

TOMORROW'S WORLD

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A **Wake-Up Call** to All
PROTESTANTS!



Is Your Heart in the “Work”?

What is your mission in life? Do you even have a mission, a purpose beyond “survival”? Many in our Western world live materialistic and selfish lives. By contrast, those who are truly successful in life have a purpose beyond and above self!

Most of you long-time subscribers know that *Tomorrow's World* has a global mission. It is the same mission Christ gave to His disciples in Mark 16:15: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” What gospel was that? What message did Jesus preach to the world, and what message will witness to the world before His Second Coming? “Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel’” (Mark 1:14-15).

Our world needs the “good news” Jesus prophesied in Matthew 24:14, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.” Thankfully that is taking place right now! And it is taking place in large part because of the support of *Tomorrow's World* readers, who through their prayer and other means of support are backing this vital world-circling Work. Scores of thousands of you subscribers responded recently to Editor in Chief Roderick C. Meredith's offer, earlier this year, of our powerful DVD titled *The Mission of God's Work*. In that DVD, you saw the globe-circling impact of this Work made possible by dedicated Christian supporters and generous co-workers. If you have not already requested your copy of this inspiring DVD, you can write to the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 4 of this magazine), or go online to *TomorrowsWorld.org* to order your own copy at no charge.

Truly, our world needs the coming Kingdom of God to rule all nations and establish lasting world peace under the King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:16). But before that time, the world will become increasingly deceived following a counterfeit Christianity. Shockingly, the nations will even fight against Christ at His coming (Revelation 17:14; 19:16-19). Even

today, persecution of professing Christians is increasing in many parts of the world, including the beheading of many by the radical extremist group ISIS.

Persecution will test many of us. Jesus warned His followers: “And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes” (Matthew 10:22-23).



Protection for God's People

God promises to protect His true servants. Psalm 46 gives us this encouraging perspective: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah” (vv. 1-3). Furthermore, when seemingly unexplainable tragedies occur, as can happen to anyone (Ecclesiastes 9:11), God gives us the strength and wisdom to endure and even grow in the face of our most difficult challenges.

God promises to protect the most faithful and zealous Christians from the coming Great Tribulation. He will guide the “woman”—God's Church—“into the wilderness to her place” (Revelation 12:14). It is those individuals **who have their heart in God's Work** in fulfilling the Great Commission, whom God will preserve from the Great Tribulation that Jesus' prophesied in Matthew 24:21-22. We need that same dedication as

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our Lord in accomplishing our God-given mission. Jesus proclaimed, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work” (John 4:34).

God will give you more faith as you draw close to Him and study His word for total guidance in your life. As the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 10:17, quoting the prophet Isaiah: “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Be sure to read your Bible every day. As you know, we at *Tomorrow’s World* are striving to practice the first-century Christianity taught by Jesus Christ and His apostles. Sadly, that true Christianity has been corrupted by human organizations that mixed Christ’s teachings with various pagan ideas and practices. As a result, the largest “Christian” churches in our day are actually in some ways far more pagan than they are Christian.

To make matters worse, some of these nominal-ly Christian groups have spent the last few decades abandoning fundamental Christian teachings. Even 30 years ago, can you imagine mainline Presbyterian

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or Episcopal churches hiring openly homosexual clergy and performing same-sex “marriages” for their members?

Sadly, many of these denominations—founded in protest against the errors they found in their Roman Catholic “mother church”—are now slipping into errors that even the mother church has not accepted! To learn more about this, I urge you to read the article on page 5 of this magazine, “A Wake-Up Call to All Protestants!” by our Editor in Chief, Roderick C. Meredith.

Yes, we live in times of great turmoil. Some of that turmoil is economic. Many of us have lived through times of significant inflation, when goods and services rocketed to ever-higher prices as our paychecks remained about the same. And there are other economic dangers ahead. Consider what happens in times when the economy faces the opposite of inflation—deflation. To learn more about this phenomenon, why it matters

and how it may affect our world as we approach the end of this present age, read “Deflation” on page 10 of this magazine, by Dexter Wakefield. In our modern society, most people would rather hear about pop stars or entertainment industry gossip, but Mr. Wakefield’s topic is an important one, and even if you are not an economist I hope you will read his article carefully.

With traditional religion on the wane, and with the world economy in peril, it can be easy to lose



hope and give in to pessimism and even depression. Yet there is always hope for true Christians. Please read

my article, “Surviving Tough Times,” on page 18 of this issue. No matter what problems you may face, you can endure and even flourish if you follow the guidance God has provided for us in Scripture.

Keep Your Eye on the “Big Picture”!

One of the most important tools for surviving and going beyond survival, as you will read, is to put your heart and mind into the fulfillment of the Great Commission that Jesus Christ gave to His followers. As you do this, you will find that your own problems seem far less important in the “big picture” of things.

Of course, you cannot give to others what you do not have yourself. Some of you reading this magazine may not yet have accepted biblical baptism, full immersion in water as a sign of your repentance and the symbolic “death” of your old carnal self-will. If you have repented of your sins, and you want to follow Christ’s commands as fully as you can, and to receive God’s Holy Spirit to help you overcome and grow as a Christian, please contact the Regional Office nearest you, and we will put you in touch with one of our representatives who will talk with you about repentance and baptism.

Truly, as you learn to practice the Christian way of outflowing concern for others, as you dedicate your life and heart—as Jesus did—to fulfill God’s Work, you will find that He will increasingly bless your own life in ways you might never have imagined.

Richard F. Ames

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We can survive in tough times if we cry out to God for help!

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A WAKE-UP CALL TO ALL PROTESTANTS!

By **Roderick C. Meredith**

As a former Protestant with many family members still Protestant, I feel compelled to *warn you* of a soon-coming *disaster!* Most of the Protestant churches will *not even exist* a decade or two from *right now!*

Why?

Because to the vast majority of people in America and the entire English-speaking world, Protestantism is becoming increasingly *irrelevant*. Millions of Protestant church members are voting with their feet and *getting out*. They are becoming Roman Catholics. But many are also simply disheartened, discouraged and confused. These unsettled people often describe themselves as “nones”—meaning they belong to *no organized religion*. They just try to become “spiritual”—just trying to worship God *in their own way*.

Again, *why?*

The answer is simple: For many, if not most, “Protestantism” appears to actually “stand” for almost *nothing* anymore. The majority of “mainstream” Protestant churches very quickly follow the attitudes, the beliefs and the practices of this world—this world’s increasingly secular and unruly society.

Where are the faithful ministers who get up in the pulpit and *strongly condemn* “fornication”—as the Bible calls the practice of just “living together” as an unmarried couple without any binding commitment

to God, to family or to each other? *Where are* the ministers and priests who *powerfully condemn* the use of illicit drugs, drunkenness, lying, cheating, *pervverted sex* or disrespect for parents? Do such God-fearing, Bible-believing ministers still exist *anywhere?*

Certainly not in “mainstream” Protestantism! For if any such faithful Bible-believing minister like this did exist in any of these churches, he would soon be fired or figuratively “run out of town”! So, very few—if *any*—of such ministers still find themselves in “mainstream” Protestantism!

On the other hand, the Roman Catholic church *appears* to “stand” for a few things! And millions of confused people out there “searching for something”—*anything* of real substance—are slowly but surely beginning to look at the original “mother church” of Protestantism as a place of religious safety. Many observers realize that the perceived stability of Roman Catholicism is making it more and more attractive to former Protestants, who have grown tired of their own denominations “waffling” on so many issues. Students of Bible prophecy will not be surprised to see hundreds of thousands and even millions returning to their “mother church” in the next few years!

The Key Issue

For those with understanding, the *real issue* is the fact that the Protestant reformers and their successors have *not* actually turned their people back to the “faith which was once for all delivered to the saints”

(Jude 3). Remember the often-stated saying of noted Protestant theologian William Chillingworth, “The Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible, is the religion of the Protestants” (*Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, article “Chillingworth, W”). Yet most American churchgoers—and Britons as well—have almost *no knowledge* of the specifics of the Bible!

Jesus Christ commanded His followers, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God” (Luke 4:4). “Yet U.S. citizens know almost nothing about the Bible. Although most regard it as the word of God, few read it anymore. Even evangelicals from the Bible Belt seem more focused on loving Jesus than on learning what He had to say” (*Charlotte Observer*, March 18, 2007).

Does that last sentence grab your attention? *It is vital!* It is *true* that even “Bible Belt Christians” are far more focused on “loving Jesus” than on *what He had to say!* That is why they are so confused, so *divided*, and so *ignorant* about what the inspired word of God is trying to tell them. They simply *do not study* their Bible with the care and attention they would apply to a book on history, mathematics or quantum physics. They just approach it with a sentimental attitude and read bits and pieces—*not really studying* the *entire Bible* with a desire and prayer for *understanding* and asking God for the willingness to *obey* what He is telling them in its pages!

Rather than using the *inspired word of God* as the fundamental paradigm or “model” of what he wanted to restore, Martin Luther—acknowledged as the *primary founder* of Protestantism—seemed to be rebelling against certain Roman Catholic practices. Yet, in fact, he intended to *carry on* many of the basic *teachings* of Catholicism except those with which he personally disagreed! So, Protestantism became a “hodgepodge” of different ideas. Some were held over from pagan practices that had been part of early Roman Catholicism. Others were derived from selective use of some scriptures while ignoring others. Still others were little more than

the whim of Luther and his colleagues without benefit of Scripture! It never seemed to occur to them that *if* they were truly to *restore* the “faith once for all delivered” they would need to *fully return* to the teachings of the Bible!

So it is remarkable that in rejecting the doctrine of transubstantiation—the idea that bread and wine become Christ’s literal body and blood—Luther declares the *absolute authority* of Scripture in matters of



faith and practice. He states: “For that which is asserted without the authority of Scripture or of proven revelation

may be held as an opinion, but there is no obligation to believe it.... Transubstantiation... must be considered as an invention of human reason, since it is based neither on Scripture nor sound reasoning” (*Documents of the Christian Church*, ed. Bettenson, p. 280).

If Luther had gone on to apply this type of scriptural test to *all* of his doctrines, the world today might be a different type of place! For when he was charged with inserting the word “sola” (*alone*) into Romans 3:28, he haughtily replied: “Should your Pope give himself any useless annoyance about the word *sola*, you may promptly reply: It is the will of Dr. Martin Luther that it should be so” (*Manual of Universal Church History*, p. 199). And, we may add on good authority, no other reason for such unscriptural changes as these were ever given. When it came to Luther’s



Protestantism, founded in rebellion against Roman Catholic error and excess, is increasingly turning back to its “mother” church.

own personal doctrinal convictions, Martin Luther was truly a *self-willed* man.

In judging any man or movement, Jesus said, “By their *fruits* you will know them” (Matthew 7:20).

If one honestly and objectively considers the actual “fruits” of the practice of Protestantism—or Catholicism for that matter—in any nation or area of the world, it becomes obvious that *genuine* Christi-

which was to arise and labels it “Babylon the Great” (Revelation 17:1–6).

Turning to Revelation 17, we see that the woman pictured here is a fallen woman—a “*Great Harlot*.” She sits upon “many waters.” In verse 15, the prophecy itself identifies these waters as “*peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues*.” This fallen woman, then, is a *great church*—ruling over many *nations* and

MARTIN LUTHER WAS TRULY A SELF-WILLED MAN WHEN IT CAME TO HIS OWN DOCTRINAL IDEAS

anity has not been restored in *any* of those places. As all students of history know, many of the great wars of the last several hundred years have taken place in Europe. We read of Protestants fighting Protestants, Catholics fighting Catholics. Often, each side’s bishops or priests would “bless” the troops as they headed up the ridge to bayonet and disembowel the enemy. Yet the “enemy” might well be a person of their *very own religious faith!*

Christianity?

God Identifies the Roman Church

The insistence of the Protestant leaders on their *basic unity* with the Catholic church, and their identification of her as their “mother” church is *most significant!*

In the early editions of Martin Luther’s translation of the New Testament, there are many illustrations picturing the “Whore of Babylon” as the *Roman Catholic Church*. In describing this *widely understood interpretation*, Roland Bainton tells us: “Fallen Babylon is plainly *Rome*” (*Here I Stand*, p. 258). Countless Protestant books, pamphlets, and tracts make that same identification today. They brand the Roman Catholic Church as the “Great Whore” of Revelation 17.

Yet, it must be admitted, most of the more conservative Protestant denominational writers have stopped making this identification. After those first editions of the Bible, and their various pamphlets and tracts, they came to the embarrassing realization that *they were telling on themselves!* For in one of the most easily understood passages in this inspired prophetic book, God describes a great false religious system

peoples. She is accused of having “committed fornication” with the kings of the earth. Spiritually, that could only mean that she is guilty of mix-

ing in the *politics* and *wars* of this world.

Christ said that His Kingdom is *not of this world* (John 18:36). James speaks of those who participate in the material *lusts* and *wars* of this world as spiritual “*adulterers*” (James 4:1–4). The prophecy now becomes plain! This apostate church is condemned because she has *played politics* and participated in the *warfare* of this world.

This fallen woman, or church, is arrayed in *purple* and *scarlet* colors. The purple symbolizes *royal* power and dignity. The scarlet signifies her *spiritual whoredom!* She is a *wealthy* church “adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls” (Revelation 17:4). And, John writes: “I saw the woman, *drunk* with the *blood of the saints* and with the blood of the *martyrs* of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement” (v. 6).

This church *cruelly persecuted* and *martyred* many of God’s saints. But her *wealth*, her *power*, and her *royal majesty* inspired a sense of awe even in John! Later, God reveals that “the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth” (v. 18).

All of these descriptions apply *perfectly* to the *Roman Catholic church!* This is the church that has *persecuted* God’s scattered people down through the ages. This is the church whose *wealth* and *material power* are equaled by no other. This is the church which has had its *own army*, and has actively participated in the *wars* and *politics* of this world!

Only the capital of “Christendom” at Rome could truly be called a “great city” which has *ruled* over the

WAKE-UP CALL CONTINUES ON PAGE 24

h Canada!

Bridging the Gap



Canada's Confederation on July 1, 1867 brought four eastern provinces together to form a new and unified country. To secure their admission, the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were assured that a railway linking them with the two Central Canadian provinces—Quebec and Ontario—would be provided.

Manitoba, the province directly to the west of Ontario, joined the Confederation later in 1870. British Columbia on the faraway west coast was persuaded and enticed to join the fledgling Confederation in 1871, but only with the clear promise that a transcontinental railway would be built within ten years to physically link east and west. A *nation-building* effort from coast to coast was in the making.

Within four years of Confederation, the nation of Canada, which then had a population well below four million people, determined that it would build the world's longest railroad across "empty"—unexplored and relatively unpopulated—country. As in most bold ventures, not all were in agreement. In fact, many considered the plan brash to the point of recklessness. Some even referred to it as "*insane* recklessness."

So in the 1870s, Canadians of all stripes—politicians and journalists, contractors, bankers, surveyors and the average working man—either fought for the railway, or were dead set against it. Would this national dream prove to be a nightmare?

A National Dream

The railway's early construction was marked by controversy. That controversy would eventually topple the Conservative government of Canada's first Prime Min-

ister, John A. Macdonald, forcing an election in 1873. By the time Macdonald did return to power in 1878 the project was seriously behind schedule and in jeopardy of never being completed. However, all was not lost, when finally a group of businessmen formed a syndicate determined to complete this national dream.

The following history from the Canadian Pacific Web site should enlighten us on the matter: "In October 21, 1880 a group of Scottish Canadian businessmen finally formed a viable syndicate to build a transcontinental railway. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company was incorporated February 16, 1881, with George Stephen as its first president.

"The 1881 construction season was a bust and the railway's chief engineer and general superintendent were fired at the end of the season after building only 211 km (131 miles) of track. Syndicate member and director James Jerome Hill suggested William Cornelius Van Horne was the man who could get the job done.

"Canadian Pacific Railway was founded in 1881 to link Canada's populated centres with the vast potential of its relatively unpopulated West. This incredible engineering feat was completed on November 7, 1885—six years ahead of schedule—when the last spike was driven at Craigellachie, B.C." ("*Our History*," Canadian Pacific, www.cpr.ca, 2015).

Finally, on November 7, 1885, the eastern and western portions of the Canadian Pacific Railway were connected when a man by the name of Donald A. Smith drove the "last spike."

The decision to proceed despite relentless and at times fierce opposition would turn out to be the right one for the country, a decision that was destined to

change the lives of every man, woman and child in Canada and alter the shape of the nation. It would be a physical *bridging of the gap*, and would knit together a vast country, bringing people readily together and overcoming the great natural barriers of Canada's wilderness.

But other barriers remain to this day.

A Dream for the Future

In this world, there are *many* things that divide nations and peoples, and many of them are greater even than geographical barriers like seas, mountains and great expanses of land. Religion, cultural differences, political persuasions and national agendas often drive humans and nations away from the hope of true unity.

The building of a railway system, although beneficial in many ways, does not provide the way to achieve true peace and unity among nations, or even within the borders of one nation. Mankind, in its desire for togetherness and the prevention of war, has set up world organizations like the United Nations, and its predecessor the League of Nations, for the purpose of maintaining unity and peace among nations. And today we even hear about the desire to have "One World Government."

However, can mankind—which has difficulty even building a railway from coast to coast—ever hope to achieve that one-world government and the unification of all nations? History has repeatedly shown mankind's inability to do so.

God's word does speak of that actually occurring; not by the methods and ideas of flawed human beings, but under the direct rulership of Jesus Christ—through a "one-world government" which your Bible calls the *Kingdom of God*. The returned Jesus Christ will bring about unity and *bridge the gap* between nations and peoples.

How will this be done?

Isaiah 11:9 tells us how: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be **full of the knowledge of the LORD** as the waters cover the sea." God's laws, when properly followed and obeyed, will be the means by which unity will be achieved and mankind's fondest hopes and dreams fulfilled: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Ev-



Workers laying the last section of track for the Canadian Pacific Railway

erlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this" (Isaiah 9:6-7).

God is determined to bring about world peace and the unity of nations His way—which is the very best way, as the world will surely see. Isaiah 19:23-25 describes a sampling of togetherness and unity, and a bridging of the gap that will be achieved during the reign of the King of kings: "In that day there will be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come into Egypt and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians will serve with the Assyrians. In that day Israel will be one of three with Egypt and Assyria—a blessing in the midst of the land, whom the LORD of hosts shall bless, saying, 'Blessed is Egypt My people, and Assyria the work of My hands, and Israel My inheritance.'"

At that time, the peoples of this world will experience much more than a "national dream" fulfilled through physical means. They will finally experience the **reality** of true peace and harmony—and the end of all strife and competition among nations, when Jesus Christ returns to set up His world-ruling government.

This is why Christ instructs us to pray daily, "Thy Kingdom Come."

—Winston Gosse



building a railway from coast to coast—ever hope to achieve that one-world government and the unification of



DEFLATION!

It can steal your wealth and rock your world!

*The financial world is turning **upside down!** Can you imagine a world where banks make you pay interest on your savings, and pay you to take out a loan? While most people have been worried about “hyper-inflation” a new trend—**deflation**—is being felt in Europe, and is even having an impact on the United States. What will this mean for you and your future?*

By **Dexter B. Wakefield**

Recently in Spain, Portugal and other parts of Europe *banks have actually paid interest to their borrowers—instead of to the depositors!* This phenomenon is called “**negative interest**,” and although it is a bit complicated, *you need to know how it works!*

Negative interest can occur in a variety of ways. In Europe, some nations and corporations have issued debt securities that *repay less than was borrowed*, resulting in a negative yield to the investor.

In early 2015, the *Washington Post* reported that “in Europe’s brave, new, deflationary world... France, Finland, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Germany are all getting **paid by investors**—that is, bond yields are negative—to borrow for up to four, and sometimes six, years. Switzerland is even getting paid to borrow for ten years. *That’s never happened anywhere before.* But it’s not just governments that people are paying for the privilege of lending to. It’s companies, too. Or at least one of them: Nestlé. Its €500 million debt that comes due in October 2016 became the first corporate bond of a year or longer to have a negative yield... Why would you ever pay Nestlé, or anyone else for that matter, to borrow money from you? Well, because there’s not enough inflation and not enough bonds. This makes more sense if you look at what currency Nestlé is borrowing in: the euro. Prices are falling 0.6 percent in the Eurozone right now, so a euro will be worth more tomorrow than today. And that means it can make sense to lend money for nothing or even negative amounts. That’s because the euros you’ll get paid back with will be worth more than the euros you’re paying with right now. So you can lose money but still make money, as long as its value is going up” (Matt O’Brien, “This is crazy: Nestle is getting paid to borrow money.” *WashingtonPost.com*, February 4, 2015).

The Bible says that “**the borrower is slave to the lender**” (Proverbs 22:7, *NIV*), but negative interest sounds like the reverse! In fact, negative interest rates are a symptom of a much larger economic problem that economists and governments are struggling to understand and cope with. It is a problem that can spiral out of control and crush national economies that have loaded up on sovereign debt in recent years. The wisdom of God’s word does not change, and just as the proverb states, the borrower can indeed become the slave of the lender!

Why Pay a Borrower To Take a Loan?

Why would anyone lending money **pay** the borrower to accept the loan? The answer is **deflation**. Deflation is the opposite of **inflation**, and for much of the last century, most world economies have experienced only inflation. Inflation occurs when the value of money declines, and the prices of various goods and services increase. A dollar, peso or euro buys less and less in this situation, because inflation reduces the purchasing power of money.

But with **deflation**, the value of money *increases* and *the prices of things decline*. Your money buys more and more. That may seem like a good thing, but in practice, that can lead to a “deflationary spiral” and serious economic decline. The Great Depression of the 1930s was characterized by deflation. *Could the possibility of deflation have negative implications for the U.S. economy, particularly considering the massive debts that the U.S. has piled up in the last decade? That is worth considering.*

In deflationary times, it pays investors to hold cash or invest in high quality bonds. The reason is that the cash will be worth more and more over time, or the debt will have to be paid back with dollars, pesos or euros *that are more valuable than the ones that were borrowed*. With inflation, lenders tend to lose because the value of the principle amount of the loan decreases, but with de-

flation, lenders tend to gain—at the expense of the borrowers. In a deflationary economy, lenders will often be willing to accept a negative interest rate, because the appreciation of the money still gives them their “yield” on the investment. **Negative interest rates are often a symptom of deflationary expectations.**

The financial reference, *Investopedia*, explains, “During deflationary periods, people and businesses hoard money instead of spending and investing. The result is a collapse in aggregate demand which leads to prices falling even farther, a slowdown or halt in real production and output, and an increase in unemployment” (Article, “Negative Interest Rate Policy”). That is a deflationary spiral, and it can be difficult for a government to reverse. The deflation and economic contraction can feed on each other, deepening recession or even depression.

Governments often try to combat deflation by lowering interest rates. “A loose or expansionary monetary policy is usually employed to deal with such economic stagnation. However, if deflationary forces are strong enough, simply cutting the central bank’s interest rate to zero may not be sufficient to stimulate borrowing and lending. A negative interest rate means the central bank and perhaps private banks will charge negative interest: *instead of receiving money on deposits, depositors must pay regularly to keep their money with the bank.* This is intended to incentivize banks to lend money more freely and businesses and individuals to invest, lend, and spend money rather than pay a fee to keep it safe” (ibid.).

But this approach can have limited economic effectiveness, and there is only so much a zero or negative interest rate can do to stimulate demand. Deflationary spirals can be difficult to control, and as a result, governments are very afraid of deflation. Most would rather have low inflation—perhaps 2 percent or so—because they feel it is more manageable.

On its Web site, the U.S. Federal Reserve explains its *inflation policy*: “Why does the Federal Reserve aim for 2 percent inflation over time? The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) judges that inflation at the rate of 2 percent... is most consistent over the longer run with the Federal Reserve’s man-

date for price stability and maximum employment. Over time, a higher inflation rate would reduce the public’s ability to make accurate longer-term economic and financial decisions. On the other hand, a lower inflation rate would be associated with an elevated probability of falling into deflation, which means prices and perhaps wages, on average, are falling—a phenomenon associated with very weak economic conditions. Having at least a small level of inflation makes it less likely that the economy will experience harmful deflation if



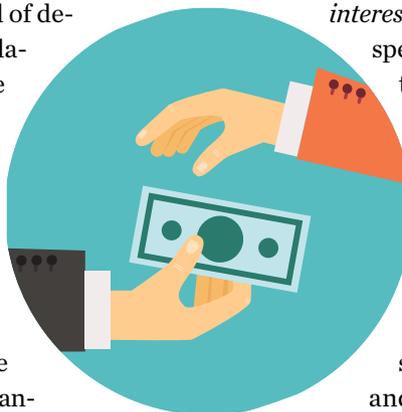
economic conditions weaken. The FOMC implements monetary policy to help maintain an inflation rate of 2 percent over the medium term” (“Why does the Federal Reserve aim for 2 percent inflation over time?” *Federalreserve.gov*, January 26, 2015).

But how successful has the Fed been with implementing this inflationary policy? Not very! *The Wall Street Journal* reported, “The Federal Reserve’s preferred measure of inflation in February fell short of the central bank’s 2 percent target for the 34th straight month. The price index for personal consumption expenditures was up only 0.3 percent from a year earlier, the Commerce Department said... The last reading above 1 percent came in November” (Jeffrey Sparshott, “U.S. Inflation Undershoots the Fed’s 2 Percent Target for the 34th Straight Month,” *Blogs.WSJ.com*, March 30, 2015).

Why the “Real” Interest Rate Matters, Not the “Nominal” Rate

To understand negative interest rates, it is important to know the difference between “nominal” and “real” interest rates. The nominal interest rate is the specific percentage interest rate that is contracted for payment. Simply put, a 30-year U.S. government Treasury bond might have a “nominal” (contractual) interest rate stated at 3 percent on the bond. It pays this rate until its maturity, at which time the entire principal amount is repaid to the bondholder.

The “real” interest rate of the same bond is a bit more complicated and may vary from the nominal rate stat-



ed on the bond. The “real” interest rate—or yield—is usually thought of as the yield the investor receives after the nominal rate is *adjusted for inflation*. For instance, if you hold a 3 percent bond during 2 percent inflation, your “real” yield is only 1 percent. That is because the interest you are being paid has 2 percent less value due to inflation.

Real Interest Rate = Nominal Interest Rate *minus* Inflation.

So inflation *reduces real rates of return*. But what happens to real yields when there is *deflation*? Real yields *increase*. Deflation is “negative inflation” so...

Real Interest Rate = Nominal Interest Rate *plus* Deflation.

So if a bond has a negative return of *minus* 1 percent and deflation is 3 percent, the real rate of yield

IN DEFLATION, THE FIXED DEBTS CAN CRUSH A BORROWER!

is a positive 2 percent for the investor. If you want, you can make money just holding cash! And during deflationary times, people often do just that—but it depresses the economy further.

Negative Interest Rates in Europe

Some European Union countries have stumbled into unexplored financial territory due to deflation and *below-zero interest rates*. The *Wall Street Journal* reported the situation in some European countries. “Tumbling interest rates in Europe have put some banks in an inconceivable position: *owing money on loans to borrowers*... At least one Spanish bank, Bankinter SA, the country’s seventh-largest lender by market value, has been *paying some customers interest on mortgages* by deducting that amount from the principal the borrower owes” (“Tumbling Interest Rates in Europe Leave Some Banks Owing Money on Loans to Borrowers.” *WSJ.com*, April 13, 2015).

This may sound crazy, but deflation works that way!

And it gets crazier! In Portugal, some bank loans float over an index, as they often do in the U.S and other countries. When the index went below zero, the **rate became negative** for many borrowers and the banks **owed their borrowers interest!**

The *Wall Street Journal* reported, “Banks set interest rates on many loans as a small percentage above or below a benchmark such as Euribor. As rates have declined, *sometimes to below zero, some banks have faced the paradox of paying interest to those who have borrowed money from them*... Portugal’s central bank recently ruled that banks would have to pay interest on existing loans if Euribor plus any additional spread falls below zero. The central bank, however, said lenders are free to take ‘precautionary measures’ in *future* contracts. More than 90 percent of the 2.3 million mortgages outstanding in Portugal have variable rates linked to Euribor” (*ibid.*).

Have the banks become the slaves of its Portuguese borrowers? Hardly. The negative interest helps, but the borrowers’ incomes are deflating, and they are paying off a numerically fixed loan amount with pesos that are more valuable than the ones that were borrowed. Not a good deal. **In deflation, the fixed debts can crush a borrower.**

Negative Interest Rates in the U.S.

Some U.S. Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS) yields have been in negative territory since 2011. And that refers to *nominal* yields. And many U.S. Treasury securities have had negative *real* yields for years. Consumers are affected also. If your money market account is yielding 0.2 percent when there is 2 percent inflation, that is a negative *real* yield of *minus* 1.8 percent. Although the U.S. is not currently experiencing deflation, **negative real yields are common in the U.S. today.**

Deflation Can Bring Ruin!

Inflation and deflation affect people *very differently*. In the 1970s and 1980s, there was a lot of inflation in the U.S. economy. People who owned real estate saw the values of the properties increase dramatically while the amounts of the loans on the properties remained fixed. The borrowers profited while the lenders lost. *But in deflation, the situation reverses*. The fixed debt amount must be paid off with currency that is appreciating in value, causing the weight of the debt to grow and grow. In deflation, debt can crush borrowers as it did in the Great Depression of the 1930s. When there are deflation worries, businesses and households tend to pay down their debts—called

“deleveraging”—as has widely occurred in the U.S. and some EU countries in recent years.

In the early 1930s, deflation sank below 10 percent, which meant that the effect of individual, business and sovereign debt on borrowers became intolerably heavy. The rate of unemployment jumped to a staggering 25 percent in the U.S. and worse in other countries. There was great suffering. Anyone who had a little money hoarded it, so there was less and less in circulation. The situation seemed intractable. But World War II took some economies back to full employment, and when the war was over, many economies recovered and saw good growth in the 1950s.

In modern times, the nation of Greece has seen their sovereign debt load soar, and when they finally ran out of credit, the Greek economy experienced deflation of over 2 percent. Could that happen to other Western nations?

Deflation and the U.S. Debt: Danger Ahead?

As previously mentioned, the U.S. Federal Reserve has a targeted annual inflation rate of 2 percent but has not been able to achieve it. It has engaged in a monetary policy called “Quantitative Easing” in which the economy has been flooded with trillions of dollars. Normally, this would have produced soaring inflation, but to the amazement of most analysts, inflation has remained very low. Concerns about the U.S. economy going into deflation have been widely expressed. *But it should be noted that some analysts still foresee inflation in the future. No one knows for sure.*

In recent years, the total sovereign debt of the U.S. has been soaring. It is now above \$18 trillion and with no end of its growth in sight. That amount reflects what is owed to both foreign and domestic obligations and is almost 100 percent of the nation’s gross domestic product. It is about *five times* the government’s annual tax receipts.

The U.S. Treasury issues debt with a variety of terms—some short term, some medium term and some long term. Long-term bonds may have maturities going several decades into the future. Because interest rates have been at historic lows, the trend has been to move from the shorter maturities to the



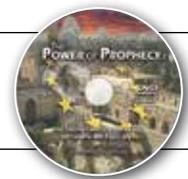
longer maturities. What will happen to the U.S. debt load in a deflationary environment? The weight of that debt will increase, and the “real interest rate” will soar. That could be a crushing load for the U.S. Treasury and the U.S. taxpayer.

Bible prophecy tells us the “future history” of this present world and the roles that the major nations of our day will play as the biblical narrative of the end of this age plays out. *Tomorrow’s World* has long predicted the rise of a great European economic power that will dominate the world economy in those days. However, *Tomorrow’s World* does not predict the *specific course* that the U.S. and various world economies will take—or the *timing*—and this article does not attempt to give investment advice. But our readers should be aware of today’s very unusual world economic conditions, and how they are being affected by the twin phenomena of *deflation and negative interest* in some countries. As the sudden crashes of 1929 and 2007 showed, the economy can change quickly!

The Bible states, “...**the borrower is slave to the lender**” (Proverbs 22:7, *NIV*). Can a nation that is a “slave to sin” (John 8:34) find itself in some form of physical slavery? Will deflation produce a crushing debt burden for the U.S.? Can the U.S. ever repay \$18 trillion, especially in a deflationary environment? Time will tell, but something we can be confident of is that eventually, lenders will insist on being paid! 

MAY WE SUGGEST?

The Power of Prophecy End-time events are speeding toward a grand-smash climax foretold in your Bible. Will you be ready? Request your free DVD from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at TomorrowsWorld.org.



WELLS WITHOUT WATER

Can society survive a drought of “living water” (John 7:38)?

Some news reports grab your attention and will not let go—particularly when they involve some desperate situation that affects masses of people. We see many such epochal forces being unleashed at the moment, with massive flooding across the South in the United States resulting in widespread property damage and loss of life at the same time California—America’s most populous state, just a few hundred miles away—parches in prolonged drought.

Reservoirs are desperately low, and the usual sources that replenish the water supply—such as the mountain snowpack and spring rains—failed to materialize this year, resulting in the worst drought in California’s history. Severe mandatory water use restrictions have been imposed. Agriculture, so important to California and the rest of the nation, is being severely curtailed because of lack of water for irrigation. Water for landscaping, lawns and recreation is being reduced or



eliminated in an effort to conserve precious water for basic needs. Aerial photos of California’s reservoirs,

rivers and streams show the devastating extent of the dry conditions. Truly it is a situation where California’s residents have wells without water.

In a quiet moment, perhaps those affected by these catastrophic conditions will ask, “Why? What could these extremes possibly mean?”

While these physical conditions are being endured, another kind of drought is also causing great suffering and intractable problems. The U.S. and most of the Western nations are experiencing a **spiritual drought**. Spiritual principles and codes of conduct that guided society for millennia are being abandoned. Aberrant behavior and perversion are being promoted and accepted as “normal” by large segments of the population.

While increasingly perverse activities have become especially prominent in recent years, none of this is new. These same conditions existed in the ancient cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. You can read the account beginning in Genesis 18. God finally had enough and destroyed those cities.

Do such activities actually affect our living conditions? The Bible plainly says that they do. Deuteronomy 28 contains the promise of blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience of God’s way of life. It even includes the prospect of drought. Consider: “And your heavens which are over your head shall be bronze, and the earth which is under you shall be iron. The LORD will change the rain of your land to powder and dust; from the heaven it shall come

The U.S. and most of the Western nations are suffering a spiritual drought!

down on you until you are destroyed” (Deuteronomy 28:23–24).

Many other verses also show how God uses the weather to accomplish His will.

The Apostle Peter commented on the condition of spiritual drought brought on by evil actions. He wrote: “These are wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who have actually escaped from those who live in error” (2 Peter 2:17–18).

We should have compassion for those who will suffer from the extreme dry conditions in the Western states. Yet, we should feel greater anguish for those who will suffer and perish because of sinful lifestyles. God is very merciful to forgive those who will sincerely repent and change their ways. Again, Peter made it plain, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

This message of warning and call to repentance is the purpose of the Work that we do at *Tomorrow’s World*. For those who heed this message, “...their souls shall be like a well-watered garden” (Jeremiah 31:12).

—J. Davy Crockett, III

King Canute and the Source of Power



The summer of 2015 marks 1,000 years since the Viking invasion of England by Canute and the commencement of his campaign to become king of England. What lessons can be learned from the legendary life of King Canute? In what way does Canute's understanding of the true source of power impact our view of the world's modern political system?

King Canute the Great

Canute was born son of King Swegen (Sweyn) Fork-beard of Denmark around 990-1000AD, although the exact date is unknown (*Cnut: England's Viking King*, M.K. Lawson, pp. 20, 160). Swegen had been made King of England in 1013AD, but died less than a year later. The former king of England, Ethelred (Æthelred) the Unready, who had fled when Swegen invaded, was summarily called upon to return to England's throne (*ibid.*, p. 48).

Meanwhile, in 1015AD, Canute withdrew to Denmark, mustered an army, and returned to England to challenge Ethelred's forces. Canute, over the course of the following year, seized the majority of England, with the exception of London. Upon Ethelred's death, the English council chose Canute as their king, while Londoners chose Ethelred's son, Edmund II Ironside, as theirs.

Canute's victory in Ashingdon at the battle of Assandun on October 18, 1016AD, prompted an agreement between himself and Edmund to divide the kingdom. Edmund, however, died about six weeks later from battlefield injuries. Consequently, Canute became sovereign over the whole of England (*Oxford Popular History of England*, pp. 108-9).

The Viking conqueror Canute came to be known as *King Canute the Great*. He ruled what was, at that time, a vast empire—wielding control over England, Denmark, Norway and part of Sweden until his death in 1035AD. Much of Canute's life was spent at the helm of great power. But where does real power reside? Canute seems to have understood the answer to this vital question.

Ruler of the Waves

In an ancient and famous legend, King Canute walked along the seashore. As his whole court followed, they exalted the king in misguided reverence, saying he could command even the waves. Canute requested his throne be brought to the beach, where he then sat upon it. Then, in a purposefully futile act, he commanded the waves to stop rising.

Despite Canute's decree, the waves continued their relentless collision upon the seashore, and upon his feet. In rebuke, Canute responded, "Let all men know how empty and worthless is the power of kings. For there is none worthy of the name but God, whom heaven, earth and sea obey."

The 19th century English novelist, William Makepeace Thackeray, in his poem titled, "King Canute," concludes:

"And he sternly bade them never more
To kneel to human clay,
But alone to praise and worship
That which earth and seas obey:
And his golden crown of empire
Never wore he from that day.

King Canute is dead and gone:
Parasites exist alway."

According to the poet, King Canute's parasitic advisors were feeding off his prestige while attempting to inflate his ego. The king's command against the waves was issued to prove to his court that God, whom the waves obey, was the real source of power.

While the story has been interpreted numerous ways, University of Cambridge Professor, Simon Keynes, states that, "The story is intended to illustrate his piety—a prominent feature in his kingship... He knows his power is nothing besides that of God" ("Is King Canute misunderstood?", *BBC News*, May 26, 2011).

Keynes continues, "[Canute] was a firm ruler... Although he had come to rule over the English by force of arms, he dealt intelligently with the situation and always acted with acute political sense" (*ibid.*).

Politics Versus God's Will

When elections come around, many sincere voters, believing they are fulfilling their civic duty, make their way to the voting booth. So, should Christians be asking themselves, "For whom would Jesus vote?"



King Canute's futile decree showed that God is more powerful than any human ruler.

That is actually the wrong question to ask. Christ plainly declared that His kingdom was not of this world. Those desiring to follow after Him will not entangle themselves politically or militarily in the affairs of this world (John 15:19; 18:36). The Apostle Paul instructs, "Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God" (Romans 13:1).

Christians are ambassadors of the Kingdom of God,



having their citizenship in heaven (2 Corinthians 5:20; Philippians 3:20). They will respect mankind's government,

while recognising Satan the Devil is currently the ultimate ruler over the nations of this world (Matthew 4:7-10; Ephesians 2:2; Revelation 12:9). God has allowed this to be so for now.

That being the case, true Christians will not participate in this world's political systems. They will, rather, invest themselves fully in seeking God's will and supporting the preaching of the Gospel of the soon-coming Kingdom of God (John 4:34).

The prophet Daniel adds, "This decision is by the decree of the watchers, and the sentence by the word of the holy ones, in order that the living may know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, gives it to whomever He will, and sets over it the lowest of men" (Daniel 4:17).

At times, God may place into various political offices individuals we may not prefer, however, in Isaiah 46:10 we see that God declares the "end from the beginning." We should realise that God's purposes and plan will stand, regardless of the outcome of political campaigning and voting.

Connecting to Power's Source

True Christians will trust in God to sort out who should be in authority. We can leave that in His all-powerful hands. In the meantime, through an active prayer life, we can develop a profound relationship with Him. He can and will intervene powerfully on your behalf if you seek Him wholeheartedly. Read our inspiring free booklet, *Twelve Keys to Answered Prayer*, to learn how.

As legend has it, King Canute recognized that the God whom the waves obey is the real source of power. Will you?

—Adam J. West



SURVIVING TOUGH TIMES

Your church is watering down Christ's message. Your money is losing its value. Your job is driving you crazy. Everywhere you look, the values you grew up with are being thrown away like trash. Yet there is hope. God's word offers vital keys to help us endure, and even overcome, our greatest obstacles!

By **Richard F. Ames**

We live in a fast-paced technological world. It seems the speed of life and intensity of activities has accelerated. It is no wonder that many experience extreme worry, anxiety and apprehension. Just the stress of everyday life can kill us. We commute in congested traffic, we interact with carnal, argumentative people; we face financial, social, personal and job-related problems. Add to those stresses the issues of crime and violence plaguing our cities and nations!

How are you and your family coping with the pressures, challenges and stresses of daily life? According to the National Institute for Mental Health, "Anxiety disorders affect about 40 million American adults age 18 years and older (about 18 percent) in a given year, causing them to be filled with fearfulness and uncertainty.... A large, national survey of adolescent mental health reported that about 8 percent of teens ages 13–18 have an anxiety disorder, with symptoms commonly emerging around age 6" ("Anxiety Disorders in Children and Adolescents Fact Sheet").

Among the most common anxiety disorders, according to the NIMH, are generalized anxiety disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder and social phobia. According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, anxiety disorders are the most common mental illness in the U.S., costing more than \$42 billion a year, almost one-third of the country's \$148

billion total mental health bill" ("Facts and Statistics," www.adaa.org).

In recent years, the global recession has affected millions if not billions of people. Most of us have had to face tough times in our lives. Can you survive in troubled times? Your Bible gives us hundreds of promises from God Almighty that will give you courage, faith, and incredible blessings.

How can we cope with our stresses? How can we persevere under our daily pressures? At *Tomorrow's World*, we look to the Bible for the awesome solutions to our problems. In this article, we will consider five major strategies that can help you survive in tough times.

1. Claim God's Promises

The Apostle Peter wrote: "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Peter 1:2–4).

The Apostle Peter does not simply reveal common promises, but notice that these are "exceedingly great and precious promises"! When we were children, sometimes our parents made us promises. We looked forward to the fulfillment of those promises. But in this case, we have to search the Bible for these precious promises. We have a heavenly Father who

knows our needs and promises to fulfill them. But Jesus instructs us to get our priorities straight. He told us: “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble” (Matthew 6:33–34). Is that **your** priority? We must seek the greatest goal of all, the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. If we do that, then we can claim God’s awesome promises He



has for us.

How can you face your troubles? Are you worried? Are you anxious? God has made amazing promises to give us peace of mind. Consider: “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7).

That is a priceless blessing! And there are many more. Open your Bible. Read God’s promises for peace of mind and for dozens of other benefits and blessings. **Claim God’s promises!** Remind God that He has given you promises such as these:

- To answer our prayers (Matthew 7:7–8);
- To fulfill all our needs (Philippians 4:19);
- To guide our lives (Proverbs 3:5–6);
- Long life, if we honor our father and mother (Ephesians 6:2-3);
- To give us the desires of our heart, **if** we delight in Him (Psalm 37:4–5);
- The ability to endure trials (1 Corinthians 10:13);
- The gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38; Luke 11:13);
- The gift of His love (Romans 5:5);
- Forgiveness of our sins upon repentance (Acts 2:38);
- Eternal life (1 John 2:25).

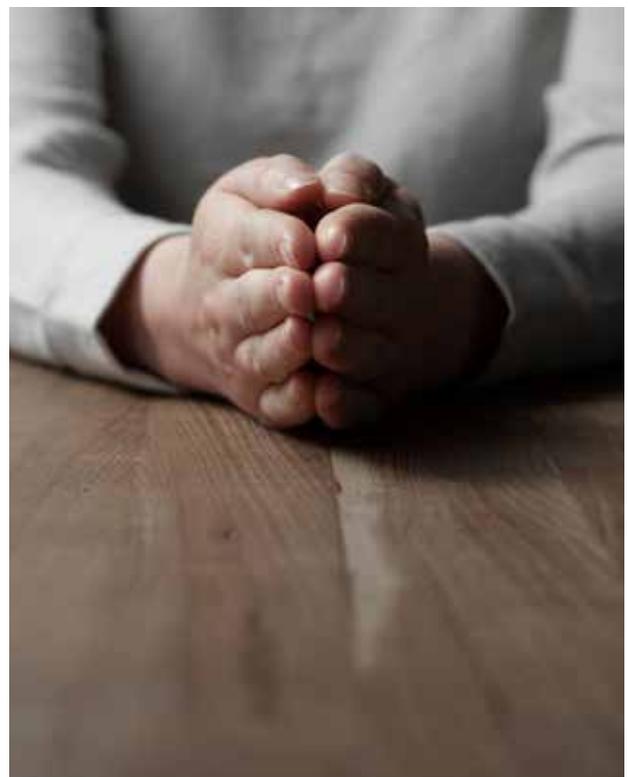
Study these promises in your Bible. Remind God that He has given **you** these promises. Ask God in faith to fulfill these promises in **your** life, and you will begin to have greater peace of mind!

2. Pray Daily

A March 2014 survey released by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago found American interest in religion is eroding, but daily prayer is stable. “Fully 57 percent of respondents said they pray at least once a day, little difference from 54 percent in 1983, when the question was first asked on the survey. Three quarters said they pray at least once a week, while 1 in 4 pray less often or never” (*Charlotte Observer*, March 8, 2015, p. 14A).

We need to seek the true God of the Bible, and reap the benefits of a close relationship with our Father in heaven. Jesus’ disciples once asked Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples” (Luke 11:1). Jesus proceeded to give them the outline prayer, or the model prayer. Notice that one request we should make in our prayer is, “Give us

SURVIVING CONTINUES ON PAGE 28



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Awkward English grammar should not stop us from understanding God's Word

Question: In Genesis 9, at first glance, it appears that Ham commits a deplorable action against his father Noah, yet that Canaan receives a curse as a result of that act. Why would God curse a son for his father's action, if indeed this is what is being described? And what kind of act would be so reprehensible as to warrant such a curse? This passage of Scripture does not make sense to me. What is really going on in Genesis 9?

Answer: Let us begin by considering the *New King James Version* translation of Genesis 9:22–24: “And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness. So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him.”

This passage emphasizes twice the role of Canaan, identified as Ham's son. In the phrase “his younger son” the “his” refers not to Noah, but to Ham. How can we be sure? Ham was not the “younger” (*Strong's* H6996, implying “youngest” according to biblical Hebrew) son of Noah; Japheth was (Genesis 5:32). Yet Canaan was indeed the youngest son of Ham (Genesis 10:6).

We should note that Genesis 9 is far from the only passage of Scripture that raises such confusion about the pronouns. In Exodus 34, we find: “So he [Moses] was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments” (v. 28). We know from elsewhere in Scripture that God, not Moses, wrote the Ten Commandments on the stone tablets (Exodus 31:18; Deuteronomy 9:10). So, while a casual reading might suggest Moses is the “he” who wrote down the Ten Commandments on stone, we know that the pronoun actually points to God as the writer.

What, then, did Canaan do to merit such a curse?

We know from Scripture that it was not a consensual act; the offense occurred while Noah was

intoxicated. Noah was not aware of Canaan's actions until he awoke from his drunken stupor. And we know it was an offense involving Noah's nakedness.

Throughout the Old Testament, we find variations on the phrase “uncover his nakedness.” To uncover another's nakedness, in the context of Scripture, implies a violation of sexual propriety.

What exactly was the violation? Here, the Bible gives us only a few clues. It was a sexual sin, and it was something Canaan did to his grandfather Noah without consent. To apply a modern English-

No ancient curse prevents today's Christians from receiving God's full blessings!

language label to the act, one might call it an act of homosexual rape. However, to some, the notion of a homosexual act would imply consent between the participants, so the less-charged term “male-on-male rape” would perhaps be a more precise description of Canaan's abominable sexual assault against his grandfather. Yet even “rape” may be an inadvisable choice of wording, since Scripture does not make clear the exact nature of Canaan's heinous act.

What is the consequence of that curse? For many centuries, Noah's curse of Canaan—often mistakenly called the “curse of Ham”—was used to justify mistreatment of peoples identified as descendants of Ham. For Christians today, however, no ancient curse—and no present economic or social status—prevents them from receiving the full blessings of God through Christ (Galatians 3:28). In our modern day, the practice of slavery has been widely recognized as abhorrent, yet today's Christian is described as “Christ's slave” (1 Corinthians 7:22) and as a bondservant of Christ—who Himself is described as coming in the form of a servant (Philippians 2:7). Despite centuries of misuse of the Genesis 9 account, no human being was created to be inherently the servant of any other human being, yet as Christians we all are called, not cursed, to be servants of our fellow human beings and of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



PROPHECY COMES ALIVE

The United Nations at 70

October 24, 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the United Nations, an international body striving, according to the preamble of its Charter, “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” and “to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights.”

The organization that today has 193 member-states began 70 years ago with just 51. Yet, despite 70 years of growth in the UN’s visibility and influence around the globe, planet Earth today continues to be plagued by war, genocide, rape, famine and the displacement of the weak and vulnerable.

So, will mankind ever attain global peace? Will our world learn the lessons of the UN’s first 70 years? And can you and I succeed individually, even where the UN has failed?

Throughout much of 2015, the United Nations has commemorated important historic milestones in preparation for its “UN70” anniversary celebrations. Yet, at the same time, millions continue to suffer from violence as the UN’s leaders admit the organization’s capacity is being outstripped by increasingly complex and severe challenges around the world.

At a recent Oslo forum, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon recently issued a sober warning that “the capacity of the United Nations and its partners to meet humanitarian needs is under *‘unprecedented strain.’*” So, will the United Nations and its member states—as imperfect as human governments are—be able to meet these “unprecedented” challenges to establish peace and fundamental rights, now or in the foreseeable future?

The sobering answer is “No.” Although the UN, like so many other institutions, may try to do good, we know

that without God’s law, we will see the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy, “The way of peace they have not known, and there is no justice in their ways” (Isaiah 59:8). Furthermore, your Bible foretells that, in the years to come, *all agencies and all nations will be overwhelmed by increasing violence leading to the “Great Tribulation”—the greatest time of war and suffering the world has ever experienced (Matthew 24:21; 2 Timothy 3:1)!*

The UN’s Impossible Task

Between 1945 and 2000, as many as 51 million people are estimated to have died in approximately 250 wars around the world! This does not include the countless other millions raped, injured, persecuted, displaced and enslaved. In Afghanistan and Pakistan alone, since 2001, an estimated 149,000 have died and 162,000 seriously injured in regional warfare. Since 2003, more than 134,000 *civilians* were killed by war in Iraq, before the 2014–15 attacks by Islamic State troops, which the UN estimates will cause more than three million people to become refugees and displaced persons before the end of 2015.

Throughout the entire 20th century, at least 108 million people were killed in war, and historians have calculated that in the last 3,400 years of human civilization, human beings have only been at relative peace for 268 years—just 8 percent of recorded history.

The UN currently has deployed about 120,000 peacekeepers to 16 countries on 4 continents. But where is the peace, security and safety in Syria? Where is the peace in Ukraine? Where are the “fundamental human rights” in North Korea, much of Africa and the Middle East? Where is the assured peace and safety

even in parts of Europe, Australia and the United States where crime, child abuse, rape, murder, extortion and violence pervade?

Real Peacekeepers, God's Way!

Although we can appreciate that many in the UN are truly trying to help, the UN has failed *and will fail to*



bring peace to the world. In its 70 years, it has *not* achieved its goals, and *cannot* achieve its goals. Cur-

rent events and Bible prophecy show that humanity is headed toward greater war and conflict in the years ahead (cf. Matthew 24:3-21; Revelation 6).

Thankfully, however, Bible students know that it will not be long until peace and prosperity, abundance and lawfulness, safety and human dignity *will* be established! This is a promise founded on God's word! This *will* come to pass. While the UN cannot accomplish its aims in this age, *there is hope* for a better world to come!

Are you being called to be part of this great purpose? The UN story is a fascinating one, but its failures and successes are simply frail human examples that point to a greater truth—that world peace will only come when God brings it to the earth through the return of His Son, Jesus the Christ!

After 70 years of the UN, the sad and bloody facts are that the organization has *not* been able to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.” The UN has *not* been able to establish peace throughout the



Non-Violence, sculpture by Carl Frederick Reuterswärd, on display at UN Headquarters in New York

earth. When from the countryside and deserts, from Asia to Latin America, and when from the cities of Kabul, Mogadishu, Baghdad, Ciudad Juarez and Abidjan—and even the cities of Detroit, Chicago, London, Paris, Mexico City and Pretoria—citizens walk in fear, it is evident that mankind has not found the way of peace. It is painfully evident that the UN has *not* achieved its goals or its hope!

Instead, the world needs Christ's powerful and perfect rule, but the world also needs leaders who will rule under Christ who have learned to fulfill God's

While the UN cannot accomplish its aims in this age, there is hope for a better world to come!

command in Deuteronomy 16:19 to not pervert justice, nor show partiality, nor take a bribe. The world needs leaders who will rule under Christ, being “just, ruling in the fear of God” (2 Samuel

23:3). God demands righteous leaders because He is just and because when Jesus Christ returns, He will rule righteously (cf. Isaiah 11:3-4)!

True Christians today are being called to proclaim the good news of Christ's return and the coming Kingdom of God (Mark 16:15) and are being trained now to become those leaders in the Millennium—in Tomorrow's World. The world needs Christ's return and the world also needs those future leaders who are learning today to *glorify God* in all that they do (Romans 15:6; 1 Corinthians 6:20), who are learning to *serve others* now (Galatians 5:13), and to *live by God's law* now (1 John 5:2-3), to practice *humility, love, faith* and all of the fruits of the Spirit now (Galatians 5:22-23), to be *peaceable* now (Matthew 5:9, James 3:17) and to *do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly* before God now (Micah 6:8).

Today's Christians are being called for a great and awesome purpose—to fulfill a purpose that is simply beyond the capabilities of the UN or any human agency. True Christians are called today to prepare for their destiny of ruling under Jesus Christ (Isaiah 30:21; Luke 22:26-27; Revelation 5:10; 20:4-5), in the kingdom of God, on this earth. One day soon, the returned Christ and His resurrected saints will succeed where the UN has failed. God speed that day!

—Wyatt Ciesielka

kings of this world. *There is no mistaking this identification!* Alexander Hislop, in his remarkable book, *The Two Babylons*, states: “There never has been any difficulty in the mind of any enlightened Protestant in identifying the woman ‘sitting on seven mountains,’ and having on her forehead the name written, ‘Mystery, Babylon the Great,’ with the Roman apostasy” (Hislop, p. 1).

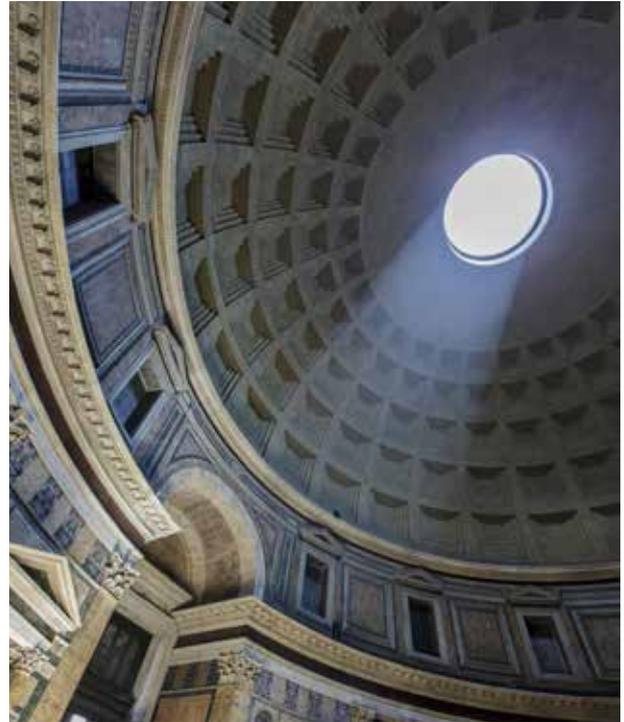
What Is Just Ahead?

My friends, millions more in this horribly confused world will soon turn to the Roman Catholic church. Unwittingly, they will also become part of what Almighty God calls: “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement. But the angel said to me, ‘Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits’” (Revelation 17:5–9). So the “woman” of Revelation 17 is the “mother” of harlots. Her “daughter” churches came out of her **in protest**. They are therefore called “Protestant”!

So the Roman Empire—upon which the “woman” figuratively sits—will rise in Europe and become

THERE WILL BE NO MORE PROTESTANTISM! EVEN THE POWERFUL ROMAN CHURCH WILL FINALLY COME TO AN END!

the most powerful force in the entire world for a few years! There have been six “revivals” of this empire—including the Mussolini/Hitler revival, which lasted only a short time. The *final* revival will occur within the next several years of *your life*.



Originally built as a temple to the Roman gods, the Pantheon in Rome has been used for Roman Catholic worship since the seventh century AD.

You need to be “ready”! You need to *study* and *prove these things* so you understand what is just ahead and **how** it will affect *everything* about your life—and the lives and futures of your children and loved ones! Because this “Beast” will only last for about three and a half years and then go into “perdition” (v. 11). Yet, during that time, God describes this awesome power in these words: “And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every

foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! For *all the nations* have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the *merchants* of the earth have become *rich* through the abundance of her

luxury.’ And I heard another voice from heaven saying, ‘Come **out of her**, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues’” (Revelation 18:2–4). Then your Bible again indicates clearly the *wealth* and *power* this religious-political system will have:

“And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore” (v. 11). Again: “For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived” (v. 23).

This entire system has become and will become even more powerfully a “counterfeit Christianity”! It “looks good”—on the surface. But *any system* or religion that rejects the Bible, rejects God’s spiritual Law—the Ten Commandments—and goes its own way under the “traditions of men” will soon degenerate and cause its people to *suffer greatly* under the influence of Satan the Devil! The Apostle Paul was inspired by God to describe this same system and the coming “False Prophet” who leads it. In describing the end of this age, Paul tells us: “Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, *showing himself that he is God*” (2 Thessalonians 2:3–4).

Within the next decade or two, a very clever and charismatic individual will rise and *absolutely deceive millions!* For he will be leading the “mystery of lawlessness” (v. 7). It is a mystery that is “lawless” in the sense that it denies the need to obey God’s law! “And then the *lawless one* will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved” (vv. 8–10). The false ministers in this system will even perform “lying wonders.” And the coming great False Prophet “performs *great signs*, so that he even makes **fire** come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he **deceives** those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight

of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived” (Revelation 13:13–14).

But, as we have seen, his power will soon come to an *end*. Even though this coming system will be so powerful and influential that its armies will be together to literally *fight Christ* (Revelation 17:14), this coming military leader—the “Beast” and the False Prophet—are soon *destroyed* and will come to an *ignominious end* (Revelation 19:19–21).

Your life—and everything around you—will *soon change!* There will be *no more Protestantism!* And even the powerful Roman Catholic church and its leaders will soon come to an *end*. God makes that very plain to those who are willing to understand and *believe the Bible* and what it clearly says to those who are willing to listen!

May God help *you* to pay attention and **act** before it is too late!

If you really want to understand the details of all of this, be sure to contact the Regional Office nearest you (listed on page 4 of this magazine) to request your *free* copy of two of our most powerful and meaningful booklets. Call or write today, or go online to *TomorrowsWorld.org* and request our informative booklets *Restoring Original Christianity* and *Satan’s Counterfeit Christianity*. They will make these topics *even more clear* than I have been able to do in this one article. Now it is *up to you*.

Each of you reading this has *two choices*: you will either pay attention and then *act* and begin to “seek God” by studying His Word and becoming willing to do what He actually and clearly says in the Bible! Then you will be protected from the coming Great Tribulation (Revelation 12:12–14). Or you can just hope it will all “go away” and that you can safely go along with your life and be part of this world—part of “Babylon the Great,” as God calls it.

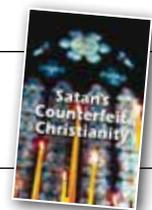
Whatever you do, *please remember*: God makes it clear that those included in this foul system that is now developing will be *absolutely destroyed* after a few years. And those who turn to the Creator God will *live forever* in Christ’s coming Kingdom soon to be set up on this earth. *The choice is yours!* 

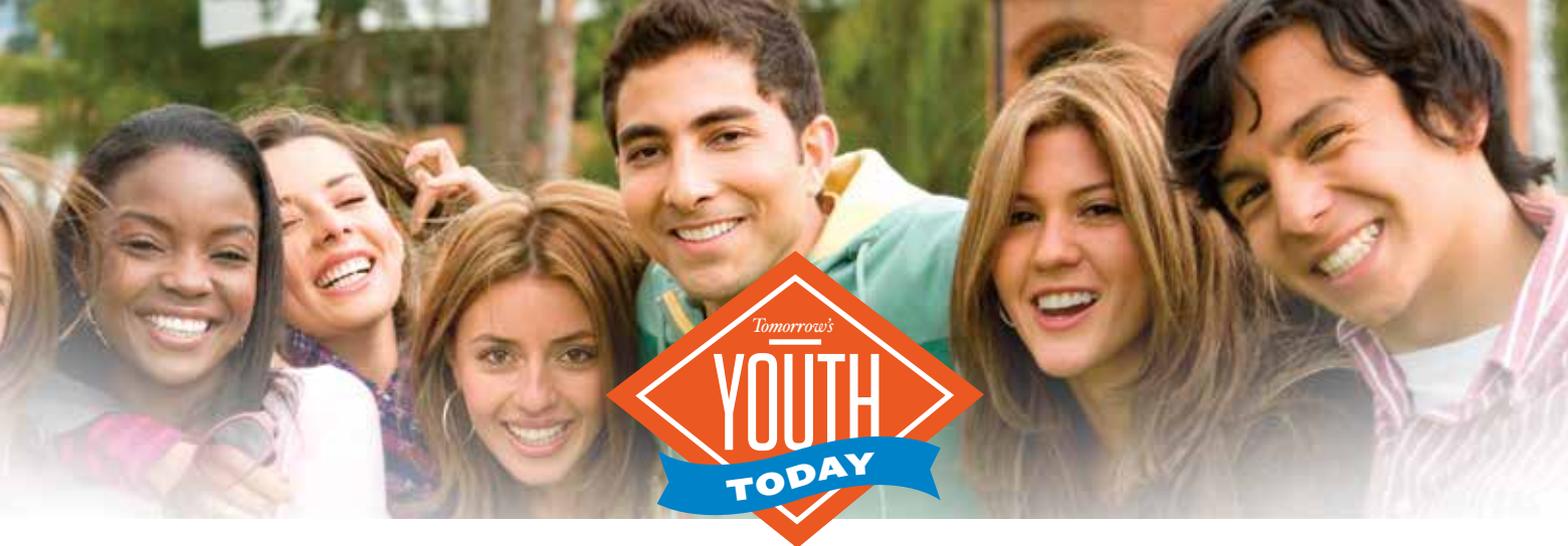


REQUEST YOUR
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What Is a
True Christian?

MAY WE
SUGGEST?

Satan’s Counterfeit Christianity Will you avoid religious deception even when the whole world falls for an evil false “Christianity”? Request a **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at ***TomorrowsWorld.org***. PDF, ePub and Kindle are also available.





Is It Normal To Be “Normal”?

Several years ago, my then-nine-year-old daughter asked me why our family was different. She had observed that we behaved differently than all the other families on our block, and she wanted to know why we were not “normal.”

Most people want to be accepted by their peers. This is a natural and powerful human trait, and it is perhaps strongest in our children. They want to be considered as a normal part of the “tribe.” Adults can mature into recognizing the value of being “different,” but for children this can be very difficult.

When I heard my daughter’s question, I immediately had compassion for how she felt. Having grown up in a Sabbath-keeping church, I was keenly aware from a relatively young age that I was “different” from most of the other children around me. When I started attending public school, I quickly learned that going to church on Saturday was “not normal.” For most of my schoolmates, “church” automatically meant Sunday, not Saturday.

Nor was it “normal” that our family did not observe Christmas (a holiday not found in the Bible, as readers of this magazine will recognize; if you would like to learn more, read our free booklet, *The Holy Days: God’s Master Plan*). Nor was slipping away in late September or early October to spend eight days with my family at something called the “Feast of Tabernacles.” To me, the Feast was wonderful. But, to my classmates, it just sounded strange, maybe even dangerous.

Because of the seventh-day Sabbath, I never played in Little League games on Saturday, and I would not go to Friday night football games. Yet these activities seemed nothing but “normal” to my schoolmates.

Looking back, though, when I consider how drastically American society has changed over the last 20 or 30 years, I realize that my classmates and I took a lot for granted; much that we all considered “normal” back then is far from normal today.

The New Normal?

When I was a teenager, single-parent families were becoming more common, but nobody seriously questioned the ideal of the intact two-parent family, headed by a father and a mother. Today, however, “social justice warriors” are trying to push a new agenda, to impose a “new normal” on society.

You do not need to take my word for this. Just look at prime time television. There was even a short-lived 2012 series on NBC, *The New Normal*, that epitomized all of this. The series was billed as a comedy, but consider its premise: Two homosexual men and a surrogate mother decide they are a family. One of their children has “two daddies” and a surrogate mother; the other has two adoptive fathers plus an absent Dad we never see. This “comedy” poked fun at traditional family values, while promoting the idea that people can define “family” any way they like. In the midst of this, the series featured one character, the grandmother, whom NBC publicists called “small-minded”—intolerant and even homophobic—for espousing values that most of society would have taken for granted just 20 or 30 years before.

Comedy? Such an assault on the family is **not** funny.

Normal America?

With all of this in mind, I was able to help my daughter understand the consequences of being “normal” in to-

day's society. Even on our little street, it was normal for the neighbor children to be missing a parent through divorce or abandonment. It was normal for kids to be running around late at night, unsupervised, getting into all sorts of trouble because there was not a mother, father or grandparent who cared enough about what their children were doing.

Some may be surprised to learn that God foresaw this problem long ago. He inspired the Apostle Paul to write a letter to the young minister Timothy, describing the conduct that would be considered "normal" in the years leading up to Jesus Christ's return. Ask yourself how well this describes the typical attitudes around us today: "But know this, that in the last days perilous ["dangerous" or "difficult," *New English Translation*] 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 ["appearance." *ESV*] of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!" (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

Paul understood that, in the last days, people would be selfish and arrogant, quick to brag of their importance. Children would be disrespectful to parents. People would not show gratitude, and would be unthankful for the good things in their lives. They would lack self-control and be very proud of themselves.

In summary, they would love only themselves, and would create a society in which outflowing Christian



love, and obedience to God, would be absolutely abnormal! To desire the label "normal" in our day is to desire to be the kind of person that most of us, if we are honest with ourselves, do not like to be with!

What Is the Real Normal?

In this current age, it is not normal to keep the seventh-day Sabbath or observe the Feast of Tabernacles and the other annual Holy Days. It is not normal to strive to obey God and live by the example Jesus Christ set for His followers. But in the very near future, this world is going to change dramatically.

God inspired the prophet Isaiah to record this wonderful prophecy: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of



Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His

kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this" (Isaiah 9:6-7). Notice also these words from Zechariah: "And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain" (14:16-17).

Together, these Scriptures paint a wonderful picture. God will soon rule the whole world, and He will expect everyone to do as He says. Observing His weekly and annual Sabbaths may not seem normal to most people today, but the time is soon coming when all nations will keep the Feast of Tabernacles, the seventh-day Sabbath, and all of God's laws, which Jesus Christ came not to abolish, but to fulfill (Matthew 5:17). Selfish human attributes will be replaced by humility, respect, thankfulness and courtesy to our neighbors.

Those who have chosen, now, to go against what is considered normal—including the observance of God's seventh-day Sabbath and Holy Days—are in the vanguard of those teaching humanity what is truly normal. So, I urge you, ask God to give you the courage and the strength to go against the grain, resist conforming to what this world considers normal—and instead start living now the way of life God considers normal.

—John Robinson

day by day our daily bread” (Luke 11:3). We need to pray every day. The Apostle Paul exhorted us, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Yes, we can survive in tough times *if* we cry out to God for help! Pray in Jesus’ name, and God the Father in heaven will respond. Jesus further emphasized this authority to ask in His name. “And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it” (John 14:13-14).

And we need to draw close to God through prayer every day. Get down on your knees, if you are physically able, and let your requests be known to God. God is a loving Father, and He wants to give you good things. But we must humble ourselves and cry out to Him. God encourages us to come boldly before

His throne in heaven through prayer. We can do that, because our Savior and high priest, Jesus Christ, is at God’s right hand to intercede

for us. “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:14-16).

Notice that ancient King David—a man after God’s own heart (Acts 13:22)—often prayed three times a day. “As for me, I will call upon God, and the LORD shall save me. Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice” (Psalm 55:16-17).

Another servant of God consistently prayed every day. The great prophet Daniel’s custom was to pray upon his knees three times a day, as it tells us in Daniel 6:10.

The key is consistency, and praying from the heart. We need to consistently exercise faith—day after day, week after week. The Apostle Paul gives us this encouraging perspective: “Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet

the inward man is being renewed *day by day*. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal” (2 Corinthians 4:16-18).

3. Maintain a Positive Attitude

Along with consistent daily prayer, we need to persevere in maintaining a positive attitude. Remember that our inward man is being renewed day by day. Look to the big picture, knowing God is on His throne looking after you, when you ask Him to. We previously read, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, *with thanksgiving*, let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6).

We overcome anxieties by sharing our innermost

thoughts and concerns with God in prayer. We exercise a positive attitude in our prayers by thanking God. Count your blessings! As Paul

PRAY IN JESUS’ NAME, AND GOD THE FATHER WILL RESPOND!

instructs us, “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

All the money in the world will not **buy** the peace of God. That comes only by claiming God’s promises. The Apostle Paul exhorts us to use mental discipline, and **to think** positively. “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things” (Philippians 4:8)

Many around us are struggling to remain stable mentally. Consider this report: “In 2010, 21 percent of women ages 20 and older were using an antidepressant. From 2001 to 2010 the number of women on an antidepressant grew 29 percent. The most significant increases (40 percent) were among women 65 and older. Men’s use of antidepressants is almost half that of women, but has also been on the rise with a 28 percent increase over the past decade” (“America’s State of Mind Report,” Medco Health Solutions, 2011).

Are **you** maintaining a positive attitude? We all face trials, troubles, and problems. How do we cope with them? The Apostle Paul experienced severe trials, even nearly being stoned to death on one occasion. You can read about that in Acts 14:19. Paul was imprisoned and had chains laid on him. And yet while in prison he could write the epistle to the Philippians and exhort them to “Rejoice in the Lord” (Philippians 4:4).

The Apostle James encourages us to have a positive attitude in our trials. “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing” (James 1:2–4).

Always keep the big picture in mind. Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, as we read in Matthew 6:33. Count your trials as joy, when you realize that they produce godly patience and character.

4. Read the Bible Every Day

God reveals the truth in His holy word, the Bible. When we read the Bible, we can know the thoughts of God. His recorded miracles working with the ancient nations of Israel and Judah, often called “Salvation History,” give us great encouragement. We remember God bringing the ancient Israelites through the Red Sea and freeing them from the bondage of slavery in Egypt. We remember the power God gave the young shepherd David to slay Goliath the giant. God delivered Daniel from the lions’ den. He delivered the three young Jewish men from the fiery furnace in Babylon. Christ healed multitudes of people from all



kinds of disease and affliction, and God resurrected the dead Jesus after He spent three days and three nights in the tomb. When we read the miracles of God and His many promises, we can grow in faith. As Paul explains, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

As you study the word of God, the Bible, God will give you more faith to face life’s challenges. Bible prophecy also helps us to know the future. Beyond the trials and tribulations of today’s chaotic world, God promises us that a new world is coming, and a new world government that will establish world



peace on planet Earth.

It is called the Kingdom of God. Jesus Christ is called the

Prince of Peace. Read

in your own Bible this wonderful prophecy: “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this” (Isaiah 9:6–7).

Yes, your Bible reveals the good news of the coming Kingdom of God on planet Earth, when all nations will live in peace. Your Bible gives us the “sure word of prophecy” (2 Peter 1:19, *KJV*) or, as in the *NKJV*, we “have the prophetic word confirmed.” God reveals the wonderful future and our incredible human potential.

5. Care for Others

The second great commandment is “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39). When you focus on the needs of others, your personal stress reduces. Why? Because you are practicing a great spiritual commandment! There are many ways we can love others. We can communicate our love, concern and compassion for those who are sick, even visit them in the hospital. We can give to the poor and help provide the needs of others. We can pray for others who are in trouble with persecution, finances, illness, and social conflicts. God loves every human being on earth and He instructs us to



pray for others. He tells us to “pray for one another, that you may be healed” (James 5:16). The Apostle Paul exhorts us to pray for government leaders and others: “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Timothy 2:1–4).

When we care for others, when we consider their needs, challenges and problems, God will bless us for giving to them in whatever way we can. Remember the supreme way of life Jesus taught: “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). Jesus Christ set us the example of a serving attitude. “But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:25–28)

We all need to follow Christ’s example of serving, helping and caring for others.

Look to Christ!

As Christians, we look to the Savior of the world to save us personally through tough times. We claim God’s promises and we live each day by faith. The Apostle Paul was in chains in prison. He shared with the Philippian brethren his positive attitude and faith in Christ. He also was striving to go beyond survival. “I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:12).

Be sure to look forward to the Kingdom of God. Stay close to God, and trust Christ to bring you through tough times into His kingdom. 

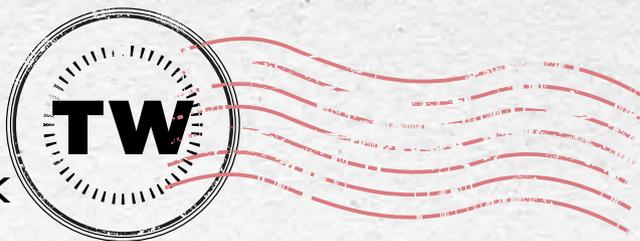
**MAY WE
SUGGEST?**

The Mission of God’s Work Christ’s most faithful followers are zealous to do His will and His Work even as the end of this age approaches. Request your **free** DVD from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at TomorrowsWorld.org.



LETTERS TO TW

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK



Dear *Tomorrow's World*, I have been receiving your magazine for many years now. It has opened my eyes to the truth and I now know that many traditions such as Easter egg hunts and the Easter Bunny, Santa Claus, the Christmas tree and gift giving, and Halloween are not something we should follow as Christians. Your articles are always filled with many biblical truths and are eye opening. Thank you for sending this to me free of charge. I truly appreciate it. I have also received many booklets from you, which have been a blessing to me. May the Lord God pour you out a blessing from heaven above that there is not room enough to receive it for the wonderful work you do for the Gospel. May he bless you, your ministry, your employees and families.

D.K., Harare, Mashonland, Zimbabwe

Thank you so much! So much "Christianity" to me as I grew up did not match scripture. You have confirmed and shown the true biblical principles, commandments, and teachings of Christ that set me free. I am so grateful to God that not all are blind followers, no, people like you share the truth and again I am so grateful for you and how God leads us to the truth if we truly seek it. Blessings to you all!

C.S., Victor Harbor, SA, Australia

Thank you so much for your work—the Work of God. I just submitted my answers to my first *Bible Study Course* test. I don't mind sharing that I got three answers incorrect—so be it. I loved it! Wow, your television programs, Web site, literature, DVDs and letters are a treat and pleasure to me and for my family. You have been helping me (along with the Holy Bible, of course), grow so much. I thank God for all that *Tomorrow's World* is doing to inform as many as will seek and hear concerning God's plan, and bringing

us to Him through Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Keep up this good work for the Body of Christ.

Y.M., Chicago, IL

I am a 65-year-old woman who is very interested in learning about the Bible the right way. I have attended services in many churches throughout my life and tried different religions. They left me empty. I want to be filled with the knowledge of Jesus Christ and His teachings. *Tomorrow's World* is a real eye-opener to me, and I am eager to learn. Thank you for your wonderful Web site. I should find all I need at *TomorrowsWorld.org*.

L.C., Westport, WA

I become overwhelmed at times with the rapid decline of our society. The Ten Commandments appear to be broken everywhere. I am disappointed at Ireland voting for same-sex marriage after being such a godly country originally. I often ask "why God, why?" and hope to have an answer one day. I am so thankful for your booklets which offer encouragement in these dark days and helps me to trust that the Lord is with me and gives me insight as to the future. My prayers are with you and all your good works.

E.F., Bendigo, VIC Australia

Thank you so much for your unceasing mission to carry out the Great Commission as we approach the Great Tribulation in these end-times. Just a few short years ago, I was "drifting" from the Church (although I have now corrected that!); I simply wouldn't have believed how quickly world events would progress! Thank God for your Work in educating people such as myself.

P.M., Redfern, NSW Australia

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THE Works OF HIS HANDS

“Let There Be Light!”

The Holy Bible begins with a scene of sublime power: God’s creation of the world around us—and His initial pronouncement in that creation is a statement profound in its simplicity and in the power it represents: “*Let there be light!*” (Genesis 1:3)! Have you ever considered the amazing qualities of the strange substance we call “light”? Truly, it is a wonder of God’s creation! What can this work of His hands teach us about our Creator?

He certainly seems to *want* us to learn something! In His word, God in *many* places associates Himself and His Son with light. For example, God inspired the Apostle John to refer to Jesus Christ, as “the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world” (John 1:9). Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life” (John 8:12). Like light, the teachings and example of Christ illuminate the world to the eyes of those who would live by them.

King David expressed the same sentiment in beautiful and poetic manner, singing to God, “For with You is the fountain of life; *in Your light we see light!*” (Psalm 36:9). Further, when he describes the Family of God—God the Father and the glorified Jesus Christ, and their existence in heaven—the Apostle Paul describes them as “dwelling in unapproachable light” (1 Timothy 6:16). Clearly, God intends us to associate His nature, character and very self with the light He created to fill and illuminate our world.

What Is Light?

When we look very closely at what science has discovered about the characteristics and nature of light,

we see many unique and startling attributes that call to mind many of the unique and startling attributes of God, Himself.

For instance, exactly what *is* light? Physicists and researchers investigated and debated that question for many, many years. The debate concerned two seemingly irreconcilable possibilities: Either light was composed of *waves*, similar to sound waves or a wave of water, or it was composed of *particles*, small packets of energy flying in straight lines like bullets from a gun.

Waves are not particles, and particles are not waves—and it seemed absolutely impossible for any object to be both a particle **and** a wave. Yet, the inescapable conclusion after years of research and experiments has been that light is, indeed, *both!* At times, light acts like a wave, at times like a particle, and, in very strange moments, as *both* at the same time.

This inconceivable nature of light, existing paradoxically both as a particle and as a wave, can bring to mind the seemingly incomprehensible nature of God Himself. As the Apostle Paul wrote, “Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!” (Romans 11:33). Indeed, “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” (1 Corinthians 2:16).

Another astonishing quality of light is its *speed*. Nothing in the universe is faster! Light travels at approximately *186,000 miles per second*. At that speed, a beam of light could travel 25,000 miles, the distance around the earth, in less than two-tenths of a second—literally the blink of an eye!

The laws of physics as we currently understand them say that not only is light unfathomably fast, it is also the fastest thing in the physical universe. No matter how much one might accelerate, one can never, in this physical world, travel faster than the speed of light. It is the ultimate, unsurpassable “speed limit”!

In this aspect of light, it is not hard to see a reflection of the perfect and unsurpassable righteousness and holiness of Our Father in Heaven! As He, Himself, says, “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts” (Isaiah 55:9). As David says, too, “Your righteousness, O God, is very high, You who have done great things; O God, who is like You?” (Psalm 71:19).

An even stranger aspect of the speed of light is the fact that it is *constant and unchanging* for all observers, no matter how fast they, themselves, are traveling! This property of light, perhaps the strangest of all, may not seem odd until you think about it a bit. What does it mean?

It is easy to grasp if we think of what it is like to ride in a car.

Imagine riding in a car on the highway at 60 miles per hour. If a car next to you is also driving at 60 miles per hour, then *relative to you* that other car seems perfectly still. However, if a car driving at 65 miles per hour passes both of you, then *relative to you* the faster car appears to be going only about 5 miles per hour. Yet, to



someone standing by the roadside, two cars are moving quickly and a third is moving even more quickly!

In other words, the observed speed is *relative* to how fast the observer is moving.

Not so for *light*!

Light's Constant Character

Albert Einstein proposed in his famous Theory of Relativity that the speed of light is a constant—*always the same*—for all observers everywhere, no matter how



fast they are traveling, themselves.

For instance, whether an observer is standing perfectly still

or driving at a blistering speed of 670,616,628 miles per hour—just one mile per hour slower than the speed of light—it would not make a difference: Light will *always* appear to be traveling at the *exact same speed* to every observer in every single case! The speed of light is an absolute constant for everyone, everywhere, at all times!

While it may not seem to make sense, this property of light has been verified time and time again, in experiment after experiment.

This amazing aspect of light—that its speed is unchangeable and immutable for any and all observers and in all situations—should remind us of the faithfulness and constant character of our Creator! As James, the half-brother of Jesus, tells us, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning” (James 1:17). Even the divine name revealed to Moses, “I AM” (Exodus 3:14), reflects God’s constancy throughout all time—ever dependable, ever faithful, and ever *good*.

It is easy to understand why some would consider light to be the most remarkable substance in this entire physical universe—an astounding element of God’s wondrous creation!

With its collection of superlative and astonishing properties, light can give us many reminders of the superlative and astonishing properties of our amazing God! Truly, as Paul wrote, “His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead” (Romans 1:20).

—Wallace G. Smith

NV	Reno	KREN	SU 8:00 a.m.	TN	Chattanooga	Family Channel	SU 7:00 a.m.
NY	Albany-Troy	Time Warner	MO 3:00 p.m.	Jackson	WBJK		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Batavia	Time Warner	SU 2:00 p.m.	Knoxville	WBXX		SU 7:30 a.m.
	Batavia	Time Warner	TU 5:30 p.m.	La Follette	Comcast-WLAF		WE 6:00 p.m.
	Batavia	Time Warner	FR 7:30 p.m.	Nashville	WZTV		SU 6:30 a.m.
	Binghamton	Time Warner	WE 10:00 p.m.	TX	Abilene	KTXS	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Binghamton	Time Warner	FR 8:00 p.m.	Amarillo	KVIH		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Binghamton	WBNG	SU 8:00 a.m.	Austin	KNVA		SU 6:00 a.m.
	Brookhaven	Cablevision	MO 4:30 p.m.	Beaumont	KBTW		SU 6:30 a.m.
	Brooklyn	BCAT	MO 4:30 p.m.	Beaumont	KFDM		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Canandaigua	Finger Lakes	SU 11:30 a.m.	Corpus Christi	KRIS		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Elmira	WENY	SU 8:00 a.m.	Dallas	KTXD		SU 8:00 a.m.
	Hauppauge	Cablevision	MO 4:30 p.m.	Houston	KPXB		WE 7:00 a.m.
	Manhattan	MNN	SA 7:00 p.m.	Laredo	KTXW		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Oneida	Access	TH 2:00 p.m.	Lubbock	KLCW		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Oneida	Access	TH 7:00 p.m.	Lufkin	KTRE		SU 6:30 a.m.
	Queens	Public Access	MO 11:00 p.m.	McAllen	KCWT		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Queens	Public Access	TU 4:30 p.m.	Midland	KWES		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Riverhead	Cablevision	SU 7:00 p.m.	Odessa	KWES		SU 7:00 a.m.
	Rochester	Finger Lakes	SU 7:00 a.m.	Tyler	KLTV		SU 6:30 a.m.
	Rochester	RCTV	SU 5:00 a.m.	VA	Charlottesville	Comcast Cable	MO 8:00 a.m.
	Rochester	RCTV	TU 10:00 a.m.*	Charlottesville	WVIR		SU 8:00 a.m.
	Syracuse	Time Warner	SU 7:30 p.m.	Chesterfield	Comcast		TH 6:30 p.m.
OH	Cincinnati	Time Warner	TH 8:30 a.m.	Fairfax	Public Access		MO 12:00 p.m.
	Cincinnati	Time Warner	SU 11:30 a.m.	Norfolk	WSKY		SU 9:30 a.m.
	Cincinnati	Time Warner	TU 1:00 p.m.	VT	Bennington	CAT	WE 9:30 a.m.
	Fairborn	CAC	TU 12:00 p.m.	Bennington	CAT		WE 12:00 a.m.
	Lima	WBOH	7:00 a.m.	Bennington	CAT		TH 9:30 p.m.
OR	Bend	KTVZ	SU 8:00 a.m.	Bennington	CAT		TH 12:00 a.m.
	Eugene	KMTR	SU 8:00 a.m.	Bennington	CAT		SA 8:00 a.m.*
	Medford	KTVL	SU 8:00 a.m.	Bennington	CAT		SA 4:30 a.m.
	Oregon City	Access WFTV	SU 8:00 a.m.	Burlington	Access		WE 2:30 a.m.
	Oregon City	Access WFTV	SA 8:00 a.m.	Burlington	Access		TH 11:00 a.m.
	Portland	Community	SU 12:30 p.m.	WA	Everett	Comcast	WE 4:30 p.m.
PA	Allentown	SETV2	FR 4:30 p.m.	Kennewick	Charter		SU 8:00 p.m.
	Bethlehem	SETV2	FR 4:30 p.m.	Kennewick	Charter		TU 8:00 p.m.
	Erie	WSEE	SU 8:00 a.m.	WI	La Crosse	WXOW	SU 7:00 a.m.
	Johnstown	Atl. Broadband	MO 10:00 p.m.	WV	Bluefield	WVVA	SU 8:00 a.m.
	Scranton	FOX	TH 5:00 a.m.	Clarksburg	WVFX		SU 8:00 a.m.
	Scranton	FOX	SA 5:00 a.m.	WY	Casper	KCWY	SU 8:00 a.m.
SC	Charleston	WCBD	SU 8:00 a.m.	Cheyenne	KGWN		SU 8:00 a.m.
	Myrtle Beach	WWMB	SU 8:00 a.m.				
SD	Rapid City	KWBH	SU 7:00 a.m.				

*Check local listings for additional airtimes throughout the week

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The screenshot displays the TomorrowsWorld.org website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'CONNECT', 'READ', and 'WATCH' tabs. Below this, there are several featured content blocks:

- Commentary:** 'Quality dinners and healthy families' with a sub-headline 'A couple of years ago, I was speaking with a professional who told me about a member of his family that would come to church every week and address in my own family. He explained that his mother would read books aloud to the family during dinner time.' Below this is a 'NEWS AND PROPHECY' section with a sub-headline 'Kidnapped Nigerian School Girls Found' and a 'CANADIAN TELECAST' section with a sub-headline 'In Search of Success'.
- Presentations:** A list of events including 'Prince George, BC, Canada: Jun 14', 'Granite Prairie, AB, Canada: Jun 21', 'Calgary, AB, Canada: Jun 22', 'Cresville, TN, USA: Jun 22', 'Redwood, NC, USA: Jun 22', and 'Winston, NC, USA: Jun 28'.
- Magazine:** 'May/June 2014' with various articles like 'Will You Be Left Behind?', 'Can You Understand Prophecy?', 'Bible vs. Quran: Where is the Truth?', 'Have You Caught the First?', 'Little Things', 'Old Can Be Good', and 'The Miracle of 3-Day'.

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UPCOMING TELECASTS

The Middle East in Prophecy

Events in this long-troubled region will shape the very end of this age.

September 17-23

Doomsday and Armageddon

What does your Bible teach about the end of the world? You need to know!

September 24-30

Dive into Prophecy

Your Bible is filled with sobering and inspiring information about the times ahead!

October 1-7

Will the Beast Rise in Europe?

How can you recognize the "Beast" prophesied in the mysterious book of Revelation?

October 8-14

Escape the Great Tribulation

How can you be protected from world-shaking end-time calamities?

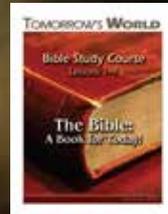
October 15-21

Sex and Sin

God created sex—and He wants you to use it rightly and joyously!

October 22-28

Schedule subject to change



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