

May-June 2002

Tomorrow's World

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



Prepare for
Christ's Coming!

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For centuries, preachers have been proclaiming: "Jesus Christ may come back tonight!" Countless people have been disappointed—even turned off—because of such date-setting and the extreme emotionalism that often prompts it. What does the Bible really teach about Christ's coming? And what should you be doing about it?

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EDITOR IN CHIEF **Roderick C. Meredith**

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR **Richard F. Ames**

EXECUTIVE EDITOR **William Bowmer**

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REGIONAL EDITORS:

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ART DIRECTOR **Donna Prejean**

PROOFREADERS:

Sandy Davis

Linda Ehman

NEWS BUREAU **June Olsen**

Regional Offices

UNITED STATES:

P.O. Box 503077

SAN DIEGO, CA 92150-3077

PHONE: (858) 673-7470

FAX: (858) 673-0310

www.tomorrowsworld.org

AUSTRALIA:

GPO Box 772

CANBERRA, ACT 2601

PHONE: (07) 5546 0472

FAX: (07) 5546 0768

CANADA:

P.O. Box 27202

TORONTO, ONTARIO M9W 6L0

PHONE: (905) 671-3730

FAX: (905) 671-9599

NEW ZEALAND:

P.O. Box 2767

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

PHONE/FAX: (09) 435 3592

PHILIPPINES:

MCPO Box 1774

MAKATI CITY 1257, PHILIPPINES

PHONE: 63-2-813-6538

FAX: 63-2-867-1569

SOUTH AFRICA:

P.O. Box 4271, LUIPAARDSVLEI, 1743

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PHONE: (27) 11-664-6036

UNITED KINGDOM:

P.O. Box 9092

MOTHERWELL, ML1 2YD SCOTLAND

PHONE/FAX: 44-1698-263-977

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Personal

By Rodenick C. Meredith, Editor in Chief

Searching for True Christianity

I would like to share with all of our readers the ultimate “thrust”—the ultimate **goal**—of the religious teachings espoused in *Tomorrow's World* magazine. For we in this Work of Christ are definitely “different.” *How* are we different? And *why* are we different?

Let me give you a little background, so that you can put things in perspective. I grew up in southwest Missouri, and for 19 years was a member of a very respectable “mainstream” church. My parents graduated from a college sponsored by this major church denomination. I was, for a year or two, president of my Sunday School class. I graduated from Joplin High School and was co-captain of the track team and the star mile runner for three consecutive years. I lettered in football, and was a two-time Golden Gloves boxing champion. I joined the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) and became a first lieutenant in the Corps. Later, I attended Joplin Junior College, and was elected President of the Junior College Luncheon Club—an organization devoted to discussing civic affairs and world events.

I was definitely a “regular” guy—part of “mainstream America.”

Early in high school, however, one of my best friends was killed in a wrestling match. We had lived across the alley from each other as young boys, and had spent hundreds of hours wrestling together, rolling around in the Bermuda grass like two little bear cubs. When I heard that Jimmy had had his neck broken in a “wrestling exhibition” up in Pittsburgh, Kansas, I was devastated.

Why did God let Jimmy die? Where was he now, *really*? In heaven or hell—or *what*?

This tragedy propelled me to look into the *reality* of God, and to search for genuine answers. I began attending various churches and “revival” meetings. I read many different books and commentaries on religion, and began to listen to a

number of preachers on the radio (there was no television back then). I took a philosophy course during my first year of college, and concluded not only that most philosophers were contradicting one another, but that their ideas were indeed empty, impractical and based on *nothing* but human imagination.

Finally, I was able to prove to my personal satisfaction that a man named Herbert W. Armstrong was the *only* one who was preaching *what the Bible actually said*. Mr. Armstrong consistently referred his listeners to the *Bible*, and read his scriptural references right out of the Bible. Rather than constantly saying “The Bible says!” with no proof (as certain leading ministers were doing), Mr. Armstrong encouraged his listeners to *look up the scriptures* and **prove** what he was saying—right out of their own Bibles!

Still later, after attending Ambassador College in Pasadena, California, I began to see that the genuine “key” to true Christianity was whether or not we would actually believe and practice what Jesus Christ and the original Apostles believed and practiced. What did *they* say about going to heaven or hell? What did *they* say about the real *purpose* of life? Which weekly and annual days of worship did *they* observe? And did those days have a special *meaning*? What did *they* actually say about the “end of the world,” Christ’s Second Coming and what the true saints would be doing after Christ’s return? What would our “reward” actually be?

All this I began to mentally lump under the heading: “Apostolic Christianity.”

And *that very* Apostolic Christianity, dear reader, is the ultimate thrust of this Work, as far as its *religious* goal is concerned. Of course, we want to inform our readers of the **end-time**

Continued on page 29

Prepare for

Yes, even though many have been “turned off” because of extreme emotionalism and date setting, your Bible says that Jesus Christ will return **soon**! He is going to **rule** this world with a “rod of iron.” He will set up a literal **government** on this earth with *Headquarters at Jerusalem*!

Do you believe that?

I hope you do—for that is what your Bible clearly says. But how should you, personally, actually *prepare for Christ’s return*? What should you be doing? What should you be learning? What *changes* should you be making in your life? These are fundamental questions that all true Christians should be asking. What are the real answers?

First of all, we need to get our bearings: we definitely **are** in the biblical “last days” of civilization as we now know it. In Matthew 24:3, Jesus’ disciples asked Him: “What will be the **sign** of

“**J**esus Christ may come back **tonight**,” the iron-lunged evangelist bellowed during his big tent meeting. “You had better give your heart to the Lord **now** while He is calling you. You may never get another chance like this!”

Most of us have probably heard preachers talk like this. In *World Magazine*, April 24, 1999, author Andree Seu wrote: “I know a pastor who likes to say, ‘Jesus is coming back today,’ because, as he explains, whichever day He returns, it will be ‘today.’”

or Christ's Coming!

By Roderick C. Meredith

Your coming, and of the end of the age?”

A SERIES of Events

Jesus answered by listing an *entire series* of events to watch for—false prophets, numerous wars leading to world wars, famine, disease epidemics, earthquakes, the “abomination of desolation” in the Holy Place and then a truly **Great Tribulation** beyond anything the world has ever seen—all this leading to *human annihilation* if God did not supernaturally intervene to stop it (vv. 21–22). Certainly, many of these events are already under way. And note this vital fact: until the last few decades, it was *never possible* for humanity to completely annihilate itself. But with the advent of the atomic bomb, the hydrogen bomb and now biological and biochemical weapons, mankind could indeed destroy **all** life on this planet!

In addition, the virtual breakdown of decent society described by the Apostle Paul is definitely under way. “But know this, that in the **last days** perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from

such people turn away!” (2 Timothy 3:1–5).

Certainly, the prophesied “Beast” power in Europe—the final revival of the Roman Catholic-dominated Holy Roman Empire—is already beginning to come together and challenge the United States for world leadership. Read Revelation 17:6–14 carefully. As we have explained many times in these pages, the first six kings prophesied here have already come.

The seventh king, the dread leader of the “Beast” power, will *soon appear. He is probably alive somewhere on earth today!*

Although most news analysts and political pundits either fail to understand or refuse to admit what is happening, a “religious war” is beginning between professing Christianity and the more than *one billion* followers of Islam. They feel that our wealth, power and hedonistic lifestyle, our control of world media and our increasing influence on their peoples are a threat to everything they believe and stand for. So they have begun to *strike back!*

The September 11, 2001 horror was *just the beginning* of a continuing series of major assaults against the West and our entire way of life. These slowly escalating clashes between the forces of Islam and the West are definitely preparing the way for the events described by the prophet Daniel, who described the coming “Mahdi”—a religious-political leader of a league of Arab nations—attacking the

coming Beast power in Europe. “At the *time of the end* the king of the South shall attack him; and the king of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter the countries, overwhelm them, and pass through. He shall also enter the Glorious Land, and many countries shall be overthrown; but these shall escape from his hand: Edom, Moab, and the prominent people of Ammon. He shall stretch out his hand against the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape” (Daniel 11:40–42). As all these events finally come into clear focus, it is obvious that we truly are near the **end** of this age!

Daniel’s prophecy reveals that soon after this final Middle East war, Christ will indeed come and bring about the *resurrection of the dead* and give an awesome **reward** to those who have zealously served in His Work. “At **that time** Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a **time of trouble**, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall **awake**, some to **everlasting life**, some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall **shine** like the brightness of the firmament, and those who **turn many**

to righteousness like the stars forever and ever” (Daniel 12:1–3).

What Should YOU Be Doing?

Since we are, in fact, in the “last days,” what should we be doing? In what *special activities* should we be involved? Toward what *special goals* should we be aiming?

The Bible warns us against the self-indulgence and worldly

have a misguided zeal to attack America and the West. But, if nothing else, they *are* zealous and could in *no way* be classified as “lukewarm.”

Yet the *majority* of professing Christians—especially in America, Canada, Britain and Australia—are *very* lukewarm. Church attendance is *way* down in Britain and Canada. And even most mainstream religious authors and analysts in the U.S. freely admit that the majority of churchgoers are spir-

ple can feel “comfortable” without being challenged by the powerful teachings of the Bible?

Do you, personally, have the *faith* and the *courage* to act on the Truth?

Grow in UNDERSTANDING

Remember the Apostle John’s warning about human desire to be accepted and to conform to the society around us. “Nevertheless even among the

**Each of us must learn to seek God zealously, with all our heart! V
for understanding and for strength, are the primary ways to seek t**

lifestyle embraced, lamentably, even by many professing Christians. As we saw in 2 Timothy 3, God condemns those who are “lovers of themselves”—all involved in “self.” He condemns those who focus their lives on money and wealth—“lovers of money.” And those who are “lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.”

Do any of these characteristics describe *you*? Then in Jesus’ name I urge you: **repent!** Ask God to help you to truly and sincerely **change** and, as Jesus said, “*seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness*” (Matthew 6:33).

Jesus Christ warns those living in the final era: “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are **lukewarm**, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth” (Revelation 3:15–16). Today, we see millions of Muslims “on fire” for their religion. Some aberrant Muslims

initially weak, biblically illiterate and certainly shallow and “lukewarm” in their religious commitment.

What each one of you readers needs to do is to zealously “search out” where the full **Truth** of the Bible is being taught and then become enthusiastically involved in learning and practicing the real Truth of God and in proclaiming it to the world! Jesus commissioned His true followers: “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, *teaching them to observe all things* that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*” Amen” (Matthew 28:19–20).

Is *your* church or religion committed to teaching “all things” that Jesus taught all of His disciples? Or is it involved in the lukewarm practice of following *tradition*, modern philosophies and politics, and creating a religious “social club” where peo-

rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for *they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God*” (John 12:42–43).

Throughout the Bible, God tells us to **seek** Him and His Truth—as Jesus said, to “**seek first** the Kingdom of God” (Matthew 6:33). The inspired Apostle Paul wrote: “If then you were raised with Christ, **seek** those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:1–2).

In Deuteronomy 4:29–30, God described what would happen to the end-time descendants of Israel when, in the Great Tribulation, they are finally punished, taken into captivity and truly humbled. “But from there you will **seek** the LORD your God, and you will find *Him* if you **seek** Him with all your heart and with

all your soul. When you are in distress, and all these things come upon you in the **latter days**, when you turn to the LORD your God and obey His voice.”

Ask yourself: “Will it take the Great Tribulation to wake me up and cause me to ‘go all out’ in genuinely **seeking** God and His true teachings?”

I sincerely hope not! Each of us must learn to **seek** God zealously, with *all our heart*! We must realize that genuine **study** of the Bible, and fervent *prayer* for

tell us about this coming responsibility. “Do you not know that the saints will *judge the world*? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Do you not know that we shall *judge angels*? How much more, things that pertain to this life?” (1 Corinthians 6:2–3).

Most professing Christian churches either *do not understand*, or *totally neglect* to tell their members about, this very specific instruction! Rather, they talk

5:9–10). **Why** have you *never before* been taught about *this awesome purpose* for your very life? **Why?**

The true Christian’s awesome calling to **rule**—to serve under the direction of the living Jesus Christ, helping to straighten out this world—is the very **reason** we are told throughout the Bible to “overcome” and to “grow in grace and in knowledge.” By a life of overcoming, obedience and service, we are to *demonstrate to God* that we are truly

We must realize that genuine study of the Bible, and fervent prayer to the true God.

understanding and for strength, are the primary ways to seek the true God. A wonderful resource to help you in this spiritual quest is our *Tomorrow’s World Bible Study Course*. This course will take you step by step into a genuinely profound understanding of the Bible—if you will really *study* (not just carelessly read!) the lessons and *continue to take the course*. Your enrollment in this study course is completely **free** upon your request. Just send your request to the regional office nearest you as listed on page 2 of this magazine.

Prepare for Your Responsibility Under Jesus Christ!

In addition to earnest study and prayer, and building a powerful relationship with the Jesus Christ of your Bible, you need to think about the *very real responsibility* each true saint will soon be given in Christ’s Kingdom! The Apostle Paul was inspired to

more often about “rolling around heaven” with **nothing** to do! But, the living Jesus Christ is now sitting at the right hand of God preparing to *return to this earth* at the last trumpet and **rule** all nations with a “rod of iron” (Revelation 19:15). Jesus said that “he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give **power** over the nations—‘He shall **rule** them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’—as I also have received from My Father” (Revelation 2:26–27).

The inspired “prayer of the saints” also indicates what true Christians will be doing within a few years. “And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us **kings** and **priests** to our God; and we shall **reign** on the earth’” (Revelation

surrendered to Him, and always *responsive to His will*! If salvation were just a matter of an emotional “acceptance” of Jesus and of “going to heaven” with nothing to do, then there would be *no need* for our trials and tests, and no need for the spiritual *growth* and *overcoming* that Jesus Christ demands of His followers! Then, if you and I were sincere but “lukewarm,” *it would not make any difference*!

But, in reality, it makes a **huge** difference to God and to the true Christ of the Bible! For true Christians are **now** being called to prepare themselves to assist Christ in a *real government* soon to be set up over this earth. God needs to **know** where we *really* stand—and that we will be *obedient* to His laws and to His ways, which we will soon have to teach the whole world!

That is **why** Jesus said: “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and **not** do the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46). That is *why*

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

In the famous parable of the “talents” (or “minas” as this monetary unit is correctly rendered in the *New King James Version*), Jesus described a king (obviously Jesus Himself), who gives His servants a certain amount of money for trading, then departs for a “far country” (heaven). Upon returning, He commands these men to appear before Him to ascertain “how much every man had gained by trading” (Luke 19:15). Spiritually speaking, *how much* had they “overcome”? *How much* had they served others and helped prepare for the Kingdom of God?

And what was their reward? Going off to heaven? No!

The man who had increased his mina tenfold was told: “Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities” (Luke 19:17). The man who had a five-fold increase was told: “Likewise, he said to him, ‘You also be over five cities’” (v. 19).

The REALITY of Christ’s Coming Government

Most modern religious scholars will try to “poetize” away the reality of true Christians’ coming responsibility. But the inspired

Apostle Paul’s very clear statement—“Do you not know that we shall judge the world?”—is hard to poetize away, as is Jesus’ equally clear declaration that the true saints will *rule the nations* “with a rod of iron” (Revelation 2:26–27).

Throughout the Bible, this very *specific* responsibility is reiterated. Describing the time after Christ’s return to earth, the prophet Daniel wrote: “Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him” (Daniel 7:27).

So are you, personally, learning to *study* the Bible with this thought in mind? Are you really *studying* God’s law so that you will be able to administer this law in the true government of God under Jesus Christ? Remember, King David of Israel will, once again, be King over *all* the nations of Israel. One reason is certainly that David *loved* God’s law—which law will be the very *basis of government* in tomorrow’s world (Isaiah 2:2–3)! King David exclaimed: “Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day” (Psalm 119:97).


Are you studying the book of Proverbs for *wisdom* so that you can make wise decisions in ruling the cities over which you may be set in Christ’s soon-coming government?

The Apostle Paul described some of the qualities God grants through His Holy Spirit. “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7). Are you developing the spir-

itual *power*—through Jesus Christ living within you—to “overcome” *yourself*, the *world* and *Satan*? Are you growing in spiritual *love*—the genuine out-flowing concern for *all humanity*? Are you growing in true *wisdom* and *balance*—the “spirit of a sound mind”—so that you will be a more effective servant of Christ now and in His coming government?

Christ’s coming kingdom is going to be very *real*! It will literally take over the governments of men *all over the world*. “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). As God continues to intervene in world affairs *exactly according to His Plan*—as He “shakes the nations” so that they begin to grasp the concept of a *real God*—you and I need to *prepare* lovingly and enthusiastically for Christ’s return!

We are *not* to be in some weak, confused, “tradition-bound” church that has virtually *no understanding* of prophecy or of the transcendent *purpose* for mankind. Rather, we should earnestly *seek out* and become part of *God’s true Church*—the Church that understands the Bible, that preaches the “whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27), that is *doing* the Work of God at the very end of this age and whose members are *genuinely* preparing to be kings and priests, under the direction of the living Jesus Christ, in tomorrow’s world.

May God help you to understand—and to act. 

Questions & Answers

Q Does Galatians 4:8–10 teach that Christians are not required to observe God’s Sabbath and Holy Days?

A No, it does not. The Apostle Paul addressed his letter to the Christians of Galatia, who were a unique mixture of Jews, Romans, Greeks and Gauls, with a distinctive character shaped by centuries of Celtic influence (see J. B. Lightfoot’s *Commentary on Paul’s Letter to the Galatians*, 1999, pp. 12–17).

Galatian society followed a multiplicity of pagan superstitions and rituals for observing “days and months and seasons and years.” Caesar complained that the Galatians, as a people, were impelled by the desire for change, which included adopting and discarding one religious system after another (see Lightfoot, p. 15). Paul observed this fickleness when he stated: “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel” (Galatians 1:6). He also called them “foolish Galatians” and “bewitched” (Galatians 3:1). Their faith was superficial; their zeal short-lived. As soon as something new and appealing came along, they went after it. With this in mind, we can understand two key challenges to the Church in Galatia: Judaism and paganism.

Some falsely taught that the Galatians needed to be circumcised, like the Jews. To the devout Jew, physical circumcision and ritualistic works of worship defined righteousness. Paul countered this false teaching by showing that man cannot be “made perfect” by the flesh (Galatians 3:3). Indeed, “circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, and not in the letter,” (Romans 2:28–29). True righteousness and perfection can come only by Jesus Christ and His faith residing in us (Galatians 2:20).

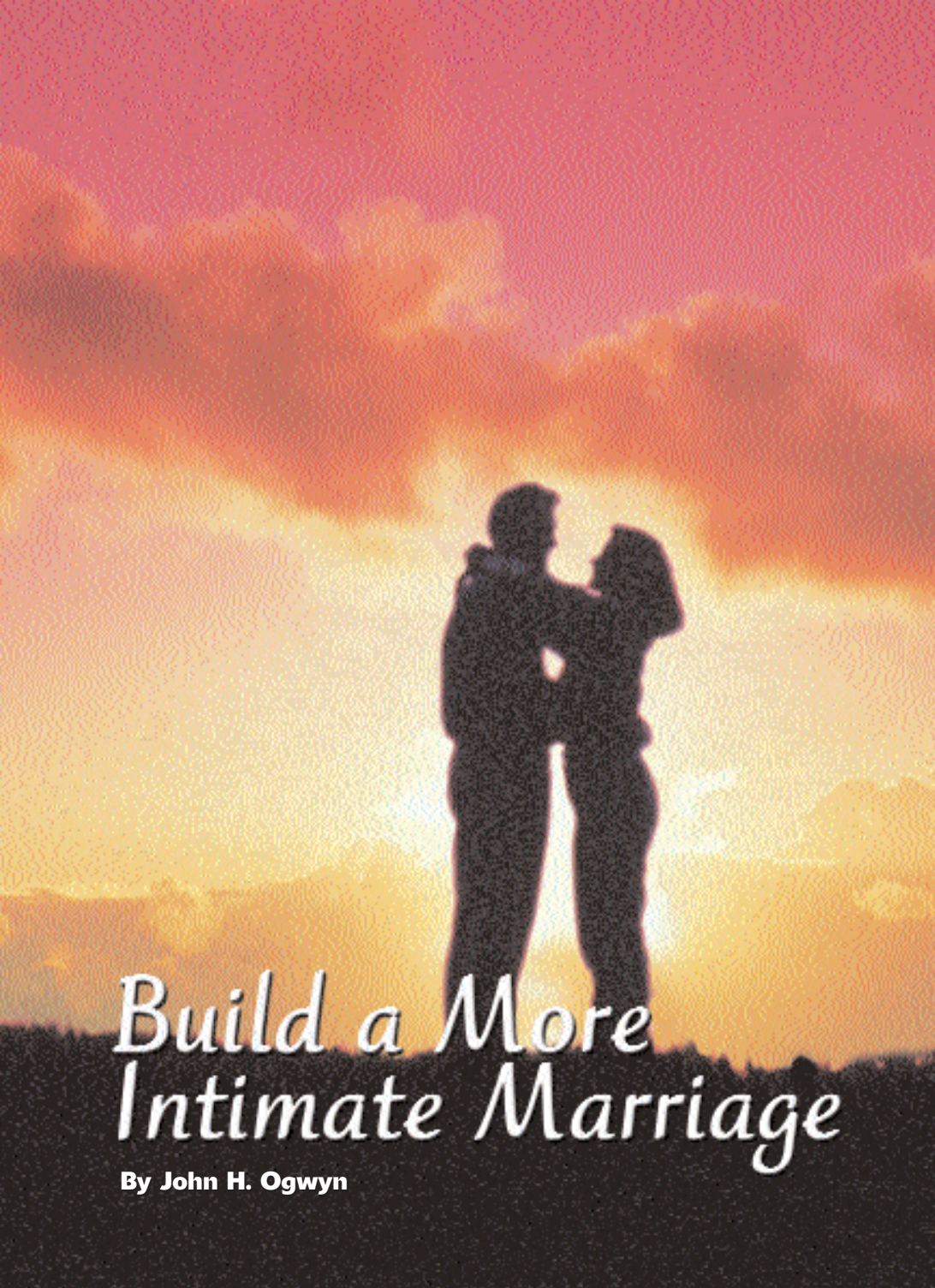
Paul explained the true purpose of the sacrifices, offerings and cleansings of the ritual law: “It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made” (Galatians 3:19). Notice that this law was introduced *after* the Ten Commandments, the Holy days and the Sabbath had been introduced. Jesus Christ said that He is Lord of the Sabbath (Mark 2:28). His example and His faith provide the standard by which all true Christians live.

The Galatians were disputing a point of ritual—circumcision—not the basic way of life taught and practiced by Christ and His Apostles. That is why Paul could write: “For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation” (Galatians 6:15).

Paul also addressed the problem of paganism in the Church. He wrote: “But... when you did not know God, you served those which by nature are not gods. But now after you have known God, or rather are known by God, how is it that you turn again to the weak and beggarly elements, to which you desire again to be in bondage? You observe days and months and seasons and years” (Galatians 4:8–10).

Paul had begun Galatians 4 by addressing the Jewish Christians, using the collective pronoun *we*. In verse 8, Paul addressed “you”—the Gentile Christians, who had previously served demons and idols, not knowing what they were worshiping—for, as Jesus affirmed, “salvation is of the Jews” (John 4:22). The Gentiles had been cut off from God (Ephesians 2:13), and had begun observing man-made superstitions and pagan rituals—including the observance of “days and months and seasons [KJV “times”] and years.” Such observances, tied to ancient astrological practice, continued to corrupt many professing Christians. The fourth-century Catholic bishop Chrysostom reported that weak Christians were observing superstitious “times.” He said: “Many were superstitiously addicted to divination.... In celebration of these times [they] set up lamps in the marketplace, and crown their doors with garlands” (Bingham’s *Antiquities of the Christian Church*, pp. 1,123–1,124). These observances also took note of many supposedly “lucky” and “unlucky” days, and special months and years during which Greeks and Romans commonly performed idolatrous practices.

God expressly forbade such rituals, and all soothsaying (observing “times”) and divination (Deuteronomy 18:10, 14; Leviticus 19:26). Even today, these practices persist in “modern” superstitions such as special “charm” jewelry, rabbits’ feet, fear of Friday the 13th and following one’s horoscope. Paul’s admonition was not a condemnation of God’s Law and His Holy Days; indeed, his admonition is still relevant for Christians who follow Christ’s example and teachings today!

A large, artistic illustration of a man and a woman in silhouette, embracing and looking at each other. They are positioned in the center of the frame against a vibrant, textured background of a sunset or sunrise sky, with warm orange and yellow hues. The overall mood is romantic and contemplative.

that their troubles and loneliness were behind them, and that joy and fulfillment lay ahead.

Yet each of these couples saw their dreams turn into nightmares. They brought to marriage their past hurts and insecurities, which were compounded by the ordinary stresses of married life. Love faded, replaced by estrangement and bitterness. In their hurt, they lashed out at their mates. Each had entered marriage hoping for the love and intimacy they had dreamed of but never experienced, but their marriages ended in bitter acrimony. Hurt, fear and resentment triumphed in their lives, and dashed their dreams to pieces.

Why do so few ever achieve such longed-for intimacy in marriage? For every marriage that ends in bitterness, many more hobble along in estrangement and dullness. Does it have to be this way? Is it realistic to expect far more from marriage?

Understand a vital point. God intended from the beginning that marriage be far more than “peaceful coexistence” between two people. He designed mankind as male and female so they might become one in marriage. This oneness carries with it the connotation of *true intimacy*. But what is intimacy—and

Build a More Intimate Marriage

By John H. Ogwyn

Jim and Linda were much admired by their friends and acquaintances. They were young, good looking and newly married. They had just graduated from college, and Jim had landed his “dream job.” In college, Linda had been a vivacious cheerleader and Jim had been a good athlete and good student. He and Linda were excited about his new job and the opportunities ahead, and expected to “live happily ever after.”

Bob and Doris were much older when they married, but were still very vigorous and healthy. Doris had been widowed for several years, and met Bob when he began attending her church. Soon, she was swept off her feet by his charm, and had fallen in love. Both Bob and Doris had been lonely, and they bubbled with happiness and excitement as their marriage approached. Both were convinced

how is it developed and nurtured? Most marriages fall far short of the ideal that God intended, but progress *can* be made by *all* who are personally willing to grow and to change.

Our growth can begin when we recognize that we can only change ourselves. It is easy to think that if only *our mate* would change, *our* problems would be solved. This, of course, is not reality! We all bring into marriage the baggage we have previously accumulated. Because of hurt, many people erect defensive barriers, meant to keep out more hurt and disappointment. In the long run these become barriers to real intimacy. In order to draw really close to another person, one must make oneself vulnerable.

Jim and Linda had both grown up with alcoholic parents. Linda's parents divorced when she was a child. After a tumultuous childhood, she left home as a teenager to live with friends and finish high school. Her outward personality, exuberant and bubbly, hid an inner person who felt inadequate and insecure. She was easily shattered by criticism. Though others considered her very attractive, Linda lived under the shadow of her elegant mother and always felt like a "klutz" whose best would never be good enough. Both Jim and Linda had learned from childhood how to put up a good front before others, but fear kept them from moving beyond that self-protective mechanism—even with each other. Each became convinced that the breakdown of their marriage was the other's fault.

Doris was a teenager when she married her first husband; she spent the next three decades rearing children. While her husband worked hard to eke out a living for the family, he remained cold and emotionally distant from his wife and his children. Throughout her first marriage, Doris was surrounded by people, but she was deeply lonely. She saw in Bob an emotional intensity that she thought would make for a much closer relationship than she ever had with her first husband. Yet she and Bob were easily hurt; they were both fragile emotionally, and were quick to misinterpret each other's words and actions. Misunderstandings always escalated quickly. Each was convinced that if the other would change, everything would be fine.

Clearly, *longing* for intimacy is not enough. The world is filled with Jims and Lindas, and with Bobs and Dorises, desperately wanting what they have never had. They marry with great expectations, only to have those expectations turn to dust. Greater intimacy can be achieved, but most people do not know

the keys that produce intimacy. In this article, we will examine some of those keys.

The Importance of Trust

Building trust in a relationship is the greatest key to developing intimacy. Trust takes time to build, but can be torn down very quickly. What qualities help build trust in marriage? First and foremost is the quality of absolute faithfulness. Adultery will quickly devastate trust. Real faithfulness involves not only avoiding sexual contact with someone other than your mate, but also staying away from the "edges." This means avoiding all forms of pornography, and not allowing yourself to develop other emotionally close relationships with members of the opposite sex. The hurt that can come to your mate because of carelessness in these areas can undermine trust—and will greatly damage your chance of ever achieving true intimacy.

We also build trust by the way we use our tongue. When we belittle or ridicule a person—particularly in the presence of others—we make it very difficult for that person ever to trust us. Who wants to reveal the inner secrets of one's heart to someone who will fling those secrets back hurtfully? Who wants to be the butt of "put-downs"—whether humorously intended or not? We will never willingly reveal our secrets unless we feel *safe* doing so. Damage is magnified many times over when hurtful words are said in front of others.

Many adults were continually subjected to negative comparisons and derogatory comments while they were growing up. Highly sensitized to criticism, they are quick to feel put down. To trust other people, we must be convinced of their sincerity and their motives. While we cannot *make* others change their feelings or perceptions, we can conduct ourselves in ways that will foster those changes. When we focus on being trustworthy, by demonstrating loyalty and kindness in our words and deeds, we are becoming the kind of person God wants us to be. In doing that, we are also engendering the kind of environment in which trust can grow.

Practicing Forgiveness

Forgiveness is another vital key to fostering intimacy in a relationship. Those who keep count of hurts and grievances will *never* move toward greater closeness. Forgiveness involves letting go of our

“right” to justice. The Greek word translated “forgive” in the New Testament is *aphiemi*. This is the term used in Matthew 6:12, where Christ taught His disciples to ask the Father to “forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” The same term is used in Mark 1:18, where we learn that Jesus’ earliest disciples, who were fishermen, “left their nets.” To forgive is to leave behind.

Those who are determined to punish each offense, and to see that the other party “knows what it feels like,” will only ensure that the cycle of hurt is never broken. When we forgive, it means that we turn loose of the offense. Past mistakes must not be revisited over and over again whenever we face a fresh conflict. Readiness to forgive should be one of the hallmarks of a Christian—and it is a necessary component of any intimate marriage. As the Apostle Paul explained in 1 Corinthians 13, love does not keep an account of evil.

Accepting God’s forgiveness in *our* lives is essential, if we are to *give* forgiveness to others. Many who have the most trouble forgiving others grew up in homes where they never experienced much in the way of real forgiveness. They grew up viewing pardon as something that has to be earned or deserved, so they have trouble understanding the concept that the Bible calls *grace*. Even when they sincerely repent and begin to change, they remain weighed down by their shame over past and present sins, unable to forgive themselves. Unable to forgive themselves, they are unable to forgive others. The unaccepted become the unaccepting, and the unforgiven become the unforgiving. Those who cannot understand and accept God’s grace for themselves are certainly unable to extend true forgiveness to others.

Enhancing Communication

Another key to building an intimate relationship with your mate is to spend time talking about what is important to each of you. The ability to share hopes and dreams builds a bond that grows with the sharing. Communication involves much more than one person talking; it must also involve someone listening. *Active* listening—seeking to understand what

the other person is really trying to say—will help minimize misunderstanding, and will encourage communication.

We communicate not only by our words, but also by our body language, our voice inflection and the look in our eyes. Paying attention to someone, and *actively* listening, actually conveys a message from

the listener—it says that the listener considers the speaker important! When we tune out our mate’s conversation, perhaps because we are absorbed in a television show or in reading the newspaper, we are sending a strong message that we do not value him or her. While that may not be the message that we wish to send, it is likely the message that our mate will be receiving.

We must also be sure to apply the Golden Rule when we speak. Speak to your mate with the same sort of kindness, courtesy and consideration that you want your mate to use toward you. Unkind and hurtful comments will shut down real communication, and make the hearer feel defensive. When we feel defensive, we generally quit listening, and we start defending and protecting ourselves.

In our hectic, fast-paced world, many couples never seem to find time to talk deeply. If a husband and wife want to grow in intimacy and closeness, they must ensure that they have time alone—without interruption—to talk about what is on their minds. Look for a time or a place that works within your circumstances, whether it may be a walk together, sitting on the porch or going out for coffee or a meal. If you cannot find time for this in your schedule, you had better examine your priorities and rearrange your schedule. You cannot be close without communication.

The Way of Get and the Way of Give

A fourth vital key is to value giving over getting. When we focus simply on meeting our own needs and wants, we are taking an inherently selfish approach to life. A fundamental difference between love and lust is that love focuses on giving, helping and serving the other person, while lust focuses only on deriving pleasure for the self. When we practice



the way of give in a relationship, we are displaying the very mind of Christ (Philippians 2:3–8).

At their wedding, husband and wife customarily promise to love, honor and cherish one another. Yet, after the wedding, too many focus on their *needs* rather than their *responsibilities*. No human being can totally meet the needs of another. Only God can do that! Dr. Larry Crabb, noted author and psychologist, compares marital selfishness to a tick's view of a dog. The tick, says Crabb, does not care what he can give the dog to help it have a good life. Rather, it seeks what is in it for him. The problem with many marriages is that there are two ticks and no dog!

Demanding that our mate make us happy will only intensify our sense of emptiness and frustration. Others simply cannot guarantee *our* feelings by *their* actions. We are responsible for how we *treat* our mate, but we cannot take responsibility for how they *feel*. Another person's feelings depend on too many factors beyond our control. We must each assume responsibility for our own feelings and behavior, while we let others take responsibility for theirs.

Jesus Christ emphasized the importance of being a giver. But if we are to emulate Christ's example, we must remember that His giving was always motivated by love—and that He gave from the heart. When we give to another, but do it begrudgingly rather than from the heart, it is unfulfilling to giver and receiver, and also unacceptable before God. Only if we look to God to meet all of our needs (cf. Philippians 4:19) can we truly have what it takes to genuinely give to others. Putting our focus on giving rather than taking is a vital key to real happiness in life.


Keeping the Right Perspective

In applying these principles that lead to greater intimacy in marriage, never forget that the *most important* intimate relationship is the one we have with God. He is the only One who can supply all of our needs and fill our inner emptiness. When we expect another human being to do so, we are making an impossible demand and setting ourselves up for disappointment and frustration.

Seek God's help to grow and change. He is always there, and is the source of the power that we need to truly change our attitudes and behavior. Real change must be made from the inside out—and that change is only possible through the help and power of God.

Be thankful, and count your blessings every day. No one who remains unthankful can experience real contentment in life. We can derive an inner peace and contentment from our relationship with God, far more than from the circumstances around us. When we have this inner peace from God, we can exude it in our relationships with others. Being thankful and casting our cares upon our Creator, recognizing His loving care for us, leads to this spirit of peace.

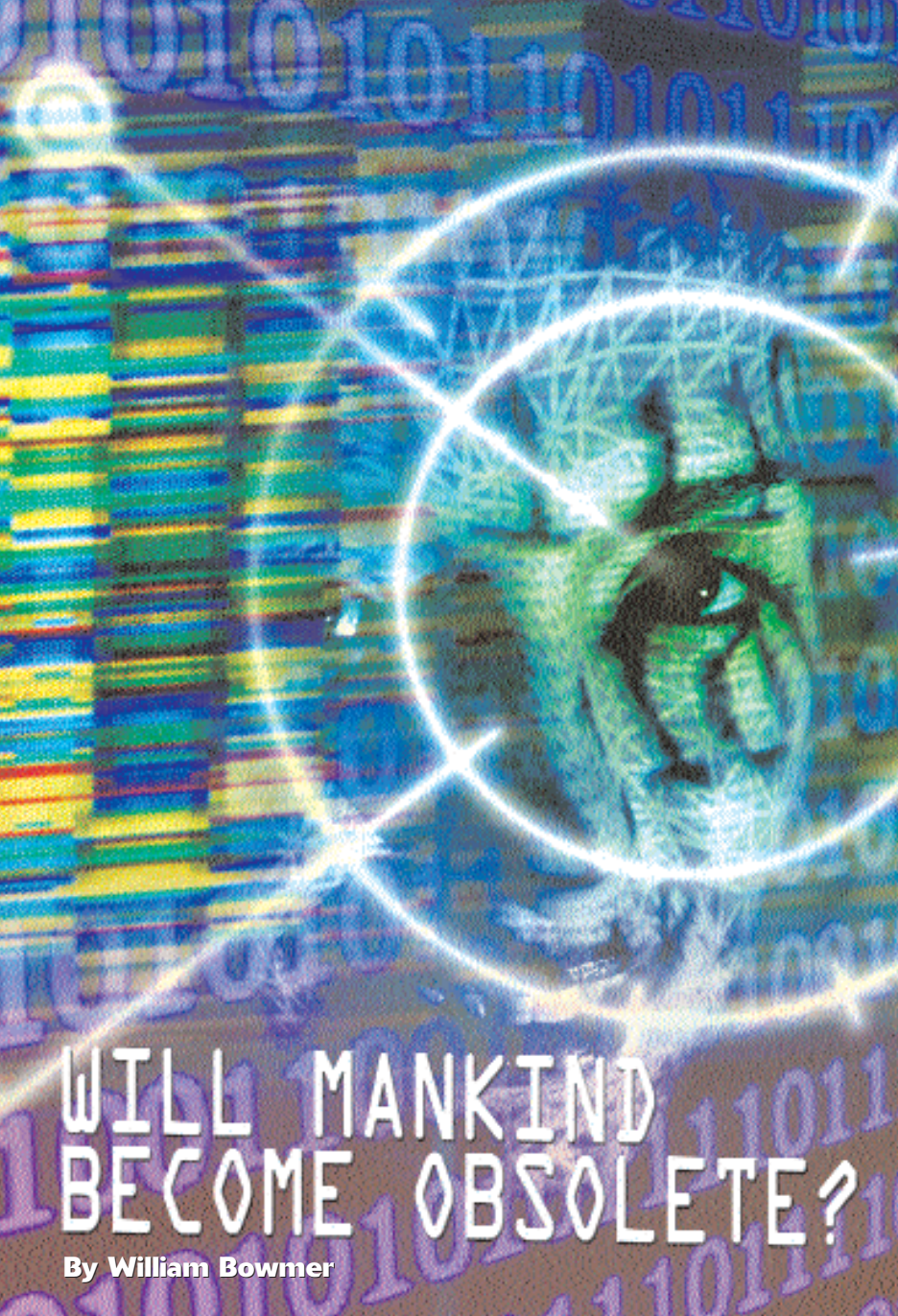
We should also seek to develop a healthy sense of humor, and learn to see the lighter side of life. This can help us to put life in perspective. A look at the creation certainly demonstrates that God has a sense of humor; just think of the antics of the animal world. Are we able to laugh at ourselves, and to recognize our own foibles and idiosyncrasies? If not, we will go through life taking ourselves far too seriously and being quick to bristle up and have our feelings hurt.

As human beings, we were made for intimacy. Our Creator wanted us to share intimacy with Him—and intimacy with a lifelong mate—as fulfilling blessings from Him. Such intimacy does not come easily or naturally, because our fear and our defensiveness all too often get in the way. However, with God's help, we can change and grow toward achieving our ultimate potential. It really is possible to build a more intimate marriage, and to learn lessons from that marriage that will help us prepare for a genuinely intimate relationship with our Creator and our Savior for all eternity. 

To Learn More...



God intended marriage to be far more than “peaceful coexistence” between husband and wife. The Bible offers time-tested and proven principles that can bring joy and intimacy to even a troubled marriage. Please request our **FREE** booklet *Build a Joyous Marriage*, or download it from the Literature section of our Web site www.tomorrowsworld.org.



WILL MANKIND BECOME OBSOLETE?

By William Bowmer

Human beings are reengineering their environment—and their own genetic makeup—in ways that would have been almost unimaginable just decades ago. Will new technologies save mankind from all its ills, or will we reengineer ourselves out of existence?

In June of 1961, less than two months after Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to orbit Earth in a spacecraft, the popular science-fiction series *The Twilight Zone* aired a tale of a librarian found “obsolete” in a futuristic court proceeding. Even at the dawn of the

space age, mankind had already begun to fear that it might be overtaken by the technology it had created.

Four decades later, millions of people have more computing power on their desktops than Gagarin had in his entire spacecraft—and at a fraction of the cost. Medicine can treat ailments thought fatal only a few years ago. Genetic engineering and robotics have moved out of science fiction novels and into our daily newspapers.

As technology brings ever-greater capabilities within our reach, many continue to wonder: are we making ourselves obsolete? Will new technologies change humanity forever? Or will human nature, exploiting these technologies, cause us to destroy ourselves? Millennia ago, God anticipated mankind’s creativity and the enthusiasm of today’s futurists. At the Tower of Babel, He observed that unless He confounded the builders’ languages, “nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them” (Genesis 11:6). Will God need to intervene once again, to save us from ourselves?

Many today, like economist Julian Simon, see advancing technology as an ever-increasing benefit for human society. “Our species is better off in just about every measurable material way,” says Simon. “And there is stronger reason than ever to believe that these progressive trends will con-

tinue past the year 2000, past the year 2100, and indefinitely” (*The State of Humanity*, 1995). But others see dangers on the horizon, agreeing with astronomer Clifford Stoll who comments: “I’m saddened by a blind faith that technology will deliver a cornucopia of futuristic goodies without extracting payment in kind” (*High-Tech Heretic*, 2000, p. xi).

What is the answer? Compared to previous generations, we know at least that the *question* has changed. As computer industry pioneer Bill Joy observed: “This is the first moment in the history of our planet when any species, by its own voluntary actions, has become a danger to itself—as well as to vast numbers of others” (“Why the Future Doesn’t Need Us,” *Wired Magazine*, August 2000).

Will modern technology exact “payment in kind” from those who seek its benefits? Will mankind’s best efforts soon prove the scriptural admonition: “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12)? How will some of these new technologies affect humanity?

Biotech and the Breakfast Table

Biotechnology is the process in which a specific gene, or blueprint of a trait, is isolated and removed from one organism, then relocated into the DNA of another organism to replicate that trait. In the last decade, biotechnology has moved from the laboratory to the kitchen. Dubbed “Frankenfood” by critics, genetically altered crops are becoming more and more common. Already, many foods produced through genetic engineering are on sale in supermarkets. More than 55 percent of all soybeans, and nearly half of all corn produced in the United States is genetically modified, to provide insect resistance, increase yield or reduce need for herbicides. Gene-splicing techniques have also been employed to “improve” tomatoes—and even beer. Even the European Union, which long resisted the sale of genetically modified foods, is giving way, and will lift a three-year-old ban in October 2002.

Yet consumers remain wary. A recent study by the Pew Charitable Trusts showed that 75 percent of Americans consider it “somewhat” or “very” important to know whether their food has been genetically altered. Nearly 60 percent do not want genetically engineered crops introduced into the food sup-

ply. Yet many of these same consumers do not realize that more than half the foodstuffs on supermarket shelves *already* contain genetically modified organisms.

Scientists envision “a future in which we will choose what to eat based on our own genetic makeup. With the benefit of genetic testing, we would know whether we carried genes that predisposed us to illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer’s and diabetes. We’d then eat foods—many of them the products of genetic engineering—that would be designed to help prevent or cure those diseases” (“Fighting Diseases,” *Los Angeles Times*, February 5, 2001). One recent example is a strain of corn being developed to serve as a “vaccine” against hepatitis B.

But some are warning of unintended consequences. Scientists have noted that as genetic variability in crops is reduced, the consequences of crop disease become far greater. A disease that would only kill a portion of a genetically diverse crop might destroy the whole of a genetically identical crop. Disease that once caused only a local shortage could cause a global famine. Even “healthy” genetically engineered crops may pose problems, if “hardy, gene-altered crops develop into ‘superweeds’ that are difficult to eradicate” (“Biotech Crops Need Oversight,” *Los Angeles Times*, February 21, 2002).

Nanotechnology and Robotics

Remarkably, engineers have created transistors thousands of times smaller than those found in today’s most advanced microprocessors. Using nanotechnolo-

gy—an emerging science based on building molecular-scale machines atom by atom—scientists foresee that within two or three decades, microchips millions of times more powerful than today’s models will one day be the backbone of intelligent devices too tiny to be seen by the naked eye.

Researchers at Delft University of Technology have built a transistor from a single molecule one nanometer wide—about 1/10,000 the thickness of a human hair—which can be toggled on and off using a single electron. Researchers project that nanotechnology will soon allow the creation of super-intelligent, microscopic devices. A swarm of micro-devices might, for example, solve the toxic waste problem by disassembling poisonous molecules, such as dioxin, into the innocuous atoms that compose them.

Sadly, it may be far easier to create *destructive* uses for nanotechnology. “Nanotechnology has clear military and terrorist uses, and you need not be suicidal to release a massively destructive nanotechnological device—such devices can be built to be selectively destructive, affecting, for example, only a certain geographical area or a group of people who are genetically distinct. An immediate consequence of the Faustian bargain in obtaining the great power of nanotechnology is that we run a grave risk—the risk that we might destroy the biosphere on which all life depends.... ‘Plants’ with ‘leaves’ no more efficient than today’s solar cells could out-compete real plants, crowding the biosphere with an inedible foliage. Tough omnivorous ‘bacteria’ could out-compete real bacteria: they could spread like blowing pollen, replicate swiftly,

and reduce the biosphere to dust in a matter of days. Dangerous replicators could easily be too tough, small, and rapidly spreading to stop—at least if we make no preparation. We have trouble enough controlling viruses and fruit flies” (Joy, “Why The Future Doesn’t Need Us,” *Wired Magazine*, August 2000).

Our Biochips, Ourselves

Nanotechnology will even have medical applications. Eric Drexler, a leading proponent of nanotechnology, has suggested that nanomachines will eventually be injected into cancer victims. The tiny robots would be programmed to recognize and kill malignant cells—much as an antibody can kill a disease-causing virus. Less-sophisticated nanotech medical tools may emerge within a few years, suggests Phil Kuekes, a computer scientist at Hewlett-Packard Labs and an expert in molecular-scale processors. Intelligent nano-scale devices could be injected as “biological sensors in the body, or for diagnostic purposes in the clinic,” Kuekes said. The probes could be powered by ambient light or body heat and deliver a constant stream of data about disease organisms or other medical conditions (“Tiny Transistors a Big Leap for Technology,” *Los Angeles Times*, July 6, 2001).

New technologies have changed society’s view of medicine, and indeed its view of what it means to be human. Looking back at a book written just 30 years ago, we can see how quickly and dramatically society’s assumptions about life have

changed. In his groundbreaking 1970 work *Future Shock*, futurist Alvin Toffler asked a then-rhetorical question. “Does death occur when the heart stops beating, as we have traditionally believed? Or does it occur when the brain stops functioning?... What are the ethics of committing [one without brain function] to death to obtain a healthy organ needed for transplant to save the life of a



Nanophotonic chips, operated by the spectrum of light, are squeezing unprecedented levels of computing power into ever-tinier components.

person with a better prognosis?” (p. 206).

Today, the debate is no longer between heart-death and brain-death. Organs from brain-dead individuals are routinely harvested for transplants; two decades have passed since a U. S. Presidential Commission in 1981 endorsed this change. Now, the debate has shifted to how science might use embryos, and even fetuses, for medical benefit.

Last year, President George W. Bush restricted the use of federal funds to support “stem cell” research. To obtain stem cells, fertilized embryos must be destroyed. Not only does this bring objections from the pro-life community, but even pro-abortion groups are concerned that researchers’ growing needs for fertilized eggs could someday

become an industry exploiting poor women.

Despite federal restrictions, and widespread concerns, some are calling “therapeutic cloning” of human embryos “the dawn of a new age in medicine.” Embryos that could otherwise grow into babies are being treated as sources of stem cells, from which organs and tissues can be grown as treatments for disease (“What Clones?” *Scientific American*, February 2002, p. 18).

Controversy erupted in Great Britain last February, when a couple was given permission to create a baby so that its cells could be harvested as treatment for its brother’s fatal blood disorder. Some hail this development as a blessing for those with serious illnesses, while others fear that babies, like embryos, will

become just another commodity. Asked one opponent: “Should we allow a child to be manufactured in order to serve the medical needs of an older brother?” Since then, a House of Lords committee has ruled that, in the words of committee chairman Richard Harries, “no avenue of research should be blocked off” to British researchers exploring embryo cloning. In March, Canada took a position less restrictive than Britain’s, but still allowing embryos left over from fertility clinics to be used for stem cell research.

Other scientists are looking to computer technology, rather than biotechnology, to manufacture or augment human life. Author Ray Kurzweil foresees a massive increase in computer power in the next few years,

allowing human beings to “reengineer” themselves. He believes that we can expect, by the year 2020, “to achieve human brain capacity in a \$1,000 device... your personal computer will be able to simulate the brain power of a small village by 2030, the entire population of the United States by 2048, and a trillion human brains by 2060. If we estimate the human Earth population at 10 billion persons, one penny’s worth of computing circa 2099 will have a billion times greater computing capacity than all humans on earth” (*The Age of Spiritual Machines*, 1999, p. 105).

Kurzweil predicts that within the next century, human beings will “download” themselves into artificially constructed bodies that will provide computing power far beyond the capacity of the human brain. Those who are shocked at this prospect might consider his observation that “in terms of transforming our bodies, we are already further along in this process than we are in advancing our minds. We have titanium devices to replace our jaws, skulls, and hips. We have artificial skin of various kinds. We have artificial heart valves. We have synthetic vessels to replace arteries and veins, along with expandable stents to provide structural support for weak natural vessels. We have artificial arms, legs, feet and spinal implants. We have all kinds of joints: jaws, hips, knees, shoulders, elbows, wrists, fingers, and toes. We have implants to control our bladders.... we have long had implants for teeth and breasts” (*ibid.*, p. 135).

Mankind has already chosen to replace natural bodies with man-made parts. To Kurzweil,

what remains is only a matter of degree. He, and many others, expect that human beings 100 years from now will not look, think or act like they do today. Yet where Kurzweil sees unlimited possibilities, many see danger and—even if we survive—the loss of ourselves as a species.

What Comes Next?

Thirty years ago, when most of these trends were future prospects confined to the laboratory, Toffler asked: “Might we not unleash horrors for which man is totally unprepared? In the opinion of many of the world’s leading scientists the clock is ticking for a ‘biological Hiroshima’” (Toffler, p. 199).

But simply because horrors *might* occur, should we expect that they *will*? Consider Toffler’s assessment: “In short, it is safe to say that, unless specific counter-measures are taken, if something *can* be done, someone, somewhere *will* do it. The nature of what can and will be done exceeds anything that man is as yet psychologically or morally prepared to live with” (*ibid.*, p. 205).

Should we be afraid? Left to itself, mankind cannot reliably predict—much less guarantee—its own future. Yet thousands of years ago, the prophet Daniel accurately foresaw that in the “time of the end” mankind’s “knowledge shall increase” (Daniel 12:4). In Daniel and elsewhere, Scripture explains what God’s people must do to make themselves ready in the end times, as they see more and more prophecies fulfilled (see “Prepare for Christ’s Coming!” on page 4 of this issue).

Has human nature changed since Scripture was written? Jesus Christ described conditions before

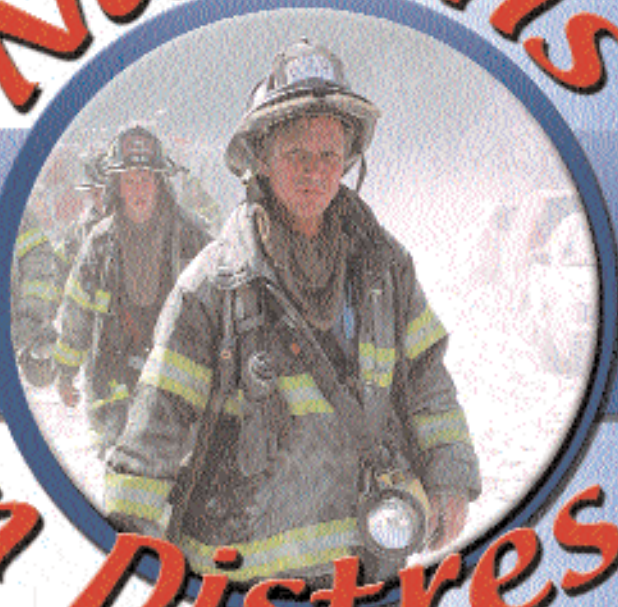
His return. “But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (Matthew 24:37–39). Just as in the days of Noah, human beings will be absorbed in pursuits of the flesh, unaware of the momentous events about to occur.

Mankind, by itself, may be heading toward destruction. But true Christians today are not by themselves—they have the wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit to guide them (Romans 8:14), and they have God’s promise of protection in the troubling times ahead (John 17:11). Moreover, just when humanity is about to destroy itself, Jesus Christ will return to usher in His millennial rule over the nations (Matthew 24:21–22, 29–31).

At His return, true Christians will experience a change far more dramatic than even the most exuberant advocates of genetic engineering or robotics can imagine. Scripture explains that “we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1 Corinthians 15:51–52).

True Christians need not fear becoming obsolete. When “death is swallowed up in victory” (1 Corinthians 15:54) they will share in the amazing transformation that God has planned for mankind, as He prepares human beings to serve Him in tomorrow’s world. TW

Nations in Distress



By Mark Mendiola

Terrorism has dramatically altered relations between nations, and radically transformed the geopolitical landscape. Prophesied events, which ultimately will engulf the whole earth, are accelerating. No nation will be spared from the looming World War III, but there is wonderful news beyond our traumatic times.

The world will never be the same following the horrifying terrorist attacks that leveled the World Trade Center's twin towers in New York City and severely damaged the Pentagon in Washington, DC, killing thousands of people and causing billions of dollars in damage.

The events of September 11, 2001 plunged the United States of America into an international war on terrorism that promises to be prolonged, expensive and demanding. The terrorists struck at symbols of American economic and military might, which threatens to be exhausted by a protracted war on many fronts throughout the world.

The *London Daily Telegraph* reported on December 30, 2001 that a shortage of cruise missiles has thrown into disarray U.S. plans for a full-scale assault on Iraq. Strikes against Afghanistan

and Sudan in 1998, and Kosovo two years ago, virtually exhausted the U.S. supply. The number of conventional air-launched cruise missiles left at the end of the year was believed to be fewer than 30. The supply of the sophisticated, deadly accurate weapons is becoming so depleted that military chiefs are pressing Boeing to accelerate production.

"It is also likely that the U.S. Navy would not want its stock of Tomahawks (sea-launched cruise missiles) depleted, potentially creating the nightmare scenario of the world's only military superpower being without a viable long-range missile force," the *Telegraph* reported.

The world's mightiest nation faces an unprecedented test of its resolve and resources. If its economy fails to recover or its military assaults fail to make a dent in worldwide terrorism, the prestige of the U.S. internationally could suffer irreparable harm.

In its annual report, released on October 31, 2001, the World Bank noted that unusual simultaneous economic downturns in the United States, European Union and Japan, combined with the adverse effects of the September 11 attacks, caused economic growth rates to reel throughout the world. The attacks, said the report, "have unleashed new and unpredictable forces that have substantially raised the risk of a global downturn."

Growth in developing nations was expected to fall to 2.9 percent in 2001, a little more than half the 5.5 percent rate of 2000. Latin America, East Asia and Sub-Saharan

Africa were particularly hard hit. And growth in trade came close to a standstill, dropping from more than 13.1 percent to 1 percent in 2001; figures not seen since the oil shocks of the 1970s, according to the report.

The Federal Reserve Bank in Washington has tried desperately to jolt the U.S. economy into recovery by repeatedly cutting interest rates in hopes that the lower rates would encourage more investing and spending.

Those lower rates, however, which need an estimated nine months to kick into effect, threaten to undermine the American dollar's value, at the same time as the European Union has officially converted to the euro as its exchange currency—the first time a single currency has been used across the continent since the Roman Empire.

Analysts recognize that a new superpower is emerging. Within a year, the European Union will have its own multi-national armed force. Within two years, it is scheduled to admit another 10 countries from Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean. With a population of nearly 450 million, this will be the world's third most populous political entity after China and India.

The world is witnessing the decline of the American empire, and the rise of a European empire, which portends dramatic, traumatic effects on every inhabitant of the planet. Under way is transfer of power that bodes ill for everyone.

Distressed Nations

When asked by His disciples about the sign of His coming and the end of the age, Jesus Christ described the events that would precede His Second Coming. He warned that religious deception, wars and rumors of wars, famines, disease epidemics and natural disasters would be rampant throughout the world. "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of sorrows," He told them (Matthew 24:7–8).

Christ's description of world conditions explicitly illustrates what headlines and newscasts are proclaiming daily. Multi-national military alliances are shaping up among major powers. Real are fears of anthrax, smallpox and other diseases spreading throughout the western world and beyond. Yet Christ said that these conditions are only the beginning of sorrows. They will worsen until all human life is jeopardized and threatened by extermination! "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has

not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, *no flesh would be saved*; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened" (vv. 21–22).

When all nations on earth are in abject despair, Jesus Christ will intervene with tremendous power to prevent this massive annihilation of life. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then *all the tribes of the earth will mourn*, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (vv. 29–30).

In Luke's parallel account of Christ's Olivet prophecy, Jesus Christ cautioned us not to be terrified by these "days of vengeance." He showed that "there will be *great distress* in the land and wrath upon this people" as major Bible prophecies are fulfilled (Luke 21:22–23). "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and *on the earth distress of nations*, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of *those things which are coming on the earth*, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory" (vv. 25–27).

All nations will be subject to great stress and duress. Not one will be untouched by the calamitous events. People in all countries will be perplexed by the dramatic change in conditions, as the earth convulses with natural disasters taking an awful toll on human life. Paradoxically, before these events reach their peak, much of mankind will be absorbed in self-indulgence, oblivious to rapidly worsening international conditions, Christ warned.

Who can deny that the affluent Western countries, and much of the rest of the world, have been immersed in a materialistic binge of unprecedented proportions in recent years?

"But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. *For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth*" (vv. 34–35).

The World an Armed Camp

We are living in a world going absolutely ballistic. Arch-enemies India and Pakistan have each detonated nuclear weapons, ratcheting up the danger

level on earth by pitting a major Hindu nation against a major Muslim nation.

World leaders realize that, if push comes to shove, India or Pakistan could launch atomic attacks against each other. Were that to happen, the Islamic and Asian worlds could be plunged into all-out warfare. And that could draw in other nations like a vortex!

The Bible plainly shows that at the end of the age there will be a major military buildup by many nations, which will develop to a crescendo unleashing the use of dreaded nuclear, chemical and biological weapons in all-out global warfare.

“Proclaim this among the nations: ‘Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, let them come up. Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, ‘I am strong.’ Assemble and come, all you nations, and gather together all around. Cause your mighty ones to go down there, O LORD” (Joel 3:9–11).

India and Pakistan flexed their military muscle after detonating their nuclear explosions, causing the world to sit up and take notice. No longer are they considered third-rate military powers. Iran and Iraq, too, are feverishly striving to acquire nuclear capability. Israel has been known to have it for years.

Scott Ritter, an American who served on a United Nations inspection team, warned that Iraq has three nuclear bombs lacking only fissionable materials to make them active. There are fears Saddam Hussein has used a respite in international monitoring to pursue his quest for a “doomsday weapon.”

Prophecies indicate that chemical and biological agents, and intercontinental ballistic missiles tipped with nuclear warheads, will be unleashed throughout the entire planet during this coming World War III, or Great Tribulation. It is very sobering and frightening to realize all forms of life could be wiped out, as nations once again revert to the insanity of warfare to resolve their differences.

Warring Against Christ

Christ’s return will not be welcomed by the warring nations of the world—the same nations on the verge of committing global suicide. They will view Him as an alien invader, and unite to wage war against Him! It will be a time of extreme stress for all countries.

“Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, ‘Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us,’ King David prophesied (Psalm 2:1–3).

Even massive unification of all the world’s armed forces and weapons will be laughable compared to God’s awesome power. “He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the LORD shall hold them in derision.

Then He shall speak to them in His wrath and *distress* them in His deep displeasure” (vv. 4–5).

God the Father will establish Jesus Christ as King over the entire earth. He says to Christ: “I will give you *the nations* for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession. *You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel*” (vv. 8–9).

Christ will need to get the attention of these militarized nations in the only language they will understand: awesome superior force! Events in the Middle East will trigger this final end-time battle, when Jerusalem will be surrounded by armies.

“Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather *all the nations* to battle against Jerusalem.... *Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle....* And the LORD shall be King over all the earth” (Zechariah 14:1–3, 9).

The Book of Revelation plainly shows that Christ will return as a conquering warrior, to subdue all nations, before He can establish His Kingdom and peace on earth. “Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and *in righteousness He judges and makes war....* And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it *He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron.* He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God” (Revelation 19:11, 14–15).

Despite a world convulsing with violence, death and sorrow, will the nations welcome Jesus Christ’s much-needed intervention and repent of their self-



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Letters to the Editor

TOMORROW'S WORLD

I really enjoy your *Tomorrow's World* magazines and *Bible Study Course*. I am a firm believer that man must live by every Word of God. I get so full of joy when I have been studying and all of a sudden I get information on what God showed me through your literature. Thank you so much for your compassion for people, and your effort.

C. T., Florence, AZ

Your January-February 2002 issue of *Tomorrow's World* was replete with eye-opening articles, especially the one titled "The Reformation and Religious Deception." Reading the article made it clear to me why my dearly beloved country (the Philippines) has remained poor and people are living in squalor. Please pray for me and my family, and keep on sending me the spiritual food that I need most.

S. P., San Diego, CA

I get up at 5:00 a.m. Sunday morning to watch your *Tomorrow's World* program. You will never know how much God has blessed me through you, so I can understand His Word. I love the booklets you offer.

H. P., Tecumseh, OK

You don't know how much I appreciate your publication.

C. B., Covington, WA

After the Sept. 11, 2001 attack, I appreciated the *Tomorrow's World* television program and your subsequent article titled "Comfort In Times of Tragedy." The article provides an excellent approach for people to seek the comfort and wisdom that comes from the Bible. After reading your article, I am convinced that God is providing a

"wake-up call" to our country, and a "take action call" to those now being called.

J. J., Beach Park, IL

BIBLE STUDY COURSE

I just want to say "thank you" for the free material I have received, the magazine, the literature and the *Bible Study Course*. I appreciate this more than words can say. I have had to change my way of thinking. The Bible says many things contrary to what we have been taught in Sunday school and church. What a revelation!

B. C., New Carlisle, QC, Canada

I recently started the *Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course*. I am on my first lesson and I am enjoying it. Your *Bible Study Course* is like no other course that I have taken. I really like the way you present the Word. I want to thank you and your staff for all your hard work. I am writing to request *Restoring Apostolic Christianity* and *Do You Believe the True Gospel?* There are so many religions and doctrines out there today, that without a solid foundation of truth one can easily be misled.

C. R., Rosharon, TX

ANTICHRIST BOOKLET

Thank you for the booklet *Who or What is the Antichrist?* I have never read anything like it before. I want to reread it and then study it thoroughly.

H. E., Ellisville, MS

I just finished reading Dr. Meredith's new booklet, *Who or What is the Antichrist?* In the 30 years since I first came in contact with God's Work, I have not seen a more relevant booklet! May God bless the Work!

J. Y., Boston, VA

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



Europe—Building a Beast

While world attention focuses on terrorism, escalating strife in the Middle East and fears of recession, *prophetically significant events*, which will astound the world, are developing in the heart of Europe. As one editorial commented, “the European ‘project’ is moving ahead at a *quickenning pace*” (*The Sunday Times*, December 16, 2001). For decades, the Church of God has predicted what is now happening in Europe, and has warned that these events will have dire consequences for America and British-descended peoples.

First the Euro

On January 1, 2002, 12 members of the European Union began using a common currency—the euro. This historic milestone is a significant and symbolic step in the march toward continental integration. Although misgivings abound, replacing 12 separate currencies with one euro was designed to help Europeans rise above national differences. Significantly, Britain, Denmark and Sweden have opted not to participate. However, the euro is only the tip of the iceberg of *sweeping changes* taking place in Europe. In December 2001, bickering European leaders worked to finalize plans for a **European Army** that will become operational in 2004. Since Europe is the world’s biggest provider of foreign aid, this Rapid Reaction Force will give Europe real clout in world affairs. In the coming years, Europe will no longer need to play second fiddle to American ideas with which it often disagrees.

Under the guise of fighting terrorism, EU leaders approved a **single arrest warrant** that provides for *unprecedented* cooperation among European law enforcement agencies. Operational in 2004, the arrest warrant will allow a judge in one country to order the arrest, extradition and incarceration of a person in another country, *without a trial and without*

compelling evidence! One British newspaper warned that “a growing body of heavyweight legal opinion believes the dangers [in this procedure] are immense. Individual liberty is being treated in the most cavalier way. *Ancient safeguards are being sacrificed*” (*London Daily Mail*, December 13, 2001). Even more ominous is a recent decision by the European Court of Justice to give the EU power to **suppress criticism** in order to protect its reputation. This means that the Court can crack down on anyone—including writers, newspapers, commentators and politicians—criticizing EU leaders or policies. This ruling, which resembles methods used by fascist governments in the 1920s and 1930s to suppress dissent, brushes away freedom of speech! The September 11 terrorist attacks in America *advanced the timetable* of those who favor European integration and the creation of a European superstate!

In March of 2002, a special convention began discussing ways to plot the future shape of the EU and reform its institutions. Former French president Valéry Giscard d’Estaing heads the convention that will make recommendations in 2004. He and his deputies are strong federalists who favor an ever-closer union and the continued surrender of national powers. The convention will work toward framing a **European Constitution** and will discuss the possibility of a directly elected **President of Europe**, which would open the door to pan-European political parties. One writer commented that “a directly elected president could become *the most powerful political figure in Europe*” (*Daily Mail*, December 16, 2001). In spite of the momentum propelling Europe in the direction of a superstate, British politicians insist that the convention will not take Europe down the federal route, but will encourage integration as sovereign nation-states. However, one editorial states: “Europe is moving on. And not necessarily in the direction Britain would want” (*The Sunday Times*, December 16, 2001). But just what do events in



Europe have to do with Bible prophecy, and where will they lead?

Danger Ahead

The prophet Daniel was given a vision of a great image, picturing four empires that would dominate much of the Mediterranean world up to the return of Jesus Christ (Daniel 2:31–45). The fourth empire is widely recognized to be Rome. The feet of the image made of **iron and clay** picture the final phase of an empire with recognizable links to Rome. This end-time power will be “partly strong and partly fragile” because its component parts do not naturally adhere together (Daniel 2:41–43). This accurately describes the European Union emerging where the Roman and Holy Roman empires once reigned. EU leaders recognize that they are building on historic foundations. Yet holding together nations that have different languages, traditions and customs—and a history of wars and squabbles—will not be easy. In its final form this union will last only 3 1/2 years (Daniel 7:25; Revelation 11:2).

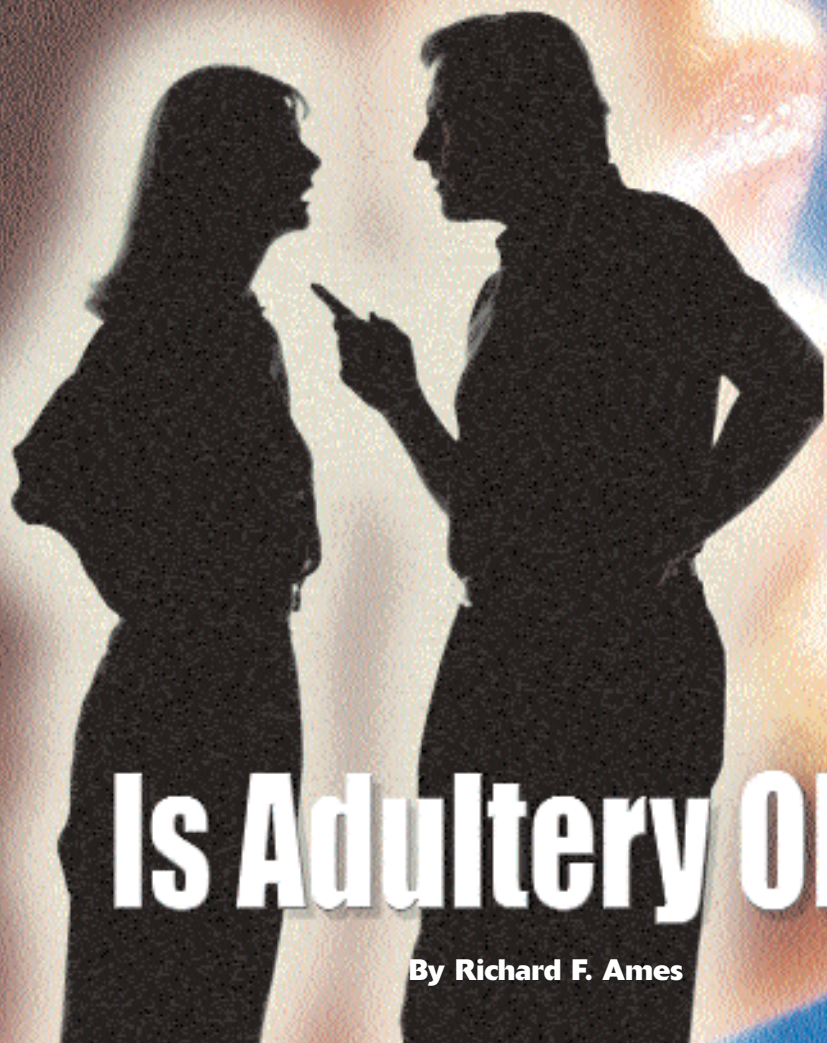
In another of Daniel’s visions, God pictured these four empires as **voracious beasts**. The fourth beast (Rome) is pictured as a rapacious, war-making creature, having 10 horns—indicating 10 successive resurrections (Daniel 7:19–25). This beast will change times and laws, and will persecute true Christians (Daniel 7:21–25). Other prophecies indicate that a charismatic individual (also called a “beast”) will eventually lead this European-based power, deceitfully gaining office as a peacemaker and then becoming a tyrant (Daniel 9:26–27; 11:20–32). The **revival** of this Satan-inspired, beast-like power, with links to Rome, will shock the world (Revelation 13:1–7). It will occur when 10 kings *voluntarily surrender their sovereignty* to a powerful leader (Revelation 17:12–13).



This revived Roman system will be a key player in a global economy before its sudden demise at Jesus Christ’s return (Revelation 18). Bible prophecies in the books of Amos and Hosea, and in Isaiah 10 and Jeremiah 30, indicate that this German-dominated end-time colossus will turn on America and other British-descended peoples, and will carry them into captivity because of their national sins. To learn more about this vital topic, please request our free booklet *What’s Ahead for America and Britain?*

All these prophesied details appear to be coming together in Europe. Germany is again emerging as the natural candidate to forge a United Europe, following in the footsteps of the many before that have attempted to revive the heritage of Rome; including Charlemagne, the German and Austrian kings of the Holy Roman Empire, Napoleon and Mussolini. It remains to be seen what title will be given to the leader of a modern European superstate. The political machinery being set up today will enable that leader to assume totalitarian powers when it becomes “necessary”—or possible! While idealistic planners envision that a Europe built upon shared resources, a common currency and common laws will bring peace and stability to the continent (and to the world), Bible prophecy indicates that this will not be the case. The Europe being assembled today—which America is promoting and to which Britain is acquiescing—will eventually become a **dangerous and deadly rival** before the return of Jesus Christ. One reporter asserts that European statesmen have unknowingly, by their actions, “brewed what could be a devil’s cauldron” (*The Sunday Times*, December 16, 2001). Warnings are being sounded! We need to *watch* world events carefully, and *grow* as Christians, because *prophecy is coming alive*—especially in Europe!

— Douglas S. Winnail



Is Adultery OK?

By Richard F. Ames

Millions around the world commit adultery or fornication with no remorse. Even government officials, religious leaders, top businessmen, sports figures and entertainment icons acknowledge their adulterous lifestyles. Will God judge our nations for such immorality?

Is adultery OK? When asked, most people will admit that adultery is wrong. But many, though they say that adultery is wrong, condone it or practice it themselves! Some even practice “situation ethics”—they believe that it is OK to commit adultery under certain circumstances.

“In general, the value system of most Americans is quite conservative on adultery, with four out of five of those interviewed saying that extramarital sex is

always wrong and only a handful saying it is not wrong at all” (*Gallup Poll News Service*, June 13, 1998). Americans disapprove of adultery. But the picture is more complicated. “Americans resist workplace or military sanctions against employees who have such affairs, unless the relationship involves a person of superior rank or position, and a subordinate.” And “49 percent think there should be no rules against adultery in the armed forces” (*ibid.*). We want to call adultery OK for some people and not for others. Incredible! We practice double standards, multiple standards or no standards at all!

But there is one Source who sets a universal standard for all human beings; a Source who knows our nature and our weaknesses. The Savior of the world, Jesus Christ, knows human nature; He described the natural, unconverted hearts of human beings: “For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies” (Matthew 15:19).

Jesus made it plain that adultery and fornication are always evil and sinful. Yet while a recent survey showed that 80 percent of Americans agree that extramarital sex is always wrong, actions do not always

match words. Reporter Celia Hall, writing in the *London Daily Telegraph*, observed: "British men and women are the most adulterous in Europe, but Americans top the list... The study in 14 countries found that 42 percent of Britons, compared to 22 percent of Spaniards, 36 percent of French and 38 percent of Italians, admitted to having more than one relationship at a time. But... half of the Americans questioned said they were unfaithful." *Half of the Americans interviewed admitted to adultery!*

We may think that we can get away with adultery and immorality, but the Apostle Paul knew otherwise. He wrote: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life" (Galatians 6:7-8).

We will reap corruption and divine punishment, if we insist on sowing immorality, adultery and unfaithfulness. The family is the foundation for any society. When the family institution fractures and deteriorates, the whole society and nation is affected. Historians have analyzed the decline and fall of the ancient Roman Empire. Observing the decline in character and morality that contributed to the Empire's demise, one historian wrote: "Added to this initial cause of family disruption [that is, the increasing absence of traveling businessmen from their families] was the consequent easy attitude to the marriage tie, the increasing frequency of divorce, and the growing freedom and laxity in women's morals, all of which ended in a loosening of the old

family unity in which the best in Roman character had its roots" (*Ancient Education and Today*, E. B. Castle, p. 119).

How long will our western civilization survive? Are we going the way of Rome? The historian Jerome Carcopino quotes the Roman author Seneca who observed: "They divorce in order to remarry. They marry in order to divorce" (*Daily Life in Ancient Rome*, p. 100). Modern statistics agree. U.S. Census Bureau figures show that in 1997, 2.4 million marriages took place in the U.S., but that so did 1.2 million divorces! Other western nations report similar figures; Australia's Census Bureau recently reported an overall 46 percent divorce rate among Australians.

The Western world is declining in its character, its social stability and its morality. God will ultimately judge our nations, as He did the ancient nations of Judah and Israel. God's prophet Jeremiah had this to say: "For the land is full of adulterers; for because of a curse the land mourns. The pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up. Their course of life is evil, and their might is not right. 'For both prophet and priest are profane; Yes, in My house I have found their wickedness,' says the LORD. 'Therefore their way shall be to them like slippery ways; in the darkness they shall be driven on and fall in them; for I will bring disaster on them, the year of their punishment,' says the LORD" (Jeremiah 23:10-12).

The Creator of the universe makes the rules; He is the great Lawgiver. We read: "There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy" (James 4:12) Yet nations have the gall—the vanity—to legally redefine marriage

in defiance of the higher court of Heaven, leading their citizens into sin and divine judgment. The Creator says that the nations are nothing in comparison to Him. "Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales.... All nations before Him are as nothing, and they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless" (Isaiah 40:15, 17).

Almighty God indicts the leaders of those nations. He tells us that the false prophets were responsible for condoning and leading people into sin. God explains that the prophets "caused My people Israel to err [to go astray morally]" (Jeremiah 23:13). He continues: "Also I have seen a horrible thing in the prophets of Jerusalem: They commit adultery and walk in lies; they also strengthen the hands of evildoers, so that no one turns back from his wickedness. All of them are like Sodom to Me, and her inhabitants like Gomorrah" (Jeremiah 23:14).

As Bible students know, God sent the Kingdom of Israel into Assyrian captivity, then later punished the Kingdom of Judah. The Babylonians destroyed Jerusalem, and took the Jews into captivity. Jeremiah describes God's judgment. "Behold, a whirlwind of the LORD has gone forth in fury; a violent whirlwind! It will fall violently on the head of the wicked. The anger of the LORD will not turn back until He has executed and performed the thoughts of His heart. In the latter days you will understand it perfectly" (Jeremiah 23:19-20). Both Israel and Judah went into captivity because of their adultery, their profaneness, their wickedness and their idolatry. Unless we repent nationally and individually, our sinful

nations will *also* go into captivity and face total destruction.

The leadership of a nation can make a difference in leading its citizens into adultery—or away from adultery. God will judge nations, states, cities and individuals for their lawlessness, rebellion, idolatry and immorality (cf. Psalm 110:6; Isaiah 2:4; Micah 4:3). Severe judgment and punishment will come upon all of us unless we repent and begin to obey the higher court of Heaven and the way of life revealed in your Bible.

The consequences of sexual immorality can be disastrous to a nation. The African nation of Zambia is a potent example, with 520,000 AIDS orphans—a number expected to double in the next 14 years. Former Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda responded to this crisis with an appeal to African leaders: “Many families in Africa are Christian. African leaders have to preach the Ten Commandments to them. They have to love neighbors and avoid adultery!” (*Reuters*, January 5, 2001). His advice was godly advice.

You might think that we would not even have to ask the question: “Is adultery OK?” But society has its own worldly values, its own evolutionary, anti-God ideas that, left to themselves, translate into carnal nature. When the wealthy and the powerful set an example of sexual licentiousness, immorality and infidelity, what are we to expect? The mass media promotes a powerful message of hedonism. Media critic Michael Medved, in a speech titled “Hollywood vs. America,” observed that adultery is “chic, it’s glamorous, it’s desirable. That’s exactly the long-term impact of television portrayals of sexual behavior and violence. Those por-

trays redefine normal behavior. They redefine what is chic, glamorous and desirable. And even for those people who don’t immediately run out and imitate that behavior... it changes our evaluation of not only what is accepted in our society but what is expected” (Center for the American Experiment, May 4, 1993).

The Apostle John described the state of the world this way: “We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one” (1 John 5:19). Or, as the *King James Version* states it: “The whole world lies in wickedness.”

Are you being tempted? Are you being influenced by the deluge of sexual messages, examples and images in the media? Are you being persuaded by your peers to compromise your values, character and morality? Human beings *will* be overcome by temptation, unless they change their ways and look to the source of true values and life. Where do you get *your* values and standards: from television, from entertainers, from anti-religious education or from society at large? What is the real source of lasting values and of the right way of life?

The answer, of course, is the Word of God—the Bible. As the Apostle Peter wrote: “All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, but the word of the LORD endures forever” (1 Peter 1:24–25). This world is temporary, but the Bible shows us the way to eternal life. The Apostle John also commented on the transitory nature of physical existence: “And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever” (1 John 2:17).

But what is God’s will? What are the eternal values that build godly character? Jesus Christ taught us to obey God’s commandments. When a young man asked Jesus which commandments he should keep, Jesus answered by quoting from the Ten Commandments: “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’” (Matthew 19:18–19).

Notice that two of these commandments directly relate to the preservation of the family. You must honor your parents, and remain faithful to your spouse! Adultery is always wrong. Infidelity to your spouse is sin. Fornication, or premarital sex, is always wrong! God is the Creator of sex; He commanded procreation as part of His plan for all humanity. But as the Bible plainly shows, sex outside of marriage is *always* wrong.

The Bible speaks positively about sex in marriage. “Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled” (Hebrews 13:4). God intended sexual relations in marriage to strengthen the bond between husband and wife. As Jesus taught: “‘A man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’.... So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate” (Matthew 19:5–6). Jesus was quoting from Genesis 2:24. Husband and wife are joined together and become one flesh.

But there is a negative—a caution—that we must consider. Hebrews 13:4 ends with a sobering warning that “fornicators and adulterers God will judge.” Are

you committing fornication? Are you committing adultery? If so, it is time to face up to the reality of your sin. God says that He will judge sinners. “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23). But you can repent and be forgiven (Acts 2:38). You can turn your life around, and begin to live by the values that bring true success and lasting joy!

Our society has degenerated to the point that millions are living in fornication and think nothing of it. Some think: “Since everybody’s doing it, I guess I can

tious society, some have probably never had occasion to think about the moral and spiritual implications of their lifestyle. But there is a God in Heaven who gave us unseen and immutable spiritual laws for our own benefit. When we transgress those laws, we face a severe penalty. That penalty will be eternal. Revelation 21:8 reveals that the “sexually immoral” will end up in a lake of fire. You must not let yourself go that way!

If you are an adulterer or a fornicator, what should you do? You should start seeking God. He is love, and He has given us the

too can express before God your remorse for your sin, and your heartfelt desire for His forgiveness.

One of the Bible’s greatest truths is that we can receive the incredible gift of forgiveness if we repent—if we turn our lives around and accept Christ’s sacrifice as payment for our sins. The Bible tells of the scribes and Pharisees bringing to Jesus a woman caught in adultery. Would He accept their testimony, and condemn her to death by stoning? They wanted to trap Him by His answer. But He told them: “He who is without sin among



Our society has degenerated to the point that millions are living in fornication and think nothing of it. Some think: “Since everybody’s doing it, I guess I can too.”

too.” Premarital sex-partnership has multiplied almost ten times since 1960. “Today, there are nearly 8.5 million Americans living with an opposite-sex partner, up from 878,000 in 1960. While for many, cohabitation is a temporary step toward marriage, there is a growing subsegment—currently estimated at between one million and two million people—who are living with significant others in very committed, long-term relationships. These numbers are expected to explode in the coming decades for a variety of reasons, from the changing demographics of cohabitators to society’s waning reverence for marital bliss and waxing valuation of individual independence” (*American Demographics*, December, 2000, p. 58).

Many of these cohabitators have just gone along with the world and society. In our licen-

Bible—His “instruction manual” for life. You need to begin reading it. And you need to acknowledge your sins to God. Remember ancient King David, who committed adultery with Bathsheba. When the prophet Nathan confronted him in his sin, David admitted it and said: “I have sinned against the LORD” (2 Samuel 12:13). But he also prayed a heartfelt prayer. “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight; that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge” (Psalm 51:1–4). In your own words, you

you, let him throw a stone at her first” (John 8:7).

As they thought about Jesus’ statement, the scribes and Pharisees were convicted of their own sins. “Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst” (v. 9). After they departed, Jesus gave forgiveness, but *also* gave the woman a simple command. “He said to her, ‘Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?’ She said, ‘No one, Lord.’ And Jesus said to her, ‘Neither do I condemn you; go and *sin no more*’” (v. 10–11).

Jesus forgave, and He also insisted on repentance and change. True Christianity does not condone the practice of sexual immorality. But God gives us grace and forgiveness through

Christ upon repentance. We must bring forth the fruits of repentance, as John the Baptist stated in Luke 3:8. We must be committed to changing our lives.

Many of the Corinthian converts made such a change. Paul wrote: “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor

extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And *such were some of you*. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Corinthians 6:9–11).

You can repent and be forgiven. You can change your life, if you want to. But you must seek God and His way of life. Confess your sins, your problems and your weaknesses to God—just as King David did in Psalm 51. And look forward to a new life, a

changed life through the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ.

In the meantime, if current trends continue, sexual immorality will continue with all its aberrations and perversions. Is adultery OK? Millions wrongly think so. May God grant them repentance—for their sakes and the sake of our nations. And may God grant you His strength and His wisdom, so that you may stay faithful to your mate—and to God’s Word—as you prepare yourself for a glorious future in tomorrow’s world! TW

NATIONS IN DISTRESS *(continued from page 20)*

destructive ways? The shocking, almost unbelievable answer is: No!

“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!’ And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying: ‘We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was and who is to come, because You have taken Your great power and reigned. *The nations were angry*, and Your wrath has come’” (Revelation 11:15–18). This account shows that God must intervene in man’s affairs to “destroy those who destroy the earth” (v. 18).

Among those to most aggressively oppose Christ’s return will be the resurrected Roman Empire in Europe, a multinational religious and political system that will combine economic and military might to astound the world (Revelation 17:1, 15). “*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” (v. 14).

Demonic forces will stir up millions of soldiers who will invade from the east to converge on the Middle East. “For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, *which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty...* And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon” (Revelation 16:14, 16). They will gather outside

Jerusalem at Megiddo before launching an all-out attack on Christ in Jerusalem.

The prophet Joel also describes this climactic battle between Jesus Christ and the nations of the world. “I will also gather *all nations...* Assemble and come, *all you nations*, and gather together all around. Cause your mighty ones to go down there, O LORD. Let the nations be awakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; *For there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations...* Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will grow dark, and the stars will diminish their brightness. The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem” (Joel 3:2, 11–16). The prophet Daniel symbolically describes Christ as a stone pulverizing nations in rebellion against His divine rule (Daniel 2:34–35, 44).

Finally, mankind’s bloody legacy of waging war and destroying millions of lives in armed conflict over the centuries will be brought to an abrupt, conclusive end by Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Prince of Peace. He will wage war in righteousness and establish peace throughout the earth. No longer will nations beat their plowshares into swords. Christ will reverse mankind’s terrible propensity to kill and destroy.

Just as Jesus Christ predicted, nations are indeed in deep distress at this end time, perplexed by frightening trends and sudden, dramatic changes in world conditions. People of all nationalities can thank God that He plans to have Jesus Christ establish His Kingdom on earth.

As Isaiah prophesied: “Of the increase of His government *and peace* there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever” (Isaiah 9:7). TW

SEARCHING FOR TRUE CHRISTIANITY (continued from page 3)

prophetic events and the real *meaning* behind today's news. We hope that all of you will act on this precious knowledge, so that you and your loved ones may be spared from the Great Tribulation—an absolute *holocaust* that will strike not only the Jewish people, but also the American and British-descended peoples with special ferocity!

But, most of all, we hope and pray that God will open your mind to understand the transcendent *purpose* that God is working out here on earth, and that you will come to understand the *true* Christian faith and “way of life” that will help you fulfill God's great purpose for human life. For that *genuine* Christian faith and way of life have been scuttled by main-

A vital step for understanding the puzzle of this modern “Christianity,” which directly contradicts the teachings and practices of Christ and the original Apostles, is to **study** the way of life of the *original* and *true* Mother Church—the Church of God at Jerusalem.

Paul wrote to the mainly Gentile believers at Thessalonica, saying: “For you, brethren, became **imitators** of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 2:14). Nearly all historians recognize that the earliest Headquarters Church was at *Jerusalem*—and that *it* set the pattern for the teaching and way of life practiced in Apostolic Christianity.

A respected and thoroughly researched secular history of this period is Edward Gibbon's monumental work, *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.

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stream “Christianity.” Highly respected Christian author Jesse Lyman Hurlbut freely acknowledges the “very different” Christianity of Jesus and the Apostles when compared with mainstream “churchianity” today:

“We name the last generation of the first century, from 68 to 100 A.D., ‘The Age of Shadows,’ partly because the gloom of persecution was over the church; but more especially because of all periods in the history, it is the one about which we know the least. We have no longer the clear light of the Book of Acts to guide us; and no author of that age has filled the blank in the history. We would like to read the later work by such helpers of St. Paul as Timothy, Apollos and Titus, but all these and St. Paul's other friends drop out of the record at his death. For fifty years after St. Paul's life a curtain hangs over the church, through which we strive vainly to look; and when at last it rises, about 120 A.D. with the writings of the earliest church fathers, **we find a church in many aspects very different from that in the days of St. Peter and St. Paul.**” (*The Story of the Christian Church*, p. 41).

Writing of the Apostolic and post-Apostolic Eras, Gibbon states: “The first fifteen bishops of Jerusalem were all circumcised Jews; and the congregation over which they presided united the Law of Moses with the doctrine of Christ. It was natural that the primitive tradition of a church which was founded only forty days after the death of Christ, and was governed almost as many years under the immediate inspection of his apostle, should be received as the standard of orthodoxy. The distant churches very frequently appealed to the authority of their venerable Parent” (chap. 15, sec. 1).

I should point out here that “the law” the early Christians observed was **not** the complete Law of Moses. That is a mistaken idea foisted on church historians by misguided medieval theologians. What the true Christians *did* observe were the Ten Commandments, along with God's statutes—all now magnified even more so in the spirit than they had been in the Old Testament. Christians did not believe that they were required to persist in the ceremonial aspects of the Law of Moses, nor in the physical administration of civil law that God gave Israel. But because these early Christians still observed the biblical Sabbath, God's annual Festivals, tithing and certain dietary restrictions (cf. Leviticus 11), many

historians wrongly persist in saying that they followed the “Law of Moses”—trying to lump God’s commandments and statutes in with animal sacrifices and ritualistic washings. This is absolutely **wrong**, and it is *deceptive*!

The *truth* is that there has always been a “little flock” (Luke 12:32) of believers, who followed the teachings and practices of Christ and the Apostles. However, since Apostolic times, they have been hounded and persecuted, and little noticed by the world at large. As the early apostates took over the existing church structures and the *name* “Christian,” the last remaining original Apostle was inspired to write about one of those apostate leaders: “I wrote to the church, but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, does not receive us. Therefore, if I come, I will call to mind his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words. And not content with that, he himself does not receive the brethren, and forbids those who wish to, putting them out of the church” (3 John 9–10).

So the *true* worshipers were “cast out” of the local congregations, and even John, Jesus’ beloved friend among the Apostles, was not certain whether he would be able to come and rectify the situation!

As Jesus prophesied (Matthew 24:5), *many* false teachers have come using His name. They talk about “love.” But they set forth a *false* Christ and a *false* message about His *person*—rather than faithfully preaching the message of the coming Kingdom of God that the Father had sent by Him. What has been the result?

People today are confused about the true religion of Jesus Christ. Those who profess Christianity are divided into hundreds of competing sects and denominations. But very few understand the original form of Christianity that Christ and His Apostles taught and lived! The “Christian” world has been built on shifting sand. Its moral system is *impotent* without the sure foundation of God’s law. Secular forces are increasingly dictating its standards of conduct, which used to be the prerogative of religious leaders.

We behold the spectacle of sexual perverts taking over more and more key posts in government, in education and even in some of the mainline churches! We behold the horrifying statistics of *millions* of unborn babies having their skulls crushed and being vacuumed out of their mothers’ wombs! We behold a civilization that is truly coming apart at the seams.

We are a society that will soon be directly *punished* by the Great God who gives life and breath to all.

Why? In no small measure because our peoples have been deceived into believing in “another Jesus”—because our peoples have truly lost contact with the true God and His revealed way of life.

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

Lawlessness?

Yes! The religion that assumed the name of Christianity adopted the pagan concepts and practices of the Babylonian Mystery Religion in direct violation of the law of God! In 2 Thessalonians 2:7, the Apostle Paul referred to this as the “mystery of lawlessness” (To learn more about this “mystery of lawlessness,” please write for our free booklet, *Who or What is the Antichrist?*). This false worship system was instituted *in place of* the simple way of life that Jesus and the Apostles had taught. That *way of life* was based on obedience to the Ten Commandments. Yet it was all but stamped out in favor of rituals, ceremonies and an empty faith in a false *person* of Christ, while at the same time rejecting His inspired **message** from God!

We in this Work of the living God teach and practice—to the best of our ability and with God’s help—the *same* basic “way of life” taught by Christ and His Apostles. One of our basic mottos is: “Restore Apostolic Christianity!”

If you would like to learn more about this return to the “original” Christianity and all that it involves, be sure to write us or call us at the regional office nearest you, as listed on page 2 of this magazine. Request your *free* copy of our remarkable, fully documented booklet, *Restoring Apostolic Christianity*. If you will not just read, but *study*, this eye-opening booklet with an open mind and open heart, then you will really *understand*.



Tomorrow's World

Television and Radio Log

INTERNATIONAL:

—AUSTRALIA

Adelaide: ACE—Ch 6/31, SUN 11:30 am, THUR 8:30 pm

Brisbane: BRIZ—Ch 31, SUN 8:30 am

Melbourne: MCTC—Ch 31, TUE 11:00 pm

Perth: CETL—Ch 31, SUN 9:30 am

—BARBADOS

St. Michael: CBC—Ch 8, SUN 9:30 am

—GUYANA

Georgetown: CNS TV—Ch 6, SUN 2:30 pm

—JAMAICA

Kingston: CVM TV—Ch 4, 8 & 9, SAT 7:00 am; SUN 7:00 am

—NEW ZEALAND (nationwide)

Auckland: PRIME TELEVISION—SUN 8:30 am

—PHILIPPINES

Bansalan: Bansalan Cable—Ch 31, SAT 10:00 am

Borongan: Borongan Cable—Ch 17, SAT 3:00 pm

Kidapawan: Kidapawan Cable—Ch 19, SAT 8:30 am

Naval, Leyte: Naval Cable—Ch 11, SUN 9:00 am

Nabunturan: Nabunturan Cable—Ch 21, SAT 10:00 am

Maasin City: Maasin Cable—Ch 13, SUN 9:00 am

Naval Biliran: Bilinet Cable—Ch 11, SUN 9:00 am; SAT 9:00 am

Ormoc City: Ormoc Cable—Ch 3, SAT 8:30 am

Sogod: Sogod Cable—Ch 13, SAT 8:00 am

—TRINIDAD

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

UNITED STATES:

AL, Birmingham: Cable—Ch 4, WED 1:30 pm

AL, Troy/Montgomery: WRJM—Ch 67, SUN 7:30 am

AR, Fayetteville: Access TV—Ch 8, SUN 8:30 pm

AR, Fort Smith: CableMart—Ch 31, SUN 7:00 pm

AR, Little Rock: KASN—Ch 38, SAT 8:00 am

AZ, Phoenix: Access—Ch 22, FRI 12:00 pm

AZ, Prescott: Cable—Ch 13, SAT 5:30 pm; SUN 6:30 am

AZ, Tucson: Access—Ch 73, SAT 4:30 pm; SUN 11:30 am

CA, Anaheim: Adelphia—Ch 3, WED 6:00 pm

CA, Buena Park: Adelphia—Ch 55, SUN 5:00 pm

CA, Eureka: Cox—Ch 10, FRI 5:30 pm

CA, Garden Grove: Time Warner—Ch 6, SUN 10:30 am

CA, Los Angeles: KDOC—Ch 56, SAT 7:00 am

CA, Modesto: AT&T—Ch 8, TUE 3:00 pm

CA, Norwalk: Public Access—Ch 55, THUR 5:00 pm

CA, Oceanside: KOCT—Ch 18, SUN 5:30 pm

CA, Sacramento: RCTV—Ch 75, MON 5:30 pm

CA, San Andreas: MediaOne—Ch 4, TUE 4:00 pm

CA, San Diego: Cox—Ch 18 & 23 THUR 6:00 pm

CA, San Francisco: Access TV—Ch 29 THUR 5:00 pm

CA, San Jose: Community TV—Ch 15A, SAT 11:30 pm

CA, Sonora: TCCCA—Ch 8, SUN 8:00 pm

CA, Torlock: Charter—Ch 2, MON 8:00 pm

CT, Enfield: Comcast—Ch 15, THUR 2:30 pm & 7:00 pm

CT, Naugatuck: Tele-Media—Ch 10, TUE 9:30 pm

FL, Gainesville: Cox—Ch 55, SUN 8:00 pm

FL, Ocala: Cox—Ch 71, SUN 10:00 am

GA, Atlanta: AIB—Cable, THUR 6:30 pm; SAT 1:30 am

GA, Macon: Cox Cable—Ch 18, SUN 5:00 pm;

TUE 7:30 am; FRI 2:00 pm

HI, Hilo: Na Leo—Ch 14, SUN 12:30 pm; FRI 9:30 pm

HI, Honolulu: Oilelo—Ch 52, THUR 2:00 pm

HI, Kailua-Kona: Na Leo—Ch 14, SUN 12:30 pm;

FRI 9:30 pm

HI, Kauai: Ho'i'ike—Ch 12, MON 1:30 pm

HI, Lanai: Akaku—Ch 3, 12 & 13, WED 9:30 pm; THUR 5:30 am

HI, Maui: Akaku—Ch 44, WED 9:30 pm; THUR 5:30 am

HI, Molokai: Akaku—Ch 3, 12 & 13 WED 9:30 pm;

THUR 5:30 am

IA, Des Moines: Mediacom—Ch 15, SAT 10:00 am;

SUN 11:00 am

IA, Dubuque: TCI of Iowa—Ch 45, THUR 7:30 pm;

MON 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm; TUE 10:00 am & 10:00 pm;

WED 2:00 pm

IA, Waterloo: Cable—Ch 2, WED 9:00 pm

ID, Pocatello: Vision—Ch 12, SUN 7:30 pm; FRI 1:00 pm

IL, Bloomington: AT&T—Ch 10, SUN 8:30 am;

MON 9:00 pm

IL, Chicago: WGN—Cable, SUN 6:00 am (ET)

IL, Peoria: Insight—Ch 20, SUN 7:30 pm

IL, Springfield: TCI—Ch 4, TUE 6:00 pm

IN, Anderson: Insight—Ch 13 & 16, MON 6:30 pm;

TUE 8:30 pm

IN, Lafayette: Insight—Ch 13 & 16, MON 6:30 pm;

TUE 8:30 pm

KS, Chanute: Cablevision—Ch 5, SUN 7:30 am; TUE 5:30 pm

KS, Parsons: Time Warner—Ch 21, WED 7:00 pm & 9:30 pm

KY, Paducah: Public Cable—Ch 2, WED 3:30 pm

LA, Lafayette: KATC—Ch 3, SUN 9:00 am

LA, Monroe: Time Warner—Ch 49, WED 10:00 pm

MA, Cambridge: CCTV—Ch 22, TUE 4:00 pm

MA, Malden: Access TV—Ch 3, SUN 11:00 am

MD, Baltimore: TCI—Ch 5, SUN 4:00 pm, WED 4:00 pm

MD, Westminster: Adelphia—Ch 19, THUR & FRI 10:00 am

MN, Duluth: Public Access—Ch 24, SAT 11:00 am; SUN 7:00 pm

MN, Minneapolis: MTN—Ch 67, THUR 6:30 pm

MN, Minneapolis: NW Community—Ch 19, SAT 10:30 pm;

SUN 4:30 am, 10:30 am & 4:30 pm

MN, Roseville: CTV—Ch 15, SUN 7:30 pm; MON 3:30

& 11:30 am

MN, St. Paul: SPNN—Ch 14, SUN 8:30 pm

MO, Joplin: KOAM—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am

MO, Kansas City: KCWE—Ch 29, SUN 8:00 am

MO, Springfield: KSPR—Ch 33, SUN 8:30 am

MO, St. Charles: Charter—Ch 47, SUN 9:30 am & 9:00 pm

MO, St. Louis: AT&T—Ch 3, THU 6:00 pm

MO, St. Louis: Double Helix—Ch 22, MON 4:00 pm

MS, Jackson: Time Warner—Ch 11, WED 4:00 pm;

SUN 10:00 am

MS, Jackson: WAPT—Ch 16, SUN 8:30 am

MT, Billings: BSC—Cable, SUN 8:30 am

MT, Great Falls: BSC—Cable, SUN 8:30 am

MT, Great Falls: Public Access TV—Ch 7, TUE 6:00 pm;

FRI 6:00 pm

MT, Helena: BSC—Cable, SUN 8:30 am

MT, Missoula: BSC—Cable, SUN 8:30 am

NC, Greensboro: GCTV—Ch 8, SAT 10:30 am;

SUN 11:30 pm

NC, Wilmington: Time Warner—Ch 4, WED 10:00 pm

ND, Bismarck: CATV—Ch 12, SUN 3:00 pm

NE, Omaha: KPTM—Ch 42, SUN 8:00 am

NH, Hanover: CATV—Ch 6, SUN 5:00 pm & 11:00 pm;

MON 5:00 am & 11:00 am

NJ, East Windsor: Comcast—Ch 27, WED 5:30 pm

NJ, Oakland: Cablevision—Ch 71, SUN 6:00 pm

NJ, Trenton: Comcast—Ch 81, MON 10:00 pm

NM, Albuquerque: CCC27—Ch 27, SUN 9:30 pm

NM, Rio Rancho: CABLE ONE—Ch 51, THUR, 7:00 pm

NV, Carson City: Access TV—Ch 10, SAT 9:00 pm

NV, Gardnerville: Community Access—Ch 26, SAT 3:00

am & 3:00 pm; SUN 3:00 am & 3:00 pm

NV, Reno/Sparks: SNCT—Ch 30/16, SUN 7:30 pm

NY, Batavia: Time Warner—Ch 19, WED 6:30 pm

NY, Bethlehem: TV 18—Ch 18, WED 3:00 pm

NY, Binghamton: Time Warner—Ch 6, FRI 5:00 pm

NY, Brooklyn: BCAT—Ch 56/69, SUN 3:00 pm

NY, Canandaigua: FLTV—Ch 12, SUN 11:30 am

NY, Elmira & Corning: Time Warner—Ch 1,

SUN 9:30 am

NY, Hauppauge: Cablevision—Ch 70, FRI 9:30 am

NY, Irondequoit: ICAT—Ch 15, SUN 7:00 pm,

TUE 9:30 am & 7:00 pm

NY, Ithaca: Pegasys—Ch 13 & 78, SUN 8:00 pm,

TUE 7:00 pm, WED 4:30 pm

NY, Oneonta: Time Warner—Ch 23, WED 8:30 pm

NY, Port Jefferson: TCI—Ch 70, SUN 9:30 pm

NY, Queens: QPTV—Ch 35, check local listing

NY, Riverhead: Cablevision—Ch 27, MON 4:30 pm

NY, Rochester: Community TV—Ch 15, SUN 7:00 pm

NY, Schenectady: Community TV—Ch 16, MON 8:30 am

NY, Utica: Adelphia—Ch 3, MON 9:00 pm

OK, Tulsa: KTFO—Ch 41 SAT 12:30 am

OR, Beaverton: Community Access—Ch 51, SUN 10:00 pm;

MON 10:00 am & TUE 8:00 pm

OR, Portland: MCTV—Ch 11, SUN 12:30 pm

PA, Johnstown: Charter—Ch 9, MON 10:00 pm

PA, Sayre: Time Warner—Ch 18, MON-FRI, 5:00 pm

RI, Providence: WPXQ—Ch 69, SUN 9:30 am

TX, Austin: Community Access—Ch 11, MON 5:30 pm

TX, Corpus Christi: TCI—Ch 10, THUR 2:00 pm;

FRI 10:30 am; SUN 11:00 am

TX, Dallas: Community Television—Ch 14b, FRI 2:00 pm;

SAT 1:00 pm; SUN 11:00 am

TX, Lufkin: KTRE—Ch 9, SUN 6:30 am

TX, Temple: KPLE—Ch 31/46, SUN 7:30 pm

TX, Tyler: KLTV—Ch 7, SUN 6:30 am

VA, Chesterfield: Comcast—Ch 6, THUR 6:30 pm

VT, Barre: Ch 7, SAT 9:00 pm; SUN 2:00 pm & 11:00 pm

VT, Montpelier: Adelphia—Ch 15, TUE 9:00 pm;

WED 3:00 pm

WA, Kennewick: Charter—Ch 13, SUN 8:00 pm;

TUE 8:00 pm

WA, Seattle: TCI—Ch 29, FRI 5:30 pm

WA, Vancouver: Clark/Vancouver—Ch 49, SUN 9:30 am

WI, Wausau: Charter—Ch 10, THUR 9:00 pm; FRI 7:30 am

RADIO STATIONS:

Argentina, Ameghino:—94.9 FM, SAT 1:00 pm

Martinique, Radio Banlieue-Relax—103.4 FM, SUN 6:15 am

Martinique, Radio Campêche—98.3 & 101.6 FM,

TUE 8:00 am; SAT 8:00 am

Martinique, Radio St. Pierre—88.7 FM, SAT 8:00 am;

SUN 8:00 am

Mexico, Mexico City, XEEST—1440 AM, SUN 9:30 am

Northern Ireland, Portadown, Radio Star—981 AM

& 101.2 FM, THUR 9:00 pm

Philippines, Manila, DWBL—1242 kHz AM,

THUR 10:30 pm; SUN 3:30 pm

Philippines, Ozamiz City, DXOC—1494 kHz AM,

SUN 5:00 am

• Television Superstations

—CANADA (nationwide)

ON, Toronto: VISION—SUN 3:30 am & 5:30 pm (ET)

—IL, Chicago: WGN—National Cable, SUN 6:00 am (ET)

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TELEVISION SUPERSTATIONS:

WGN: SUN 6:00 am ET

VISION: Canada: SUN 3:30 am & SUN 5:30 pm ET

NEW TELEVISION STATIONS:

AL, Birmingham: WOTM—Ch 19, FRI 7:00 pm

IL, Moline: MediaCom—Ch 75, SAT-THUR 2:00 pm; FRI 3:00 pm

IN, Anderson: Insight—Ch 13 & 16, MON 6:30 pm; TUE 8:30 pm

IN, Lafayette: Insight—Ch 13 & 16, MON 6:30 pm; TUE 8:30 pm

LA, Alexandria: WNTZ—Ch 48, SUN 7:00 am

LA, Baton Rouge: WZUP—Ch 44, SUN 10:30 am

LA, Shreveport: KSHV—Ch 45, SUN 8:30 am

MN, White Bear Lake: SCC—Ch 14, THUR 12:00 pm & 8:30 pm

TX, Lufkin: KTRE—Ch 9, SUN 6:30 am

PA, Philadelphia: Urban—Ch 5/81, THUR 9:00 pm; SUN 5:30 pm

VA, Virginia Beach: Cox—Ch 71 & 74, SAT 8:30 am

NEW RADIO STATIONS:

AFRIKAANS

RSA, Western Cape: Radio Tygerburg—104 FM, THUR 7:30 pm

SPANISH

Argentina, Bahia Blanca: 101.3 FM, THUR 8:00 pm; SAT 2:00 pm

Argentina, Bahia Blanca: 91.1 FM, TUE 1:30 pm; THUR 1:30 pm

Argentina, Neuquen: 97.3 FM, MON 8:00 am; WED 8:30 am; FRI 2:30 pm

Chile, Arcoiris: 105.3 FM, THUR 8:30 pm; SAT 9:30 pm

Chile, Emmanuel: 107.3 FM, WED 10:00 pm; SAT 10:00 pm

Costa Rica, San Jose: 93.5 FM & 670 AM, SUN 5:00 pm

ENGLISH

Philippines, Cebu City: 909AM, SUN 6:00 am