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of the
Mideast

**GERMANY IS
CONQUERING EUROPE**

*Nail
That Job
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**A Passion
to Be
Perfect**



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FROM THE EDITOR GERALD FLURRY

Steve Jobs and His Burning Passion to Be Perfect

Lessons from the greatest CEO ever

AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH LAST OCTOBER, STEVE JOBS WAS overseeing the most valuable corporation on Earth. He was the primary author of the spectacular success of Apple Inc., which is why many say he was the greatest CEO ever.

There is a lot we can learn from Mr. Jobs. In fact, many of his most exceptional traits are endorsed in God's Word.

Perhaps his most distinctive and empowering quality, as well as his most important, was that he was a perfectionist. In a world that tolerates and even exalts imperfection, the success Mr. Jobs achieved because of his quest for perfection is worth pondering.

The Case of the Imperfect Case

In every detail of creating computers and gadgets—even in building the Apple empire and its distinct, almost mesmerizing culture—Steve Jobs wanted everything to be perfect. This desire for the *perfect* gadget, the *perfect* product launch, the *perfect* Apple store, propelled him to unrivaled success more than anything else.

Just six weeks before the iPod was scheduled to be unveiled in 2001, it had a plastic screen. Suddenly Jobs became convinced that plastic would scratch too easily and that the screen should be glass. His decision to make the change sent shock waves through the company: Designers, engineers and technicians were sent scrambling to redesign the casing. "No other CEO on Earth would have made that call," wrote *Time* magazine (Oct. 17, 2011).

Steve Jobs didn't care about the added cost or how the media would react. His primary focus was on releasing the most perfect product possible!

During the creation of the Apple II computer in the late 1970s, Jobs had to choose the color of the casing and was given 2,000 shades of beige to choose from. Not one was good enough for Jobs. He wanted to create his own perfect shade of beige.

Even as a boy watching his father work on cars, Steve, writes Walter Isaacson in his book *Steve Jobs*, was "fascinated by the need for perfection."

In a world that tolerates and even exalts imperfection, the success Mr. Jobs achieved because of his quest for perfection is worth pondering.

Jobs demanded the highest-quality screws be used on components inside the computer. He even insisted on beautiful finishes *inside*, even though only repairmen would ever see it. "Jobs ... always indulged his obsession that the unseen parts of a product should be crafted as beautifully as its facade, just as his father had taught him when they were building a fence," Isaacson writes.

What a unique way of thinking: creating a product that is as beautiful on the inside as it is on the outside. No wonder Apple products are in such high demand!

The determination to reach perfection is a remarkable quality. In a very real sense, it points us to God! In Matthew 5:48, Jesus Christ commands His followers, "Be [or *become*] ye therefore PERFECT, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." This is a profound scripture. It really encapsulates the gospel of God! It is all about human beings actually becoming like God Himself! God is a perfectionist!

Being a perfectionist is a godly quality—which is why it works.

Steve Jobs embodied this quality in his pursuit of the perfect gadget, and look at the success he attained in that arena. Christ challenges us to apply it in the areas of our life that really matter most!

How much of a perfectionist are you? Do you strive for the perfect marriage, the perfect children? Do you labor to produce the most perfect product possible at work? If we do this, good things will happen. God tells us to develop that quest for perfection in everything we do!

Vision

Proverbs 29:18 says that "where there is no vision, the people perish." Whether we apply this spiritually or even to our physical life—our job, our marriage, our family—it remains true: People need *vision*. In order to truly succeed, we need to have our mind fixed on the goal—something big, something important to pursue and aspire to.

Steve Jobs was always fixated on his ultimate vision.

In 1983, Jobs was searching for a CEO to run Apple. He approached John Scully, who was working at Pepsi-Cola at the time and seemed uninterested in the position. Finally, after months of unsuccessfully petitioning Scully to join the Apple team, Jobs told him flatly: "Do you want to spend the rest of your life selling sugared water? OR DO YOU WANT A CHANCE TO CHANGE THE WORLD?"

This man wasn't in the computer business simply to create gadgets, or build a global corporation, or even to transform the computer industry. His ultimate ambition was to "CHANGE THE WORLD."

Jobs has often been quoted as telling his co-workers, "We're here to put a DENT IN THE UNIVERSE." That was his goal for Apple, and he did his best to make it the goal of every employee working at Apple.

How far-reaching is your vision? God has given human beings a potential that will stretch your imagination to its limits! He wants that vision to propel us onward and upward, to motivate us to seek greatness! You can learn about that vision in our book *The Incredible Human Potential*. We will send you a copy for free.

Steve Jobs had a novel way of recruiting employees in 1981. During the interview process he would bring the candidate into a room where a prototype of the Mac was covered by a cloth. Then, with great drama, he would rip the veil from his creation—and then watch their reaction. “If their eyes lit up, if they went right for the mouse and started pointing and clicking,” recalled Andrea Cunningham, “Steve would smile and hire them.”

Jobs surrounded himself with people who loved Apple. He only wanted to work with people who had the same vision, the same hopes and dreams for Apple’s products and services. When asked what he looked for when hiring a senior executive, Jobs responded, “They have to be really smart. But the real issue for me is, ARE THEY GOING TO FALL IN LOVE WITH APPLE?”

This too is a biblical principle. God is building a team of people who are united in their enthusiasm for His plans and His way of life. Above all He wants men and women “after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will” (Acts 13:22). He tells us, through the Apostle Paul, to “seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God,” and to “Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Colossians 3:1-2).

One of the greatest challenges in creating an Apple product was striking the balance between aesthetic appeal and engineering. Steve Jobs didn’t just want the best product technologically: He also wanted it to be visually appealing, as simple and pure as possible.

From an engineering standpoint, this was never easy. Often, the engineers or manufacturers would tell Jobs that he was demanding the impossible, and *style* would simply *have* to be compromised. Jobs would always fire back, *We are going to DO IT!* An employee who continued to fail to believe would be fired.

Jobs couldn’t stand to work with naysayers, people who were negative and hadn’t fully bought into his vision. He knew that such people would drain him and the rest of his team of optimism and energy.

Even this principle has a biblical corollary. “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?” the Prophet Amos wrote. As the Apostle Paul wrote, “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14). In 1 Corinthians 15:33, Paul wrote: “Make no mistake: ‘Bad company is the ruin of a good character.’” (New English Bible).

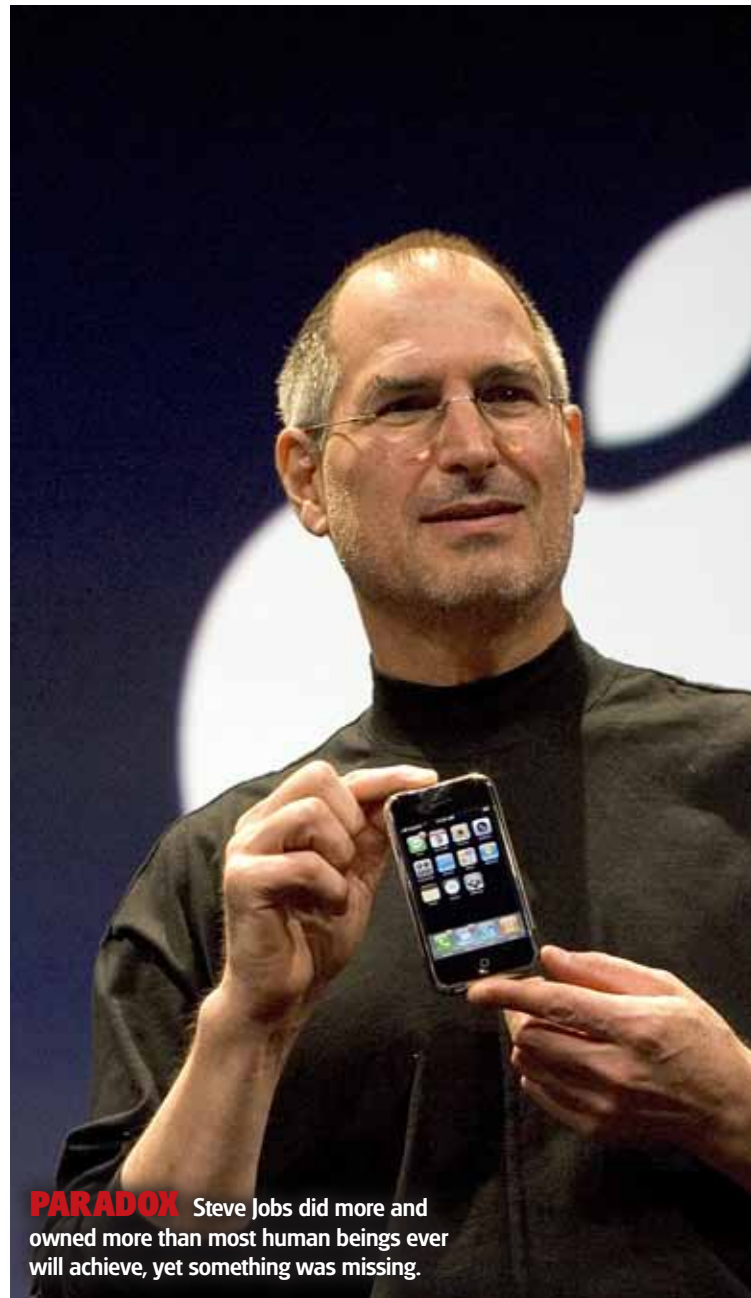
Focus

Steve Jobs’s clear vision of what he wanted enabled him to have a laser-like *focus* on what he wanted to accomplish. He often told his executives that deciding what *not* to do is as important as deciding what to do.

Though he had co-founded Apple in 1976, Jobs was fired in 1985. When he returned to the company in 1997, it was a mess. Jobs immediately undertook a survey of the company, its employees and its products—and what he discovered infuriated him. There were too many products, too many versions of software, too many competing visions for the company.

He spent months working to sort through the morass. Finally, in a product strategy session, Jobs yelled “STOP!” *This is crazy*, he said. He went to the whiteboard and drew a horizontal line and a vertical line to make a four-squared chart. *Here’s what we’re going to do*, he explained: *Apple is going to make ONE PRODUCT for each quadrant*. Instead of developing multiple different products and even expanding into other industries, he wanted Apple to focus on one industry, and on three or four products.

Within months of his return, Apple had cut 70 percent of its models and products, and was devoting all its



PARADOX Steve Jobs did more and owned more than most human beings ever will achieve, yet something was missing.

resources to a handful of projects. This new, ACUTELY FOCUSED strategy paid off, and soon the company was growing again.

According to Isaacson, Steve Jobs’s ability to focus—and to force those around him to focus—“saved Apple.”

Once again, Jobs was employing a spiritual principle. In Matthew 6:33, Jesus told His followers, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” God knows that if our lives are scattered in too many directions, we will fail at everything. The truly important things will get crowded out by trivialities. “When thine eye is *single*,” Jesus said, “thy whole body is also full of light” (Luke 11:34). God demands that we maintain our focus on what really matters.

The Missing Component

Like all men, Steve Jobs had his share of flaws. Steve Wozniack, his partner at Apple and the man largely responsible for the engineering behind the empire, said he could “never trust his [Jobs’s] integrity.”

This great computer magnate was self-centered, highly



Steve Jobs transformed human existence with his technology, but he never figured out why humans exist. He never figured out whether there is a God. Even he knew there was a missing component to his extraordinarily successful life.

combustible and often brutally honest with his criticisms. Early in his career he had a child out of wedlock. Although he was a millionaire and powerful man at the time, he rejected his daughter and humiliated her mother in the national press.

Despite all his material success, Steve Jobs was constantly searching for spiritual enlightenment. As a young man, this search led him to some pretty intensive drug use. He went to college for six months, where he became interested in Zen Buddhism. He grew close to prominent spiritual gurus and would regularly participate in bizarre rituals.

In 1974, Jobs told his bosses at Atari that he was quitting his job and going to India in search of a religious guru who could help him find himself. About his jaunt to India, Jobs later said: “For me it was a serious search. I’d been turned on to the idea of enlightenment and trying to FIGURE

OUT WHO I WAS AND HOW I FIT INTO THINGS.” Daniel Kottke, a friend of Jobs at the time, recalled that “there was a hole in him, and he was trying to fill it.”

That hole stayed with Jobs his whole life. After returning from India, he continued his search for enlightenment. Despite his intellectual and creative brilliance, spiritually he was a deeply confused man. “I think different religions are different doors to the same house,” he said once. “Sometimes I think the house exists, and sometimes I don’t. It’s THE GREAT MYSTERY.”

A few months before he died, Jobs was talking with Isaacson about the meaning of life and the existence of God. “I’m about 50-50 on believing in God,” he said. “For most of my life, I’ve felt that there must be more to our existence than meets the eye.”

Isn’t that sad? This man had spent a lifetime searching for the planet for a Higher Authority, and the best conclusion he could draw was there is “more to our existence than meets the eye.”

This brilliant, highly educated man transformed the world with his dazzling gadgets. He was rich and powerful. He could pick up the phone and talk to presidents and prime ministers, to CEOs and scientists. He received private concerts from

world-class artists. He could go anywhere and do anything, no matter the expense. He had EVERYTHING!

Everything, that is, except what he wanted most: spiritual enlightenment.

Jobs revolutionized the computer industry, the movie industry, the cell phone industry, the music industry—and really the world—with his technology. Yet he never discovered the answers to life’s most basic and important questions. During one of his last conversations with Isaacson, Jobs mused about how he’d like to believe something great was in store for humans after they die. Then again, he stated, “perhaps [life] is like an on-off switch. *Click!* And you’re gone.”

He even joked that “maybe this was why I never liked to put on-off switches on Apple devices.”

Sad, isn’t it? Steve Jobs transformed human existence with his technology, but he never figured out why humans exist. He never figured out whether there is a God. Or if man was put on Earth for a specific reason. Or if there is life after death. This brilliant man died ignorant. Even Steve Jobs himself knew there was a missing component to his extraordinarily successful life.

What was it?

Put simply, this man lacked a relationship with the one omnipotent, all-powerful, *living* God!

What about you? Do you have a vibrant, *active*, PRODUCTIVE relationship with God? YOU CAN!

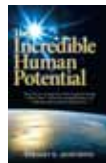
The moment God created man is recorded in Genesis 1:26. Notice, God says “let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . .” Have you ever wondered WHY God would create man after the image and likeness of God? In *The Incredible Human Potential*, Herbert Armstrong explains this stunning little verse: “But man was made in the form and shape of God, to have a special relationship with God—to have the potential of being born into the FAMILY of God.”

Do you have a “special relationship with God”?

There are literally hundreds of verses in the Bible like Genesis 1:26. Short verses with profound, life-changing meaning. Verses that prove God exists, that explain why man was put on Earth, that explain God’s plan for man, that explain if there is life after death. Verses that provide riveting, practical knowledge that will transform your life.

If you would like to learn the answers to these questions, to find out why you were put on Earth, and how you can have a fresh, sincere relationship with God, then you need to study these Bible passages. To help you with that, we’d like to send you a free copy of Herbert Armstrong’s book *The Incredible Human Potential*.

Steve Jobs pursued the knowledge contained in this book all his life. Now you can have it free. ■



Free upon request

Do you really understand what is happening?

Germany Is Conquering Europe!

BY BRAD MACDONALD

THE WORLD IS FIXATED ON Europe. On bond yields, currency exchanges and bailout packages, on the new governments in Athens and Rome, on the weekly slew of meetings among European leaders, and the tension and bickering they bring. But there is an odd dimension to all the attention Europe is getting.

While many are looking, very few actually understand what they are witnessing.

The number is growing as it becomes more obvious—but still, relatively few truly realize that *Germany is conquering Europe!*

Victim One

Take the latest round of the Greek crisis. It began October 31, when Prime Minister George Papandreou jeopardized the Greek bailout package and infuriated eurozone leaders by announcing he would allow the Greek populace to actually *vote* on the austerity conditions ensconced within the bailout package. Papandreou backed down two days later, but he failed

to stop the tumultuous chain of events that resulted in his resignation.

As the Greek government convulsed, Brussels and Berlin swooped in. First, rather than leave the decision of who should lead Greece to Greek voters in a national election, European elites—threatening Greece with financial collapse if it refused—commanded Athens to form a national unity government. A few days later news broke that Lucas Papademos, a former European Central Bank vice president and tried and tested Europhile, had been installed as Greece's new prime minister.

Grasp what happened. Greece is a sovereign nation of 11 million people, and—or so we've been led to believe—a valued member of the European *community*. But in a matter of a week, European elites blackmailed Athens into foregoing a democratic election, establishing a unity government and then agreeing to pass into Greek law a series of harsh, transformative rules that were created in Brussels.

Victim Two

Not content with its victory in Athens, Berlin and Brussels that *same week* brought down Italy's prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi. Mr. Berlusconi resigned November 12 after his partners in government and

global financial markets—following the lead of German and European elites—lost faith in his leadership.

What was the political orientation of his replacement? Italy's new Prime Minister Mario Monti is an experienced economist and politician, and a *former European commissioner* intimately familiar with the inner workings of the European Union. During his time as a commissioner, Monti authored a report on the establishment of a European single market that included measures by which Brussels could extend its reach into the financial matters of EU member states.

This is incredible: In the space of a week, Germany brought down two sovereign governments, blocked the democratic election of new leaders, and **INSTALLED ITS OWN MAN ON THE THRONE OF EACH NATION!**

And it still wasn't done. With Greece and Italy in its pocket, Germany wasted no time in setting its sights on its next victim.

Victim Three

At the November congress of Germany's ruling Christian Democratic Union, Volker Kauder, the party's parliamentary leader, proposed an EU-wide tax on financial transactions.

Britain's chancellor of the exchequer called the proposal "a bullet aimed at the



“Now, all of a sudden, Europe is speaking German.”

VOLKER KAUDER
PARLIAMENTARY LEADER
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UNION

We are “witnessing ... the economic colonization of Europe by stealth by the Germans.”

SIMON HEFFER
DAILY MAIL



“We are now living in a German-dominated Europe—something that the European project was actually supposed to stop.”

NIGEL FARAGE
MEMBER OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

“We were promised by the Eurocrats a continent-wide democratic defense against fascist dictatorship, but what we are heading for at great speed is precisely that dictatorship.”

PETER MULLEN
TELEGRAPH

heart of London.” In an article published in the *Evening Standard* the day before Kauder’s speech, George Osborne roundly criticized the notion of a financial transaction tax, saying, “Europe certainly shouldn’t be creating new burdens. ... The EU should be coming forward with new ideas to promote growth, not undermine it.”

Kauder addressed the criticism directly: “I can understand that the British don’t want that when they generate almost 30 percent of their gross domestic product from financial-market business in the City of London,” he said in his keynote speech. “But Britain also carries responsibility for making Europe a success.”

“Now, all of a sudden, EUROPE IS SPEAKING GERMAN,” Mr. Kauder declared.

“GERMANY AND THE UK ARE ON A COLLISION COURSE,” said the director of the European center of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Jan Techau.

Three days after Kauder’s provocative remarks, Britain’s *Telegraph* ran a front-page story titled “Germany’s Secret Plans to Derail a British Referendum on the EU.” Citing a memo leaked from the German government, Bruno Waterfield revealed that Germany had drawn up a strategy to prevent the British government from holding a referendum on Britain’s membership in the EU. Waterfield also revealed that the memo “discloses radical plans for an intrusive new European body that will be able to take over the economies of beleaguered eurozone countries” (Nov. 18, 2011).

Brimming with confidence after what it had achieved in Greece and Italy, Germany was sending the message to Britain that IT WOULD BE NEXT!

Meanwhile, Spain, Ireland, Belgium and even France are on the edge of the financial precipice—and only Germany has the economic strength to pull them back.

Don’t be naive about what is happening here. *Berlin is reshaping Europe into a distinctly Germanic edifice.*

“It is time for a breakthrough to a new Europe,” stated German Chancellor

Angela Merkel in November at a conference in Berlin. Just to make sure there was no ambiguity about what this “new Europe” would look like, Merkel stated that this will “MEAN MORE EUROPE, NOT LESS EUROPE.”

Economic Colonization!

One cannot overstate the significance of these events. We are “witnessing ... THE ECONOMIC COLONIZATION OF EUROPE BY STEALTH BY THE GERMANS,” wrote Simon Heffer in the *Daily Mail*. In the past, it would have “taken an invading military force to topple the leadership of a European nation. Today, it can be done through sheer economic pressure,” he wrote (Nov. 8, 2011; emphasis added throughout).

Such alarming statements are becoming more and more common. In a separate editorial, the *Daily Mail* warned, “Increasingly, it appears we are witnessing the death of democracy and the right of sovereign nations inside the eurozone to govern their own affairs” (ibid). After Germany conquered Greece and Italy, British politician and European parliamentarian Nigel Farage gave a blistering speech before the European Parliament decrying the EU’s blatantly undemocratic, German-dominated agenda.

“We are now living in a German-dominated Europe—something that the European project was actually supposed to stop—something that those that went before us actually paid a heavy price in blood to prevent. I DON’T WANT TO LIVE IN A GERMAN-DOMINATED EUROPE,” Farage told the assembly.

Germany’s ambitions have been made plain, wrote Peter Mullen in the *Telegraph*: “What is being envisaged in Mrs. Angela Merkel’s mind is a unified Europe, a superstate, in which the most powerful, and therefore dominating, nation would be Germany.” His conclusion was even more chilling: “We were promised by the Eurocrats a continent-wide democratic defense against fascist dictatorship, BUT

WHAT WE ARE HEADING FOR AT GREAT SPEED IS PRECISELY THAT DICTATORSHIP.”

After decades of this project in motion, the ruthless ambitions of the elites guiding the EU are finally being exposed. We are seeing that the EU has no interest in protecting the rights of European states and defending those of the European people. Rather, as the *Trumpet* has repeatedly warned, the EU is an undemocratic, German-led powerhouse engaged in a strategy to conquer, then subjugate, the sovereign states of Europe.

In fact, it’s all that and *much, MUCH MORE!*

In an article November 4, one of the most popular conservative thinkers in Britain, who blogs under the pseudonym Archbishop Cranmer, got close to the truth of the matter. The German-led “European Union is ESSENTIALLY THE RE-CREATION OF THE OLD EMPIRE OF CHARLEMAGNE,” he wrote. The EU today, he explained, has picked up the mantle of Charlemagne, just like Otto the Great did in the 10th century, then the Habsburg kings in the Middle Ages and then Napoleon in the early 19th century.

If you know your European history, you know that’s a terrifying comparison!

“The spirit of Charlemagne still broods,” he wrote. There is more to come, he warned, as the “same fate will befall Portugal, Italy and Spain, FOR THE POWERFULLY FEDERALIST CHARACTER OF THIS PROJECT HAS YET TO BE APPRECIATED.”

What about you? Can you appreciate what we are witnessing? While the world is fixated on the currency exchanges, on the bond yields and bailout packages, on the effect of Europe’s financial crisis on global stock markets and hedge funds, what are you seeing in Europe? Do you see a continent being systematically conquered by an invigorated, empowered German nation?

The spirit of Charlemagne is brooding. Whether you see it later or now is a matter of life and death. It is that serious!



Europe's Precisely Engineered Disaster

It looks like chaos, but actually, everything is unfolding according to plan. **BY RON FRASER**

ARE YOU WATCHING EUROPE? Imploding national economies seem to be threatening the entire project of European Union and sending shock waves through financial markets around the globe. This is a moment of extreme significance—for the future of not only Europe but all of us. What is happening? Where is it leading? Such questions

are on the lips of observers everywhere.

To the layman, Europe is in the midst of cataclysmic change. Yet the longtime student of European affairs understands that *this crisis was both premeditated and planned*.

Two principal actors are behind it, and these two will shape the Continent's future. The first is Germany. This is already patently obvious to anyone watching events there.

The second, believe it or not, is the Vatican.

The Patient Engineers

The European Union is not a product of the people. It is the masterpiece of certain Franco-German Catholic elites. It was built by treaty, without any say in the process by the national electorates. The common people of Europe have had no voice in either accepting or rejecting the *acquis communautaire*, its main body of regulations. The sheer size of that document, said to currently exceed 100,000 pages, is beyond the capability of any person to absorb.

It is this generation of committed Roman Catholic imperialist socialists that has driven the revival of Germany to its present position as the dominant nation in Europe.

That is the way of EU elites. So much for democracy—this is a *technocracy*. Its agenda is pursued not by elected representatives but by unelected technocrats based at its headquarters in Brussels-Berlin—administrators who were appointed to the mushrooming EU bureaucracy for a specific purpose: to ensure that the imperialist vision of Franco-German elites reaches fruition.

In spite of appearances, the EU is no haywire invention destined for the scrap heap. It is a carefully crafted grand design decades in the making. It sprang from a vision shared by Nazi elites, key German industrialists, scientists, bureaucrats and military officers during the closing stages of World War II. That vision of a powerful Europe controlled by Germany continued quietly in Germany's first postwar administration under Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, which employed many people who held fast to the Nazi spirit. Those elites bided their time—and educated a second generation in the same imperialist strategic concept.

It is this generation of committed Roman Catholic imperialist socialists that has driven the revival of Germany to its present position as the dominant nation in Europe.

Germany has finally gained enough economic and political advantage to pressure the EU into a crisis. The irony of this dire crisis is that its instigator now stands ready with the solution: Impose greater unity and, by default, greater German control.

Berlin's vision of a resurrected Holy Roman Empire is finally on the verge of becoming reality.

But these elites also had to wait for something else: the German public. They needed signs that the average German was tired of paying penance for Germany's past sins and was prepared for a new national assertiveness. The great show of national spirit at the soccer World Cup in 2006—with thousands proudly waving German national flags and singing "Deutschland Über Alles" in the grandstands—was proof enough. The national mood was ripe for Germany to declare, unashamedly, that Deutschland was back, and ready to lead Europe—according to an agenda in its own national interest.

That is what Germany has been doing ever since—to the point that it now is deciding who will be in and who will be out of the imperialist Euro club.

In her hour-long speech delivered to the CDU party faithful on November 14, German Chancellor Angela Merkel declared her goal for this generation: "to complete the economic and currency union in Europe and, step by step, create a political union. It's time for a breakthrough to a new Europe"

A new Europe. Run by Germany.

Ten Kings

What is next in this empire-manufacturing process?

German pressure to meet that goal of a centralized economic, currency and political union for Europe will inevitably produce a breaking point. Any nation unwilling, unqualified or simply unable to meet German requirements will have to leave. Britain will most certainly be among those nations that depart or are ousted from the EU.

This is deeply significant. Why? Because *biblical prophecy* shows that Europe is about to be *radically transformed!* It speaks of a modern European power that will ultimately consolidate into a combine of 10 nations, or groups of nations, led by 10 kings.

Read it for yourself: "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast" (Revelation 17:12-13).

What we see happening right now is the progressive fracturing of the current 27-nation EU bloc into the future federal Europe prophesied in the Bible. The EU is now set on a course of downsizing to the prophesied core of 10 nations ruled by 10 "kings," all ruled by "the beast"!

The Heart of the Machine

Now, consider how Germany is positioned geographically to be right at the center of this emerging empire.

Mountains separate Europe's Iberian, Italian and Balkan peninsula regions in the south from the more accessible north. These barriers restrict, and thus add to the cost of, the free flow of goods between the north and south, and help to form an *economic divide* as well. This is a major reason why the north has traditionally been richer ever since continental

infrastructure development shifted the bulk of trade from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic routes by the 18th century.

The economic crisis has heightened the economic divergence between the two regions. The superior infrastructure of the north continues to play in its financial favor: Its web of roads and railways, as well as its vast system of waterways, allow for the cheap and easy transit of goods among the core northern European nations.

The resourceful Germans have taken full advantage of their central location in the rich northern region. Germany dominates the very *crossroads* between east and west. German elites well understand the strategic economic and defensive control this gives their nation.

Crucial to the reconstruction of post-war Germany was the rebuilding of a German *transport and distribution infrastructure*. Up to 1990, West Germany worked to develop a substantial north-south transit system. But not until Germany unified could it add to this already highly developed north-south system an infrastructure to cope with the increased load of east-west traffic that unification inevitably brought.

Following unification, the German government quickly implemented the German Unity Transport Projects. The vision behind this massive investment in construction was not just to link the former East and West Germany, but also to lay the groundwork for linking *Eastern and Western Europe*. The German leaders of the early 1990s obviously saw German unification as but the start of a much broader *unification of Europe*—one that would even incorporate many states of the old Soviet Union. They immediately began preparations to dominate the transit systems that such a united Europe would need for the flow of goods and services, particularly east and west.

A detailed look at the highly developed transport and distribution system of the EU economic colossus reveals one nation at the hub: *Germany!*

What is particularly intriguing is this: The vision of Germany controlling the transport and distribution system for the movement of goods throughout Europe goes way back to Charlemagne, emperor of the Holy Roman Empire! In the ninth century, he dreamed of building this infrastructure as

a means to dominate a united European empire—but he failed to fully realize it.

Yet now we see such systems being developed to support the resurrection of that old dream. The vision that drove Charlemagne is a vision shared by the elites of Rome and Berlin today. It's just that the sheer scale of the project and the technology at its disposal render it far, far more devastatingly destructive in its potential when ultimately brought to its fruition—which it will be—than Charlemagne's empire! (Revelation 13:15).

Watch as Germany leverages its position to maximum advantage. Watch as it leads the richer nations of northern Europe to increasingly dominate those in the poorer south. That geographic barrier dividing north and south Europe may well prove significant in determining which European nations or groups of nations will ultimately comprise the prophetically significant “ten kings”!

Plugging Into a Power Source

For all their planning and masterful manipulation of the tools at their disposal, German and European elites presently lack one crucial element of empire: a unifying ideology.

Revelation 17 reveals that these 10 “kings” will yield their political power to one overarching leader under the spiritual influence of a religion called “Babylon.” This is where the Vatican enters the scene.

Rome has not had a high profile in the development of the European Union. That changed last November, however, when two Romans were appointed to key positions within the EU. Romano Draghi—Jesuit-trained, committed Roman Catholic and governor of Italy's central bank—was appointed president of the European Central Bank, the world's largest central bank, on November 1. Barely two weeks later, Jesuit-educated Mario Monti, a member of Italy's elite economic technocracy, received a mandate from President Giorgio Napolitano to form a government until scheduled elections in 2013. He is to oversee the highly sensitive restructuring of the hugely indebted Italian economy. Soon after Monti's appointment, the pope publicly gave his blessing to it.

Add to these two the EU's most influential president, Herman van Rompuy—also Jesuit-trained—and you have a most influential unelected threesome of elite technocrats

now guiding affairs at the top through Europe's present crisis.

We at the *Trumpet* have long watched and waited to see how the Romish influence would overlay the rising economic, political and eventual military might of a German-dominated European Union.

Of course, the influence of Rome was there even within the minds of the EU's founding fathers, since its earliest beginnings. From the federalist manifesto of Austrian Richard Nikolaus von Coudenhove-Kalergi, who cherished the prospect of reviving Charlemagne's Holy Roman Empire, to the foundational work of Italian Alcide De Gasperi, Frenchmen Jean Monnet and Robert Schuman, and Belgian Paul-Henri Spaak—consummating in the Treaty of Paris, signed in 1951, establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, followed by the Treaty of Rome in 1957 that founded the European Economic Community—the spirit of “holy” Rome has always guided the minds and actions of its founders.

Yet, the reality is that Rome's influence on the EU has been largely hidden and unseen—that is, until Van Rompuy, Draghi and Monti suddenly entered the scene, the latter with open papal endorse-

the European Union to ultimately divide between the rich and the poor. The euro-zone project has achieved its goal of separating the wealthy, industrial north from the weaker south, and resulted in a major contribution to the coffers of the German export economy. It has literally resulted in Germany becoming the EU paymaster. Germany is at the controls of Europe's economy, transportation network and foreign policy.

Now we see Rome carefully making its crusading move to provide the spiritual glue that will weld the great European combine together for its brief moment in time.

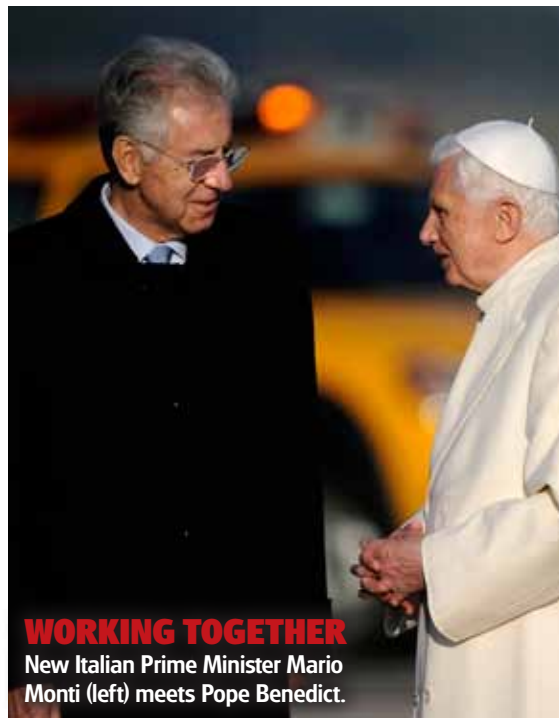
As we watch interim governance by technocracy successively take over national economies, virtually enslaving the bottom-tier nations within the EU to the diktat of Berlin/Brussels, we see key Roman Catholic operatives precisely inserted into positions of incredible power. Thus Rome emerges as a powerful force within both the nation of which it is capital, and the main central bank to which the whole world currently looks to solve the euro crisis, and indeed over the whole European imperial project.

The timing of Pope Benedict's 2009 encyclical “*Caritas in Veritate*” could not have been better. It provides the blueprint for Rome's ultimate project: influencing the coming leader of the 10-nation combine in Europe to dictate trade policy (Revelation 13:16-17). To a cursory observer, that document looks so lamblike, but to the wise it contains the teeth of a dragon (verse 11).

Italian Prime Minister Monti—one of the EU elites who holds to Charlemagne's vision of resurrecting the Holy Roman Empire—said, “The ‘*Caritas in Veritate*’ document resembles a *technical governing handbook for society in which economy plays a fundamental role*, as a natural outcome of ethical reflection, and even has the agreement of those who do not share in the Catholic ethical vision.” That ought to *shock* the world! The “technical governing handbook” he is talking about was authored by the *spiritual* head of Rome!

Yet, overarching all that is so suddenly happening in Europe in fulfillment of biblical prophecy today, one great reality stands out. This is the greatest of signs of the closeness of Jesus Christ's return to this Earth!

As the Savior of mankind declared in Luke 21:28, “And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.”




WORKING TOGETHER
New Italian Prime Minister Mario Monti (left) meets Pope Benedict.

ment. Now, Rome's men preside over the EU, head the most powerful bank in the world, and lead interim governments in Italy, not to mention Greece.

Ready to Roll Out an Empire

Today we look back and see that the plans were in place from the very beginning for



The Philadelphia Trumpet
Edmond, Oklahoma

T

You Are Cordially Invited ...

To the world premiere of two of the most significant archaeological artifacts ever discovered in Jerusalem.

BY BRAD MACDONALD

IT WAS AN EPIC DECISION. FOR YEARS, Judah's king had been caught in the middle of a bitter struggle between a brave, faith-filled prophet and a cabal of ambitious princes. Now, as the Babylonian army closed in on Jerusalem, King Zedekiah had to choose.

Judah's princes told the king to not surrender. Meanwhile, God told the king and the inhabitants of Jerusalem through the Prophet Jeremiah that the only way to survive was to surrender. The king deliberated. Should he heed the prophet's counsel, surrender Jerusalem and possibly save his people? Or should he capitulate to his princes, kill the prophet and prepare the nation for war? The fate of the nation rested on his verdict.

It's a gripping story, told in the book of Jeremiah. But is it true?

The best way to test the authenticity of Jeremiah's story would be to discover *tangible proof* corroborating the events and

characters he describes. Jeremiah recorded one of his confrontations with the princes in chapter 38. In fact, in verse 1 the prophet even identified the names of his accusers, two of whom were "Jehucal, son of Shelemiah," and "Gedaliah, son of Pashur."

What if you could find *physical evidence* proving these men lived in Jerusalem during the time of Jeremiah? Such proof would corroborate Jeremiah's account. It would also confirm the accuracy of his entire work—and even the Bible itself!

Once-in-a-Lifetime Finds

Archaeologist Eilat Mazar has been excavating in Jerusalem for more than 40 years—since she was 11 years old, in fact. In 2005, Dr. Mazar was digging into the northern section of the City of David when one of her colleagues spotted a small piece of clay lying in the dust. It had originally been made to seal a cord tied around a papyrus scroll. The tiny artifact bore a three-line Paleo-Hebrew

inscription: "Belonging to Yehucal, son of Shelemiyahu, son of Shovi."

This was the seal of Jehucal!

Three years later, Dr. Mazar and her team set about enlarging the dig, a process that included wet-sifting debris they had excavated just a few yards away from the location of the Jehucal bulla. After washing away 2,600 years of dirt and dust, Mazar found herself staring at another bulla. This one read, "Gedalyahu ben Pashur," or, *Belonging to Gedaliah, son of Pashur.*

It was the seal of Gedaliah!

These bullae are remarkable, once-in-a-lifetime discoveries. As Mazar told the *Trumpet* not long after the Gedaliah bulla was found: "It's not often that such discoveries happen in which real figures of the past shake off the dust of history and so vividly revive the stories of the Bible."

Rarely do science and the Bible converge as dramatically and as tangibly as they do with the Jehucal and Gedaliah bullae. These artifacts are invaluable—to science, to Jerusalem archaeology, and to history. Their ultimate value, though, lies in the fact that they illuminate the life and work of Jeremiah and prove the Bible true.

An Enduring Partnership

Many of our readers know that since 2006 Herbert W. Armstrong College, our college here in Edmond, Oklahoma, has worked closely with Dr. Mazar on her digs. Our students have assisted on various excavations, both in the City of David and on the Ophel. Three of our students were actually present the day the Gedaliah bulla was discovered.

Our relationship with Dr. Mazar actually stretches back to the 1960s, when Herbert Armstrong, the founder of our work in Israel, began supporting the archaeological endeavors of Dr. Benjamin Mazar, Eilat's grandfather and a pioneer of Jerusalem archaeology. Although more than 40 years have passed since Benjamin Mazar and Herbert Armstrong formed their extraordinary friendship, and both men are now deceased, this wonderful partnership is today being perpetuated through the partnership of Eilat Mazar and Gerald Flurry, the editor in chief of this magazine and pastor general of the Philadelphia Church of God.

Your Invitation

Now, we would like to invite you to the WORLD PREMIERE of the Gedaliah and Jehucal bullae from the City of David!

In addition to the bullae, which will be on display to the public for the first time ever, our archaeological exhibit will feature about three dozen other artifacts from ancient Israel. Among these will be handles from ancient clay jars that bear *lemelech*, or LMLK, seal impressions. In ancient Hebrew, LMLK means “belonging to the king.” Discovered in the ruins of the ancient City of David, and dated to the First Temple period, these impressions are evidence of a sizeable monarchy in ancient Jerusalem.

Also displayed will be a large *pithos*, or clay storage jar. Measuring nearly 4 feet tall and up to 2½ feet wide, this vessel (one of only 12) is the first of its kind to be discovered in Jerusalem, and one of the largest storage vessels ever found in Israel. These *pithoi* were discovered on the floor of what is believed to be an ancient royal structure. On the shoulder of one of the jars is a partial inscription in ancient Hebrew that says



HELPING HANDS Eilat Mazar (top, second from left) uses the help of Herbert W. Armstrong College students. These students work with Dr. Mazar's excavation crew inside the ruins of the ancient palace of King David during the second phase of the dig, which yielded the Gedaliah bulla and other artifacts from the times when Israelite and Jewish kings ruled from Jerusalem.

DISCOVERIES (Opposite top) The exhibit will include royal seals once owned by Jehucal and Gedaliah. Seal impressions (upper right) bear the inscription “to the king,” indicating royal ownership. These heads came from female figurines that were used in Israelite idol worship. All artifacts on display in Armstrong Auditorium (opposite below) will be from Israel's First Temple period, dating from approximately the 10th century to the sixth century B.C.

“belonging to the minister of O...” Each of these vessels testifies to the royal character of the structure it was found in.

If these artifacts interest you, then plan now to visit our small but special exhibit. Hosted by the Armstrong International Cultural Foundation (our humanitarian organization), the exhibit will be housed in the gorgeous lobby of Armstrong Auditorium, our world-class concert hall here in Edmond. The grand opening, which will include a special

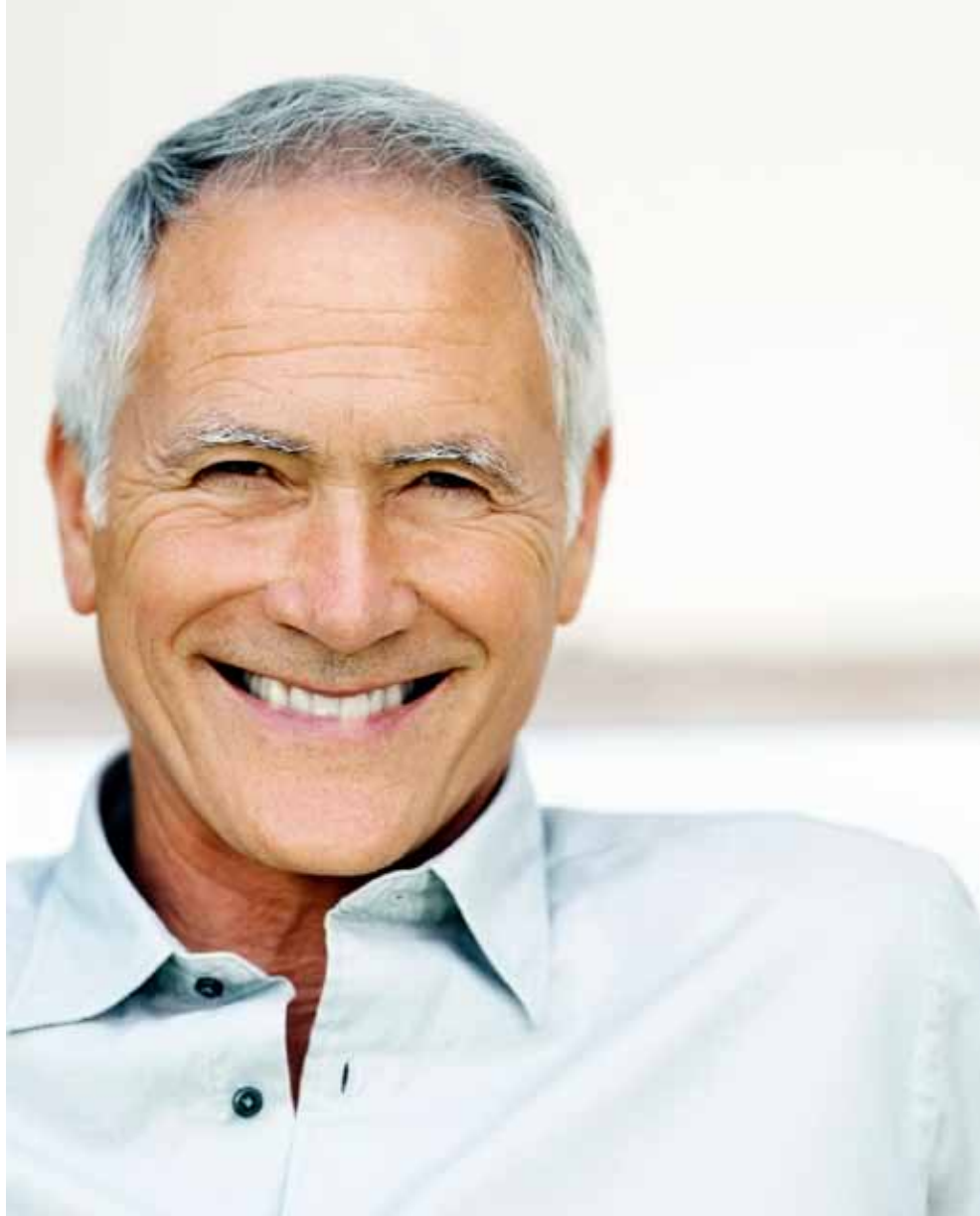
concert by Israeli artists and addresses by VIP representatives, will be Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012. The exhibit will open Jan. 16, 2012, and run through October 16, during which time Armstrong Auditorium will host multiple concerts from a smorgasbord of world-class artists.

Together, these remarkable artifacts will tell the inspiring story of ancient Israel's dramatic rise under King Solomon, its tragic collapse under King Zedekiah—and the faith-filled work of Jeremiah. ■



Build a Better Brain

What do walking out your front door, hitting the pillow, and eating fat all have in common? As even some of history's greats have learned, improving your mental health is just a matter of making the right decisions. **BY DENNIS LEAP**



WINSTON CHURCHILL WAS hounded by what he called his “black dog.” Whenever his political career suffered setbacks, it stalked him: mental gloom—depression. Yet he was a fighter. He would not be weighed down for long. And the weapon he used to attain victory in his battle was *vigorous activity*.

Churchill literally *worked* his way out of moroseness. His literary career and political leadership are a testament to this fact. He was a gifted and prolific writer. He wrote thousands of newspaper and magazine articles and authored over 40 books. Paul Johnson, in his bestselling biography *Churchill*, estimates that the man has somewhere between 8 and 10 million words in print. And when needed most, Winston Churchill was able to stand strong against the tide of

intense personal attack launched by pacifist politicians. Full of zeal and undying energy, he led Britain and the entire Western world out of defeat by the Nazis in the years leading up to and during World War II.

In a similar vein, Abraham Lincoln used the personal growth he gained struggling against melancholy as a motivating force to find greater purpose for his life. As president during one of America's darkest hours, the Civil War, he found that purpose by leading his beloved country to win the struggle against deep division and embrace the high call to provide equality and freedom for all oppressed people. Amid personal and national tragedy, he was able to step outside of himself and dedicate the full power of his mental energy and political career to the dual causes of the Union's preservation and human emancipation.

Depression, left unchecked, paralyzes a person's will power. The severely depressed become imprisoned in a concentration camp of the mind—starved of positive productive thought—prevented from creative accomplishment—frozen stiff in a block of ice.

True freedom from depression is won through the self-discipline of building a positive, productive mind—even in the midst of personal suffering. The way to beat inactivity is to propagate positive accomplishment.

Here are the steps *you* must take to build a productive mind.

Healthy Lifestyle

“The most perfect mechanism ever designed and made is the marvelous mind and body that is MAN,” Herbert Armstrong taught. Like any machine, the

human mind and body must be well maintained to function properly. In fact, a healthy mind can only be built by building a healthy body.

Over the last several decades, scientific research has delivered to us a vast amount of knowledge concerning the connection between mind and body. Yet most people have not carefully applied what is known. We embrace an unhealthy lifestyle and pay a high price for our irresponsibility.

We must face reality. Our high-stress, technologically developed, pleasure-driven society is sapping our physical health and dulling our minds—literally killing us.

Stephen Ilardi, in his book *The Depression Cure*, references some fascinating cross-cultural studies of depression. He tells us, “Only one known group of Americans hasn’t been hit by the modern depression epidemic: the Amish. Still clinging tenaciously to their 18th-century way of life, Amish communities have a rate of depression dramatically lower than that of the general population.” He also mentions, “In developing (Third World) countries, the lifetime rate of depression is often a fraction of that observed in the West.” In the Kaluli people of the New Guinea highlands, for example, “*clinical depression is almost completely nonexistent.*” Meanwhile, countries that move away from traditional to Americanized lifestyles see the prevalence of depression begin to rise.

What can we learn from such facts? The Amish, people in developing countries and the Kaluli have a much harder life than the people of America, Australia, Britain, Canada, Germany or New Zealand. So one might assume they would have more mental ills like depression. Why is the reverse true?

Take a look at the Kaluli. These indigenous and illiterate people are sometimes referred to as horticulturists because they subsist on a natural diet taken by hunting, foraging and gardening. Essentially they live on fresh fish, game, fresh fruits and leafy green vegetables. They are active people who must work hard to survive. The Amish lifestyle, though not as stark, is similar: The Amish work hard physically in order to grow and preserve their own fruits, grains, meats and vegetables according to Old World traditions.

To put it simply, these two groups of people get plenty of whole fresh food, exercise, fresh air, sunshine and water. In addition, they live within a closely knit, emotionally supportive community of families.

Unfortunately, there is not a similar description for the majority of the Western world.



DIET

Begin With Diet

Your brain—the physical component of your mind—is not separate from your body. To function at peak performance, the brain—your thinking, operating, motivating control center—must be fed healthy food. Shockingly, that food is primarily fat!

Fat has become a dirty word for most Americans. Yet, the human brain is 60 percent fat by dry weight. Fat molecules, including saturated fats and cholesterol, play a critical role in the construction of brain cells and the insulation of nerve fibers. Your brain needs healthy fat to thrive. Medical tests run on depressed patients reveal a lack of healthy fats in the blood. This means that a majority of depressed patients have starved brains.

The human body manufactures most of the fats that the brain requires for proper functioning, yet two crucial types of fat the brain needs a steady supply of—omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids—can only come from food. Most modern Western diets tend to be low in omega-3 fatty acids and high in omega-6. Omega-3 fatty acids are found in foods such as brussels sprouts, fish, flaxseeds, kale, olive oil, salad greens, spinach and walnuts. Good-quality omega-6 fatty acids come primarily from seeds and nuts or the oils produced from them. A healthy diet must include a balance of these two fatty acids along with other natural foods such as whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables.

There is a direct link between omega-3 deficiency and depression. It is becoming common practice to have depressed

patients take cold-water fish oil supplements to increase the amount of omega-3 fatty acids in their diets. What an easy lifestyle change! The results are dramatic and well documented. Many easy-to-locate sources in books and on the Internet will provide you a wealth of facts and information on this subject. If you want to be truly mentally healthy, you must take advantage of what is known.

Besides incorporating omega-3 fatty acids, many people need to reduce the amount of omega-6 fatty acids in their diet. This is not as easy as taking a supplement. To be truly healthy, every individual has to move far away from eating large amounts of highly processed snacks and fast foods. Foods such as cereals, cookies, chips (crisps), crackers, fast foods and shakes are full of omega-6 fatty acids. The best way to fill your need for omega-6 fatty acids is to eat raw nuts and seeds and to use non-hydrogenated, cold-pressed olive, coconut or palm oil while cooking. Realize, butter is not the evil villain it has been made out to be. Yet it is important to eliminate the omega-6 fats found in margarine, Crisco and other polyunsaturated oils (soybean and canola) from your diet.

The best diet is made up of foods that are properly cooked at home. Eating mostly home-cooked meals has become a rarity, especially in America.

Here is a truth that cannot be denied: A diet full of fresh whole foods, including leafy greens, raw fruits and vegetables, and also low in caffeine and alcohol consumption, provides the means for securing good mental and physical health.





EXERCISE FRESH AIR SUNSHINE

Exercise, Fresh Air and Sunshine

To function properly, the brain needs oxygen-rich blood. No one can increase the oxygen content in his blood sitting in front of a computer surfing the Internet. Couch potatoes can't run with the wolves! A positive, clear-thinking brain needs an active body. Getting regular exercise, out of doors, in fresh air, is the least expensive, side-effect-free anti-depressant you could use. An invigorating walking program is probably one of the easiest exercise programs to undertake—but one of the hardest to begin. To borrow a phrase from a well-known shoe company, **JUST DO IT!**

The average Kaluli walks 10 miles each day, carrying water, hunting, foraging for fruits and veggies and carrying firewood. For most of us, a brisk 30-minute walk in the park or the neighborhood at least three to five days a week is much more appealing. You pick. But seriously, Stephen Ilardi shows that experts who have studied exercise as a treatment for depression have proved that walking briskly for 30 minutes only three times a week is better than Zolof!

Of course, to get the maximum mental benefit from exercising you'll need to get your heart pumping above its resting level, which is also known as aerobic exercise. When beginning a walking program, it is a challenge to get and keep your heart rate at an aerobic level. This means it would be good to get a physical exam before starting such a program. Besides a good pair of walking shoes and some exercise clothing, it might be good to invest in some kind of heart-rate monitor. It is easy to find good ones for about \$40. It should be your goal to get your heart rate

in a range of 60 to 90 percent of your maximum heart rate. You can find on the Internet a chart that will give you the aerobic heart rate for your age. If you do not want to invest in a heart rate monitor, a rule of thumb to follow when walking is that if you can carry on a conversation, you're not walking fast enough. If you can't sing, then you are on target. However, if you are gasping for breath, you need to slow down.

Of course, there are other kinds of aerobic exercise such as cross-country skiing, cycling, jogging, mountain hiking and swimming. Besides age and physical skills

Here is the major point to consider when it comes to exercise: Whatever exercise you pursue, fully commit to it—truly make it a lifestyle change—and make it enjoyable.

as factors, these sports will require more investment in time and money.

Here is the major point to consider when it comes to exercise: Whatever exercise you pursue, fully commit to it—truly make it a lifestyle change—and make it enjoyable.

Many people get depressed in the dark winter months. Most people spend less time out of doors than they did just a few decades ago. But getting out into the sunshine is a necessity for good mental health. Even the light of a cloudy day is far better than being indoors with artificial light. Sunshine brightens human mood. "As it turns out," Ilardi tells us, "the brain gauges the amount of light you get each

day, and it uses that information to reset your body clock. Without enough light exposure, the body clock eventually gets out of sync, and when that happens, it throws off important circadian rhythms that regulate energy, sleep, appetite and hormone levels." Of course, the disruption of these critical biological rhythms can set off depression. Just 30 minutes of natural light each day is enough to keep circadian rhythms in good working order. Those who stay indoors from dawn to dusk make their body clocks go haywire, causing unwanted and unnecessary health problems.

Sufficient Sleep

Sleep deprivation is on the rise in our Western society. Multiple millions of people are not getting a good night's rest every night. Ilardi tells us that Americans in particular clock in only an average of about 6.7 hours of sleep each day. Not surprisingly then, most people struggle drowsily and unproductively through the day. This has been a boon for caffeine suppliers like Starbucks; many rely on coffee and other stimulants to kick-start the workday.

There was a time when many in business and industry considered sleep an unnecessary luxury. Yet now the field of neuroscience has proven that insufficient sleep wrecks a person's emotional, mental and physical health. To function at peak performance levels, our brains need adequate sleep. There are those rare individuals who can get by on less sleep—6 to 7 hours. The rest of us, though, need a minimum of 8 hours of sleep—some 9 to 10. Lack of proper sleep is one of the most powerful triggers of depression. It is now a proven fact that mood disorders are



SLEEP HARD WORK SOCIAL LIFE

preceded by several weeks of subpar sleep.

Sleep deprivation will slow down your thought process, impair your memory, disrupt your reaction time and significantly alter your mood. People suffering from sleep deprivation are often irritable, quick to get angry and have little ability to cope with stress. It is a good thing to evaluate your sleep habits, especially if you have to fight depression.

There are some simple things that you can do to improve your sleep: Reduce your intake of coffee and other stimulants, exercise, and turn off the television and go to bed, for example. However, making the commitment to change your habits will be the challenge. If you have a chronic sleep problem, work diligently to get that situation solved. Ilardi provides a detailed, information-packed chapter on the subject. The Internet is full of extremely helpful websites that give tips on gaining proper sleep. Make it your goal to get adequate natural sleep.

Work Hard, Work Continually

To build a productive mind, you must *work* your mind. People paralyzed by depression stop working. Many have been known to lose their jobs and wreck their careers. It should not be surprising then to learn that one of the most effective therapies for the clinically depressed is to get the patients back into fruitful and productive work.

Abraham Lincoln learned this vital lesson on his own. “As a young man he stepped back from the brink of suicide, deciding he must live to do some meaningful work,” Joshua Shenk tells us in *Lincoln’s Melancholy*. Lincoln, a self-taught lawyer and failed politician, found a purpose for his life when the debate over American slavery came to the political foreground. He believed slavery was morally, socially

and politically wrong. He also passionately believed that the Constitution demonstrated that America’s Founding Fathers envisioned a country without slavery. Shenk mentions, “For Lincoln, this sense of purpose was indeed the key that unlocked the gates of a mental prison.”

This does not mean Lincoln never experienced depression again. In fact, as president, he suffered through struggles and problems that would have crushed lesser men. Here is the lesson. Lincoln’s life’s work provided the means for him to step outside of his own mental gloom and

Those depressed need to find a meaningful life purpose that will open the door for them to step outside of themselves. Every job can be done passionately and with purpose.

fight for a cause bigger than himself.

This kind of work ethic has been drained from the American workforce. Most now simply work for the cash to party hearty on the weekend. Those depressed need to find a meaningful life purpose that will open the door for them to step outside of themselves. Of course, not every occupation can be neck-chills thrilling, but every job can be done passionately and with purpose.

No matter the task laid before him, Winston Churchill performed it with gusto. As prime minister during World War II, “Churchill began to set a personal example of furious and productive activity

at 10 Downing Street,” Paul Johnson tells us. “He was 65 but he looked, seemed—was, indeed—the embodiment of energy. He worked a 16-hour day. He sought to make everyone else do likewise.”

Ecclesiastes 9:10 states, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might ...” (English Standard Version). No matter what your job, stay enthusiastically active in your work for the entire time you are at work. Stay mentally engaged; do not let your mind drift.

The vast majority of us will not be called upon to end slavery. Yet, the key here is to find some kind of engaging and productive mental activity that keeps your mind off yourself and your problems. For example, Winston Churchill pursued painting. A little brainstorming—which itself is productive thinking—will show you that your options really are endless. Some learn a musical instrument, others pursue vegetable or flower gardening. Find something you can be passionate about and challenged by. Then do it continually—especially when personal problems weigh you down.

Stay Socially Fit

Depression takes its toll on relationships. Familiar acquaintances of people descending into depression often work hard to support and encourage their downtrodden friend. Yet when the problem persists over weeks with little improvement, even the strongest bonds are strained. Some snap completely.

Depression’s core symptom—its dark side—is one of isolation and withdrawal. It is very difficult to experience a friend pulling away and shutting down. What most don’t understand is

See **BRAIN** page 36 ▶



European Commission President José Manuel Barroso speaks in European Parliament.

A fraud from its beginning

EVER SINCE THE EUROPEAN UNION was created nearly two decades ago, the annual audit of its books has revealed increasing fraud—currently reaching mammoth proportions. And each year the figures are swept under the plush rugs at the Union’s headquarters in Brussels. As one EU official mused, the only thing that changes in this yearly exposé of EU fraud is the year on the cover of the annual audit report.

Over the years, three whistle-blowers have sought to force EU officials to contend with this criminal misuse of funds. Each has been sacked for his trouble. And why not? Founded on a huge lie from its beginning, this most undemocratic of institutions thrives on lying and deceit.

One would assume that, amid an enormous, accelerating, continent-wide financial crisis, EU technocrats would be more careful. But no: In 2010, EU fraud reached record proportions.

The EU’s Court of Auditors reported in its latest report that “3.7 percent of the EU’s €122 billion budget in 2010 [a total of €4.6 billion] was spent in error or against EU rules. ... In the samples used by the Court of Auditors around 50 percent showed ‘errors.’ ... It is the 17th year in a row the court has been unable to give the EU’s accounts an unqualified statement of assurance” (TheParliament.com, Nov. 10, 2011).

“In the real world of business—or properly democratic politics—heads would roll,” said Martin Callanan, leader of the UK’s

Conservative members of the European Parliament. “But not in Brussels, where this costly fiasco just carries on unchecked.”

Marta Andreason is one of the three whistle-blowers with the courage to expose the unbelievable scope of EU fraud over the years. She has since become an elected member of the European Parliament for the UK Independence Party. Of the current audit results she remarked, “Despite repeated assurances from the European Commission and pressure from the European Council, the way the EU makes payments from its budget is getting worse not better. This should send alarm bells ringing across member states’ governments.” But it hasn’t.

German elites now largely have EU member nations just where they want them. None of the other 26 EU members dare cross Germany during a time of financial crisis, for they are now so dependent on Germany for their economic survival. To challenge EU fraud would effectively threaten the whole EU technocracy, which is substantially manned or influenced by German nationals.

German philosopher Nietzsche declared that people are better fed myths than the truth—that myths are better for the masses than absolutes. Europe’s biggest myth of all, the EU, is founded on a lie. From its beginnings, it has been a cloak for Germanic imperial ambitions, a means by which its elites have tenaciously pursued their Holy Roman imperialist vision.

1 | GERMANY

War: Legitimate foreign policy

The German Council on Foreign Relations is opening up a debate in Germany via its leading periodical *Internationale Politik* on how Germany views its military. Its senior editor observed that postwar German society has difficulty “openly discussing power—which in the end includes military force” (No. 6/2011). The periodical quoted Germany’s defense minister, Thomas de Maizière, as declaring, “Military means are the ultimate and not merely the last means.” On the continuing reform measures of the Bundeswehr (initiated by his predecessor Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg), de Maizière stated, “The question of the deployment of our armed forces will most likely be posed more often in the future,” with the Bundeswehr becoming “consistently oriented toward deployability and ... a large range of capabilities” also involving “high-intensity combat missions.” The article sums up: “The culture of military restraint must give way to a culture of responsibility.” Mindful of Germany’s history, German-Foreign-Policy.com observed that “culture of responsibility” means “nothing more than the readiness to willingly support a growing number of the Bundeswehr’s combat missions” (Nov. 2, 2011).



2 | GREECE Cleaning out the brass

Greece’s minister of defense sacked and replaced the entire upper echelon of the country’s defense services Nov. 1, 2011. The sackings included the chiefs of the Greek National Defense General Staff, the Greek Army General Staff, the Greek Air Force and the Greek Navy General Staff. It was a complete rout of the entire chiefs of staff of the whole of Greece’s defense establishment. Was this clearing out a senior officer cadre not sufficiently attuned to EU motives in Greece? What were these defense establishment heads up to? Were they planning rebellion against the Greek government, perhaps a military takeover akin to the coup of the colonels of Greek history? It certainly is suspect, coming at a time of increasing social disruption in Greece because of resistance to austerity measures forced on the Greeks.



3 | CHINA
Hocking counterfeits

Some of the largest defense contractors on the globe have been tricked into installing counterfeit parts into U.S. military systems—and China is the primary source, Sen. Carl Levin said at a hearing on Nov. 8, 2011. The Senate Armed Services Committee identified Boeing, L-3, Raytheon, and their suppliers as firms that had unknowingly used faulty components in equipment such as aircraft video displays and helicopter night vision systems. When this news is added to reports of China’s cyberespionage, satellite developments, and warnings about the dollar, it is clear that China will undermine the U.S. in any way it can.

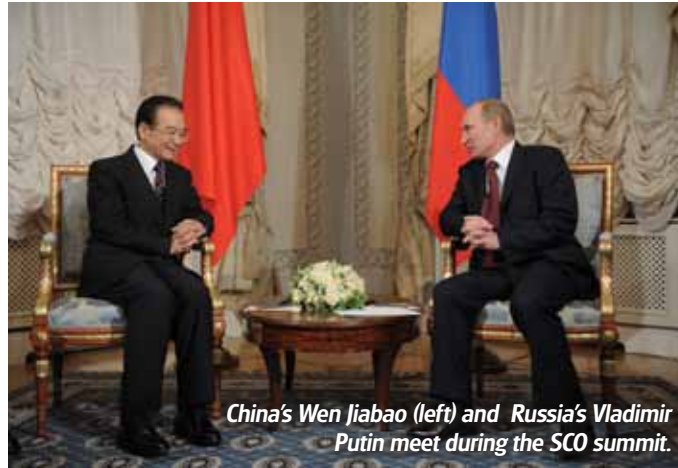


“The failure of a single electronic part can leave a soldier, sailor, airman or marine vulnerable at the worst possible time. A flood of counterfeit electronic parts has made it a lot harder to have confidence that won’t happen.”

SEN. CARL LEVIN

4 | PAKISTAN
A foothold for Beijing

China would like to establish military facilities in Pakistan’s tribal regions or its northern regions that border China’s Xinjiang province, Pakistani sources said on Oct. 26, 2011. The sources said Chinese and Pakistani military officials have discussed the project for months, and that Pakistan has asked China to build a naval base at its strategic southwestern seaport of Gwadar. The *Trumpet* has often warned of the danger of Pakistan and its nuclear arsenal falling under the control of either radical Islam and Iran, or China. Either way, America’s tattered alliance with Pakistan is all but over.



China’s Wen Jiabao (left) and Russia’s Vladimir Putin meet during the SCO summit.

Asia’s big anti-U.S. crowbar

RUSSIA AND CHINA ARE BUILDING AN ASIAN COMBINE TO challenge American influence in the strategic Central Asia region. On Nov. 7, 2011, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin hosted his counterparts from China and four other Asian nations for a meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The 10-year-old SCO connects China and Russia with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in a security bloc that Moscow and Beijing hope to develop into an entity unified enough to rival NATO.

At the summit, Putin lashed out at “arrogant world powers,” accusing Western nations of hypocrisy for their support of revolutions in North African nations. Putin and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao called for major infrastructure investments to stimulate economic growth throughout the region. Members also discussed expanding the SCO to include Pakistan and Iran, and Russia officially supported Pakistan’s bid to become a full member of the alliance. Wen said a top SCO priority should be developing Central Asia’s transport and energy infrastructure, adding that nations should conduct bilateral transactions in their own currencies rather than the dollar.

The time ahead will prove significant for the Asian bloc as it expands to include new nations and unifies. China and Russia are the regional behemoths driving the unification of the East; the SCO may well be a vehicle they use to attain that goal.

5 | RUSSIA Get your hands off Iran!

After the UN published a report confirming long-standing Western suspicions that Iran is developing nuclear weapons, Moscow spoke out on Nov. 10, 2011, against military strikes on Iran, saying such action would be a serious mistake with unpredictable consequences. The previous day, veto-wielding Russia said it would not support another set of sanctions against Iran and expressed anger over the UN’s publication of the report. Since the report provides evidence that Russia aided Iran in its nuclear program, Moscow’s defense of Tehran comes as no surprise. As Russia works to regain its former Soviet-era influence, it will become increasingly confrontational toward the West.



6 | PHILIPPINES
On China’s bad side

On Oct. 23, 2011, the Philippines rejected Beijing’s demand that it return Chinese boats that Philippine officials had seized. Included in China’s demand was a statement that China had indisputable sovereignty over the territory—even though the Reed Bank, where the vessels were seized, is well within the Philippines’ exclusive economic zone. On



China’s Gen. Chen Bingde

October 26, China’s state-run *Global Times* responded with an editorial threatening military force if the Philippines, Vietnam and other countries that claim parts of the South China Sea do not heed Beijing’s current gentle approach to the territorial disputes: “If these countries don’t want to change their ways with China, they will need to mentally prepare for the sounds of cannons. No known method exists to solve these issues in a peaceful way.” As China’s power increases, so will its belligerency.

ALEXEY DRUZHININ/AFP/GETTY IMAGES; ALEXANDER F. YUAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES; ISTOCK



Libyans celebrate liberation in Benghazi the same day polygamy was made legal

1 | LIBYA

Liberated Libya thanks West by becoming 'an Islamic state'

LIBYAN DICTATOR MUAMMAR QADHAFI was killed by rebel forces on Oct. 20, 2011. While his death was met with euphoria in parts of Libya and the West, in truth, the West's interference in Libya has set the stage for an Iranian coup.

NATO "has armed, trained and financed the creation of an Islamist Libya," wrote the *Washington Times* (Oct. 25, 2011). The very day Libya's National Transitional Council officially declared an end to the war, Mustafa Abdul-Jalil, the council's chairman and de facto president, decreed that polygamy in Libya is now legal, explaining that Qadhafi's law against it conflicted with Islam. He also promised that in future, banks would no longer be permitted to charge interest, to

bring them into compliance with sharia law. "We are an Islamic state," he said.

U.S. officials have admitted that Islamic terrorism could be a problem in post-Qadhafi Libya, with counterterrorism and intelligence agencies producing classified papers detailing the strength, role and activities of Islamic militants in the country. Bruce Riedel, a former senior CIA analyst, said there was particular concern that Islamic militants could use Libya as a base to spread influence and weaponry into surrounding areas such as Algeria and Egypt's Sinai. A further worry is that individuals with a militant background could install themselves in the upper echelons of Libya's new government.

2 | SUDAN New rulers' shadowy allies

Back in June, the International Criminal Court (ICC) accused Muammar Qadhafi of crimes against humanity and issued an arrest warrant against him. This reinforced the supposedly humanitarian justification for the international military intervention in Libya. Qadhafi was just the second sitting head of state to be made the object of an ICC arrest warrant—after Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, accused of crimes against humanity in Darfur. Now, catch the irony. The government that Western allies helped install into power in Libya hosted an interesting visitor in September. Mahmoud Jibril, chairman of the executive board of Libya's National Transitional Council (NTC), hosted the vice president of Sudan, Ali Osman Taha, who came to show his support for the new interim government. Reports are that the Sudanese government had given military support to anti-Qadhafi forces. The thing is, Taha himself has also been accused by both the U.S. State Department and the ICC of complicity in genocide and crimes against humanity in Darfur. In other words, the de facto allies of Western powers in ousting Qadhafi are themselves allies with the Sudanese forces the West has charged with genocide.



Sudan's Taha (left) meets with Libya's Jibril.



3 | BAHRAIN Shiites force a stalemate

Turnout was low in parliamentary elections held in the Gulf Arab state of Bahrain on Sept. 24, 2011, with less than 20 percent of voters casting ballots after the Shiite majority boycotted the polls. The boycott came in response to the crushing of protests in the country earlier in the year by the ruling Sunni monarchy. The election had been called to fill the 18 parliament seats abandoned when Shiite lawmakers resigned in February in protest of the government crackdown on demonstrators. The ruling Sunnis accuse the Shiite-dominated protest movement and opposition groups of having a sectarian Shiite agenda and of acting in coordination with Iran. The result is a stalemate in Bahrain. Though martial law ended in the country in May, regular clashes continue in Shiite areas. Bahrain is a battleground for the power struggle that is going on between Iran and Saudi Arabia.



A Bahraini man casts his vote.

4 | TUNISIA And the winner is ...

Tunisia's Islamist Ennahda party, an affiliate of the Muslim Brotherhood, obtained first place in the country's election held on Oct. 23, 2011, winning around 40 percent of the Constituent Assembly's seats. The election created the first freely elected political body in Tunisia's history, tasked with drafting a new constitution and appointing a new government. The victorious party seeks to sweep aside Tunisia's secular traditions and create a Muslim theocracy based on sharia law. Ennahda's success is a clear indication of what the results of the wave of uprisings will be throughout the Middle East.



5 | ISRAEL Another move toward statehood

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) accepted the Palestinians as a full member state on Oct. 31, 2011, the first UN affiliate body to do so. The results of the vote were 107 states in favor, 14 against, and 52 abstentions. The UNESCO acceptance is a great diplomatic victory for the Palestinians, who hope to build on this victory by seeking membership of other UN agencies. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas requested full membership in the UN on September 23. Such moves serve to further isolate Israel, though the United States has promised to use its veto power in the Security Council and has cut funding to UNESCO.

One wildly lopsided exchange

In October Hamas freed kidnapped Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit in exchange for 1,027 Palestinian terrorists in Israeli prisons. Hamas leaders responded by openly declaring they would launch more kidnapping attempts in order to free thousands more terrorists. The swap clearly strengthened Hamas and undermined Israel's deterrent capability. Though Israel says it will create a new policy for prisoner exchanges so such lopsided deals won't happen again, it is increasingly operating from a position of weakness—and its enemies know it.

"We will continue to abduct Israeli soldiers and officers as long as there are Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails."

AHMED JABARI
COMMANDER OF
HAMAS'S MILITARY
WING



6 | IRAQ Losing the peace

U.S. soldiers' withdrawal from Iraq by the end of 2011 was announced in October. Under pressure from Iran, Baghdad refused Washington's request to keep several thousand troops in the country past December 31. Retired Army Gen. John M. Keane, who was instrumental in the 2007 troop surge in Iraq, called the decision an "absolute disaster" that puts the new Iraqi government at risk of an Iranian "strangling." "We won the war in Iraq, and we're now losing the peace," he said. "[T]he number one strategic enemy we have in the region is Iran. And as a result of us pulling away from Iraq, we're losing our influence in Iraq. And the Iranians are gaining influence in Iraq." The *Washington Times* wrote, "Iran's mullahs have won. Once Tehran acquires the nuclear bomb, it will be able to blackmail its neighbors, dominate the region and impose a stranglehold over the world's oil supply. The trend is clear: American power is in retreat" (Oct. 25, 2011).

7 | EGYPT Hamstringing Israel

Gaza terrorists hit Israel with a barrage of rockets in late October, prompting Israel to respond with air strikes. Egypt stepped in to try to mediate a truce. The official line is that Israel is refraining from a major attack on Gaza due to these efforts. However, it seems Egypt has privately issued a serious threat to Israel over taking any military action in Gaza. Courcy's Intelligence Service reported November 3 that according to Palestinian sources, "prominent Egyptian security commanders" have warned Israel that Cairo would not permit a wide-scale military operation in Gaza because the Egyptian position has completely changed since President Hosni Mubarak was ousted. "Egypt is not threatening a direct military response, but it has said that the military would not be able (or willing) to prevent thousands of Egyptian youths marching towards the Israeli border," JKC de Courcy wrote. Already, it appears the Islamist-leaning post-Mubarak Egypt is taking away Israel's ability to defend itself.



Abdel Moneim Abul Futeh, presidential candidate and Muslim Brotherhood member

'Vote for me ... or it's a sin!'

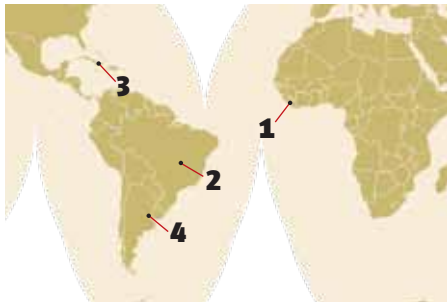
Islamist activism increased in Egypt ahead of parliamentary elections, according to the BBC Monitoring Service. Prominent clerics issued fatwas against voting for supporters of the former regime, or for liberal, secular or Christian candidates. Salafist preacher Sheikh Mahmud Amir, for example, pronounced: "Voting for these people is religiously prohibited. Whoever does this will be committing a major sin and should expiate for it." He also prohibited votes for any Muslim candidate who doesn't call for the implementation of sharia law. Such sheikhs are gaining large followings in Egypt. Watch for Egypt to turn radical.



Burhanuddin Rabbani

8 | AFGHANISTAN Head of peace council, RIP

A Taliban suicide bomber killed the head of Afghanistan's High Peace Council on Sept. 20, 2011, in a dramatic demonstration of the Taliban's reach. The bomb exploded while two men posing as Taliban peace emissaries were meeting with Burhanuddin Rabbani, who was also a former Afghan president, at his home. The attack comes as U.S.-Taliban negotiations, mediated by Pakistan, are in their initial phases. Rabbani's assassination creates a power vacuum within the factions in the north, and "allows the Taliban to push their demands for political dominance in any postwar political arrangement," wrote Stratfor (Sept. 21, 2011). Still, America feels it has no option but to seek a political settlement involving the Taliban so it can extract itself from Afghanistan.



2 | BRAZIL 3 | CUBA
Reach out to your neighbor

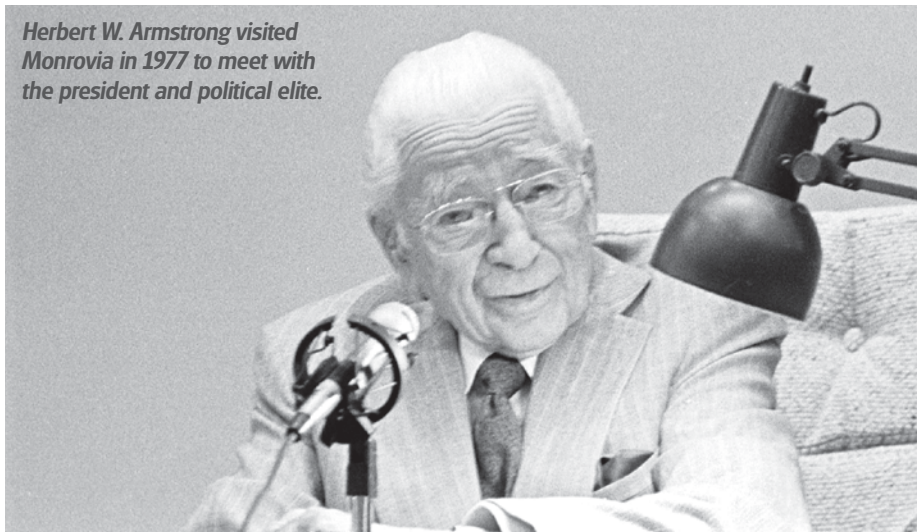
Latin American giant Brazil wants to help Cuba update its economic model and increase exports to its mainland neighbors. The Cuban foreign trade and investment minister, Rodrigo Malmierca, emphasized on Nov. 2, 2011, that Brazil and Cuba are promoting joint projects in the areas of health care, education, computers, and agriculture and livestock. Expect the Communist-ruled island of Cuba to forge strong ties with the rest of Latin America in the near future as it returns to its Roman Catholic roots.



4 | ARGENTINA
More forceful about Falklands

Cristina Kirchner's sweeping reelection in October is set to ratchet up tension over the Falkland Islands. Argentina's strong economic growth was widely seen as the main reason for her huge victory, but it is also being taken in some quarters as an endorsement of her strong-arm approach to gaining sovereignty over the Falklands—a popular position. Since coming to power, Kirchner has clamped down on trade with the islands, harassed merchant vessels, prohibited British military ships from docking in Argentina, and pushed the United Nations to force Britain to the negotiating table. As Britain continues to suffer the effects of recession, expect Argentina to become more belligerent.

Herbert W. Armstrong visited Monrovia in 1977 to meet with the president and political elite.



1 | LIBERIA **The man and message Liberia forgot**

THE WEEKS LEADING UP TO PRESIDENTIAL elections in November were divisive and bloody in the West African country of Liberia. Low numbers of voters turned out for a run-off poll on November 8 amid a boycott by political challenger Winston Tubman. As a result, incumbent Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf won another term by default, and Tubman demanded a new round of elections. Any prospect of a peaceful road ahead for this contentious nation lies in question.

Since the 1800s and Liberia's establishment as a safe haven for freed slaves from North America, Liberians have wanted and searched for peace. November's troubled election proves they do not know how to find it. The reality is that the country did receive a profound witness from one who proclaimed a message that contained the key to establishing peace. Today's deep divisions show that the message went unheeded.

As far back as the 1950s, Liberia heard over the air, via the *World Tomorrow* program, the very gospel message Jesus Christ preached. That message told of two divergent ways of life. One centered on *give* and the other on *get*. Herbert W. Armstrong declared a message of peace, abundance, joy and unified coexistence among all peoples based on God's immutable law. However, stable governance within the bounds of that law is only attainable under the almighty hand of God and His government, which mankind has rejected since Adam's sin and Eve's deception in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3).

Almost 20 years onward from those radio broadcasts into Liberia, during the summer of 1977, that renowned ambassador for world peace, without portfolio, Herbert Armstrong, visited Japan, Hong

Kong and Israel. In addition, this trip was highlighted by a successful two-night public appearance campaign in Liberia, where its citizens heard, in person, the very gospel message of Jesus Christ as recorded in Matthew 24:14.

Mr. Armstrong was met by the mayor of Liberia's capital, Monrovia, who took Mr. Armstrong to see the president, William R. Tolbert Jr. Mr. Armstrong spent 40 minutes with the president, who held a luncheon in his honor. Monrovia, its political elite, the president and many citizens were witness to God's message of peace.

The African continent is today wracked with poverty, rampant tribalism, and the schisms that result from radical Islamic insurgencies and Babylonian deceptions via a false form of Christianity. As Satan's rule on Earth draws near its end, it becomes increasingly important for an ambassador of the Kingdom of God to reach many nations with Christ's words of warning of the coming Great Tribulation and the promise of peace that follows God's imminent correction for mankind's rebellion against its Creator.

At present there is a special urgency attached to reaching the nations of the developed world, for prophecy reveals that the Anglo-Saxon nations face the greatest threat, one that will be triggered within Europe via a crisis that is already extant there. This will catapult the human race into the final global trial of trials (Matthew 24:21-22).

But after that, the Gentile masses of the world, of which Liberia is but one small nation, will be given an opportunity to learn a powerful lesson from God's correction of the descendants of Israel, most especially the Anglo-Saxon peoples of America, and Britain and its dominions.

'Muslims Against Crusades' is not a peaceful bunch

A British member of Parliament was threatened during a meeting in a London mosque on Nov. 4, 2011, forcing him to abandon the event. M.P. Mike Freer was holding a constituency surgery at the North Finchley mosque when a dozen Islamists from the Muslims Against Crusades group stormed the building. Freer, a homosexual and a member of Conservative Friends of Israel, abandoned the meeting and hid in a locked section of the facility. The strife started after Muslims Against Crusades posted messages on their website urging supporters to target Freer. The online message stated that "as a member of the Conservative Party," Freer "has the blood of thousands of Muslims on his hands"; it also targeted him because of his decision earlier in the year to demand that Palestinian extremist Sheikh Raed Salah be banned from visiting Britain. As in most such incidents, no arrests were made.

"The process of Islamization through intimidation is well under way."

MELANIE PHILLIPS



Hundreds of protesters were arrested on Brooklyn Bridge in New York City.

The leaderless protest movement

OVER 700 PROTESTERS WERE ARRESTED ON OCT. 1, 2011, FOR blocking traffic on the Brooklyn Bridge as they took part in the 15th day of the Occupy Wall Street protest. Occupy Wall Street is a leaderless protest movement comprised mostly of Americans under 30 years old who are upset with anything from rampant foreclosures to climate change, from the low number of vegan farms to the high unemployment rate, from the war in Afghanistan to high gasoline prices, and from corporate greed to the general state of America and the planet. These protesters are only thousands strong, but they claim to speak for millions. The degree to which these protesters represent mainstream America is questionable, but a CBS poll showed that 64 percent of Americans believe taxes on millionaires should be raised to reduce the nation's deficit. Such a sentiment is parallel to many of the protesters' anger over what they perceive as a broken system serving a wealthy elite at the expense of the rest. Political division in America is escalating to a crippling level.



Can't live with 'em, can't live without 'em

The number of foreign offenders who have served their sentences but cannot be deported from Britain has crossed the 5,000 mark, according to an inspection report published on Nov. 3, 2011. John Vine, chief inspector of immigration, said the UK Border Agency needs to ramp up its efforts to manage the 5,375 foreign prisoners who have served their sentences and now remain in detention or have been freed into the community. As the will of Britons to preserve their culture continues to erode, expect bureaucracy to render more and more of their immigration policies ineffective for the state.

At least they have two parents?

British citizens will soon be able to identify "parent one" and "parent two" instead of their father and mother, and decline to identify themselves as male or female on their passports. The changes are designed to cater to transsexuals and homosexuals. The *Daily Mail* reported that the changes have been made in response to lobbying from the homosexual rights group Stonewall. America has already made a similar change to its passport application form. Director of the Family Education Trust Norman Wells said, "Fathers and mothers are not interchangeable but have quite distinct roles to play in the care and nurture of their children. To speak of 'parent one' and 'parent two' denigrates the place of both fathers and mothers. Much as the equality and diversity social engineers might wish it were otherwise, it still takes a father and a mother to produce a child."

Winter comes early

A massive storm battered America's East Coast in late October, dumping record snowfall and shuttering schools and businesses in a half-dozen states. The storm caused enormous damage, including widespread power outages, damage to homes and infrastructure, and at least 15 deaths. The storm caught the region by surprise as such historically major snowstorms are rarely if ever seen before Thanksgiving.



Storm damage in New Hampshire

NUMBERS

14.4 Unemployment rate of U.S. males 25 to 34 years old

22.4 Unemployment rate of high school grads ages 20 to 24

18.6 Percent of men ages 25 to 34 living with parents



Nail That Job Interview!

You got your foot in the door, and now you're up for a personal interview. What do you do? **BY JESSE FREDERICK**

CONGRATULATIONS! THE COMPANY of your dreams liked your résumé; now you are scheduled for a job interview. Take a moment to savor it: In today's precarious job market, just getting an interview can be a victory. Still, you're only partway through your journey to employment. Making it to the next step has a lot to do with your performance during that interview.

Job seekers often misunderstand the job interview process. It's not an interrogation where the hirer blasts pointed questions at the applicant to test his responses under pressure, or asks outrageous, irrelevant questions in order to check the candidate's mental and critical thinking acuity. (Although I know one interviewee who was asked, "If you were to visit the zoo, what would be the first two animals

you would see?") It isn't even wholly for the purpose of determining if you would be the right fit for the position offered.

The interview process should not be a one-way conversation totally controlled by the interviewer. Consider it more of a collaborative discussion between two experts concerning the position in question. You need to use the interview to pitch why you (being the expert in your field that you are) would be the best fit for the position. In this sense, you are nearly as much in control of the interview process as the interviewer is.

Successfully navigating this process requires starting long before you enter the room, and it continues even after you leave. It can be divided into three parts—or the three Ps: 1) the preparation; 2) the performance; and 3) the post-interview.

THE PREPARATION

Not only is preparation the first step, it may well be the most important. Yet the most common error I come across when working with job interview candidates is their near total negligence of this step.

If you were asked to give a public address before an audience of a few dozen hiring decision-makers at companies you would love to work for—and for which you possess the career expertise—would you prepare that speech, or just wing it? Surely, if you really wanted a job, you would prepare—probably intensely and in detail.

The same applies for your sales pitch before one or two hirers at the job interview. Benjamin Franklin succinctly put it, "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." So prepare, and prepare hard. Here are some specific things to prepare

for at your interview.

Review your résumé. Your interviewer is going to be basing most of his questions on your résumé, so know it well.

Find out all you can about the company you have applied for. Research the company's website; request printed material showing what services or products the business offers; chat with a friend who worked or works there. When you shop for an item, you want to know what you are buying. Shopping for a job requires even more research.

Think of questions you would like to ask the interviewer. Now that you have done the research, formulating questions should be easy. Consider if you were offered the position immediately after the interview. What questions would you ask before accepting? What do you need to know about the job and company prior to beginning work? Write them down in an organized fashion and bring them with you to the job interview. Here are a few questions you may want to ask:

- How do you measure the productivity of this position?
- What critical issues require immediate attention at this position?
- What are the parameters of authority for this position?
- What benefits will be offered to the hired employee by the company?
- Who will I be reporting to if I am hired?

Anticipate questions you believe the interviewer will likely ask you. Some common interview questions are:

- What do you consider three of your greatest weaknesses?
- What do you consider three of your greatest strengths?
- Why did you apply for this job? Why do you want to work for this company?
- What makes you think you can perform this job effectively?
- What sets you apart from other employees in your field?
- What do you expect as a starting salary?
- Why are you leaving your present position?
- Are you punctual?
- What are your non-work-related hobbies, interests, talents?
- If your associates were to describe you in one word, what would it be?

Prepare your physical appearance for the interview. Make your attire and appearance clean and professional. Shower; shave; brush your teeth; be sure your clothing is neat, clean and ironed. Also, no matter what job you are applying for, come dressed in modest business attire. Don't chew gum; don't wear too much cologne or perfume; don't bring your kids; and don't bring your

cell phone. Look professional. The importance of this point cannot be overemphasized. *First impressions are huge.*

THE PERFORMANCE

After you have diligently prepared, it's time to put all that effort into practice during the job interview itself. Perhaps you've heard the saying that success is 10 percent inspiration and 90 percent perspiration. Well, *this is your opportunity to perspire!*

Leave for the interview at least 20 minutes earlier than it would normally take to get there. There is nothing worse you can do for a job interview than arrive late. Those extra 20 minutes can make all the difference when it comes to traffic backups, car problems or getting lost. You can always wait in the parking lot for a few extra minutes, reviewing your notes for the interview.

Be happy. Smile. Be genuinely friendly, positive and uplifting in your demeanor, voice and wording. No one likes to work with a negative person. However, I emphasize *genuinely* friendly and happy. Don't act. You're excited and happy about the opportunity to be hired by the company, aren't you? Then be happy!

Use the interviewer's name. When you ask a question or give an answer, occasionally address the person by name like you would a friend. *Well, Jim, this is what I think;* or, *Karen, this is what I would do.* Don't overuse it; just be natural.

Be yourself. Naturally, you will probably be a bit nervous. However, remind yourself as you are walking into the interviewer's office that you are there because he or she asked you to come as the expert to help their business succeed. He or she felt, based on your résumé, you would be a top candidate for the job. Have confidence and know that you do have something worthwhile to offer the company with your skills, experience and work ethic.

Listen. Don't come into the interview all guns blazing like John Wayne in a bar with bad guys. Allow the interviewer to ask the questions, especially at the start. Be courteous and alert. Listen intently to each question, and, *after the interviewer gives you the floor*, answer exactly what was asked. However, do feel free to add your personal input, thoughts and views throughout. In other words, be courteous, but don't be a robot.

Sell yourself. The résumé is only the first step in trying to sell yourself to a company. The interview is the second and most important part. Yes, it is important to listen; however, don't be too bashful to sell yourself. For example, when you are asked about what you feel you can offer to the company, tell them what you have to

offer in detail and with enthusiasm and confidence. Explain the results you would like to create and how exactly you plan to accomplish them. Too many times, interviewees are unprepared and demonstrate a lack of enthusiasm, rigidity, somberness—and insecurity about themselves. This won't get you the job! Sell yourself with the same drive you plan to perform your job if hired. You only have one chance to sell yourself, so make it count.

THE POST-INTERVIEW

This final, essential step is also too often neglected. The post-interview process—if effectively performed—can leave some of the most lasting and positive impressions on the hirer. That in turn gives you a much better chance of getting the job you seek.

Review the reasons you applied for the job and determine if they still apply after reviewing your interview notes. If they don't, send the interviewer a note explaining this.

If you still feel you would be a great fit for the position, send a "thank you" note to the interviewer within 24 hours of your interview.

Express gratitude for the person's time, effort and consideration. Also, a "thank you" note is a great way to again advertise why you believe you would be the best candidate for the job. It also gets your name before the decision-makers one more time.

If you haven't heard back from the hirer within a week of the interview, give him or her a call. This is a good action for a number of reasons. First, you never know if the company received your thank-you note and if they have forgotten about you. This gives you a chance to get your name in the forefront again. Second, by making the call you have another opportunity to express your interest in the position with enthusiasm. Also, you can follow up with any questions or additional thoughts you may have concerning the position or what you would be able to achieve within that role. The follow-up call also shows your persistence and seriousness about winning the job.

The next time you have a job interview scheduled, use the three Ps in your interview process: preparation, performance and post-interview. Remember, you are (or should be, if you're applying for the job) the expert called in to discuss the position in question and explain why you are the perfect fit. Then, show your earnest desire for the position by providing post-interview contact. Diligently apply these points, and your transition from the job interview to the new job will be around the corner! ■

THE SEASONS HAVE CHANGED in Tunis, Cairo and Tripoli. The turbulent gusts of the “Arab Spring” have blown through northern Africa and continue to roar through the halls of power in Syria, Jordan, Yemen and far beyond.

For just a moment, the revolution inspired a warm glow of anticipation as the Western world looked for the rays of liberal democracy to shine through the clouds onto a region dominated by strongmen.

But we see no blossoming Western-style democracies—only the harsh winter of radicalism. The overthrow of the

military dictatorships in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya is leading not to the birth of new democracies, but rather to a rebirth of Islamic states. As these nations embrace the tenets of radical Islam, one regional power stands to gain the most: Iran.

Governments in Syria, Saudi Arabia and Jordan are struggling to prevent contagion on their own soil. On top of these great *political* upheavals, Iran is shaking the whole region *militarily* by making steady progress toward acquiring nuclear weapons. Whispers of Israeli airstrikes are loudly broadcast. Even the United Nations reported in November that some of Iran’s nuclear experiments could *only* be for the

purpose of weapons development.

Governments, policymakers, intelligence analysts and pundits are all trying to gauge where these troubling events are heading. Will winter set in, putting the Middle East into the cold clutches of radical Islam and Iranian dominance? Will it reject cooperation with the Christian Western democracies?

With so many nations involved, so many interests to be protected, so much history, and so many cultures and brands of religion converging, the Middle East is the most complicated region in the world.

Yet there is a source that can accurately answer all these questions! That source is

The whole region has violently been turned upside down, and the tempest isn’t over yet.

But to get a clear picture of the future you have to scan the past. **BY DAVID VEJIL**



TAKING TO THE STREETS

Demonstrators in Cairo ultimately deposed longtime strongman Hosni Mubarak.

How to Make Sense of the Stormy Middle East

biblical prophecy.

Two prophecies in particular make sense of the volatile international relations occurring in this region: Daniel 11 and Psalm 83.

These prophecies show what is in store for those nations involved in the “Arab Spring,” those whose governments have successfully resisted overthrows, and those facing rebellion right now.

Taken together, these two prophecies show us that the region will be conquered and controlled by one major power. Ultimately, it will not be Iran or an Islamic power!

To understand these prophecies, you must know which nations they are talking about.

The Whirlwind Attack

In the prophecy of Daniel 11:40-43, we learn that there is a “king of the south” ruling parts of the Middle East. But Daniel also says a different power will conquer the region: “And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him; and *the king of the north* shall come against him like a whirlwind ... and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. ... [A]nd the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.”

There are two primary powers here: the king of the north and the king of the south. The king of the south can only be Iran. (For an explanation, request our free booklet *The King of the South*.) It is not this “king,” though, that is prophesied to conquer North Africa and the Middle East. It is the king of the north!

The king of the north is a German-led European combine. To prove why the ancient “king of the north” is modern Europe, request our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.

Daniel 11 lists the enemies of the king of the north, Iran’s key allies: Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia, which are still called by their ancient names today. Egypt and Libya are already falling to the control of radical Islamic elements supported by Iran!

This prophecy is why the *Trumpet* accurately predicted—as far back as July 1993—that these nations would be overtaken by radical Islam! Current events are unfolding exactly according to this prophecy.

However, just as important as *who is* allied with the king of the south is *who isn't*.

Daniel writes that when the king of the north hits the king of the south and its allies with a blitzkrieg, three peoples will



escape: “Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon” (verse 41). These three peoples will *not* be allied with Iran.

This means that ultimately *Iran will not succeed*—not only in confronting Christian Europe, but also in its efforts to control the entire Middle East.

But what will happen to these other nations, such as Edom and Moab? This is explained in a different prophecy of events shortly after the king of the north conquers the king of the south.

An Anti-Israel Alliance

“They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that *the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance*.” This prophecy is found in Psalm 83:4. It describes a group of nations forming a confederacy to destroy the modern nations of Israel.

“For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them” (verses 5-8).

Assur is biblical *Assyria*, the prophetic name for modern-day *Germany*! (See the October/November 2010 issue for proof of Assyria’s modern identity.)

The Middle Eastern nations listed in this passage will form an alliance with Germany. Their purpose will be to “cut off” the modern descendants of Israel—primarily America, Britain and Judah, the modern Jewish State of Israel.

So, which are these nations that will ally not with Iran, but with Germany?

Edom and Amalek

Edom, also called *Esau* in the Bible, is listed first in Psalm 83. As we covered in our November/December 2011 issue (“East, West

or Neither?”), this is modern-day Turkey.

Also included is a son of Esau, *Amalek*. Amalek and his children became a prominent people at the time of the Exodus. Moses records in Numbers 24:20 that Amalek “was the first of the nations.” That phrase refers not to chronology, but power: The Amalekites were the first people to attack the Israelites after they escaped from Egypt. They were even powerful enough to enslave Egyptians, according to an account in 1 Samuel 30:11-13. At the height of their power, the Amalekites colonized various areas of the Mediterranean, including the Aegean and western Turkey. In biblical prophecy, *Amalek* also refers to modern Turkey.

Turkey, like Iran, is a formidable regional power, but it has strong ties to Europe. It is not difficult to foresee how Turkey can and will resist falling into radical Iran’s orbit. In fact, the Psalm 83 prophecy shows that, despite present appearances to the contrary, Turkey will at some point renew its efforts to ally with Europe! Watch for it.

What about the other nations listed in this prophecy?

Moab and Ammon

Remember that the prophecy of Daniel 11 says the king of the north, after conquering the king of the south, will then “enter also into *the glorious land*”—the nation of Israel, specifically Jerusalem. Then, it says, “*Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon*” will escape. All three of these names also appear in Psalm 83.

Keeping the Daniel 11 invasion in mind, we can thus conclude that *the nations listed in Psalm 83 are geographically near Israel*.

Moab and Ammon were the sons of Lot by his daughters. During the time of King David and Solomon, Moab and Ammon created kingdoms in the territory of modern-day Jordan. Even today the name of the capital of Jordan, *Amman*, can be traced back to *Ammon*.

The descendants of Moab and Ammon evidently remained in the same area as their ancient kingdoms. They avoided captivity and the population dispersion policies of the Assyrians by paying tribute (Jeremiah 48:11). Considering that Moab and Ammon are in the vicinity of Israel, it becomes clear that Moab and Ammon constitute the modern nation of Jordan.

Gebal and Tyre

The same logic can be applied to the other names on the Psalm 83 list. Gebal is a city in Lebanon, also called Byblos. It is considered one of the oldest continuously

inhabited cities in the world.

This was the most prominent city of the Phoenicians until being replaced by Tyre, also located in modern-day Lebanon and once a powerful trade center of the Mediterranean.

The Phoenicians were an ancient race of people, well known as traders, merchants and colonizers, who established cities all over the Mediterranean. While some of these cities grew very powerful, the Phoenicians never developed into a single empire or nation.

The prophecy focuses only on those major Phoenician cities that are now located in Lebanon. This means that the two cities reference a geographic location, not the people who founded them. It is clear, then, that Gebal and Tyre refer to Lebanon.

Hagarenes

The Hagarenes are also located in the same area. These are the descendants of Hagar, the mother of Ishmael, known as Hagarites in the other scriptures. Moses recorded in Genesis 25:18 that Ishmael's sons dwelt in the land ranging from Egypt to Assyria.

By the seventh century B.C., during the reign of the Assyrian King Sennacherib, the Hagarenes were recorded as living among Aramean tribes off the middle section of the Euphrates. They are among the Aramean tribes invaded and ravaged by Sennacherib, according to George Rawlinson's *The Seven Great Monarchies of the Ancient Eastern World*. The Arameans settled in what is today known as Syria. Therefore, the Hagarenes, who dwelt among the Arameans, are those who inhabit modern-day Syria.

Ishmaelites

The rest of Hagar's descendants are known more prominently as the Ishmaelites. The identity of the descendants of Ishmael was once widely known, but today this history is being forgotten. Under the article "Arab" in the 11th edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, printed in 1911, we read that Arab "people, according to their own traditions, are derived from two stocks: the pure Arabs, descended from Kahtan or Joktan ... and the Mustarab or naturalized Arabs, from Ishmael."

The descendants of Joktan "are represented at the present day by the inhabitants of Yemen, Hadramut and Oman, in general a settled agricultural population" on the southern Arabian Peninsula, while those Arabs from Ishmael are located in Saudi Arabia in "Hejaz, Nejd, El Hasa, the Syrian desert and Mesopotamia, consisting of the Bedouin or pastoral tribes."

Though there is much regional variation in the Arabian Peninsula, the distinction between the desert nomads and the town dwellers and agriculturalists remains.

Thus, history, and even the Arabs' own evidence, reveals that the modern Ishmaelites now dwell in Saudi Arabia.

Philistines

Last are the Philistines. Anciently the Philistines occupied the southern coast of Canaan, dominating five major cities, including Gaza, Ashkelon and Ashdod. It is from the Philistines that the term *Palestine* is derived. Geographically this would essentially describe the Palestinian territory known as the Gaza Strip.

When looking at this list of nations, excluding Turkey and Germany, all the nations listed are populated by people now called Arabs. If they are all the same people, why wouldn't Bible prophecy label them as one people?

The Arabs in Prophecy

Beginning early in the seventh century, the Arabs conquered the entire Middle East and more. Just as the Bible prophesied, Ishmael became a great nation. It was the religion of Islam that inflamed the Arabs with the drive to conquer. As the *Encyclopedia Britannica* says, Islam "was the religious force that united the desert subsistence nomads—the Bedouins—with the town dwellers of the oases" (online edition).

As the Arabs conquered, they spread Islam around the world. The Arab language was also adopted throughout much of the Middle East and North Africa as Islam dominated the religions of those areas.

Today, the name *Arab* describes many different people who speak the same language.

No doubt there was a considerable mixing of the Arab people into the local populations as they conquered. Many of the nations outlined in this prophecy have been mixed over thousands of years and multiple invasions. The biblical record shows much intermarrying among these people from the beginning, and many of these Arab people are distantly related.

Genesis 28:9, for example, records a marriage between Ishmael's daughter and Esau. The Ishmaelites were also shown to intermarry with another Arabian people, the Midianites—so much so that their names are used interchangeably in

Genesis 37. The numerous children of the Ishmaelites most likely would have sought wives from the neighboring descendants of Joktan as well.

The Hagarenes are also distantly related to the Ishmaelites through the matriarch Hagar.

The Bible even comments on the Philistines being a mixed race in Zechariah 9, most likely a result of mixing in the neighboring peoples listed in Psalm 83.

Even with populations mixing and moving, though, biblical prophecy still labels modern nations that factor in end-time events by their predecessors. It is a mistake to label them all the same people. While they may share the same language and religion and have had a history of intermarriage, God still calls them by their respective patriarch's or matriarch's name.

And while the mixing of so many people in this area may make it difficult to be exact, there is enough information to give us a good picture of which nations will join in this Psalm 83 alliance.

The Future of the 'Arab Spring'

Given our understanding of these prophecies, then, we return to our original question: Will what is left of the "Arab Spring" produce any Western-style democracies? Not a chance! There will emerge two distinct groups—one radical, Iranian-led alliance, and the other a violently anti-Israel and anti-American coalition.

Will all these nations turn their backs on cooperating with Christian Europe? Believe it or not, the answer is NO!

Shocked and awed over the mighty power of the king of the north's victory over Iran and its allies, and driven by deep hatred of the Israelite nations, certain Muslim nations in the Middle East will actually *ally* with a Roman Catholic European power!

This is the general outline of future events the Bible gives for this region of the world!

If you believe these prophecies, you can see where the "Arab Spring" is heading. You can understand why Europe was so eager to intervene in Libya! You can know why the Israeli-Palestinian peace process will not succeed and how it will end!

You can know ahead of time what will happen! That is why the *Trumpet* was able to forecast the Islamic takeover occurring right now in Egypt *18 years ago*, and why we foretold events in Libya and Tunisia. But it is only possible if you believe what the Bible says about these nations.

If this is still not enough to convince, just watch! The fulfillment of these prophecies is rapidly springing forth! ■

If you believe Bible prophecies, you can see where the "Arab Spring" is heading.

What Diapers and Rash Cream Tell Us About the Economy

BY ROBERT MORLEY

DIAPER SALES ARE PLUMMETING. ACROSS all categories—brand name, generic, bulk and so on—sales are down. Why? Not because new technology has made them obsolete. It's because people are cutting their budgets to the bone.

It could be a sign the economy is worse than many perceive. Even survivalists—end-of-the-world types—commonly list diapers as potentially one of the most sought-after luxuries in a post-Wal-Mart world.

But don't feel too sorry for the diaper companies. Sure, they may be taking a bath on diaper sales, but they are cleaning up selling rash ointment: Sales are up 8 percent for the year. Why is that? Less-frequent changes.

The biggest spikes in diaper rashes appear to be in inner cities like Chicago and Philadelphia, a sign that even in neighborhoods that are massively subsidized by social programs, people are struggling more than usual. It is a choice between diapers and paying for food and heat, says Daniel Taylor, a pediatrician in Philadelphia.

With unemployment so high, and wages that haven't budged in a decade, for many people there is just no room for error.

A September national poll found that one in three Americans would be unable to make their mortgage payment or rent beyond one month if they lost their job. A whopping 10 percent of respondents *earning \$100,000 per year or more* said they couldn't even cover one month if they lost their job.

America is living in a new "trickle-down poverty era," writes the *Oklahoman's* Malcolm Berko. During the decade from 1997 to 2007, consumers took on *more debt than they had for the previous 100 years combined*.

Inmates Running the Firehouse

The government led the way. George W. Bush added \$1.5 trillion to the national debt in

his first term. He added another \$3 trillion in his second. President Obama is on track to add as much debt during his first four years as President Bush did in his eight disastrous budget years. Then on November 16, the Treasury Department said the debt had climbed to a record \$15 trillion—almost 100 percent of America's GDP.

Of course, debt eventually needs to be repaid (or defaulted on). This becomes impossible when it is especially gargantuan.

This is where America is today, indicates Berko. This generation "will have a

lower standard of living than their parents"—that is just how it is going to be.

You can see the contraction in a lot of cities, not just the recent high-profile bankruptcies in Birmingham, Alabama; Vallejo, California; and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

In Highland Park, Michigan, the city is literally going dark. DTE Energy has repossessed most of the city's 1,400 light poles, and is selling them for their scrap metal value, as part of a settlement to cover \$4 million in past-due bills. Residents report crime is already rising.

Money issues are so bad in Topeka, Kansas, that in October officials voted to decriminalize domestic violence in order to save the cost of prosecutions. The District Attorney's office said it would also no longer prosecute any misdemeanors. As of September, 30 cases of domestic violence had been dropped.

In Georgia County, Florida, officials are mulling letting inmates staff firehouses. "The inmates would have no guard, but would be monitored by a surveillance system and by the traditional firefighters, who would undergo training to guard the inmates," reported the *Florida Times Union* (Oct. 8, 2011). The move would save the county up to \$100,000 per convict. California already has 4,000 inmates serving in firehouses.

Cities going dark. Law and order going unenforced. Criminals released from jails. Rich getting richer. Poor getting poorer. Upper-class people living paycheck to paycheck. \$15 trillion national debt. It is hard to picture prosperous pre-2008-economic-crash America coming back anytime soon.

In fact, America's economic condition will get much worse before it gets better. Soon, cutting back on diapers will be the least of people's worries. ■



How to Win an Election in Russia

The bombshell announcement that was no surprise at all **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

THAT'S HOW THEY DO IT IN RUSSIA. Here, the United States is gearing up for an ugly presidential election, and we have almost a year of pomp, theatrics, name-calling, mudslinging, attack ads and impossible promises to look forward to.

On Sept. 24, 2011, Vladimir Putin and Dmitry Medvedev, Russia's prime minister and president, announced that they would save the Russians the hassles of a truly free and fair election in 2012—and simply switch jobs.

At the annual conference of the ruling United Russia party in late September, President Medvedev said he would not run in the upcoming March elections, and proposed that Mr. Putin return to that office for a third term. Putin accepted the invitation, and proposed Medvedev's candidacy as prime minister, which Medvedev accepted.

It's all so convenient. Sure, technically these were just proposals—nothing formal. But, realistically, this is about as close to a lock for an election you can get outside of North Korea.

Mr. Putin actually revealed that all the way back in 2007, Medvedev, before becoming president, agreed to step down after serving only one term. “[W]e actually discussed this variant of events while we were first forming our comradely alliance,” Putin said at the conference.

The idea that Putin the strongman was only Russia's second-most-powerful leader was always a farce. He was president from 2000 to 2008, but the constitution blocked him from running for a third consecutive four-year term. He picked Medvedev to succeed him. That's how they do it in Russia.

For the last four years, then, President Medvedev has been something of a puppet while Putin assumed the prime ministership and chaired United Russia. In this position, Putin has enjoyed enhanced control of the legislature. Unsurprisingly, an amendment was successfully pushed into the constitution that bumped presidential terms to six years. Thus, the path is now cleared for Mr. Putin to stay in the Kremlin for another 12 years.



Resurrecting a Dead Empire

Most people in the West shed no tears after the Soviet Union dissolved and Russia stumbled and bumbled through the 1990s. Vladimir Putin, by contrast, called the USSR's collapse the “greatest tragedy of the 20th century.” Like most of his countrymen, he views the 1990s as a decade of humiliation. When he took leadership of Russia in 2000, the shrewd ex-KGB agent aggressively went about setting things right again. And he made impressive gains.

During his two presidential terms, Putin wrestled a new brand of capitalism onto the Russian stage. In 1998, the country was bankrupt. During his eight years in the Kremlin, Russia's economy grew at an average of 7 to 8 percent per year, and its currency appreciated 20 percent in value.

President Putin streamlined his nation's political architecture in order to amass his personal power. He created policies whereby the Kremlin can prevent virtually whomever it pleases from participating in politics. He consolidated and nationalized his nation's formidable energy resources and used them as foreign-policy weapons. He oversaw an oil-and-gas-driven economic revival that boosted Russia past Saudi Arabia in 2009 to become the world's leading energy exporter.

Even with Medvedev in the presidency, Russia's upward trajectory has continued. When NASA retired its space shuttles this past summer, Russia gained a monopoly on station crew shuttle flights, a service that costs over \$50 million per astronaut. Putin has rebuilt his country's military,



THE BOSS Whether he's president or prime minister—or president again—Vladimir Putin is number one in Russia.

and in September coaxed Ukraine into participating for the first time in a major military training drill jointly with Russian and Belarusian forces. In the wake of Europe's financial crisis, Russia has pounced on the opportunity to buy up assets in Central and Eastern European nations, which will multiply Moscow's leverage in these former Soviet states.

However, there is an ugly underbelly to this success story. In the process of lifting Russia from its 1990s stagnation, Putin has brutally quashed an uprising in Chechnya, silenced most independent Russian media, opened the Nord Stream pipeline running into Germany and tightening Moscow's grip on Eastern Europe, attacked human rights organizations, and intimidated his rivals into silence.

His government has been implicated in multiple seedy incidents: the poisoning of Ukraine's pro-Western presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko before its 2004 elections; a broad-scale cyberattack against Estonia after it relocated a Soviet-era statue; the murder of journalist Anna Politkovskaya; the fatal poisoning of spy-turned-Putin-critic Alexander Litvinenko. In late 2009, Putin said the "reunification" of Georgia with Russia has "already been decided," which many viewed as a call for restoration of Moscow's control over Georgia. When the U.S. said it would build a missile shield in Eastern Europe, Russia threatened to bomb it.

In short, Vladimir Putin has orchestrated a staggering and rapid return to international prominence and power for Russia—and in classic Russian authoritarian style.

Russia was walloped by the global economic downturn shortly after Putin left the presidency, but it is recovering, and throwing its weight around at international conferences. It is buying assets across Europe that are going cheap—particularly banks, energy firms, ports and airports—in order to gain leverage. It is expanding its armed forces. It is establishing military bases on the Black Sea. It is conducting naval exercises in Asia and Latin America. It is constructing new pipelines to pump its natural gas and oil into other nations. It is helping with Iran's nuclear program. It is pushing back at NATO expansion. It is working with Central Asian countries to undermine U.S. and European proposals to build oil and gas pipelines that bypass Russia. In November, Russia joined China in opposing any new sanctions on Iran and condemning any threat of military force against Iran. Russia and China have also locked arms to undercut the U.S. dollar, and to block the UN Security Council from condemning Syrian President Bashar Assad's crackdown on populist uprisings.

Cold War Nightmares

In response to the news of Putin's return to the Kremlin, Europeans are having Cold War nightmares. They haven't forgotten their bloody history with Russia, and deeply fear the return of the Soviet

bear. Putin's heavy-handed tactics recall that history. Europeans well know: That's how they do it in Russia.

The *Trumpet* has long said that Russian democracy is a sham. When Medvedev assumed the presidency, we predicted that though Medvedev would keep the seat warm, Putin would return: "Putin has marshaled the return of Russia to great-power status, and he is not about to become hands-off," we wrote on theTrumpet.com on Nov. 12, 2008. "Bible prophecy shows that Russia's resurgence will be a catalyst for the emergence of a unified European superstate—and subsequently contribute to an enormously destructive world war."

Russia is still armed to the hilt with nuclear weapons. And now, to make matters worse, Europe is deeply dependent on Russian energy. This situation calls to mind an electrifying biblical prophecy.

Back in 2003, Vladimir Putin secured tremendous personal power in national elections—power he has since expanded even further. At that time, the *Trumpet's* editor in chief pointed to this prophecy. In his January 2004 cover story, "Russia Frightens Europe—and Fulfills Bible Prophecy," he wrote, "The Russian election is triggering a fear that will hasten the uniting of the European Union. The Russian election will cause Germany and other European nations to want a stronger leader. Throughout history, Germany has often sought a strong leader. Bible prophecy says it will do so again—for the last time!"

As that article showed, Europe's fear over Russia's growing power is directly prophesied in the Bible. Those prophecies clearly describe how Russia's resurgence will actually help ignite and draw together a European superstate—and subsequently contribute to an enormously destructive world war. Our booklet *Russia and China in Prophecy* explains the whole picture, and we will send you a free copy upon request.

The return of Russia as a fearsome totalitarian power was forecast in Scripture. We're seeing it before our eyes. ■

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Why the Week?

The surprising origins of the universal seven-day rhythm of human life **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

WHY IS IT THAT THE WEDNESDAY just before Thanksgiving *felt* so much like a Friday? Why are most TV shows aired every seven days instead of every four or five? And why is it easy enough to mistake a Tuesday for a Wednesday, but almost impossible to mistake a Friday for a Saturday?

These questions point to something so pervasive, so universal, and so deeply entrenched in our lives that we take it for granted: the seven-day week. Next to the day, the week is the most important calendar unit in our lives.

How did this seven-day cycle come to so conspicuously occupy our minds and our calendars? Where did it originate? How did it become such a ubiquitous backbeat in the rhythm of human life?

Most other major measurements of time are determined by what happens in the skies above us. The length of a year is determined by how long it takes our planet to make one full revolution around the sun. The month is based on the time required for our moon to complete its cycle. A day is the time the Earth takes to complete one full rotation on its axis.

But what about the week? What astronomical cycle determines this seven-day span?

Divided Lunar Cycle Theory

One common explanation says the week is based on one quarter of the 29,531-day lunar cycle, which would come to nearly 7.4 days. Proponents of this theory say ancient peoples used the moon's cycle to determine the duration of both the month, in its complete cycle, and the week, as one quarter of that cycle. They say this quartered lunar cycle gave rise to a calendar, like those used by early Babylonians, in which each month began on a new moon and was separated into four 7-day segments followed by one or two odd days each month.

In *The Origins of the Seven-Day Week*, Eviatar Zerubavel dismisses this theory. "One of the most distinctive features of the week is the fact that it is entirely dissociated from the lunar cycle," he writes. "It is essentially defined as a precise multiple of the day, quite independently of the lunar month. ... Any subdivision of the lunar cycle necessarily involves some mathematically inconvenient remainder of hours, minutes and seconds. A precise quarter of the lunar cycle, for example, amounts to 7,386.25 days, and any week of that length would necessarily have to begin at different times of the day."

The divided lunar cycle theory also does not explain the fact that, in almost all

societies, the week is *seven* days long. After all, a lunar month could just as easily be divided into three 10-day sections, or five 6-day blocks, six 5-day spans, or other variations, with the final "week" being shortened by a day or two as needed. Why would early societies choose to divide the lunar cycle by four? The number is arbitrary. Other major units of time—the day, month and year—are derived from *complete* astronomical cycles, which are clearly visible in the skies. But the divided lunar cycle explanation for the week is built on an arbitrary, man-made division.

Visible Celestial Bodies Theory

Another popular explanation for the week comes from adding up the number of celestial bodies in our solar system that are visible with the naked eye. The sun, the moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn would all have been visible to early stargazers who had no telescopes, so the sum is seven.

Peter Meyer of Hermetic Systems explains this theory: "[I]t is obvious why there are seven days in a week: This is the number of visible planets plus the sun and the moon. If, instead of an asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, there had been a planet, then there would have been six

visible planets, not five, so the number of celestial entities would have been eight, not seven. In that case humans would have developed a week of eight days, not seven.”

It is undeniable that the days of the week on our calendars (in English and European languages) are named after the visible bodies (e.g. “the day of Saturn” is Saturday). It’s also true that ancient societies named these celestial bodies after their various gods and goddesses. However, the facts of history prove that the seven-day week existed *long before* its days came to be associated with these ancient gods, and that the association came about only in the third century B.C.

Originally, the seven visible bodies were used only for ancient Babylonian fortune-telling and had no influence on the week or any other cycle of human life. Zerubavel explains this by saying, “[W]hile the Chaldean origin of astrology is indisputable, there is no evidence that an actual astrological seven-day cycle ever existed in ancient Mesopotamia A permanent correspondence between the Sabbath and ‘the day of Saturn’ was thus established no later than the first century of the present era Sabbath observance had been established long before the astrological week ever came into being, and obviously preceded both the making of the calendrical association between ‘the day of Saturn’ and the Sabbath and the naming of the planet after the latter.”

So, the association between celestial bodies, pagan gods and the seven days of the week didn’t happen until many centuries after widespread adherence to the week. Thus the visible celestial bodies theory doesn’t explain the week’s origins any better than the divided lunar theory. History and logic easily disprove both of these theories, and reveal how *weak* they really are.

An Invention of Ancient Israel?

In his thorough book, Zerubavel, after conclusively disproving both of the above theories, finally concludes that the seven-day week was the invention of ancient Israel. He says that it eventually spread from that early society into the whole world.

The trouble with that theory, though, is that biology proves the seven-day week *predates all societies*.

Mankind has long understood that our bodies operate on circadian (daily), monthly and annual rhythms, but chronobiologists have only recently discovered seven-day patterns written into the biology of people, animals and plants.

According to *The Secrets Our Body*

Clocks Reveal by Susan Perry and Jim Dawson, the blood pressure cycle, coping hormone cycles, immune responses to infections, production of blood and urine chemicals, and even the heartbeat operate on a seven-day pattern.

Experiments conducted by scientist Franz Halberg also prove that seven-day cycles govern fundamental aspects in the lives of flies, rats and other critters. Research by Halberg, Perry, Dawson and others has uncovered no cycles (between daily and monthly frequency) that occur in five, six, eight, nine or any other num-



ber of days—*only seven*.

A rat can’t tell the Talmud from the *Huffington Post*, so, if the seven-day week was invented by people, as historians like Zerubavel maintain, what explains these biological seven-day rhythms?

The Week’s True Origins

The week is completely oblivious to seasons, tides, orbits and every other aspect of external nature. Nothing in the cosmos happens in seven days, so there is no astronomical reason for the week. There is no recurring cycle of the stars, moon, planets, sun, or anything else that happens in seven days’ time. So the week had to originate from another source. Science proves that the seven-day cycle is also etched deeply into mankind’s DNA, proving it could not have been the invention of any society.

The intelligentsia of the world have strained in vain to attribute the week’s origins to something secular, but it cannot be done.

That is because *the week was created by God*.

It was created by God, and its existence provides evidence that He is the Creator of the universe.

The first two chapters of the book of Genesis detail God’s re-creation of the Earth after it had been wrecked in the angelic rebellion (Genesis 1:2; Isaiah 14:12-14).

The details of the account show that this re-creation was completed in seven days (Genesis 2:2-3), with the Creator resting “on the seventh day” following the six days of creation. God then commanded His people to rest on each seventh day from then on, as an eternal tribute to God’s re-creation and rest (Exodus 20:8-11; 31:15-17). So, almost as a by-product of the work He accomplished during the seven days of re-creation, God also created the week.

Other calendar units are determined by heavenly bodies, but the week was determined by the heavenly Father.

The Universal Week

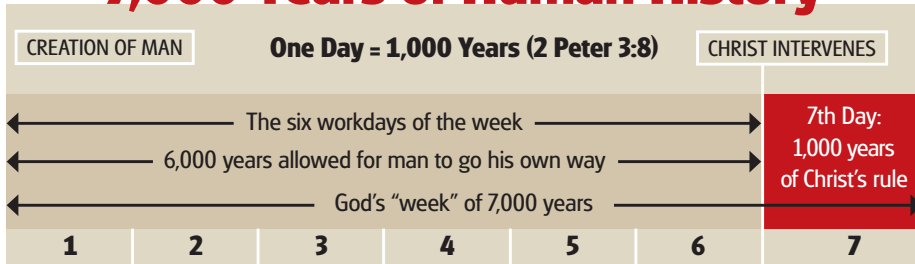
The week is universal. In almost every nation and civilization on the planet, throughout all chapters of human history, you will find people living out their lives to the rhythm of the week.

We take for granted that all around the world everyone uses a seven-day week, but that hasn’t always been the case. Some cultures have used “weeks” varying in length from as few as three days to as many as 19.

At the time the 11th edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* was written, there were some isolated pockets in the Democratic Republic of the Congo where the people *still* operated in “weeks” of only three or four days. In *African Cultural Astronomy*, author Jarita C. Holbrook discusses the Igbo people of Nigeria, pointing out that they function on a four-day week. And the same is true for some other isolated cultures around the world, although globalization and the technology explosion make such instances rarer all the time.

The explanation for this is that Noah the patriarch knew all about the seven-day week, and taught the time cycle to his progeny. But when God confounded the languages at Babel around 4,000 years

7,000 Years of Human History



ago, the people split into separate nations and migrated to disparate locations all over the globe. As the generations passed, many of these cultures forgot and rejected an increasing amount of what they had been taught, including the correct length of a week. But it is interesting that none of these societies forgot the general concept of the week. They only altered the specifics. Nevertheless, the general concept of the week, as a recurring time frame within the lunar cycle, has remained universal.

The Sabbath Was Made for Mankind

In Mark 2, Jesus Christ says, "The Sabbath was made for man." Leviticus 23:3 says, "[S]ix days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; you shall do no work therein ..." So, it was not just the Sabbath, but the entire seven-day week that was actually made for men. The command to labor for six days is every bit as clear as the command to rest on the seventh. And Christ did not say this model is just for Jews or Israelites, but for "man," or *all mankind*.

Even in purely physical terms, there are some fascinating proofs that the seven-day rhythm of life will lead to maximum productivity and health. It's not hard to see why this is true.

On one extreme, there are some cultures like those mentioned above that operate on a week of only three or four days. Rather than working six days and resting one, a person operating on a three-day week would work two days and then rest one. But the cultural and economic output of such cultures is weaker than those of societies that labor six days before resting one.

On the other extreme are civilizations that have experimented with "weeks" longer than seven days. In 1793, just after the French Revolution, France adopted a 10-day week. The revolutionaries made the move in an effort to simultaneously de-Christianize the country and increase its productivity. But productivity did not

increase. According to R.R. Palmer's *The World of the French Revolution*, France only kept the 10-day week around for 12 years because of its extremely disappointing results. During these years, French society saw a stark increase in injuries, exhaustion, illness, and work animals that collapsed and died at astounding rates. These people were attempting to operate on a rhythm other than the one that was created for them, and the results were disastrous.

Other societies have conducted similar week-extension experiments, but, like the French, they all reverted back to the seven-day model within a short time. The Sabbath was made for man, and mankind functions at its best when operating on a seven-day cycle. A shorter week reduces productivity to a trickle; a longer one places an unsustainable strain on workers. We are not only commanded to rest on the seventh day, but also to work on the first six days. More or less than this, and penalties are inevitable.

The Mind-Staggering Big Picture

The Apostle Peter knew that the week and the day were symbolic of something far bigger. He wrote, "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day" (2 Peter 3:8). Why did Peter place such emphasis on this seemingly arbitrary numeric scale? Because God inhabits eternity (Isaiah 57:15), and man's destiny is to be born into His eternal Family.

God wants our minds to comprehend eternity, but the concept is so vast and abstract to us that striving to contemplate it can overwhelm us and cause our finite brains to overload or go blank. So Peter tried to bring it down to a bite-size level.

The seven-day week is precisely patterned after God's master plan to bring men into His Family. Herbert W. Armstrong explained the parallels, saying: "[T]he first 6,000 years of God's 7,000-year plan were allotted to allow Satan to labor at his work of deceiving the world, followed by 1,000 years (one millennial day) when Satan shall not be allowed to do any of his 'work' of deception. Put another way, God marked out six millennial days to allow man to indulge in the spiritual labor of sin, followed by a millennium of spiritual rest, under the enforced government of God" (*The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*; request your free copy).

To God, who is not confined to time as we are, a thousand years is like a day. Thus, the seven-day week is a type of God's 7,000-year plan. Exodus 31 says "in six days [a type of the 6,000 years of mankind's rule since Adam was created in 4,004 B.C.] the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day [a type of the coming Millennium] he rested, and was refreshed" (verse 17). By resting, God created the Sabbath and completed the creation of the seven-day week.

So, interlaced into the week is this awe-inspiring prophecy: *Mankind's 6,000 years of pathetically attempting to rule itself are almost over, and the "Sabbath" is almost here!*

The next time you stare into the night sky, marveling at the stars and other celestial bodies, you might look to the moon and consider how man has patterned the month after its cycle. Or you may consider the rotation or revolution of the Earth and how that has given us the day and year. But don't waste time searching the firmament for something that explains the seven-day week. The week was created by God. ■

Don't assume you know.

Request your own FREE copy of Herbert W. Armstrong's comprehensive booklet proving this doctrine from the Bible:
Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?



Beware False Conversion

Is it possible to worship Christ and do it in vain?



MILLIONS OF CHURCHGOERS CLAIM TO “KNOW” JESUS Christ, but fully reject the very teachings He proclaimed during His ministry, including the very laws Jesus Himself abided by. They have been deceived by the teachings of false ministers who are hostile to God’s laws and who misapply and distort the plain truth of the Bible.

Consider one popular passage of Scripture in Acts 16:31: “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.” If you believe, *you shall be saved*—that’s future tense. But what kind of belief is Paul talking about here? Most people do not realize that the Bible speaks of two kinds of belief, or two kinds of faith: 1) living faith that brings salvation; and 2) dead, “no works” faith that leads to death.

It is the first kind of faith—the *living* faith that is coupled with works (James 2:18)—that so many fail to understand. Why won’t the same preachers who *misapply* Acts 16:31 also quote what Jesus Himself said when asked about inheriting salvation: “If thou wilt enter into life, *keep the commandments*” (Matthew 19:17). And when a young man asked Him which commandments He was referring to, Jesus proceeded to list the Ten Commandments.

Jesus said *if* we are to be saved—there was a condition—if we are to be saved, by God’s grace, then we must keep the commandments!

The Bible also reveals that man cannot *earn* salvation. God *gives* it as a free gift. But He gives it to those who repent of sin and turn to God in humble obedience. God will not give eternal life to someone who is living in sin.

Many who claim to know Christ say the commandments have been done away. Yet John says that the only people who

The Apostle John called those who claimed to know Christ, but refused to keep His commands, liars!

truly know Jesus Christ are those who *keep* His commandments (1 John 2:3-4). John, the same one who said we must believe on the name of Jesus, called those who claimed to know Christ, but refused to keep His commands, liars! There is no contradiction: Instead, we see that the *kind of belief* required for salvation is far different than many have carelessly assumed.

Human beings would rather do almost anything else than surrender to God. Human nature detests the thought of submitting to God’s law! This is why men have substituted their own laws, customs and traditions in place of God’s commandments,

thinking they can still receive salvation by merely believing in Christ as their Savior.

Yet Christ says those who disobey His commandments worship Him in vain (Mark 7:7-9). In other words, it is entirely possible to think you are worshiping Christ and to be doing it in vain.

How can we know we are worshiping Christ the right way? The Apostle Peter answered this question in a sermon he gave to some unbelievers. Acts 2:37-38 say that after hearing Peter preach, these people “were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, *Repent*, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy [Spirit].”

The first step in converting to God’s way of life is to repent of sin. And sin, the Bible reveals, is the transgression of God’s law (1 John 3:4).

God’s law is summed up in one word: love! It is further defined in the two great commands Jesus outlined in Matthew 22: to love God and to love neighbor. This same law is further defined and divided into 10 points by the Ten Commandments, the first four detailing how to love God, the last six how to love neighbor.

Jesus also said, “Repent ye, and believe the gospel” (Mark 1:15). We must believe not only in Jesus as Savior, but also the gospel He brought and preached—the gospel of the soon-coming Kingdom of God.

Here, then, is the Bible’s formula for becoming a true Christian: repentance from sin, belief in Christ and His gospel message, and baptism—an ordinance *symbolizing* faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

Once these conditions are met, God stands bound by His promise to put within the repentant believer His Spirit of love, faith, understanding, gentleness and goodness. It is the down payment of our eternal inheritance. According to the Bible, a Christian is one in whom the Holy Spirit dwells! (Romans 8:9).

The Apostle Paul added, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” It is *Christ’s own faith*, in other words—which God supplies and places in us by the Holy Spirit—that actually imparts eternal life.

The Holy Spirit dwelling in you is Christ in you (Romans 8:10). God’s Spirit is *how* Christ dwells in us—it is how Jesus Christ comes again in the flesh (1 John 4:2). God’s Spirit will then “save” us, completing this process of salvation (verse 11).

This passage shows that final salvation means being given eternal life at the time of the resurrection. If the Holy Spirit of God is “dwelling in you” at that time (or at your death, which ever comes first), then your mortal body will be resurrected, or changed, to immortality. ■



Spectacular prophecy

It is stunning, the rapidity at which prophecies are happening (“Do You Realize How Soon the World Could End?” November/December). Something is going on in the world nearly every day in the environment, either an earthquake or some weather phenomenon. Records are being set all over the place for disasters in the USA, and people don’t seem concerned much about it. They don’t even question it. They just accept it as part of “global warming” or some other explanation that calms their fears. All of the violence exploding around us the world over ... dictators being ousted in the Middle East and Islam quickly filling the void. It is all coming together just as God revealed that it would. We are told to watch, and what a spectacular show of prophecy it is! Yes, the dominoes are all falling and will fall even more rapidly as the little time left advances forward. Thank you for helping us to see the big picture even more clearly.

Bridget Johnson—TENNESSEE

Very exciting! I am endlessly amazed at the mind-boggling clarity with which your *Trumpet* writers inform us, and the overwhelming amount of detail and concrete data you bring to the table. Not to denigrate your intelligence, but a higher power MUST be behind it, and I’m sure you folks know that and love it.

Christine—WASHINGTON STATE

Jaw dropping! Way to put our very near future into perspective. What a serious time to live through. An illusion of permanence does blind so many! The immense significance of events unfolding is mind boggling! Great effort!

Onyx Ross—MONTANA

Changing mental habits

This was well written and so accurate! (“Defeat Depression—Master Your Mind,” November/December). David Burns’s book helped me realize those negative thoughts that were in the back of my mind. They creep up on you if you aren’t paying attention. Now I’m working on changing those habits—a difficult challenge, but a realistic one with God. He is so willing to help us if we just ask and obey. What a great God we serve!

UNITED STATES



Beware bureaucrats!

The last two Republican rebuttals, after the president’s weekly address, were about government bureaucratic red tape and how it is hindering small businesses from getting started, and in turn hurting the economy by preventing job growth (“Triumph of the Small-Minded Bureaucrats,” November/

December). It never ceases to amaze me how often I get a story here before it goes mainstream.

Russell—NEW YORK

Excellent. I am a former professional and former business owner who deals with many other small business owners, and this is spot on. One accountant with many small businesses as clients said many of his clients have let go all their employees and remain a one-person small company. Fewer hassles. He tells me, government seems to be doing everything they can to close down all businesses unless you are one of “theirs.” Great article.

MASSACHUSETTS

Excellent article which rings so true in my business. The MRI centers I manage pay upwards of \$1 million in fees just for the right to provide health services in New Jersey. This money could go to our employees and then back into our economy. Small minds indeed sadly with too much power.

Jim Miele—NEW JERSEY

Whole world should read this

This article is very good; very thought provoking (“Two Views of Jesus Christ,” November/December). I wish the whole world could read this! Most of us know this but think it is harmful, but my prayer partner and I have been saying for a long time that celebrating Jesus’ birthday was not mentioned in the Bible—why are we doing it? We came to the conclusion that is was all for the mighty dollar; while this might be part of it, I see and understand that it was truly a trick of the enemy to fool us. Thank you for your spiritual insights.

Carolyn Arnett

This story needed to be run on the *New York Times* front page on the 25th. What an eye-opener it would be for the population. Especially the Jeremiah 10:2 scripture about the tree and it being a heathen practice, and being told not to partake of it. Of course that would mean actually opening their Bibles and reading or

taking a stand against the age-old pagan practice, and sadly this won’t happen till it’s too late. Thanks for all the great articles you and the *Trumpet* staff write. They are a light in this dying world with real answers to almost every problem we face today.

Jamie Lord—LOUISIANA

A light turned on!

“Receiving the promises in this physical life is not what matters most to God. Faith is!” (“The Evidence of Faith,” October). How profound that statement is! I could meditate on it for quite some time. Even though God has promised something the answer may not be fulfilled in this physical life but in the resurrection. Truly believing in that statement could add years to my life due to the decrease in worry, stress, and anxiety. Truly comprehending it is like a light being turned on in my head! This physical life is like a proving or testing ground of an assured, relaxed faith. What magnificence awaits us after we are proven!

Kurt—KANSAS

Behemothic logic

I found your article “What Is the Behemoth?” very interesting (September). I had never heard of this extinct creature. Your logic in explaining (with little to go on) the identity of the behemoth is compelling. Keep up the good work.

James Norris—OHIO

Seeing it all unfold

Thank you for your September 2011 edition, “Germany Dominates Europe Again.” The articles on Germany rising to power yet again were absolutely fascinating, and seeing how they have done all this with no military action is yet another testament to the German people’s amazing ingenuity. Equally amazing is that the entire planet seems to be blissfully unaware of what is REALLY happening in Europe! Thanks to Mr. Armstrong, I have known all this would happen for many decades now, but seeing it all unfold right in front of my eyes is almost like a bad dream. Thank God that we know what the ultimate glorious outcome of it all will be!

Robb Schmidt—CANADA

The best hope

The *Trumpet* is the best magazine I have ever read: inspiring, motivating, teaching, and most of all, it gives hope when none is left. The *Trumpet* helped me and my friends see things differently and maintain our dignity. Thank you; you are doing it for the world. May God carry on giving you the strength to educate His people.

Walter Sebekedi—SOUTH AFRICA

A Humble Request

You're free to dismiss this warning—but please: Don't forget it.

LOTS OF PEOPLE SAY THEY BELIEVE IN A GOD OF LOVE. THEY readily recognize His love in God sending His Son to pay for the sins of mankind. But then there's the supposedly altogether different God of the Old Testament—all plagues and punishments and prophecies.

This magazine focuses on biblical prophecy, so much of which—though it leads to the only true hope that exists—is dark and painful to think about.

Ask yourself: *Can you recognize the God of love in those prophecies?*

Biblical prophets were never popular. Their message was despised. Many of them were martyred. Their warnings are still maligned today.

Jesus Christ condemned hypocritical religious leaders who said, “If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets” (Matthew 23:30; New International Version). These were the very men who were plotting to kill Christ Himself.

Notice—it is the *God of love* who sends prophets. “Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify . . .” (verse 34). Christ prophesied the popular rejection of God's message would continue!

Why is prophecy so important to God?

Consider: God's way leads to *life*—abundant *life*. Any contrary way leads to misery and death (Deuteronomy 30:19; Proverbs 10:17). When people are off course and rebelling, God tries to WARN them—as any truly loving father would—of the consequences of their actions.

Prophecy is God's method of showing you the END RESULTS of the way YOU LIVE YOUR LIFE—good or bad. For every prophecy about great tribulation, there is another about great exultation! Which of them applies to you depends on your choices.

Consider the scriptures that speak of the Great Tribulation. As sure as those prophecies are, so too are others that speak of a small group of people whom God will *protect* from that ordeal (e.g. Revelation 12:13-14). These will be individuals who have *already accepted* God's correction, who have *already turned* from the way of death. God has no need to inflict the Tribulation on them. He never punishes without cause, and then only after exercising enormous patience. Respond to God's warning today, and you will be *protected*.

We must deliver this warning whether or not you respond. The message is as unpopular as it ever was. As the prophets of old learned through experience, the vast majority of those who hear do not heed. Christ Himself, though He attracted great crowds and healed countless people, had a loyal following of only 120 at the end of His ministry (Acts 1:15). Though the *Trumpet* goes to hundreds of thousands, only a handful have *chosen and committed* themselves to God's way of life.

But there is a prophecy that gives us in this work tremendous hope. It drives us to keep sending out free literature, publishing

online and broadcasting on television—even if few respond today.

It is found in Revelation 7, just after that book's description of the Great Tribulation. “After this I beheld, and, lo, a GREAT MULTITUDE, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes . . . These are *they which came out of great tribulation*, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” (Revelation 7:9, 14). The world will have endured the horrifying time of Satan's greatest wrath. But a multitude *so great it cannot be numbered* will COME OUT of the Tribulation, having ACCEPTED God's correction, *repented*, and been spiritually washed by Christ's shed blood. A sobering yet fantastic picture!

These undoubtedly will be people who are familiar with God's warnings—people like *you*, who study them in the Bible, who read literature from God's work. They will watch in terror the tragic and nightmarish FULFILLMENT, step by step, of everything they had read and heard about! Sadly, it will take being plunged into that shocking reality before they will *finally realize* how deadly serious God was in issuing His warnings.

Nevertheless, these people will finally recognize the *God of love* in those prophecies, and will turn to Him in heartfelt repentance. When they do, God will mercifully protect them from any further hurt. They will live to see the dawn of the Kingdom of God.

Thus, much of the fruit of God's work today will not be borne until this future time.

Regular readers of the *Trumpet* receive quite a complete picture of the future of world events. If you do nothing about the warning contained in the prophecies we regularly highlight, you are described in Ezekiel 33:30-32. There God tells His prophet, “And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for THEY HEAR THY WORDS, BUT THEY DO THEM NOT.”

Which choice will you make? If you heed the warning of God's representative today, you can be protected. If you choose to *ignore* it, all we ask is that *you do not FORGET it*. Remember—as you watch it *come to pass before your eyes*. Remember what God says of *you* and of all who heard His message and KNEW in advance what would happen: “[W]hen this cometh to pass, (LO, IT WILL COME,) then shall they KNOW that A PROPHET HATH BEEN AMONG THEM”! (verse 33).

REMEMBER—so you can recognize the *God of love* in that terrifying punishment, and then ACT upon this precious message of love.



that depressed people withdraw—don't return phone calls, refuse to get together, show no interest in staying connected—because they want to protect their friends from experiencing their black world. Depressed people often say, "My friends are better off without me," or "I am such a downer to be around." This is often not the case. Many depressed people can actually crack the funniest jokes. In fact, Abraham Lincoln was known for his talent at telling humorous stories.

The point here is to work hard to stay out of depression. Those who have suffered depression and have lost friends as a result are encouraged to reconnect with old friends and family. Of course, if those old friends are toxic to a person's full recovery, they should be avoided. Reconnecting with old friends is a big step for a formerly depressed person. It takes a lot of courage. Most friends are only too happy to welcome a recovered depressive back into their life. A few are not. Yet even in this situation, there may be a valuable lesson: learning who are true friends.

Great men like Lincoln and Churchill forced themselves to get out with people while fighting black moods and melancholy. A key strategy for a recovering depressive is to get back into social situations where he can serve others. Volunteerism is highly recommended. This world is full of people and problems that need a helping hand. It is really a simple solution: If you're feeling down about yourself, get out and help someone else.

Jesus Christ is described in the Holy Bible as having been a man of sorrows and encompassed with grief. Yet the Apostle Paul tells us that He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35, ESV). Luke said also in the book of Acts that Christ "went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed" (Acts 10:38). Loving, serving and giving will keep you not only socially fit, but also very happy.

In previous articles we have shown you that God created man in His own image (Genesis 1:26-27). This was for an awesome purpose. God is a Family, and He intends to expand that Family through man. God gave man a mind like His own, though it is significantly inferior. God has a highly productive, positive and creative mind. He intends for us to develop and have that same kind of mind.

So let's get to it. Let's work to build a productive mind. ■

TELEVISION LOG

THE KEY OF DAVID

All times are a.m. local time unless otherwise noted.

UNITED STATES

Nationwide Satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 ET
Direct TV DBS WGN Chan. 307 8:00 ET, Sun
Direct TV DBS ION Ch. 305 6:00 ET, Fri
Dish Network ION Ch. 216 6:00 ET, Fri
Dish Network DBS WGN Chan. 239 8:00 ET, Sun
Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 ET, Sun
Alabama, Birmingham WPHX 5:00, Fri
Dothan WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun
Montgomery WBMM/WBMM-DT 8:30, Sun
Alaska, Anchorage KIMO-DT 8:30, Sun
Fairbanks KATN-DT 8:30, Sun
Juneau KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun
Arizona, Phoenix KPXX 5:00, Fri
Yuma-El Centro KSWT-DT 9:30, Sun
Arkansas, Fayetteville KWFT 8:30, Sun
Fort Smith KCWA 8:30, Sun
Jonesboro KJOS 8:30, Sun
Rogers KWFT 8:30, Sun
Springdale KWFT 8:30, Sun
California, Bakersfield KGET-DT 9:30, Sun
Chico KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun
El Centro KWUB 9:30, Sun
Eureka KJUV-DT 9:30, Sun
Los Angeles KPXX 6:00, Fri
Monterey KMWB 9:30, Sun
Palm Springs KESQ/KCWQ-DT 9:30, Sun
Redding KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun
Sacramento KSPX 6:00, Fri
Salinas KION 9:30, Sun
San Francisco KKPX 6:00, Fri
Santa Barbara KSBY-DT 9:30, Sun
Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00, Fri
Grand Junction KKCO-DT 10:30, Sun
Montrose KKCO-DT 10:30, Sun
Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00, Fri
Delaware, Dover WBD 9:30, Sun
Salisbury WMWD-DT 9:30, Sun
Florida, Gainesville WCJB-DT 9:30, Sun
Jacksonville WPXC/WPXJ-LP 6:00, Fri
Miami WPXM 6:00, Fri
Orlando WOPX 6:00, Fri
Panama City WJHG-DT 8:30, Sun
Tallahassee WTXL 7:30, Sun
Tallahassee-Thomasville WTLF-DT/WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
Tampa WXPX 6:00, Fri; WTTA 8:30 am, Sun
West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00, Fri
Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30, Sun
Augusta WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun
Brunswick WPXC 6:00, Fri
Columbus WLGA 9:30, Sun
Macon WBNN 9:30, Sun
Savannah WGSJ/WGCW-LP 9:30, Sun
Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo Chan. 54 6:30, Sun; 8:30, Wed
Kauai Ho'ike Chan. 52 9:30, Tue
Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku
Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon
Idaho, Idaho Falls KPFI/KBEO 10:30, Sun
Pocatello KPFI 10:30, Sun
Twin Falls KMVT-DT/KTWT-LP 10:30, Sun
Illinois, Bloomington WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun

Chicago WCIU 9:30, Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri
Peoria WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun
Rockford WREX-DT 8:30, Sun
Indiana, Fort Wayne WPTA-DT 21.2 9:30, Sun
Indianapolis WIPX 6:00, Fri
Terre Haute WBI 8:30, Sun
Iowa, Austin KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00, Fri
Des Moines KFPP 5:00, Fri
Keokuk WEWB 8:30, Sun
Kirkville KWOT 8:30, Sun
Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
Ottumwa KWOT 8:30, Sun
Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun
Kansas, Topeka KSNT 8:30, Sun
Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO 8:30, Sun
Lexington WUPX 6:00, Fri
Louisiana, Alexandria KBCA 8:30, Sun
El Dorado-Monroe KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
Lafayette KLWB 8:30, Sun
Lake Charles WBLC 8:30, Sun
New Orleans WPXL 5:00, Fri
Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30, Sun
Presque Isle WBQP 9:30, Sun
Maryland, Salisbury WBD 9:30, Sun
Massachusetts, Holyoke WBQT 9:30, Sun
Springfield WBQT 9:30, Sun
Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30, Sun
Cadillac WGTU/WGTQ 9:30, Sun
Detroit WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun
Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00, Fri
Lansing WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun
Marquette WBKP 9:30, Sun
Traverse City-Cadillac WGTU-DT/WGTQ-DT 9:30, Sun
Minnesota, Duluth-Superior WDLH 8:30, Sun
Mankato KWYE 8:30, Sun
Minneapolis KPXM 5:00, Fri
Rochester-Austin KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun
Sioux Fall (Mitchell) KWSD/KSWD-DT 8:30, Sun
Mississippi, Biloxi WBGP 8:30, Sun
Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Greenville WBWD 8:30, Sun
Greenwood WBWD 8:30, Sun
Gulfport WBGP 8:30, Sun
Hattiesburg WBH 8:30, Sun
Laurel WBH 8:30, Sun
Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun
Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
West Point WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Hannibal WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Joplin-Pittsburg KSF 8:30, Sun
Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri
Quincy-Keokuk WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
St. Joseph WBJO 8:30, Sun
Montana, Billings KTVQ-DT 8:30, Sun
Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 10:30, Sun
Glendive KWZB 10:30, Sun
Great Falls KRTV-DT 10:30, Sun
Helena KMTF-DT 10:30, Sun
Missoula KPAX-DT 10:30, Sun

Philadelphia Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry appears each week on **The Key of David** explaining the meaning behind world events and teaching the inspiring truths of the Bible. The program is also available at keyofdauid.com.



The **Key of David** is now available to 110 million homes throughout Europe and the Middle East via CNBC at 11 a.m. Central European Time.

Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings

KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun
Kearney KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun
North Platte KWPL 8:30, Sun
Scottsbluff KCHW 10:30, Sun
Nevada, Reno KREN/KREN-DT 9:30, Sun
New York, Albany WYPX 6:00, Fri
Binghamton WBXI 9:30, Sun
Buffalo WPXJ 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:00, Sun
Elmira WBE 9:30, Sun
New York City WPXN 6:00, Fri; WLNJ 10:00, Sun
Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri
Utica WBU 9:30, Sun
Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun
North Carolina, Durham WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
Fayetteville WFPX 6:00, Fri
Greensboro WGPX 6:00, Fri
Greenville WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00, Fri
New Bern WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Raleigh WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
Washington WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Wilmington WBW 9:30, Sun
North Dakota, Bismarck KWMK 10:30, Sun
Dickinson KWMK 10:30, Sun
Fargo WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun
Minot KWMK 10:30, Sun
Valley City WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00, Fri
Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun
Lima WLIO-DT 9:30, Sun
Steubenville WBWO 9:30, Sun
Zanesville WBZV 9:30, Sun
Oklahoma, Ada KSHD 8:30, Sun
Lawton KAUZ 8:30, Sun
Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00, Fri
Tulsa KTPX 5:00, Fri
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Klamath Falls KMFD 9:30, Sun
Medford KMFD 9:30, Sun
Portland KPXG 6:00, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WBEP 9:30, Sun
Philadelphia WPPX 6:00, Fri
Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence WPXQ 6:00, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston WCB-DT 9:30, Sun

Florence WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Myrtle Beach WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
South Dakota, Mitchell KWSD 8:30, Sun
Rapid City KWBH-LP 10:30, Sun
Sioux Falls KWSD 8:30, Sun
Tennessee, Jackson WBJK 8:30, Sun
Knoxville WPXK 6:00, Fri
Memphis WPXX 5:00, Fri
Nashville WNPX 5:00, Fri
Texas, Abilene KTWS-DT 8:30, Sun
Arillo KVII-DT/KVIH/KVIH-DT 8:30, Sun
Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun
Brownsville KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun
Harlingen KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri
Laredo KTXW 8:30, Sun
Longview KCEB 8:30, Sun
Lubbock KLCW 8:30, Sun
Midland KWWT 8:30, Sun
Odessa KWWT 8:30, Sun
Port Arthur KFDM 8:30, Sun
San Angelo KWSA 8:30, Sun
San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri
Sherman-Ada KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Sweetwater KTWS-DT 8:30, Sun
Tyler KCEB 8:30, Sun
Victoria KWVB 8:30, Sun
Weslaco KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00, Fri
Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:00, Sun
Virginia, Charlottesville WWIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Norfolk WPXV 6:00, Fri
Roanoke WPKR 6:00, Fri
Washington D.C. WDCW 8:00, Sun; WPXW 6:00, Fri
Washington, Kennewick KCWK 9:30, Sun
Richland KCWK 9:30, Sun
Seattle-Tacoma KPXP 6:00, Fri
Seattle KCQV 7:00, Sun; KVOS 8:30, Sun
Spokane KGXP 6:00, Fri
Yakima-Pasco-Richland-Kennewick KCWK/KCWK-LP 9:30, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Bluefield KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Charleston WLFX 6:00, Fri

Clarksburg WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun
Oak Hill KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Parkersburg WBPB 9:30, Sun
Weston WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun
Wheeling WBWO 9:30, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WQOW-DT/WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
La Crosse WQOW/WXOW 8:30, Sun
Milwaukee WPXE 5:00, Fri
Rhineland WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun
Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Wyoming, Casper 10:30, Sun
Cheyenne KCHW 10:30, Sun
Riverton 10:30, Sun

EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

Pan-European satellite Astra 1L (free to air) 19.2°E transponder 26 11.597V 220000 (DVB); Astra 1KR 19.2°E transponder 50 10.729V (analogue) 11 am Central European Time, Sun
Belgium TV Vlaanderen channel 62 11:00 am, Sun
Germany KDG channel 840 11:00 am, Sun; TalkTalk TV channel 510 11:00 am, Sun
Ireland Sky channel 505 10:00 am, Sun; UPC channel 204; 10:00 am, Sun
Italy Sky Italia channel 518 11:00 am, Sun; Tiscali TV channel 518 11:00 am, Sun
Mediterranean Eurobirdi 11261 H 232516 E-FTA 11:00 am Central European Time
Middle East Eurobirdi 11261 H 232516 E-FTA 11:00 am Central European Time, Sun
Netherlands Ziggo channel 505 11:00 am, Sun
Poland Cyfra+ channel 105 11:00 am, Sun
Portugal ZonTV Cabo channel 210 11:00 am Central European Time, Sun
Romania UPC channel 146 12:00 am, Sun
Spain Hispastat 1.092V 11:00 am, Sun
Switzerland Nakoo channel 63; Cablecom channel 151 11:00 am, Sun
United Kingdom Sky: Channel 505 10:00 am, Sun; Freestat channel 210 10:00 am, Sun; Virgin Media channel 613 10:00 am, Sun

CANADA

Nationwide satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 ET, Sun
Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 ET, Sun; Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun Grace Television Network 11:00 ET, Sun.
British Columbia, Vancouver KVOS 8:30, Sun; CHEK 9:00 Sun; CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Maritime Provinces CHF 7:30, Sun
Ontario, Toronto WADL 10:00, Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun; WUTV 10:00, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WYNY 10:00, Sun

LATIN AMERICA

Regional satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
El Salvador WGN 6:00, Sun
Guatemala WGN 6:00, Sun
Honduras WGN 6:00, Sun
Mexico WGN 7:00, Sun
Panama WGN 7:00, Sun

CARIBBEAN

Regional satellite Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 ET, Sun
Aruba WGN 8:00, Sun
Bahamas WGN 8:00, Sun
Belize WGN 7:00, Sun
Cuba WGN 8:00, Sun
Dominican Republic WGN 8:00, Sun
Haiti WGN 7:00, Sun
Jamaica WGN 9:00, Sun
Puerto Rico WGN 8:00, Sun
Trinidad and Tobago WGN 8:00, Sun

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What is the purpose of human life?



The psalmist was inspired to write, "When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers ... What is man that You are mindful of him?"

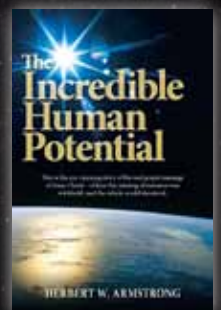
The answer to that piercing question has remained undiscovered by science. No religion has revealed it. Higher education has never taught it.

Is it possible the whole world has been deceived regarding the awesome *purpose* of human life? And could it be true that the real gospel message Christ brought from heaven *revealed* this mystery—but was suppressed?

The very word *gospel* means good news. That message, when fully understood, reveals a human potential so stupendous—so awesome—it appears at first to be totally beyond belief, yet it has been suppressed from the world until now.

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