).

Deceptive Practices

Most of you reading this article realize that the occult is a dangerous source of deception. Many others think of the occult as a matter of fun, as they enjoy the best-selling Harry Potter books and movies. Others look to séances, tarot cards, channeling, and astrology for insight and power. Millions of people dabble in the occult and seek answers from soothsayers and mystics. These dark practices are deceptive. God Almighty condemns idolatry and sorcery (Galatians 5:19–20). He labels as “abomination” those who participate in practices such as witchcraft, necromancy, spell-casting, and spiritism (Deuteronomy 18:10–12).

But what about Christianity itself? Don’t most people who call themselves Christians indulge in practices that are far from the teachings of the Bible? Protestant and Catholic believers will celebrate Easter this year on Sunday, April 21; Eastern Orthodox believers will celebrate a week later, on April 28. But where is Easter in your Bible? Read Mr. Gerald Weston’s article “Why Observe Easter?” in this very issue for more on this vital subject. Even those who observe Easter must admit that many of today’s most common Easter symbols—Easter eggs and bunny rabbits, to name two—came straight out of non-Christian practices that celebrate earthly fertility, not the resurrection of the Savior. In fact, billions have accepted deceptive teachings not just about Christ’s death and resurrection, but even about His birth. Reputable scholars will admit that December 25 was celebrated as the birth of Mithras, the sun god. It was never the date of Jesus’ birth. For that matter, should Christians observe Valentine’s Day? In 496AD, Pope Gelasius I established the Feast of St. Valentine on February 14. Previously, since the days of ancient Rome, young lovers had often observed the Lupercalia—the feast of Lupercus, a fertility god—on February 15. Even in ancient Greece, mid-February was associated with love and fertility; the Greek month of Gamelion, ending in mid-February, was associated with the marriage of the gods Zeus and Hera.

Why does this matter? The historian Will Durant gave this analysis in *The Story of Civilization*: “Christianity did not destroy paganism; it adopted it. The Greek mind, dying, came to a transmigrated life in the theology and liturgy of the church; the Greek language, having reigned for centuries over philos-

ophy, became the vehicle of Christian literature and ritual; the Greek mysteries passed down into the impressive mystery of the Mass. Other **pagan cultures** contributed to the syncretist result.... Christianity was the last creation of the ancient pagan world” (Vol. III, p. 595, emphasis added).

Dear readers, has the Devil deceived you into practicing pagan traditions in the name of Christianity? Remember Jesus’ warning to the Pharisees and scribes concerning certain religious customs: “All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition” (Mark 7:9). The world is full of false religions, false traditions, and false doctrines. Dear readers, be on guard against these demonic deceptions!

End-Time Deception

Satan does not just want to deceive you about the doctrines you should believe and practice; he wants you to misunderstand Bible prophecy about your future and the future of our world. Scripture tells us of an end-time superpower that will be a revival of the old Roman Empire. That superpower is symbolized by a Beast. “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful” (Revelation 17:12–14).

Interestingly, among the Bible commentators who have correctly identified this Beast as the Roman Empire are those of the *New Catholic Edition*, often called the *Douay-Rheims*, which tells us in a footnote regarding the Beast of Revelation 17:11, “The beast spoken of here seems to be the **Roman Empire**, as in chapter 13” (emphasis added). Yes, both the Beast of Revelation 17 and the Beast of Revelation 13 represent the Roman Empire. The notes published within this Roman Catholic Bible comment concerning Revelation 13:1, “The picture of the first beast is based on the seventh chapter of Daniel. This beast is the figure of kingdoms of the world, kingdoms founded on passion and selfishness, which in every age are antagonistic to Christ and seek to oppress the ser-

vants of God. **Imperial Rome** represents this power” (emphasis added). Yes, even the *Douay-Rheims* Bible admits the identity of the Beast. Yet Satan wants to deceive you on this point, because the Beast will not be working alone. Revelation 17:3–4 describes a harlot woman riding the Beast. In biblical symbolism, a woman represents a church. In these verses, she is called Mystery Babylon, representing a false religious system, a counterfeit Christianity.

Yes, Satan’s deceptions are so bold as to include a counterfeit of Christianity itself! Dear readers, will you be deceived by Satan’s counterfeit Christianity? Jesus warned, “Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many” (Matthew 24:4–5). The woman riding the Beast represents a great false church, one that calls itself “Christian” yet teaches its members to engage in pagan practices. The Apostle Paul described the false prophet who will ally himself with the Beast: “The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they



might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thessalonians 2:9–12).

to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:10–12).

GOD WILL GIVE HIS FAITHFUL SERVANTS SPIRITUAL PROTECTION. YOU AND I NEED THAT PROTECTION AND POWER FROM GOD!

Those who are convinced by signs and apparent miracles, but who do not properly discern their origin as Deuteronomy 13 teaches us to do, will be easily deceived by the coming false prophet, who will use even **lying wonders** to gain followers. Remember, the test of a prophet is not just that his prophecies come to pass—it is that those prophecies do not deviate from the word of God. As we read: "To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20). We at *Tomorrow's World* often remind our readers and viewers, "Don't just believe us; believe your Bible." Satan's deceptive false prophet will ask you to believe him and *neglect* your Bible.

You Can Defeat Deception!

The Bible warns us that the Devil is real, and that he wants to deceive as many as he can. But you can be protected from his influence. To those who stay close to God, He gives the promise that He will deliver them from the evil one. Perhaps you follow the "outline prayer" that Jesus taught to His disciples? He taught us to pray, "And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen" (Matthew 6:13).

Yes, God will protect us, but we must do our part. Consider the Apostle Paul's encouragement to Christians in Ephesus: "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able

God will give His faithful servants spiritual protection. Dear readers, you and I need that protection and power from God! But we must do our part! What is that part? "Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your

feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:14–17).

Yes, you can overcome the wicked one by knowing the word of God and living by it. The Apostle James gives us this encouraging promise: "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded" (James 4:7–8).

You can overcome the temptations, the challenges, and the deceptions of the occult and false religion. As the Apostle Paul encourages us, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). May God empower you to go forward in faith. May you live not by the dark deceptions of this world, but by the light of truth, God's word!

Let's all look forward to this coming announcement: "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, 'The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!'" (Revelation 11:15). We look forward to the day when the Devil is defeated, dispatched once and for all to the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:10). Most of all, we look forward to the coming of the King of kings, Jesus Christ, who will return to this earth to bring lasting peace, prosperity, and true light to a dark world. TW

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Expert Advice for Parents

In 2017, author Tom Nichols published a book titled *The Death of Expertise: The Campaign Against Established Knowledge and Why It Matters*. Nichols makes the case that we are experiencing “the growth of an irrational conviction among Americans that everyone is as smart as everyone else” (p. 7).

His point? We no longer regard the “experts” with deference. And why should we? Television, radio, and the Internet are full of experts who usually have a variety of conflicting opinions. We’re left to draw our own conclusions about who is right and who is wrong, and often it seems we have to become our own expert. But in reality, we’re not the expert we’d like to be.

The knowledge explosion has taught us to find our own facts, and sometimes that’s a good thing. The reality, however, is that we all need guidance, advice, and coaching from those more knowledgeable and experienced than we are. This is particularly true when it comes to raising our children. As new parents, we’re fully aware of the fact that we don’t have a lot of parenting practice, and many times we’d like to turn to someone who could offer us good advice. The competing experts on the Internet can’t all be right, so where can we find a genuine expert?

The Best Expert

If you want to know how something works, you talk to the one who built it. This is why many high-tech firms require their design engineers to sign nondisclosure agreements, forbidding them to share the knowledge of their work for a period of time after they leave the company. They recognize that the knowledge these employees possess is extremely valuable.

From the Bible, we learn that a Creator God exists. He created the plants, the animals, and us. As the designer and builder of our world, He is the expert. He designed how we are supposed to interact with each other, and how we are to prepare the next generation to live. To ignore His direction and guidance is to cut ourselves off from the best source of knowledge, wisdom, and understanding in the universe.

How does this apply to raising our children? Let’s consider an example.

In Leviticus 12:3, we read that Israelite parents were commanded under the Old Covenant to circumcise their sons on the eighth day after birth. Today, there are plenty of opinions about whether or not circumcision is harmful. A quick Google search shows that there are experts on both sides of the argument. Some claim that circumcision helps prevent sexually transmitted diseases. Others claim that circumcision is cruel and causes unnecessary pain to the little babies. To whom do we listen? Do we ignore all the experts, formulate our own opinion, and share it with the world on Facebook? No. We listen first to the best expert—God. According to His instruction, though it is no longer physically required (Romans 2:29, et al.), properly circumcising a baby boy is not harmful. The arguments of others cannot change the fact that the best expert has spoken.

The Bible is full of more child-related direction from the God who created us. Broadly speaking, we are instructed to teach children all of God’s laws and statutes (Deuteronomy 6:6–7). In other words, a big part of our job as parents is to teach our children the application of God’s laws in daily life. If we abdicate or delegate that part of our roles as mothers and fathers,

we are ignoring God's design for us as parents. In fact, two of the Ten Commandments directly impact child-training. One is the Sabbath commandment (Exodus 20:8-11), which requires parents to include their children in the observance of this weekly day of rest, providing a platform for vital instruction about who and what God is. The other is the fifth commandment. God commands us to teach our children how to show honor and respect, beginning with honoring us as their parents (Exodus 20:12). Another section of the Bible that is rich in child-rearing wisdom is the Book of Proverbs, which provides a wealth of practical advice for living, much of it framed as advice from a parent to a child. God expects us to pass that advice on to our children. In fact, this training should be clearly and regularly rehearsed, giving them a disciplined, consistent framework for life (Proverbs 19:18).

God is an expert whose words we must not ignore—worthy of our deference and respect. He designed and created us. He is a child-rearing expert.

The Voice of Experience

There is another group of child-rearing experts that we would be wise to acknowledge: the elderly. We live in a time when older people can seem irrelevant. Often, they are unfamiliar with the latest technology, don't know how to download the latest apps, and can't converse in the latest slang. Yet, when it comes to the wisdom of a broader perspective on life, their years of experience are child-rearing gold. Job said, "Wisdom is with aged men, and with length of days, understanding" (Job 12:12).

You see, while God knows how families were designed to function, our parents and grandparents spent



years facing the daily challenge of putting that design into practice, and they have had the opportunity to observe the results of their efforts, good or bad, throughout the succeeding years. Though they may not have degrees in child psychology or adolescent development, their years of experience and observation go a long way toward qualifying them as experts in raising children. They deserve a certain deference, and the Proverbs bear this out. Notice Proverbs 16:31: "The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, if it is found in the way of righteousness." In fact, in Leviticus 19:32 we are commanded to rise in the presence of an aged person, showing deference and respect. Yet how often do we turn to our elders for child-rearing and other family-related advice? And grandparent-aged people often love children! Proverbs 17:6 puts it well: "Children's children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children is their father."

Paul's words to Titus paint a picture of the relationship as it should be between older and younger generations. He wrote, "But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed" (Titus 2:1-5). The picture is one of older men and women wisely, soundly, and patiently guiding and encouraging younger parents.

Our elderly possess the expert voice of experience. It may not be the voice of perfection, but no human expert will ever be perfect!

The Voice of Knowledge

There are many knowledgeable "experts" with advice to give about raising children. When their advice aligns with the principles of the best expert, God, we should be willing to learn from them. And we should not forget that other, largely untapped source of child-rearing guidance, our older generation.

Our challenge lies in cultivating a desire to learn more, without becoming either over-awed or dismissive of the knowledge that experts can share. As parents, our education is never over.

—Jonathan McNair

Sayyid Qutb on Sharia and Islam

While a rejection of Western moral values is a major reason for many everyday Muslims to embrace Sharia, the theological reasoning of radical Islamists is very dogmatic. In his influential book *Milestones*, first published in Arabic in 1964, Sayyid Qutb wrote, “No doubt the Shari’ah is best since it comes from God [Allah]; the laws of His creatures can hardly be compared to the laws given by the Creator. But this point is not the basis of the Islamic call. The basis of the message is that one should accept the Shari’ah without any question and reject all other laws in any shape or form. This is Islam. There is no other meaning of Islam” (Qutb, *Milestones*, p. 36).

“The Prophet—peace be on him—clearly stated that, according to the Shari’ah, ‘to obey’ is ‘to worship’... This explanation... by the Prophet... makes it clear that obedience to [non-Islamic] laws and judgments is a sort of worship, and anyone who does this is considered out of this [Muslim] religion” (p. 60).

“It is in the very nature of Islam to take the initiative for freeing the human beings throughout the earth from servitude to anyone other than God [Allah]; and so it cannot be restricted within any geographic or racial limits, leaving all mankind on the whole in evil, in chaos and in servitude to lords other than God [Allah]” (p. 73).

Because there is a perceived hostility to faith in public education and popular culture, charter schools are flourishing in the United States, and homeschooling is a growing phenomenon. A 2013 report from the National Center for Education Statistics found that 1,770,000 children in the U.S. are homeschooled—up from 850,000 in 1999. And homeschooling is rapidly growing among minorities. In a survey, 77 percent of parents said that moral instruction was a major factor in their decision to homeschool.

Concerning charter schools, *The Wall Street Journal* reported, “During the 2014–2015 school year, 500 new public charter schools opened nationwide, for a total of more than 6,700 enrolling about 2.9 million students, according to the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools” (“Charter-School Movement Grows—for Real-Estate Investors,” *WSJ.com*, October 13, 2015.) This is not necessarily a “mass exodus” from the public school system, but it does indicate that a growing number of parents are deeply concerned about the public school environment—and perhaps about society as a whole—and they are being moved to take action. Enrollments in religious and secular private schools are swelling as parents “vote with their feet.”

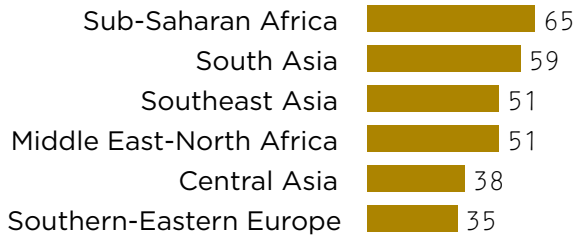
Some think that this concern of modern parents follows an ancient precedent. In the 6th century AD,

an educated Italian man, Benedict of Nursia, became disgusted with the moral decadence of Rome in his day. As a result, he founded a monastery and a movement that helped preserve particular virtues of Christendom through the chaos of the Dark Ages. In the *New York Times* bestseller *The Benedict Option: A Strategy for Christians in a Post-Christian Nation*, author Rod Dreher describes a post-Christian world in which morality and values long associated with Christianity are assailed and marginalized, and those who subscribe to such values are driven to retreat into safe communities in which traditional virtues can be preserved. He and others see a world that is entering a second, *spiritual* Dark Ages. Dreher’s solutions include a reassimilation of Evangelical Christianity into the liturgy and traditional education of the Orthodox and Catholic churches—in subtext, a plain call by the “mother church” to its daughter denominations. In *The New York Times*, David Brooks dubbed Dreher’s work “the most discussed and most important religious book of the decade.” Many professing Christians are considering survival strategies for their faith and values, and the “Benedict Option” is becoming a movement.

Alasdair MacIntyre is a prominent Scottish moral philosopher and academic whose writings

Even Muslims Who Favor Western Pop Culture Say It Harms Morality

Median % of Muslims who say Western music, movies, and TV hurt morality in their country:



Source: "The World's Muslims: Religion, Politics and Society,"
Pew Research Center, April 30, 2013

were very influential in introducing the ideas that Dreher developed in *The Benedict Option*. Here is an excerpt from MacIntyre's book *After Virtue*, which expresses this view:

What matters at this stage is the construction of local forms of community within which civility and the intellectual and moral life can be sustained through *the new dark ages* which are already upon us. And if the tradition of the virtues was able to survive the horrors of the last dark ages, we are not entirely without grounds for hope. This time however the barbarians are not waiting beyond the frontiers; they have already been governing us for quite some time. And it is our lack of consciousness of this that constitutes part of our predicament. *We are waiting... for another—doubtless very different—St. Benedict* (p. 263, emphasis added).

Muslims look at the Western world and see moral chaos. More and more, professing Christians in the West are coming to a similar view. *Tomorrow's World* is not advocating the solutions proposed in *The Benedict Option*, and certainly is not advocating Sharia law. However, it is worth noting that the


sweeping moral changes in Western societies are stirring *both* Western religious communities *and* Muslim religious communities to consider radical alternatives. Jesus Christ said "Watch" (Luke 21:36), and these massive cultural developments bear watching!

Even in the West, Muslims have formed communities in which they have implemented some aspects of Sharia law, to varying degrees of acceptance or disapproval by local and national authorities. They find the moral virtues of their faith to be under attack from the perceived moral chaos of secular culture, just as many in modern Christendom do. Many, zealous to protect their values against secular erosion, are seeking and finding their own strongholds.

Dynamic Forces in Play

Alasdair MacIntyre mentioned "waiting... for another—doubtless very different—St. Benedict." How might this "very different Benedict" appear?

In Islam, the pressure of Western secular culture is influencing many to return to Sharia—and moving some to embrace radical forms of Islam. Many who profess Christ are looking for their own response, and *the spiritual winds that are blowing through Islam can blow through Christendom as well*. More than fifteen years ago, Pope John Paul II asserted that Christianity defines the very idea of Europe. Will the challenge of Islam or an out-of-control secular morality force a reassertion of that "Christian" identity in Europe, led by a very charismatic religious figure? Such a person could be in the wings and preparing to walk onto the world stage. Biblical prophecies foresee such events, and many in Islam await their own singular individual as well.

Through international media, a fluid and evolving Western secular morality is challenging cultural values around the world. Muslims are gravitating toward Sharia law, not only for conservative *doctrinal* reasons, but as a great protector of their *moral values*, and many in what is considered orthodox Christianity are also seeking a refuge for the values of their faith. The moral systems of Islam, Christendom, and Western secularism are three great forces on a collision course! 

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THE Works OF HIS HANDS

Our Moon: Faithful Witness in the Sky

Around 3,000 years ago, the ancient people of Israel found themselves leaving Egypt, freed from the bonds of slavery. Their God had devastated the nation that held them captive and was leading them out of that nation to meet Him—to make a covenant with Him and to establish them as His people.

As they traveled, a full moon reigned in the sky above—a cosmic witness to the momentous events occurring below.

Yet the moon is a witness to more than the events of human history. It also testifies of its Creator—illustrating the special attention He gives to our planet and to the life He has fashioned upon it.

A Unique Cosmic Relationship

Some scientists estimate that perhaps only one percent of the planets in our universe have natural satellites as substantial as ours. In fact, in our solar system the relationship between the earth and its single moon is unique—an aberration from what we would expect based on our current theories of planet formation and what we see of other planets. The moon is only about one-fourth the size of Earth, yet this is an extremely large ratio compared to other planets and moons—five times the second-place pair (Neptune and its moon Triton).

Because our satellite is so relatively hefty, its effects on our planet are significant and observable in everyday life. The most noticeable of these effects may be the tides of our oceans. More than 50 percent of the variation we experience between high tide and low tide is due to the gravitational pull of the moon on Earth's water.

The largest tide differences in the world occur at the Bay of Fundy in Canada, where the difference between low tide and high tide can reach more than 50 feet, or 16 meters! The towering cliffs there are a testimony to the power of tides to shape the land along the shore. The erosion of land caused by swinging tides releases life-friendly minerals and nutrients into ocean waters. The pattern of life in our coastal regions is greatly influenced by the cyclical nature of the tides, and engineers are working to devise ways to harness the energy of tidal changes to generate power we can use on land.

The constant reshaping of our planet caused by the moon does not stop with our seas. Geologists have learned that even the solid earth moves and bulges in a tide-like fashion in response to the moon's gravity. While the effect may not seem so noticeable, highly sensitive instruments, such as some particle accelerators, must be designed with these changing “earth tides” in mind.

A Stabilizing Hand and Source of Wonder

Many scientists believe that our unique moon plays a significant role in stabilizing the earth's spin on its axis.

Relative to our orbit around the sun, the axis of the earth is slightly tilted, about 23.4° from vertical. This tilt causes the cycle of seasons, as energy from the sun strikes the surface of the earth at different angles over the course of the planet's year-long orbit.

However, scientists believe that this tilt would progress to a wild and violent wobble, with dramatic effects on our climate, were it not for the stabilizing

gravitational influence of the moon. Even if the tilt were to increase by only 10° , the seasons would cycle through dramatically extreme temperature ranges. Vast portions of each hemisphere would be bathed in continuous hot sunlight or continuous freezing shadow for months on end. The moon acts as Earth's gravitational shepherd, keeping the planet's tilt in a moderate range that provides for life-sustaining seasons while also maintaining a stable global climate.

But the moon is special beyond its role in regulating and sustaining life on earth. It also enriches that life.

In their famous "Privileged Planet" hypothesis, Jay W. Richards and Guillermo Gonzales note that many features of the earth are improbable in ways that not only make life possible, but which also provide humanity with the opportunity to make scientific discoveries and observe the cosmos around us. They argue that such an arrangement indicates that our universe is "designed for discovery"—and the moon is a great example of that design.

As anyone who has ever witnessed one can attest, a total solar eclipse is a marvel to experience. As the moon covers the sun and leaves a portion of the earth in shadow, it is as if day has turned to night. Stars appear in the sky, nocturnal songbirds begin their melodies, and a unique 360° "sunset" effect is seen all around the horizon, framing the darkened sky above. And at the focal point of the eclipse,



where the sun should be, one sees what appears to be a black hole in the firmament—the dark, featureless silhouette of the moon, perfectly blocking the sun and wearing the normally invisible solar corona like a crown.

Such sights are only possible because of a highly improbable combination of factors: a moon that is

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just the right size and
just the right distance
and in *just* the right
position. No other
planet in the solar

system enjoys such views, and yet they occur regularly on the one planet with intelligent beings capable of appreciating them and learning from them.

Events such as eclipses point us to the moon's purpose and design. God declares in the pages of Genesis that He established the moon as a part of His celestial system, with the sun and stars, to "be for signs and seasons, and for days and years" (Genesis 1:14). As the "lesser light to rule the night" (v. 16), the moon and its cycles provide man with an instrument to note and measure the passage of time.

Some cultures have falsely worshipped it. But the moon is not to be worshipped as any sort of deity—rather, it should be appreciated as a gift to humanity, bestowed by One who *is* to be worshipped.

God's "Faithful Witness in the Sky"

Mankind first set foot on the moon almost 50 years ago, but since the last Apollo mission in 1972, we have not visited again.

Yet the moon has continued to visit us. When the psalmist Ethan the Ezrahite was inspired to record the thoughts of God concerning the lineage of King David, he wrote, "It shall be established forever like the moon, even like the faithful witness in the sky" (Psalm 89:37). And a faithful witness it has been. All of human history has taken place on our planet while it has silently kept vigil above us—a witness obeying the ordinances appointed by its Maker (Jeremiah 31:35).

And in its careful design, its beneficial influence, and its precise placement, the moon serves as a witness to the compassion and care our Creator feels for the works of His hands.

—Wallace Smith



The Coming Clash of Civilizations

Western nations have dominated much of the world for nearly five centuries. During this era, European nations—and later, the United States—gained power and spread the influence of Western civilization over much of the globe. China and Japan were forcibly opened to European and American trade. Africa, India, and much of Asia were overwhelmed and carved up by Western powers. The Russian Empire fell to the communists and then lost the Cold War to the West.

Yet, in recent decades, the pages of history have begun to turn, and we have entered a new era. Scholars note that in the twentieth century, “the expansion of the West” came to an end and “the revolt against the West” began, as other civilizations re-emerged on the world stage (*The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order*, Samuel P. Huntington, p. 53). Today, we face *another major turning point* in history—“one of those rare moments in history when the political and economic axis of the world is shifting”—away from the West and toward the East (*The Dawn of Eurasia*, Bruno Maçães, p. 1).

But how will this major shift impact the world, as civilizations in the East emerge to challenge once-dominant Western powers? While secular analysts try to discern the geopolitical future, few today realize that key events in that future were foretold long ago in ancient Bible prophecies. Even fewer recognize the prophetic significance of current events that are beginning to match events predicted to occur before the return of Jesus Christ. Today, many have also forgotten that God guides the course of history, and that He raises up nations and brings them down, according to His purpose (Job 12:23; Daniel 2:21; 4:17).

End-Time Bible Prophecies

Around 539BC, while he was among the Jewish captives in Babylon, the Hebrew prophet Daniel was given a detailed dream about the distant future. In Daniel 11:40–45, he records that “At the time of the end” a king of the South (an Arab-Muslim force) will push at or attack a king of the North (an end-time European power) which will then invade the Middle East and occupy Jerusalem (see previous articles in this series, “Europe’s Final Revival” and “Islam’s Last Jihad”). Daniel also records in verse 44, “But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many.” Today, Russia lies to the north of Jerusalem and Iraq, Iran, and China lie to the east. Other prophecies, in Revelation 9, indicate this European power will launch a five-month offensive toward the north and east, precipitating a major military response that will kill one-third of mankind. From the perspective of Bible prophecy, it is no coincidence that an aggressive Russia and a more assertive China have re-emerged while the power and influence of the West has declined.

Return of Russia

The current leader of Russia is Vladimir Putin, a dedicated nationalist and former KGB operative with strong Orthodox beliefs. Disillusioned by the collapse of the U.S.S.R. and the failure of Marxism, his goal has been to unite a fractured country, and—as a modern Peter the Great—restore the national pride of Russia. He reminds Russians that they successfully repulsed invasions from the West launched by Napoleon and Nazi Germany. Under his watch, the Orthodox Church has replaced

the communist party as the foundation of Russian society. As Samuel Huntington observed, “For peoples seeking identity and reinventing ethnicity, *enemies* are essential” (Huntington, p. 20). For many, such as Putin, America and other nations of Western civilization are ready candidates for that role.

As the leader of one of the core nations of Orthodox civilization, Putin is concerned about the spread of NATO into eastern Europe and about China’s economic and cultural advances into western Eurasia. His alternative plan is to create a zone of Russian influence, the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), that will counter the pull of the European Union and the influence of China’s New Silk Road Initiative—even though China and Russia share a communist past and a historic alienation from Western values. Considering Putin’s KGB past, it is no surprise that as his power has grown, Russia has seen increased authoritarianism and the brutal suppression of dissent. The recent annexation of Crimea and eastern Ukraine (both of which are primarily Russian and Orthodox) provides insight into how a more aggressive Russia will behave in the future.

China Awakens

Eurasia—the world’s largest landmass and the location of a vast portion of the world’s population and resources—lies east of Jerusalem. This region contains several of the world’s largest economies. The most formidable and dynamic country in Eurasia is China. China’s current leader, President Xi Jinping, seeks to restore its greatness after more than a century of humiliation at the hands of Western powers. Like Russia, the Chinese government also needs an enemy “to bolster its appeal to Chinese nationalism and legitimate its power”—a role filled by America and the West (Huntington, p.



224). Under President Xi’s guidance, China’s goal is to assume its historic role as the leader in Asia and to become a major player on the world stage. To this end, he is promoting a Belt and Road Initiative that devotes immense resources to the building of roads, railways, harbors, power plants and pipelines across Asia and around the world. He seeks to enhance trade and open



markets for Chinese labor and products, and to give China access to resources—oil, gas, coal, and minerals—that its

expanding economy desperately needs.

However, President Xi’s aggressive leadership has raised concerns among China’s neighbors and other world powers. Massive loans to less-developed nations will make those countries more amenable to supporting China’s interests. Some fear its developing infrastructure and transportation projects could be used to move Chinese troops. Like Putin, Xi has shown a willingness to crack down hard on internal dissent, and he has pledged to protect his nation’s interests and citizens living abroad. China recently established a military base on the Red Sea in Djibouti to protect Chinese interests. While some see China’s military buildup and activities in the South China Sea as provocative, China views these actions as defensive—meant to ensure it is never again threatened by foreign powers. China and Russia have conducted joint military exercises, and neither has any intention of being under the thumb of Western nations. Their goal is to overtake and replace the West as they work to establish a new political order more amenable to their own interests (Maçães, pp. 121-122).

Today, as we see the age of Western dominance coming to an end and the world’s center of gravity shifting to the East, knowledgeable observers warn that “the rise of China is the potential source of a big inter-civilizational war of core states” (Huntington, p. 209). While some nations will try to prevent or contain this shift, other nations will want to join forces with the rising civilizations. In his book *China’s Asian Dream*, economic analyst Tom Miller reminds readers that Napoleon once described China as a sleeping lion that will “shake the world” when it awakes. In the coming clash of civilizations—long predicted in Bible prophecy—the roar of that lion and its allies will indeed be heard around the world.

—Douglas Winnail

“*after* He had risen.” This is consistent with Jesus’ own words about being in the grave three days and three nights, and with the biblical timeline showing there were two Sabbaths the week of His crucifixion.

Does It Matter to God?

So we ask again, “What difference does all this make?” Quite simply, *the Good Friday/Sunday morning resurrection tradition denies the only sign Jesus said He would give that He is our Savior*. The implications are paramount! Is Jesus our Savior or not? Was He mistaken about the only sign He gave, as *The Abingdon Bible Commentary* concludes? Or is the entirety of the Easter narrative, with all its pagan practices, a counterfeit of the truth?

God instructed ancient Israel against borrowing customs from heathen peoples around them, and we will do well to pay attention to this warning: “... take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow [the nations], after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.’ You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way.... Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it” (Deuteronomy 12:30–32). Has God changed His mind about this? After all, it is the Old Testament—which many people think was “done away.” Such reasoning is part of the problem.


When Paul wrote to Timothy, he reminded him “that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 3:15). The only scriptures Timothy knew while growing up were those of the so-called Old Testament. Remember also that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8). The Apostle Paul tells us that Jesus was the One who, prior to His human birth, spoke the warning in Deuteronomy 12. “For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ” (1 Corinthians 10:4). Perhaps this is why Paul instructed the young evangelist Timothy that the Holy Scriptures were able to make him wise unto salvation, and that “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and

is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...” (2 Timothy 3:16).

Choosing Truth over Error

Instead of keeping a fraudulent, counterfeit observance, Jesus commanded His disciples on the night in which He was betrayed to continue observing the Passover, but with different symbols. No longer do we eat a physical lamb with bitter herbs, but unleavened bread with a small amount of wine. After introducing these new symbols, Jesus said, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me” (Luke 22:19). This is the sober observance that has been replaced by a counterfeit observance.

We live today in the information age and often suffer under “information overload.” Yet at the same time, God said of this age, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children” (Hosea 4:6). The knowledge the prophet is referring to is not technological, but spiritual, moral, and biblical in nature. People do not know what God intends for them. They don’t know His purpose for man and how to fulfil that purpose.

Facts are not the problem here. History tells us Easter is steeped in pagan traditions. The Bible reveals a different timeline from the Good Friday/Sunday Morning tradition. *The problem is that people do not take seriously the origins of their religious celebrations*. “What difference does it make?” some may ask. “Let’s not get fanatical about these things.” Some reading this may be offended by the truth. Others remain unmoved, as they already knew the celebrations surrounding the so-called Easter story are derived from heathen practices. Most who read this will go on to another article, or to some other pursuit, and be totally unaffected by it. *Only a precious few* will seriously question why they do the things they do. *Only a few* will have the courage to lay aside practices condemned by the Bible. Only these will be able to understand more fully God’s purpose and plan for mankind. Will *you* continue in man-made traditions, or do you have the courage to put God first? 

MAY WE
SUGGEST?

The Holy Days: God’s Master Plan The Bible lists seven Holy Days God designed to illustrate His plan for the world. You need to know! Request this **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF, ePub, and Kindle are also available.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Can Christians eat anything they want?

Question: Jesus said, “Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, thus purifying all foods?” (Mark 7:18–19). Does this mean Christians can eat anything they want?

Answer: People sometimes use Mark 7:18–19 to justify their desire to eat foods the Bible calls “unclean.” It is important, however, to understand this verse in context in order to truly appreciate what Christ was teaching.

Notice the verses immediately following: “And He said, ‘What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man’” (vv. 20–23).

Clearly, Jesus was making a point about the importance of godly conduct. But was He also making a point about diet? Notice the parallel account of this instruction in Matthew 15. Here, Christ explained—in the context of ritual hand-washing, not dietary requirements—that every plant “which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted” (Matthew 15:13). This was a lesson about godly conduct, not about what should be on our lunch menu!

If this were a literal instruction about diet, we should ask ourselves, “Can Christians today expect to eat arsenic and other poisons, yet not be affected?” Of course not! The passage says that all *foods* pass through a man. However, it does not say unclean items are considered “food”—Christ was *not* telling us to eat arsenic, *nor* to eat the animals Scripture plainly labels as “unclean” in Leviticus 11.

The Apostle Peter confirmed this understanding in Acts 10. God gave Peter a vision of a sheet coming down from heaven, on which were some animals he considered “unclean.” In the vision, a voice told Peter to kill and eat the animals, but Peter refused, and God again spoke to him, saying, “What God has cleansed you must not call common” (Acts 10:15).

Did Peter understand this as a revocation of the law of clean and unclean meats? No! Peter himself explained the lesson of the vision, saying “God has shown me that I should not call any *man* common or unclean” (v. 28). God had given Peter the vision to show that he should preach to, and keep company with, Jews and Gentiles alike. There is no account of Peter eating unclean foods, either before or after this vision!


An end-time prophecy from the book of Isaiah demonstrates that when Christ returns, He will bring judgment on those who persist in eating unclean animals, including those “eating swine’s

An end-time prophecy from the book of Isaiah demonstrates that when Christ returns, He will bring judgment on those who persist in eating unclean animals, including those “eating swine’s flesh.”

flesh” (Isaiah 66:17). If Christ truly allows human beings to eat swine’s flesh, this prophecy would make no sense—unless we assume Christ plans to punish people for obeying Him!

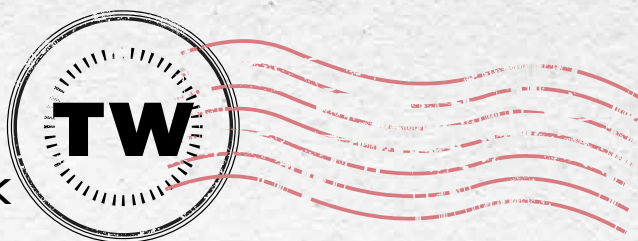
The biblical laws of clean and unclean meats are not merely a way God sets His people apart; they are laws that protect the physical health of those who obey them. As *Eerdmans’ Handbook of the Bible* reminds us, “These lists [of clean and unclean creatures] have a significance often ignored.

Far from being based on fad or fancy, these lists emphasize a fact not discovered until late in the last century... that animals carry diseases dangerous to man” (p. 176). Those who obey God’s law today can experience the blessings He intended for His creation.

To learn more about the biblical laws of clean and unclean meats and how they can help you both physically and spiritually, please write to the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 4 of this magazine) and request your free copy of our article, “Do You Really Want to Eat That?” Following God’s dietary guidelines may change your health—and your life! 

LETTERS TO TW

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



Gerald Weston's "Tame the Social Media Monster" [in the March-April 2018 issue] are my sentiments to the letter! As an elementary school teacher, now retired, I saw the evolution of students' social behaviors before my very eyes, and none of it was positive. I taught second graders, age seven, from 1973 to 2007. I would like to order the booklet for parents that you have suggested for my daughter and son-in-law to read for my grandchild's sake.

—Reader in New York

Editor's Note: The free booklet mentioned, *Successful Parenting: God's Way*, was sent to this reader. This booklet and many other free materials are available from our Regional Offices, listed on page 4, and also at our website TomorrowsWorld.org.

If it wasn't for you all I would be in the streets drug-ging. Now I watch the [Tomorrow's World] program. I'm learning to be thankful for your words of blessings. I'm not stealing anymore either. Thanks to God's word, I don't want to sin no more. Pray for us all. Thank you.

—Letter from a Reader

Thank you, *Tomorrow's World*, for the enlightening material you have sent me. I really appreciate it, also your television programs as well. I have learned so much from it, and I can see where the mainstream churches have lost track of the TRUTH. Thanks once again.

—Reader in Australia

[Concerning the *Tomorrow's World* Viewpoint video, "What Is the Probability of Life?"] I don't believe in God, and yet I am now utterly convinced, by videos like this and a little research, that life could not possibly have

begun by chance. So... hmmm... Do I believe in God after all? I am definitely conflicted!

—Online Viewer

Found this article by Douglas Winnail ["The Anglosphere's Sobering Future," September-October 2018] to be spot on. It should be read by every person of the English-speaking nations. The excerpts from all the sources he quotes are just so true. I can see no way the world can recover, even if they all believe in Jesus. The tipping point has passed.

—Reader in Texas

I was a registered nurse for 34 years—spent my last ten years in the newborn nursery. Nothing could disprove the theory of evolution more. A human being could not possibly have come from some freak accident of nature. They are just too perfect and beautiful. Thanks for your article.

—Online Reader

I just wanted to say thanks to Evangelist Gerald Weston and Mr. Phil West for sharing their insight at the meeting in Memphis. My wife and I enjoyed the fellowship and meeting their wives. Thanks for all the work that the Living Church of God is doing in our world today, and may God give you the strength to carry onward!

—Subscriber in Tennessee

Editor's Note: This subscriber is referring to one of our many *live* Tomorrow's World Presentations, conducted in cities all over the world. If you are interested in attending a live presentation, simply visit us at TomorrowsWorld.org and scroll down to the "Presentations" area. Click on "More Cities" to see a full list of currently scheduled presentations. We hope to meet you soon!

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TOMORROW'S WORLD

TELEVISION LOG



AUSTRALIA

Nationwide 7Two SU 7:00 a.m.

BARBADOS

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

JAMAICA

Kingston TVJ SU 7:00 a.m.

ICELAND

Reykjavik Gospel FR 8:30 p.m.

NEW ZEALAND

Nationwide TVNZ2 TU, WE, FR 5:30 a.m.

Nationwide TVNZ2 +1 TU, WE, FR 6:30 a.m.

SOUTH AFRICA

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

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Nationwide CNC3-TV SU 7:00 a.m.

UK & NW EUROPE

CBS Justice Freeview 64 SU 8:30 a.m.
CBS Justice Sky TV 148 SU 8:30 a.m.
CBS Drama Freeview 74 SA 7:30 a.m.
CBS Drama Sky TV 149 SA 7:30 a.m.
CBS Reality Freeview 66 SA 7:30 a.m.
CBS Reality Sky TV 146 SU 7:30 a.m.
Gospel Sky TV 587 MO 7:00 p.m.
WORD (TWN) Sky TV 590 WE 6:00 a.m.
Sky TV 590 SU 7:30 a.m.
Sky TV 590 SA 12:00 a.m.



CANADA

Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

Vision SU 4:00 a.m.
SU 4:30 a.m.
SU 5:30 p.m.
MO-FR 3:00 a.m.

UNITED STATES

Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)

CW Plus SU 8:00 a.m.

NewsMax SU 9:30 a.m.

IMPACT SU 11:00 p.m.

WGN SU 6:00 a.m.

WORD Network SU 7:30 p.m.
FR 7:00 p.m.

DISH Network* (All times Eastern)

Impact Ch. 9397 SU 11:00 p.m.

DIRECTV* (All times Eastern)

WORD Ch. 373 SU 7:30 p.m.
FR 7:00 p.m.

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AK Anchorage GCI SU 10:00 p.m.
Anchorage CREDO SA 7:00 p.m.
Anchorage KYUR SU 6:00 a.m.
Fairbanks KATN SU 6:00 a.m.
Juneau KJUD SU 6:00 a.m.

AL Dothan WTVY SU 7:00 a.m.
Montgomery WBMM SU 7:00 a.m.
Tuscaloosa, AL WVUA SU 10:30 a.m.

AR Fort Smith KHBS SU 7:00 a.m.
Little Rock KASN SU 10:30 a.m.

AZ Prescott Community SU 12:30 p.m.
Prescott Community SA 5:30 p.m.
Tucson KMSB SU 8:30 a.m.

CA Bakersfield KGET SU 8:00 a.m.
Chico KHSL SU 8:00 a.m.
Eureka KUVU-LP SU 8:00 a.m.
Monterey KION SU 8:00 a.m.
Orange County Time Warner MO 5:00 p.m.
Palm Springs KCWQ SU 8:00 a.m.
Palm Springs KCWQ-LP SU 8:00 a.m.
Sacramento RCCTV MO 5:30 p.m.
Salinas KION SU 8:00 a.m.
San Francisco Access WE 8:00 p.m.

CO Grand Junc. KJCT SU 7:00 a.m.

CT Naugatuck Tele-Media MO 9:30 p.m.

FL Gainesville WCJB SU 8:00 a.m.
Jacksonville WCJW SU 6:30 a.m.
Panama City WJHG SU 7:00 a.m.
Tampa Bay WTOG SU 8:00 a.m.

GA Atlanta WUPA SU 7:00 a.m.

Atlanta
Augusta
Macon
Macon
Macon

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

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

IL Chicago CANTV Various*
Chicago WJVS FR 10:00 a.m.
Chicago WJVS SU 8:00 a.m.
Moline Mediacom MO 5:00 p.m.
Peoria WHOI SU 7:00 a.m.
Quincy WGEM SU 7:00 a.m.
Springfield Insight TU 5:00 a.m.
Springfield Insight TU 1:00 p.m.
Springfield Insight TU 10:00 p.m.

IN Fort Wayne Comcast SU 9:00 a.m.

KS Parsons TWPAP WE 7:00 p.m.
Salina SCAT TH 5:00 p.m.
Salina SCAT FR 5:00 p.m.
Salina SCAT SA 9:00 a.m.
Salina SCAT SU 7:00 p.m.

KY Bowling Green WBKO SU 7:00 a.m.
Latonia PEG WE 6:30 p.m.
Latonia PEG TH 10:00 p.m.
Lexington Insight Various*

LA Alexandria KBCA SU 7:00 a.m.
Lafayette KATC SU 7:00 a.m.
Monroe KNOE SU 7:00 a.m.

MA Malden Access SU 11:00 a.m.
North Adams NBCTC WE 8:00 p.m.

MD Baltimore Community SU 9:00 a.m.
Westminster Adelphia TH 10:00 a.m.
Westminster Adelphia FR 10:00 a.m.

ME Bangor WABI SU 8:00 a.m.
Brunswick SA 8:30 a.m.
Brunswick TV3 SU 6:30 a.m.
Presque Isle WBQP SU 8:00 a.m.

MI Alpena WBAE SU 8:00 a.m.
Detroit Comcast SU 7:30 a.m.
Kalamazoo CACTV SU 6:30 a.m.
Kalamazoo WE 8:30 a.m.
Lansing WLAJ SU 8:00 a.m.
Marquette WBKP SU 8:00 a.m.

MN Cloquet MEDCLO SU 8:00 a.m.
Duluth KDHL SU 7:00 a.m.
Duluth Public Access SA 11:00 a.m.
Duluth Public Access TH 7:00 p.m.
Minneapolis MTN TH 12:00 a.m.
Minneapolis NWCT SA 10:30 p.m.
Minneapolis NWCT SU 4:30 a.m.
Minneapolis NWCT SU 10:30 a.m.*
Rochester KTRC SU 7:00 a.m.
Roseville CTV WE 4:00 a.m.
Roseville CTV WE 12:00 p.m.
St. Paul Nhd. Network SU 8:30 p.m.

MO Columbia KOMU SU 7:00 a.m.
Joplin KFJX SU 8:30 a.m.
Kansas City KCWE SU 7:30 a.m.

MS Biloxi WXXV SU 7:00 a.m.
Columbus WCBI SU 7:00 a.m.

COW SU 9:30 a.m.
WAGT SU 8:00 a.m.
Cox SU 5:00 p.m.
Cox TU 7:30 a.m.
Cox FR 2:00 p.m.

MT Billings KTVQ SU 7:00 a.m.
Butte KBZK SU 7:00 a.m.
Butte KXLF SU 7:00 a.m.
Glendive KWZB SU 7:00 a.m.
Great Falls KRTV SU 7:00 a.m.
Helena KMTF SU 7:00 a.m.
Missoula KPAX SU 7:00 a.m.

NC Charlotte WAXN SU 9:00 a.m.
Charlotte WMYT SU 8:30 a.m.
Greenville WNCN SU 8:00 a.m.
Hickory WHKY MO 7:30 p.m.
Raleigh WRMZ SU 7:30 a.m.

ND Fargo WDAY SU 7:00 a.m.

NE Lincoln KLKN SU 9:30 a.m.

NH Hanover CATV8 TH 7:00 p.m.
Hanover CATV8 FR 7:00 a.m.
Hanover CATV8 FR 1:00 a.m.

NM Albuquerque KWBQ SU 8:00 a.m.
Albuquerque KCHF MO 7:30 p.m.
Albuquerque KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.
Santa Fe KCHF MO 7:30 a.m.
Santa Fe KCHF FR 9:00 p.m.

NV Reno KREN SU 8:00 a.m.

NY Albany-Troy Time Warner MO 3:00 p.m.
Batavia Time Warner SU 2:00 p.m.
Batavia Time Warner TU 5:30 p.m.
Batavia Time Warner FR 7:30 p.m.

Binghamton Time Warner WE 10:00 p.m.
Binghamton Time Warner FR 8:00 p.m.
Binghamton WBNG SU 8:00 a.m.
Brookhaven Cablevision MO 4:30 p.m.
Brooklyn BCAT MO 4:30 p.m.
Canandaigua SU 11:30 a.m.

Elmira WENY SU 8:00 a.m.
Hauppauge Cablevision MO 4:30 p.m.
Manhattan MNN SA 7:00 p.m.
Oneida Access TH 2:00 p.m.
Queens Access TH 7:00 p.m.

Queens Public Access MO 11:00 p.m.
Queens Public Access TU 4:30 p.m.
Riverhead Public Access SU 7:00 p.m.
Rochester Cablevision SU 7:00 a.m.
Rochester Finger Lakes SU 5:00 a.m.
Rochester RCTV TU 10:00 a.m.*
Syracuse Time Warner SU 7:30 p.m.

OK Oklahoma City KOCB SU 6:30 a.m.

OH Cincinnati Time Warner TH 8:30 a.m.
Cincinnati Time Warner SU 11:30 a.m.
Cincinnati Time Warner TU 1:00 p.m.
Cleveland WUAB SU 8:30 a.m.
Fairborn CAC TU 12:00 p.m.
Lima WBOH SU 7:00 a.m.
Lima WBOH MO 7:00 a.m.

OR Bend KTVZ SU 8:00 a.m.
Eugene KMTV SU 8:00 a.m.
Medford KTVL SU 8:00 a.m.
Oregon City Access WFTV SU 8:00 a.m.
Oregon City Access WFTV SA 8:00 a.m.
Portland Community SU 12:30 p.m.
Portland KRCW SU 7:00 a.m.

Greenwood
Jackson
Jackson
Meridian

PA Allentown KTVQ SU 7:00 a.m.
Bethlehem KBZK SU 7:00 a.m.
Erie KXLF SU 7:00 a.m.
Johnstown KWZB SU 7:00 a.m.
Knoxville KRTV SU 7:00 a.m.
Knoxville KMTF SU 7:00 a.m.
La Follette KPAX SU 7:00 a.m.

SC Charleston WCBT SU 8:00 a.m.
Columbia WOLO SU 11:00 a.m.
Greenville WYCW SU 9:30 a.m.
Greenville WGGG SU 11:30 a.m.
Myrtle Beach WWMB SU 8:00 a.m.

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

TN Jackson WBKJ SU 7:00 a.m.
Knoxville WKNN SU 7:30 a.m.
Knoxville WKNN SU 6:00 p.m.
La Follette Comcast-WLAF WE 6:00 p.m.
Memphis WLMT SU 10:00 a.m.

TX Abilene KTXS SU 7:00 a.m.
Amarillo KVIH SU 7:00 a.m.
Beaumont KBTW SU 6:30 a.m.
Beaumont KFDN SU 7:00 a.m.
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT2 SU 7:00 a.m.
Laredo KTXW SU 7:00 a.m.
Lubbock KLCW SU 7:00 a.m.
Lufkin KTRF SU 6:30 a.m.

McAllen KCWT SU 7:00 a.m.
Midland KWES SU 7:00 a.m.
Odessa KWES SU 7:00 a.m.
San Antonio KABB SU 5:30 a.m.
Tyler KLTW SU 6:30 a.m.
Waco KYLE SU 7:30 a.m.

VA Charlottesville Comcast Cable MO 8:00 a.m.
Charlottesville WVRV SU 8:00 a.m.
Charlottesville ADELVA WE 6:30 p.m.
Chesterfield Comcast TH 6:30 p.m.
Fairfax Public Access MO 5:30 p.m.
Fairfax Public Access FR 1:00 a.m.
Fairfax Public Access SA 10:00 a.m.
Norfolk WSKY SU 9:30 a.m.
Roanoke WWCW SU 8:30 a.m.

VT Bennington CAT WE 9:30 a.m.
Bennington CAT WE 12:00 a.m.
Bennington CAT TH 9:30 p.m.
Bennington CAT TH 12:00 a.m.
Bennington CAT SA 8:00 a.m.*
Bennington CAT WE 2:30 a.m.
Burlington Access TH 11:00 a.m.

WA Everett Comcast WE 4:30 p.m.
Kennewick Charter SU 8:00 p.m.
Kennewick Charter TU 8:00 p.m.
Seattle KSTW SU 2:00 a.m.

WI La Crosse WXOW SU 7:00 a.m.

WV Bluefield WVVA SU 8:00 a.m.
Charleston WOCW SU 7:00 a.m.
Clarksburg WVFX SU 8:00 a.m.

WY Cheyenne KGWN SU 8:00 a.m.

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Bible prophecy describes a woman riding a terrifying beast. What is her true identity?

March 14-20

Will You Escape the Day of the Lord?

Armageddon is coming. But the Bible explains how to escape. You need to know!

March 21-27

2019 in Bible Prophecy

Can we know anything definite about the future? With the Bible's guidance, yes you can!

March 28-April 3

What Happened to Right and Wrong?

Our society is in moral chaos. How did this happen? How can we restore sanity?

April 4-10

The Devil's Deadly Deceptions

Satan is a powerful deceiver, and many are lost in his lies. But you can overcome him!

April 11-17

Three Days, Three Nights, One Messiah

Jesus offered a clear sign to prove He was the Messiah. Why is it so misunderstood?

April 18-24

Schedule subject to change



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