

THE PHILADELPHIA Trumpet

Racist strife on America's college campuses

The militarization of space

How much radicalism is in the Muslim community?

Questions to ask before taking prescribed meds

Make your heart younger

AFTER PARIS

The terrorist attacks that grieved Europe—and made it fighting mad

THE PHILADELPHIA Trumpet

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TRIBUTE **France's district mayors gather at Place de la Republique in Paris to honor the victims of the November 13 terrorist attacks.**
(JOEL SAGET/AFP/GETTY IMAGES)

COVER: **Average Europeans have expressed grief and anger over the attacks in Paris.**
(GARY DORNING/TRUMPET)

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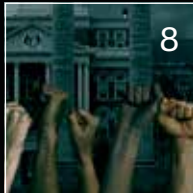
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The Terrorist Attacks That United Europe

Europe is forsaking America as it prepares for all-out war.

THE NOVEMBER 13 TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS CAUSED A tremendous rift between America and the European Union. For the first time ever, a European nation—France—called on the European Union’s collective defense clause instead of turning to the American-led North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for help. This represents a stunning rejection of American leadership.



GERALD FLURRY

Our predecessor Herbert W. Armstrong and his *Plain Truth* newsmagazine persistently proclaimed this transatlantic division starting in 1952. For example, a *Plain Truth* article from September 1983 read, “Economic recovery masks deep divisions that must eventually rip asunder the Atlantic alliance.”

The nation that benefits the *most* from France rejecting America is *Germany*. Germany has dominated the

EU for years. France’s move will bring the European armies together in a way that the EU founders only *dreamed of*.

By invoking the EU’s collective defense clause rather than turning to NATO, French President François Hollande was declaring that Europe is more than just a junior partner in America’s defense arrangement. EUROPE IS ITS OWN POWER. It has its own foreign relations, its own interests and its own goals.

Most people didn’t recognize the significance of France’s decision. But it is a choice that will have a terrible impact on America—as well as Britain and the Jewish state of Israel. It will significantly alter the history of these nations, and of Europe.

As Bavarian Finance Minister Marcus Söder said, “Paris changes *everything!*”

Destined to Fracture

Since the unlikely German-American alliance began after World War II, the relationship has been strained.

The *Good News*, another of Mr. Armstrong’s publications, said this in April 1952: “The heart of the German people ... has not been converted to our way of life. If they really would have come to love us since their defeat, would they now be trying to bargain for domination in Europe, and threatening to withhold support from the cause of democracy against Russia? Is that the way *love* is manifested? Can we purchase love with money?”

Even as America helped rebuild Germany under the Marshall Plan, German leaders were aiming for European domination once again. American leaders have desperately tried to win the Germans over, but the Germans *have not forgotten* their crushing defeat at the hands of the United States and the other Allies.

“European antagonism toward the United States and its policies is now in the open,” the *Plain Truth* wrote in 1974. “The next few years will bring forth more misunderstanding, conflicts of interest, and at times outright HOSTILITY between the United States and Europe. Europe, including West Germany, will have to build its own unified armed forces, including nuclear weapons. Religious, as well as political forces, will play a key role in the future.”

Europe blames the American economy for the stock market crash in 2008. Since that crisis, the EU and Germany have pushed to draw the world’s financial power away from London and New York and to gain greater control over global finances. America’s national debt is nearly \$19 trillion; President Barack Obama and then House of Representatives Speaker John

“The mood in [Germany] is akin to a drunken rage of the kind last seen in the beer halls of the 1920s Weimar Republic, that period of crude, uncivilized behavior that paved the way for Hitler’s rise”

—Markus Feldenkirchen

Boehner agreed to a budget deal in October that will raise the debt to \$20 trillion by the end of Mr. Obama’s second term. THE WORLD HAS NEVER SEEN SUCH RECKLESS SPENDING, and Europe—particularly Germany—has taken notice.

Germans were repulsed when Edward Snowden exposed the extensive spying tactics employed against their nation by the U.S. National Security Agency. The tactics included wiretapping German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s phone and collecting heaps of digital data from the population. Even though this type of spying goes on all the time—and Germany itself has since been found to spy on its allies—that spying scandal deepened the divide between the two longtime allies. AFTER IT HAPPENED, ONLY 35 PERCENT OF GERMANS CONSIDERED AMERICA TO BE A RELIABLE PARTNER FOR GERMANY.

That is a revealing statistic about one of America’s “lovers,” but our leaders refuse to see it. They continue treating Europe like the greatest, most trustworthy of partners. “Europe is the cornerstone of our engagement with the rest of the world,” said Vice President Joe Biden on Feb. 2, 2013, “and is the catalyst for our global cooperation.”

Europe is viewing the Paris attacks as the start of World War III. The Syrian refugee crisis allowed at least one of the

Paris terrorists to sneak onto the Continent undetected, but Washington sees no need to change its failed foreign policy regarding Syria. President Obama is focused on what he views as the *real* greatest threat to global security: climate change.

Unrest in the Fatherland

Angela Merkel, who until recently was the most-loved leader on the planet, is now facing almost daily calls for her resignation. Germans love a kind leader during times of peace, but they have always turned to a strongman for emergencies and war.

“Far-right groups were quick to seize on the Paris terror attacks as evidence of a need to curb immigration,” wrote the Associated Press. “While it’s the extremists on the far right who are grabbing most of the headlines, mainstream Germans are increasingly being drawn into inflammatory rhetoric—and at times anti-foreigner sentiment” (Nov. 15, 2015).

Have we seen such a volatile climate in Germany before? In an article for *Spiegel* titled “What’s Happening to My Country?” Markus Feldenkirchen wrote: “The mood in this country is akin to a drunken rage of the kind last seen in the beer halls of the 1920s Weimar Republic, that period of crude, uncivilized behavior that paved the way for Hitler’s rise and the most brutal decade in world history” (Nov. 12, 2015).

Europe has faced a financial crisis, a refugee crisis, and a wave of radical Islamist terrorist attacks—in rapid succession. It faces a severe and constant threat from the Islamic

France turning toward a common European defense is a sign of the fracturing of this transatlantic alliance, and a precursor to the construction of a strong, unified military in Europe.

State, which apparently is progressing toward chemical weapons. But the threat that these militants pose is merely a distraction compared to the threat from Iran, the head of the radical Islamist snake! (Daniel 11:40).

The last time Germany experienced similar chaotic conditions, ONE OF THE MOST EVIL DICTATORS IN HISTORY SEIZED POWER!

Your Bible says that another strongman is about to lead Germany into war (Daniel 8:23). THIS MAN WILL BE MORE DESTRUCTIVE THAN HITLER. He will have the backing of an evil spirit power, just like Hitler did (verse 24). We have prophesied of his appearance for more than 70 years. Only biblical prophecy could open our eyes to this startling reality.

For decades, America has suffered from the delusion that appeasing our bitter enemies will somehow make them our friends. The Prophet Ezekiel actually foretold of this deadly

mistake. Our *lovers* are going to double-cross us. (Request our free book on Ezekiel for proof.)

“You may be sure the West European leaders are conferring hurriedly and secretly about how and how soon they may unite and provide a united European military force so they can defend themselves!” Mr. Armstrong wrote in the April 1980 *Plain Truth*. “And so they will no longer have to give in meekly to Russia! And who will they blame for their humiliation and their necessity now to have a united Europe, with a united government, a common currency, and a common military force as great or greater than either the USSR or the U.S.? *They will blame the United States!* And *when they are strong enough to assert themselves, ... [t]hey will first attack Britain for standing firm with the United States, and THEN THEY WILL RETURN A LOT OF THE HYDROGEN BOMBS THE U.S. HAS STORED IN EUROPE!*”

This is why we believe it is so revealing to see France turning away from the United States and toward a common European defense in the wake of these latest terrorist attacks. It is a sign of the fracturing of this transatlantic alliance, and a precursor to the construction of a strong, unified military in Europe. These are terribly important prophetic developments. Mr. Armstrong told us about them for many decades.

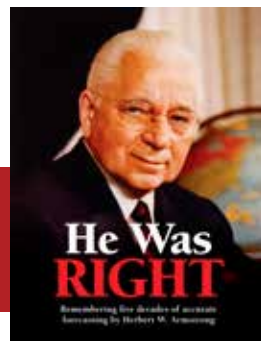
He Was Right

“The prophet which prophesieth of peace, when the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known, that the Lord hath truly sent him” (Jeremiah 28:9). Many claim to speak for God or have prophetic understanding. We must judge by fruits.

God specifically said that He would send a man in the role of “Elijah the prophet” in the end time—just before “the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord” (Malachi 4:5). Has this man come already? Have we witnessed a man on the scene in this end time who possessed a track record of accurate prophecies? This man has come and gone, and now the Day of the Lord is nearly upon us!

Herbert W. Armstrong foretold the inspiring end to the German war machine we see taking shape today. You can see that end in many biblical prophecies, including Daniel 8:25: “And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but HE SHALL BE BROKEN WITHOUT HAND.”

The world will soon feel the wrath of the seventh and *final* resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire—led by a revived Germany and straddled by the Roman Catholic Church (Revelation 17). But Christ Himself will return and put a stop to this dangerous superpower. He will save all humanity! As the days ahead get darker and darker, keep your focus on this great news. ■



A united Europe—prophesied in the Bible!

Herbert W. Armstrong described the Europe of 2016 back in the 1930s. Seem unbelievable? Get your free copy of our booklet **He Was Right** to prove how he knew from Bible prophecy.

PARIS ATTACKS Germany's Whirlwind Response

BY RICHARD PALMER

BATTLE-READY
German soldiers
depart to fight
the Islamic State
in Syria.



NEVER IN POSTWAR HISTORY has Germany responded so quickly and strongly as it has to the Paris attacks.

Three weeks to the day after the attacks, Germany's parliament approved a military mission to Syria of up to 1,200 soldiers and a deployment of up to 650 extra troops to Mali.

That is Germany's fastest and biggest initial response to a crisis in decades. In December 2001, *three months* after the September 11 attacks on America, its parliament approved a mandate for up to 1,200 soldiers to join America in Afghanistan. When Mali was in crisis and appealed for help, it took *two months* to approve a mission of only 300.

Germany now has four major deployments of nearly 1,000 German troops each: in Afghanistan, Kosovo, Syria and Mali. This is the largest number of simultaneous deployments of this size that Germany has engaged in since World War II.

Of course, it's important not to oversell the mission. Islamic State leaders will hardly be shaking in their boots to

learn that Germany is sending to Syria a frigate and a handful of aircraft—which will be carrying cameras, not bombs. Nonetheless, it shows the new seriousness in German foreign policy—a Germany that has discarded its former restraint in deploying its army abroad. Germany is still far from being a global military power, but it has just taken a significant step in that direction.

And not since World War II have the German *media* been so keen on military missions.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung editor in chief Berthold Kohler described the war against the Islamic State as “a world war.” The message of the Paris attacks, he noted, is that “your efforts and sacrifices in the ‘war on terror,’ whether on foreign soil or on your own, have been in vain” (Nov. 15, 2015; *Trumpet* translation throughout). The way the West is fighting radical Islam simply isn't working.

“Germans are not opposed to a friendly face in their government. But at times like this, they want and need to see a different one: a tough one,” Kohler concluded.

“This is war,” Frank Jansen wrote in *Der Tagesspiegel*. “The images of last night are so horrible, so unfathomable, so archaically bloody that it seems impossible not to recognize what we, the West, and indeed the whole planet have been forced into: a third world war.” French journalist Anna Erelle told weekly German newsmagazine *Stern* in an interview that “we are in the middle of World War III” (Nov. 16, 2015). Erelle is a pseudonym. After she wrote about the Islamic State's recruitment practices, Islamic clerics pronounced a *fatwa*—a religious death sentence—on her. She now has to live in hiding.

German leaders and the German press publicly acknowledge the threat of radical terror far more than do leaders of Britain and the United States. They are earnestly discussing confronting Islamic terror across Africa and the Middle East, while U.S. President Barack Obama insists that, fundamentally, America's strategy is working. Meanwhile, German authorities are emphasizing the need for a widespread war to contain the Islamists.

A Ring of Fire

Chairman of the German Federal Armed Forces Association Lt. Col. André Wüstner said that the November terrorist attack in Mali's capital "makes it clear once again" that a "ring of fire" extends "from Afghanistan via Yemen, Syria and Iraq to Africa."

"It is not enough to tackle the [Islamic State] in Syria," he said, calling for "robust, battle-powerful forces" to be stationed in Mali.

Roderich Kiesewetter, president of the association of the Bundeswehr reservists and foreign-policy expert for Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union, stated "firmly" that "the Bundeswehr will send more than 1,200 soldiers in the anti-[Islamic State] fight." NATO will have to send ground troops into Libya, he explained, noting that "the German Air Force, Navy and German police officers can help to stabilize Jordan, Lebanon and Libya."

Former inspector general of the Bundeswehr Harald Kujat had a similar message, warning that even if the West

destroys the Islamic State in Syria and Iraq, it "will not be totally defeated." Instead, it will "dodge." Kujat warned that the Islamic State is already setting up shop in Libya, and it is spreading into Mali.

A clear consensus is emerging from the leaders involved in military decision-making: Germany's military must confront radical Islam across a range of battlefronts stretching from northwestern Africa to Afghanistan and Central Asia.

Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry described exactly this response in our July 2013 edition. Germany sees the rising threat of radical Islam and is "planning for the bigger war to come," Mr. Flurry wrote. The nation's response? A "whirlwind strategy" is to surround radical Islam and prepare to confront it.

Arguing that Germany must confront radical Islam across a "ring of fire" exactly describes this strategy.

This strategy also explains Germany's presence in Mali. What Germany is doing in Mali lies somewhere between building a military outpost and

launching a wholesale takeover of the country. It's part of a bid to cement Mali as the anchor of Germany's whirlwind strategy in the region.

Germany has approximately 200 soldiers stationed in Mali as part of a European Union training mission, with parliamentary permission for up to 350. It now has a mandate for another 650 as part of a United Nations mission. That's a serious presence—close to 1,000 soldiers—for a country that has been reluctant to send its troops abroad after its Nazi days. It also shows some serious commitment from Germany. Mali is one of the UN's most dangerous missions.

France currently has around 1,000 soldiers in Mali, but it is expected to draw down that number once the extra German troops arrive. This will leave Germany leading the largest contingent of Western troops in Mali. Germany is currently leading the EU's military training mission. It also heads up the EU's civilian mission to train Mali's police force. Despite this being a "civilian" mission, German soldiers are doing the training.

Germans Want More Military

EVEN BEFORE THE PARIS ATTACKS, BIG CHANGES WERE AFOOT in Germany. Germans felt more unsafe than they had in a decade. They were demanding military spending and a greater role in solving the world's crises. Statistics published by the Center for Military History and Social Sciences of the Bundeswehr on November 26 show a dramatic change in Germany.

The center surveyed more than 2,500 Germans during the two months *prior* to the Paris attacks. The results revealed that 51 percent of Germans now want Germany to spend more on its military. Only 13 percent wanted a cut. Two years ago, only 19 percent said they wanted to increase military spending.

This is the first time since the survey began in the mid-1990s that a majority of Germans have wanted to increase military spending. In 1997, 40 percent wanted to cut spending, while only 12 percent wanted it increased. Even in 2001, after the September 11 terrorist attacks, only 44 percent wanted to increase spending.

The survey asked Germans if their nation needed to be more involved in solving crises around the world or if it needed to instead focus on problems at home. Two thirds said that Germany must do more to help in the world's crises and conflicts—only 27 percent wanted Germany to focus on domestic issues. Once again, this was the highest-ever

support for international involvement and the lowest-ever support for focusing at home since the survey began.

Unsurprisingly, the most popular way of solving these problems was diplomatic negotiations. However, 57 percent were in favor of sending the German Army on military missions to fix these problems. Only 21 percent were against it.

The survey also pointed to an overall rise in fear and uncertainty. Twenty-three percent of those who responded said they felt the security situation in Germany was "very unsafe," "unsafe" or "rather uncertain." At first glance, that doesn't sound very high—most see Germany as safe. But in 2014, that figure was 6 percent. In just one year, that number has increased fourfold. It's now at its highest level since 2006.

What has caused this increase in insecurity? The most obvious answer is the migrant crisis—a crisis that is not going away any time soon. Again, all this German unease existed even *before* the Paris attacks. Every indication is that these figures will have now risen dramatically.

All this points to a historic shift in Germany's attitude toward its military. For decades, the German public has been very reluctant to send its soldiers abroad. Over the past few years, top German leaders have spoken in favor of a more muscular German foreign policy and have taken some important steps in that direction. But public opinion has not backed them. Until now.

Lt. Col. Michael Hanisch of the Federal College for Security Studies, a think tank responsible for advising the German military, wrote that Germany's plans would "mandate a new quality of ... German military commitments in Africa."

Germany's military wants to use Mali as its main base in the Sahara—a point from which it can project power right across North Africa.

Mali plays a "crucial role" as a "source of conflict" and a "hub of refugee routes to Europe," wrote Colonel Hanisch.

He wrote that German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen sees Africa "as the future focus of the German military commitments," and this puts the focus on Mali.

"This is a major operation that cannot be limited to Mali," Kiesewetter said in an interview with Deutschlandfunk, a German public radio station.

"It is important in the long term that we think of Libya," he said on November 23. He also described how weapons and terrorism spread across the region, from Nigeria to South Sudan.



LANDSLIDE Angela Merkel and members of the Bundestag vote to increase Germany's role in the fight against the Islamic State.

France has several military bases in African countries that it virtually controls, which it uses to project power across the region. Germany has apparently decided it wants the same setup in Mali.

Syria

Compared to the transformation of Mali into a virtual German protectorate, the Syria deployment is a little less dramatic, though still significant.

Once again, the German response taps into long-standing goals. The German Navy is very familiar with this part of the Mediterranean. Initially it led the maritime component of the United Nations Interim Taskforce in Lebanon, and it has remained involved as the leadership rotated to other nations. It has also been training the Lebanese Navy. The return of a German frigate to these waters is not surprising.

Germans have also deployed before on Turkey's borders. The nation recently had a 200-strong mission to man two Patriot missile batteries, protecting Turkey from any missiles that could be flung its way from Syria. Now, Germany is looking to station around 550 soldiers in Turkey as part of its reconnaissance and air-to-air refueling mission in Syria.

All this will draw Germany deeper into the Middle East. At the same time, it will force the military to increase its combat readiness and logistical support. Over the last few years, Germany has launched a serious push to keep its forces in better repair and its personnel better equipped.

Germany's postwar army was designed for one purpose: to throw as

At the start of 2014, President Joachim Gauck, Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier all lined up and proclaimed Germany's new attitude toward its military and role in the world. "In my opinion, Germany should make a more substantial contribution, and it should make it earlier and more decisively if it is to be a good partner," said Gauck. Now, public opinion is catching up to the beliefs of its leaders.

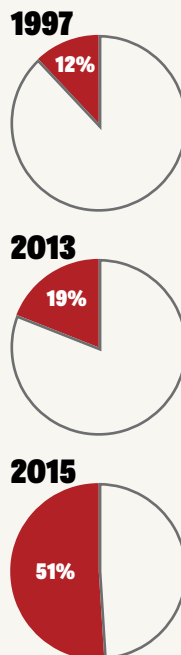
"Germany's foreign policy has just been dramatically and historically transformed," wrote *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry on the 2014 pivot. He continued, "Since then, the message coming from Germany—from Steinmeier and von der Leyen, from lower level government officials, from Germany's media, and from numerous German analysts and think tanks—has been loud and consistent: THE TIME HAS COME TO PURSUE A MUCH STRONGER FOREIGN POLICY, BOTH MILITARILY AND POLITICALLY."

Since then, there has been a marked shift in Germany's foreign policy, with the nation sending small numbers of troops to the world's hotspots.

But in 2014, the public wasn't completely on board with this shift—it was imposed from the top. Now public opinion has swung behind these leaders. Germany's shift to a global military power is only going to intensify.

RICHARD PALMER

Germans in favor of increasing military spending



many tanks and men as possible up against a Soviet invader. Deploying and maintaining large contingents of troops hundreds of miles away from their home country requires an entirely different skill set. The fact that Germany is now able to maintain four separate deployments of nearly 1,000 soldiers each shows how much progress it has made here—and it will also force it to progress further.

Finally, Germany's military leaders are indicating that Germany could get more deeply drawn into the conflict. General Kujat said that German troops would "not necessarily" be deployed on the ground in Syria, but that it is quite possible.

Colonel Wüstner said that the use of ground troops in Syria remained "a red line." "However, we see these days how quickly the federal government can pass a red line," he added. Will this Syria mission be the start of much more comprehensive German involvement?

Germany's Future in the Middle East

The Paris attacks and the migrant crisis are prompting Germany to accelerate its whirlwind strategy. The idea that Germany is planning to effectively confront radical Islam has implications for everybody.

How could the *Trumpet* report this strategy two years ago? The source for Mr. Flurry's analysis was Daniel 11:40. This verse describes a clash between the king of the north, Germany, and the king of the south, radical Islam led by Iran. The king of the north will attack "like a whirlwind." This word emphasizes the terror and fierceness of the attack. But it also describes an attack that "isn't simply a straight-on assault," wrote Mr.

Flurry. "It's a *storm* that whirls around and around, invading the land and flooding into it! The king of the north couldn't come like a whirlwind unless it surrounds Iran and its allies" (op. cit.).

Currently, the Islamic State is the big name in radical terror. Many terrorist groups across the Middle East and North Africa have pledged allegiance to it. But these groups also have deep and long-standing ties with Iran. The

Trumpet has long forecast that Iran would emerge as radical Islam's leader.

To many today, the Bible seems like a strange source for these kinds of forecasts. But this whirlwind strategy is just one specific way it has been proven correct. To learn more about what the Bible says about Germany's whirlwind strategy and what it will mean for the world, read "The Whirlwind Prophecy" (theTrumpet.com/go/10678). ■

Blueprint for a United States of Europe?

The Paris attacks in November proved the impossibility of securing Europe's external borders from terrorists. To resolve that security challenge, the Dutch Parliament has proposed creating a smaller version of the Schengen zone, Europe's passport-free travel region.

According to *De Telegraaf*, the Dutch want to pare down the Schengen zone from 22 European Union members and four non-members to just five nations: the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Luxembourg and Austria.

Within the Netherlands, the plan might win the support of some parliamentarians.

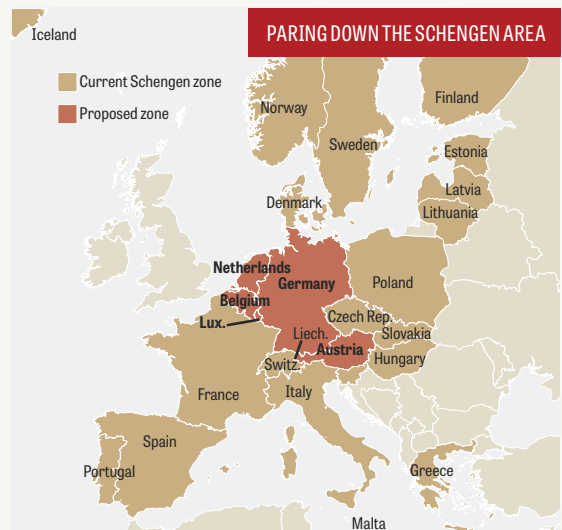
Halbe Zijlstra, leader of the vvd parliamentary party, vowed his support, saying, "The [refugee] influx is so large that you need to take unorthodox measures."

Last summer, German Chancellor Angela Merkel conceded that Europe's struggle to implement a fair refugee allocation system could force the Continent to "talk about the future of Schengen."

Stratfor noted the plausibility of an alliance among the five nations referred to in the *De Telegraaf* report: "Put simply, this is not a random list of countries, but a collection of states that share deep cultural and historic links. In fact, the map that the Dutch government allegedly has in mind bears a remarkable resemblance to the Holy Roman Empire in the late 18th century" (Nov. 18, 2015).

Stratfor also noted that a mirror image of a mini Schengen zone could appear in Eastern Europe. It projected that the Visegrad Group—comprising Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia—will seek to "continue its strategic partnership with Romania to create a political axis (and potentially a military alliance) from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea."

These preliminary developments are remarkably similar to what Herbert W. Armstrong said in 1981: "[W]hen [this Holy Roman Empire] does happen, it will happen suddenly—so quickly it will take your breath, and the whole world will gasp in awe and wonder when they see the things that are prophesied. For example, 10 nations in Europe—probably five of them in Western Europe and five in Eastern Europe—reviving, resurrecting, the so-called Holy Roman Empire of the Middle Ages" ■



Germany's secret strategy to destroy Iran

Germany's changing attitude toward its military and its overseas deployments is leading to a whirlwind conquest. Download our free booklet **Germany's Secret Strategy to Destroy Iran** to learn more about that prophesied conquest.

WARNING DELIVERED
Mr. Armstrong,
with his wife, Loma,
delivers a radio
broadcast from his
office in Eugene,
Oregon.

Herbert W. Armstrong's Signature Prophecy

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

“PROPHECY SHOWS 10 KINGS ... WILL arise in Europe and give their power to Germany.” Herbert W. Armstrong made that statement in a letter in 1962—54 years ago.

Even at the end of World War II, when Germany was reduced to rubble, Mr. Armstrong was forecasting that Germany would rise again to lead a union of nations in the territory of the old Roman Empire.

How did he know this United States of Europe would spring up in our time? He knew because it is revealed in Bible prophecy.

You could say this was *the* signature prophecy of Herbert W. Armstrong's 50-year ministry.

Mr. Armstrong knew a 10-nation union would rise out of Europe in these latter days. He knew the 1950s European Economic Community was the beginning stage of the final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. He knew there would eventually be a common currency. He knew there would be a political union. He knew East and West Germany would eventually reunite and a revived German power would dominate a union of European nations.

The current crises facing Europe have caused many prominent voices to demand radical changes. Many are calling for the European Union—currently 28 nations, 19 of which comprise the eurozone—to be reduced to a core of about 10 nations. Some are even using the same label Mr. Armstrong did 50 years ago: a United States of Europe!

Isn't it remarkable that statements in today's news are so similar to those Mr. Armstrong made decades ago?

In an article last March titled “The Fourth Reich: What Some Europeans See When They Look at Germany,” *Spiegel* explained that *reich* means EMPIRE and denotes a central power exerting control over people. With that in mind, the view of Germany today as the Fourth Reich is understandable: Berlin is just using *economic* power instead of military force to impose its will on Europe.

Revelation 17 describes in vivid detail this seventh and final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. “There is going to be a resurrection of that old Roman Empire. Not very many people believe it because people have gotten completely beyond really believing the Bible means what it says,” Mr. Armstrong said over 50 years ago. “You're going to have to live and see it, and you're going to have to know that God was speaking when He said that this thing was coming.”

The Bible says that after the Roman Empire collapsed in A.D. 476, this “deadly wound” would be healed (Revelation 13:3) and that there would be seven resurrections of a “Holy” Roman Empire to rise out of the territory of the Roman Empire of old.

Emperor Justinian recognized the supremacy of the pope in A.D. 554. Thus, when we come to these prophesied resurrections in Revelation 17, there is a whorish “woman” straddling this resurrected Roman “beast.” This great false church, described in Revelation

17, heavily influences and rules over the political empire. It is an unholy union of church and state.

“So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns” (Revelation 17:3). These seven heads and 10 horns are the biblical terms used to describe the Holy Roman Empire in its seven specific stages, culminating in the final union of 10 nations, or groups of nations, at the end of this age. Here the Bible is plainly speaking of a great political beast rising in Europe, which will be led by a great European religious beast in an unholy alliance that sets out to conquer the world.

These seven *successive* resurrections of the Holy Roman Empire would have lapses in between, pictured by the mountain peaks and valleys in Revelation 17. As H.G. Wells wrote in *The Outline of History*, “The Roman Empire staggers, sprawls, is thrust off the stage, and reappears, and ... it is the Church of Rome which plays the part of the magician and keeps the corpse alive.”

The 10 horns mentioned in Revelation 17 are part of the seventh head. These 10 horns are 10 heads of state in Europe that will join together 10 nations or groups as part of the final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire.

Notice what one popular writer in Britain, known by the pseudonym Archbishop Cranmer, wrote in 2011: “The European Union is essentially the *recreation of the old Empire of Charlemagne*: from the moment the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1951, the European Coal and Steel Community bound together the economic and political destinies of France and Germany.” This commentator recently recognized this—but who besides Mr. Armstrong was writing about it more than 50 years ago?

Herbert Armstrong was on the scene during the sixth resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire, and he prophesied of the seventh and final resurrection. We are witnessing that final resurrection today!

The Bible prophesies that this final resurrection would continue for a short time—only 2½ years. This seventh and final head of the Holy Roman Empire will lead directly to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

The Deadly Path of Higher Education



Campus protests are a symptom of a nation-destroying problem.

BY GERALD FLURRY

LOOK AT WHAT IS HAPPENING to higher education in America. Nasty, empty-headed children are taking over the universities. Some of what these students are learning BORDERS ON INSANITY and will prove to be dangerous to America.

In November, the University of Missouri football team went on strike to protest racism on campus. One student went on a hunger strike. They condemned the university president for inaction over racist incidents and insisted that he resign.

A protest movement on campus, called Concerned Student 1950, issued a “List of Demands.” It said: “We demand that the University of Missouri system president, Tim Wolfe, writes a handwritten apology to the Concerned Student 1950 demonstrators and holds a press conference in the Mizzou Student Center reading the letter. In the letter and at the press conference, Tim Wolfe must acknowledge his white male privilege, recognize that systems of oppression exist, and provide a verbal commitment to fulfilling Concerned Student 1950 demands.”

These young people gave an ultimatum to the president of their university,

ordering exactly what he must do, and how and when. They had eight specific demands, which we’ll look at later.

What were the great offenses that outraged these students? They were upset that 65 years ago, Mizzou was a white-only university. In a public protest, they brought out a list of grievances going back to 1839. But in terms of problems *today*, this movement was short on specifics. They described how “our white peers sit in silence in the face of our oppression” and how college administrators “perpetuate that oppression through their inaction.” What “oppression” are they talking about? It all boiled down to three incidents—a “poop swastika” and two supposed racial slurs.

It was a mystery who committed the first offense or why. Campus authorities couldn’t find anybody who knew about it. You could read practically anything into it. But to these students, a swastika shows a campus-wide problem with racism.

About these racial slurs, one was supposedly directed against the student body president off campus. Nobody can verify it happened; there is no evidence. This same student, Payton Head, later blatantly lied and said that the κκκ had been sighted on campus, only to retract his words within the hour. Do you think he might have lied about the racial epithet someone hurled at him? When Head ran for office, he promised to “ignite Mizzou.” He has certainly accomplished that.

That incident, if it happened, was off campus anyway, so what does the university have to do with it? The other slur was uttered on campus by a drunk student—but how can the university president be held responsible for that?

Doesn’t the fact that the student body elected a black man as their campus president better indicate the racial inclusiveness of this school? For anyone to be so seriously up in arms over these “events” is simply madness!

The student on a hunger strike was also protesting the removal of graduate student health insurance subsidies. This student grew up in a mansion worth around \$1 million; his father made almost \$7 million last year. Yet these students continually complain about “white privilege.”

There was NO EVIDENCE of any university officials failing to properly address any problems. NO crimes were committed; NO ONE was harmed. Yet the university president and chancellor lost their jobs, AND THE MEDIA TREATED THE PROTESTERS LIKE CIVIL RIGHTS HEROES!

Now, rebellious little children are ruling that campus. This problem will continue to spread. They are taking over.

Trouble With Colleges

People tend to view a college education as a wonderful thing. There is a strong push to get as many young people as possible into college. A hundred years ago, only 4 percent of 18-to-21-year-old men

are their oppressors,” and “they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.” Current events are fulfilling these prophecies!

Something is very *wrong* with what these students are learning at these institutions!

Higher education has tremendous amounts of knowledge, but much of it is misguided, wrong, even *evil*. Colleges fill students’ minds with knowledge, but they don’t build students’ *character*. These campuses are full of students who are bereft of upstanding character.

One student journalist tried to take pictures of the student who went on a hunger strike. An aggressive crowd pre-

In today’s university, there is a demand for diversity—but a sameness in thinking. There is diversity in skin pigmentation—but conformity in reasoning.

went to college. Now, over *four in ten* 18-to-24-year-olds in America are in college. Enrollment keeps going up. It rose 15 percent in the decade after 1992—24 percent in the decade after 2002.

That is a lot of education! Is it improving society? Is it really helping these students? Are they becoming better people? These are legitimate questions, especially when you see what is happening on these campuses!

These events make it clear: Higher education today is plagued by deeply alarming problems.

We see toxic, poisonous instruction that gets students thinking like victims and teaches them to be offended over *nothing*. We see indoctrination that makes students hypersensitive and even *openly aggressive* over *fictional* supposed aggressions.

We see students now out-radicalizing their radical teachers! They actually consider *their own liberal university educators* to be racist oppressors. THESE PROFESSORS ARE GETTING WHAT THEY DESERVE BECAUSE THEY TAUGHT THESE STUDENTS HOW TO BE LAWLESS—and now they are their victims. Their radical students are oppressing them and getting them fired.

Isaiah 3 prophesies of a time when “the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honorable,” a time when “*children*

vented him from doing so. Students and faculty shouted him down and shoved him away. They don’t care about the First Amendment or freedom of the press. They are willing to use bully tactics and muscle to get rid of someone they don’t like. They do not value freedom!

In today’s university, there is a demand for diversity—but a sameness in thinking. There is diversity in skin pigmentation—but conformity in reasoning. There is groupthink and intellectual intimidation. And more and more, there is AGGRESSION AND HATRED.

This is the state of higher education in America today!

Demands

The students insist that they want social justice—but that is *not* what they want. THEY WANT INJUSTICE. They want their *own way*, like spoiled children. For people to think they just want justice is *terribly* naive!

To understand their radical thinking, look at the “List of Demands” by Miz-zou’s Concerned Student 1950 group. It includes points like these: “We demand that the University of Missouri creates and enforces comprehensive racial awareness and inclusion curriculum throughout all campus departments and units, mandatory for all students, faculty, staff and administration. This curriculum must be vetted, maintained

and overseen by a board comprised of students, staff and faculty of color.” Can you imagine what this mandatory “comprehensive racial awareness and inclusion curriculum” would be like? What would it teach people?

You can be absolutely sure it would NOT reduce racism! This is not about solving problems or improving race relations. It is about empowering minorities and punishing whites. It is about POWER—about who rules the universities.

Another demand: “We demand that the University of Missouri increases funding, resources and personnel for the social justice centers on campus for the purpose of hiring additional professionals, particularly those of color, boosting outreach and programming across campus, and increasing campus-wide awareness and visibility.” What good would come from “social justice professionals” boosting “programming across campus”?

This list also insisted that the university fulfill the demands of the Legion of Black Collegians back in 1969.

The man Mizzou brought in to replace its ousted president was Michael Middleton. He is a civil rights attorney and a member of the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Fairness appointed by the Missouri Supreme Court. He helped to *found* the Legion of Black Collegians, and personally delivered that list of race-related demands to the University of Missouri in 1969. That document labeled Missouri University “a haven for comprehensive institutionalized racist and political repression.”

After Middleton took the job of interim president, he said this: “We have to understand our ugly history *permeates everything we do at this institution and in this country*.” He also expressed his intent to satisfy “each and every one of [Concerned Student 1950’s] demands that can be satisfied.”

How do you appease someone who thinks this way? There is no evidence of *systemic* racism at the university. None. There is *no truth* to this man’s racist statement. IT IS A SATANIC LIE!

What kind of university is Mizzou becoming? Is there *nobody* who will stand up to this outrageous situation?

Yet the media love it. They are dangerously and willfully ignorant.

Racist Incidents?

What happened at Mizzou is part of a plague of incidents involving false accusations on college campuses. Yet if you question the validity of these supposed hate crimes, then *you* are considered racist.

In September, students at the University of Delaware cried out in indignation when they found “nooses” hanging from a tree on campus. Security staff investigated and found that they were actually the remains of paper lanterns left over from a previous event. But after the truth came out, students *continued* to insist they were nooses. One sophomore said she “had a hard time accepting as credible sources” the college public safety staff.

THE TRUTH DOES NOT MATTER TO THESE PEOPLE. That fact resurfaces *again and again* in these stories. They don’t care about the truth—they want to *destroy* truth! That is very telling as to the real nature of this movement, AND THE EVIL SPIRIT BEHIND IT.

Isn’t higher education supposed to be about truth? Isn’t it meant to help people prove what is true? The opposite is happening here. These radicals have BIGGER GOALS—and if they have to lie, exaggerate, make false accusations and invent grievances, then so be it! That is what these students are learning in our colleges today. It’s all demoniacal intimidation and evil.

These young people are radical. They cherish extremely divisive and dangerous ideas of what justice looks like, what society owes them, and how they should be able to shut down anyone who disagrees with them. They are gaining more and more power, abetted by authorities who came out of the same educational system.

‘Fight for Our Freedom’

The student activists who brought down Tim Wolfe chanted words from a fugitive cop killer and one of the FBI’s most-wanted terrorists, Assata Shakur, to inspire the crowd: “It is our duty to fight for our freedom. It is our duty to win. We must love and support each other. We have nothing to lose but our chains.”

What *chains* are they talking about? I am not saying there is no racism against

blacks in this country. Yet these students are being given every chance to make spectacular successes of their lives! They can do that if they will take responsibility for themselves rather than behaving as though they’re enslaved. THIS VICTIM MIND-SET THEY HAVE BEEN TAUGHT IS WHAT HAS THEM IN CHAINS!

“It is our duty to *fight* for our freedom,” they say. In reality, they are far less interested in FREEDOM than they are in a FIGHT.

What is the real goal of this movement? The woman who started that chant, Ayanna Poole, said this: “WE’RE TRYING TO BREAK THE SYSTEM DOWN. It just so happens we’re starting with him [Tim Wolfe].” Yes, they have a much bigger goal.

Another participant in the campus protests, Reuben Faloughi, told the Associated Press that he felt “liberated” by Wolfe resigning. He also participated in a “die-in” protest in memory of Michael Brown. “That was the first time I got involved in activism,” he said. “I never felt that unity before, that kind of energy. It was very empowering, and it planted the seeds that students can challenge things.”

Michael Brown was a thug who tried to kill a policeman. People still use the “hands up, don’t shoot” narrative from Brown’s death in Ferguson, Missouri—even though it has been proven to be a COMPLETE LIE. The St. Louis County grand jury and the Justice Department exonerated the officer who killed Brown. Investigations proved that he was justified in everything he did; he shot a man who was going to *kill* him! Even the attorney general admitted that. If you want to save your nation, you’d better have *somebody* stop the criminals, one way or the other! But people keep believing whatever they want to believe.

Why aren’t more people standing up and speaking out, when they KNOW it is all a hoax? Instead, it seems everybody wants to surrender. America is going down fast.

Breitbart News wrote on November 9, “Given the hydra of hysterical campus activism that ... is springing up across the nation, it’s hard to know where it will end.”

But you can know where it will end. The Bible tells us where it will end.

An Orchestrated Movement

“One of the things impeding our ability to get beyond these issues is our inability to talk about it,” Michael Middleton said. “We have to understand our ugly history permeates everything we do at this institution and in this country. Once we get this truth on the table, we’re poised to reconcile those differences.”

Think about that statement: OUR RACIST HISTORY PERMEATES EVERYTHING WE DO IN THIS COUNTRY. That is almost exactly what President Obama has said. “[T]he legacy of slavery, Jim Crow, DISCRIMINATION IN ALMOST EVERY INSTITUTION OF OUR LIVES—you know, that casts a long shadow,” he said in an interview last summer. “And THAT’S STILL PART OF OUR DNA THAT’S PASSED ON. We’re not cured of it.”

That is the kind of thinking that causes Mizzou students to wail about injustices going back to 1839—injustices that supposedly still have them in “chains” today. That thinking has been encouraged by the current U.S. president. The climate of racial grievance and hatred in America has been stirred up and stimulated from the very top.

Mr. Middleton, President Obama and many others insist that we just need to TALK about our racist past so we can reconcile and heal. But as they keep raising these accusations, DO YOU SEE RECONCILIATION AND HEALING? Or do you see DEEPER AND DEEPER DIVISION, GREATER AND GREATER HOSTILITY AND ANGER?

CAN YOU RECOGNIZE THAT THIS IS LEADING TO WAR?

These radicals DO NOT want to “get beyond these issues.” They DO NOT want to “reconcile those differences.” THEY DO NOT! Their fruits prove it! They want to use this as a weapon to inflame bitterness, provoke strife—and AMASS POWER!

This movement is flowing *from the top*. IT IS ORCHESTRATED! You can understand *why* this is happening by requesting a free copy of *America Under Attack*. It reveals the *spiritual dimension* behind the actions of the current administration. This is critical to understand.

Stirred by our highest leaders, THE DISCONTENT AND PROTESTS ARE SPREADING QUICKLY TO OTHER CAMPUSES. Across the nation, acts of racist



Is Your Heart Older Than You Are?

For many adults, the answer is yes. Here's how to turn back the clock on your heart health. **BY JORG MARDIAN**

MANY OF US FEEL YOUNG AT HEART, BUT RESEARCH shows the reality may be quite different.

Today nearly 69 million Americans are at risk of heart disease, and heart disease is responsible for one in every four deaths across the United States. It's also the world's leading killer at 17.5 million people annually.

These statistics dovetail with a new study released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in September. The study estimates that 75 percent of adults have a predicted functional heart age older than their actual age. On average, two in five women's hearts are about five years older than their real age, and *half of men* have hearts that are *eight years older*.

What Is Heart Age?

Heart age is determined by actual age, body mass index, and a number of risk factors for heart attack and stroke, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, smoking, an unhealthy diet, physical inactivity and obesity.

The riskier your profile, the "older" your heart is predicted to be.

While this is certainly not good news, it should not be discouraging because *heart disease is very much lifestyle-driven*. You can make your heart younger! You simply have to make changes to reduce your risk.

The concept of heart age was developed by experts who worked on the Framingham Heart Study, a long-term cardiovascular project that began in 1948 and is now in its third generation of participants. It was believed to be a need because doctors had a hard time framing heart disease risk in relative terms to clients. For example, a 60-year-old patient who is told he has a 20 percent chance of heart disease might think his odds are pretty good. However, if told his heart age is 10 years older than his actual age, that same patient is

better able to conceptualize the problem—and be motivated to make changes to his lifestyle.

This was conclusively proven in a clinical trial in Europe. Those who calculated their heart age focused better on factors needed for improving their cardiovascular health, compared to those who received more general counseling for percentage of risk. Taking steps that led to a healthier lifestyle allowed them to get their heart age back to where it should be.

You can find out your heart age by using an online calculator provided by the Framingham Heart Study. Enter your sex, age, systolic blood pressure, body mass index and answer a couple of health questions, and it instantly calculates your heart age.

If your heart age is younger than your actual age, well done: You have a lower future risk for heart disease or stroke.

Make Your Heart Younger!

Whatever your heart age, consider taking steps to improve your heart health. These can actually reverse the ravages of injurious living on your heart.

The first step is to eat a healthy, nutrient-dense diet with plenty of vegetables and fruits, healthy fats, beans, lentils and whole grains, while reducing your consumption of refined foods, sugars, unhealthy fats and excessive grain. Emphasize whole foods and avoid the processed variety.

Second, start moving more. A study published in "Evidence-Based Medicine" in 2014 suggests vigorous exercise is more effective at improving aerobic capacity than moderate-intensity exercise. If you can't do that, don't despair. You can still go to the gym, pop in an exercise video at home, or just go walking daily to get your heart in shape. You'll start feeling better in as little as two weeks.

No one is immune to heart disease, but making some key changes can make a dramatic difference. According to researchers at the University of Indiana, adopting a healthier lifestyle can lower your risk for heart disease and stroke by up to 90 percent.

So even though you can't rewind your chronological age, you *can* reduce your functional heart age—a fancy way of saying that you are healthier—and help your heart age gracefully. ■

The Skinny on Body Fat

It is worth noting that if you are an athlete or carry more lean muscle on your frame, the Framingham Heart Study's online heart health calculator may present a problem. The body mass index does not account for non-average muscle density, muscular size or frame size. In this case it's better to find out your overall body fat percentage.

A research paper in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* in 2000 found that men between 20 and 40 years old should have a body fat range between 8 and 19 percent. For women in this same age group, 21 to 33 percent is considered healthy. Those over the age of 40 may generally climb up somewhat past their respective healthy range.

A good body fat scale can give you an idea where you stand with body fat, and if it's within a healthy range, chances are your heart age is also good.

King Hezekiah Comes to Life

A recent discovery from Jerusalem puts us in touch with the righteous king of Judah. **BY TRUMPET STAFF**

Modern thinking dismisses the Bible as merely a religious text. It assumes its purpose is to inspire pious behavior, not to establish historical fact. But every now and again, the dust of Jerusalem stirs. Excavators dig down to the past, unearthing one layer after another. And sometimes, the events and the people of the Bible spring to life.

A new discovery has emerged from the soil of Jerusalem, and it resurrects the history of one of the most important kings in Judah. 2 Kings 18:5 says that “after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.” You can find the name of this king in the biblical books of Kings, Chronicles and Isaiah.

You can also find it on this new discovery: a tiny clay seal impression, known as a bulla. It says: “Belonging to Hezekiah, [son of] Ahaz, King of Judah.”

For the first time ever, the name of a king of Judah has been unearthed in controlled scientific excavations. Dr. Eilat Mazar, the archaeologist who discovered it, called it the most important individual discovery that she has made in her career—a career that includes discovering King David’s palace, Nehemiah’s wall, and a golden medallion featuring a Menorah from the sixth century B.C.



Unearthed but Unrecognized

Dr. Mazar broke the news of King Hezekiah’s bulla at a Jerusalem press conference on December 2. The bulla was first unearthed during the first phase of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem’s Ophel excavations in 2009.

The tiny artifact, just over 1 centimeter in diameter, passed unnoticed by the excavator in the field. Thankfully, Dr. Mazar had chosen the time-consuming, money-draining exercise of wet sifting all the soil that came from this location.

Wet sifting is a fairly recent archaeological procedure where excavators take all the soil from a site, sift it and spray it with water. Much of the time, this is a fruitless endeavor. But occasionally, a tiny object with outsized significance such as this seal impression can be discovered by a keen eye.

Once discovered, this bulla was saved with other similar objects for closer examination. The first attempt to read its

ancient Hebrew text proved inconclusive.

But in the middle of 2015, Dr. Mazar’s team was putting the finishing touches on the first volume of her final excavation report for the Ophel. In the process, she again looked at the minuscule seal, with its symbols and its ancient Hebrew lettering.

“We saw that there was a dot between the letters of the name ‘Melkiyahu,’ said Reut Ben-Aryeh, one of Dr. Mazar’s colleagues, “so it’s not the name of Melkiyahu. It was the word Melek (king) and Yehu, and the meaning is Yehuda [Judah].” If that dot hadn’t been discerned in the final check before publication, Hezekiah’s bulla would have remained obscure.

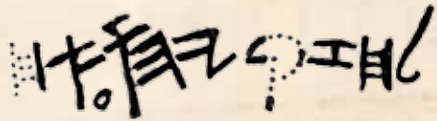
In the past two decades, other seal impressions with King Hezekiah’s name etched on them have been discovered. However, they had all surfaced on the antiquities market and could not be proved authentic. This bulla appeared in a controlled scientific excavation in a layer belonging directly to the time of King Hezekiah.

COURTESY EILAT MAZAR/PHOTO: OUIRA TAMOR, TRUMPET, MELISSA BARBERO/TRUMPET/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS:GAD00T13



See it for yourself!
 Watch archaeologist Dr. Eilat Mazar tell the story of how Hezekiah's seal was discovered at theTrumpet.com/go/Hezekiah.

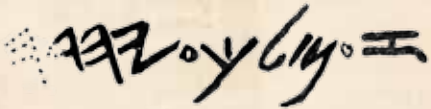
This arrow points to the location south of Jerusalem's Temple Mount where Hezekiah's seal was unearthed.



Reading right to left in ancient Hebrew, the first line states "Le (belonging to) Hezekiah, Ah-"



The central motif on the bulla is a winged rising sun, possibly a reflection of Hezekiah's submission to God following his healing.



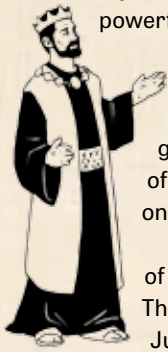
Continuing on from the top line, the bottom line reads "az, King [of] Judah"



Actual size 1 cm

Who Was Hezekiah?

Fourteen generations after King David, King Hezekiah ascended to the Davidic throne in Jerusalem and ruled the kingdom of Judah. The northern kingdom of Israel, Judah's sister nation, had just been conquered. Hezekiah, only



25 years old, started his reign by taking on the powerful and numerous priests and adherents of Judah's pagan religious establishment. Against widespread resistance that had been entrenched over the course of a generation, Hezekiah destroyed the worship of numerous gods and pointed his people to the one true God.

Later, Hezekiah "rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not" (2 Kings 18:7). The Assyrian king, Sennacherib, came against Judah and conquered many of its cities.

Besides 2 Kings 18 and Isaiah 36, this history is also documented in the annals of Sennacherib. Regarding Sennacherib's invasion of Judah, one 2,700-year-old prism on display at the British Museum says, "As for Hezekiah the Judahite, who did not submit to my yoke: forty six of his strong walled cities ... I besieged and took them. ... [Hezekiah] himself, like a caged bird, I shut up in Jerusalem, his royal city."

Sennacherib considered the takeover of one Judean city, Lachish, to be so important that he had the conquest portrayed on large wall reliefs at his palace at Nineveh.

After Lachish, Sennacherib marched on Jerusalem. Anticipating the attack, Hezekiah famously cut a 1,700-foot underground tunnel through bedrock to deliver fresh spring water into the city. This engineering marvel is referred to in the books of Kings and Chronicles. Today, this conduit is one of Jerusalem's most popular tourist attractions.

Science and the Bible Converge

Hezekiah's tunnel, his correspondence, his crisis with Assyria: It's all real. The conclusive evidence of biblical history is with us to this day.

Could the Bible also be accurate in its other details? For example, what about the account in 2 Kings 19 and 2 Chronicles 32 of Hezekiah praying to God, and God miraculously defeating the formidable Assyrian army?

Archaeological evidence leaves ample room for its accuracy. There is no destruction layer laid down by Assyrian siege weapons. There are no reliefs of a Jerusalem conquest etched along the palace walls at Nineveh. There is no evidence of a successful Assyrian siege against Jerusalem—because it never happened. The Assyrian army withdrew without a conquest, and King Sennacherib was later murdered by one of his sons. That is recorded in the annals of Assyria and the Bible.

Rarely do science and the Bible converge as dramatically and as tangibly as with the life and work of King Hezekiah of Judah. Dr. Eilat Mazar's most recent discovery is barely the size of your fingertip, but it contains a message of enormous significance. It testifies to the life of one of the greatest leaders in Jerusalem's incomparable history: Hezekiah, son of Ahaz, king of Judah.



HIDDEN TREASURE
 Herbert W. Armstrong College alumnus Brent Nagtegaal sorts through sifted material from the Ophel excavation in 2009.

(DON'T)



Before you ingest powerful chemical medications, ask these questions. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

I'M WRITING YOU PRESCRIPTIONS for buprenorphine, fluoxetine, eszopiclone, Azithromycin, Dulcolax and Simvastatin," the doctor says. "For good measure, we'll throw in some Chantix and Orlistat."

The names sound terrifying. But since the doctor recommended them, it's normal to think the drugs will be as magical for the body as the blissful, pastel-colored butterfly on one of the boxes appears to be.

"You'll need to take 12 tablets each morning and afternoon, six eardrops in the early evening, and then wear the transdermal patches while you sleep. Keep that up, and you'll be feeling like yourself again."

Medical recommendations such as those are issued with increasing frequency in the United States. And patients are generally quick to follow the orders. Mayo Clinic researchers report that almost 7 in 10 Americans today are taking at least one prescription drug, and over half are taking at least two.

A smaller percentage of Americans are on numerous prescriptions. In 2014, Americans were written a total of 4.33 billion prescriptions. There

are 319 million of us. This means the average American is written more than 13 prescriptions each year.

And with each passing year, these numbers are climbing, making the pharmaceutical industry ever larger and more powerful.

Are You at Risk—From Your Meds?

Expensive pharmaceuticals often provide users with relief from some symptoms. But they also carry a host of health risks. About 16 percent of all hospital admissions are related to adverse reactions to *prescription drugs*.

Women are at particularly high risk of complications from pharmaceuticals. That is in large part because, although women take the majority of prescription drugs, many drugs are only ever tested on men.

And here's the big one: The *Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics* states that pharmaceuticals *used as prescribed* are the fourth-leading cause of death for

Americans. That puts medication-induced deaths ahead of diabetes, car accidents and AIDS. The death rate for *prescription* drugs is 10 times higher than the number of people killed by *illegal* drugs.

Patient advocate Lisa Bloomquist says that, in too many cases, "the pharmaceutical industry has effectively taken an acute problem ... and converted it into a chronic problem." She says these chronic problems "mean repeat customers, and the pharmaceutical industry makes billions."

In light of these risks, patients should ask their doctors some questions before blithely following their recommendations to put these high-powered chemical concoctions into their bodies.

'Doctor, What's the NNT?'

First, a patient should ask the doctor about a statistic called the NNT: the "Number Needed to Treat."

The NNT is a piece of data doctors and pharmaceutical companies generally don't like to discuss. It records the number of people who need to take a certain drug in order for *one of them* to be helped by it.

Consider the example of statin, a class of drug routinely prescribed to lower patients' cholesterol levels. But the NNT for the most-widely prescribed statin is a jaw-dropping 250. That means for every 250 people taking it, this statin helps only *one person*.

Dr. Jerome R. Hoffman, professor of clinical medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, explained: "What if you put 250 people in a room and told them they would each pay \$1,000 a year for a

drug they would have to take every day ... and that 249 would have no benefit? And that they could do just as well by exercising? How many would take that?"

Statin has an unusually high NNT, but the GlaxoSmithKline pharmaceutical company estimates that 90 percent of all prescription drugs work for only 30 to 50 percent of people taking them. So in general, you've got a 50-50 chance of relief—at best.

13+

The average number of prescriptions written for each American per year

And in many cases, the effects of your medications are far worse than neutral. That leads to the second question a patient should ask.

‘What Are the Side Effects?’

Before agreeing to a new prescription, a patient should also ask the doctor about the drug’s side effects and the percentage of people who suffer from them.

To stick with the example of statin, the side effects are serious. They include joint pain, muscle pain and gastrointestinal distress. These are known to affect about 5 percent of people taking the drug. (In severe cases, it can also cause muscle breakdown and type-2 diabetes.)

So, if you add the side-effect percentage to the NNT, you see that for every 250 people taking the most-widely prescribed statin, just one person is helped, while more than a dozen suffer side effects. Each individual patient is 12.5 times *more likely to be harmed* than he is to be aided by the drug.

‘Is the Drug Company Paying You?’

It isn’t possible to watch television or pick up a magazine without being bombarded by images of stressed-out women *finally* getting a good night’s sleep, depressed teenagers making a transformation to joyfulness, and silver-haired men regaining long-lost virility.

These advertising budgets that directly target consumers are enormous. Yet they are *only a fraction* of the pharmaceutical industry’s marketing expenditure. So where does the rest of that marketing money go?

Doctors. Unlike the situation with most products, consumers can’t buy pharmaceuticals unless they have a doctor’s approval. The pharmaceutical companies know that *doctors* are the ones who actually have the power to get their drugs off the shelves and into patients’ medicine cabinets. So companies channel the bulk of their marketing directly to health-care professionals.

In 2012, pharmaceutical companies spent \$3.5 billion on direct-to-consumer marketing.

That same year, they spent nearly *seven times that figure*—about \$24 billion—marketing directly to health-care professionals.

Marketing to health-care professionals happens in two primary ways.

First, the companies send sales representatives to routinely visit hospitals, bringing gifts and free lunches to health-care workers. Former pharmaceutical sales representative Jamie Reidy told *Last Week Tonight* that the lunches are more than just occasional offerings: “There are some offices that advertise in the front desk job description ‘free lunch everyday’—not because the doctors are paying for it, but because the drug reps are bringing it in everyday.”

The National Physicians Alliance said that 83 percent of doctors report having accepted food and/or gifts from drug companies. One study showed that the United States has about 100,000 drug representatives, which means about one for every eight doctors—and the average marketing spent on each doctor is more than \$12,000.

Drug company gifts to doctors can also include fishing trips, educational fees, sample drugs—and services such as building free websites. In one case, a drug company spent \$9,750 on a dinner for three doctors—in an effort to persuade them to prescribe its drugs.

This conflict of interests is so widespread that the government recently launched a website that allows the public to see how much each doctor is receiving from various drug companies.

The second way pharmaceutical companies market to health-care professionals is by hiring doctors to talk to other doctors about their drugs.

In 2013, federal prosecutors accused the Novartis drug company of spending almost \$65 million to pay doctors

to conduct more than 38,000 such “speaker programs.”

The *Wall Street Journal* reported: “The speakers were paid an average of \$750 to \$1,500 per program, with some speakers earning as much as \$3,000 a program, prosecutors said. In one instance, a Florida doctor was paid \$3,750 for speaking to the same four doctors about a Novartis drug five times in a nine-month period, prosecutors said” (April 26, 2013).

Novartis tried to defend itself, saying physician speaker programs are an

“accepted and customary practice in the industry.”

But that’s precisely the problem. The customary nature of the practice means the objectivity of many health-care professionals is corroded.

When a drug company pays a doctor to act as a spokesman for its drugs, that doctor will often feel obligated to that company. It will cause him to make some recommendations based not on his best judgment but on the wishes of the drug company.

So, the third question you should ask your doctor, if he recommends a certain prescription to you, is whether he is receiving money, gifts, speaking fees or other benefits from the company that makes the drug. You may also ask if his opinion of the drug has been influenced by doctors paid to speak on behalf of its manufacturer.

‘How Can I Do My Part?’

A final question you should ask is directed less at your doctor than at yourself.

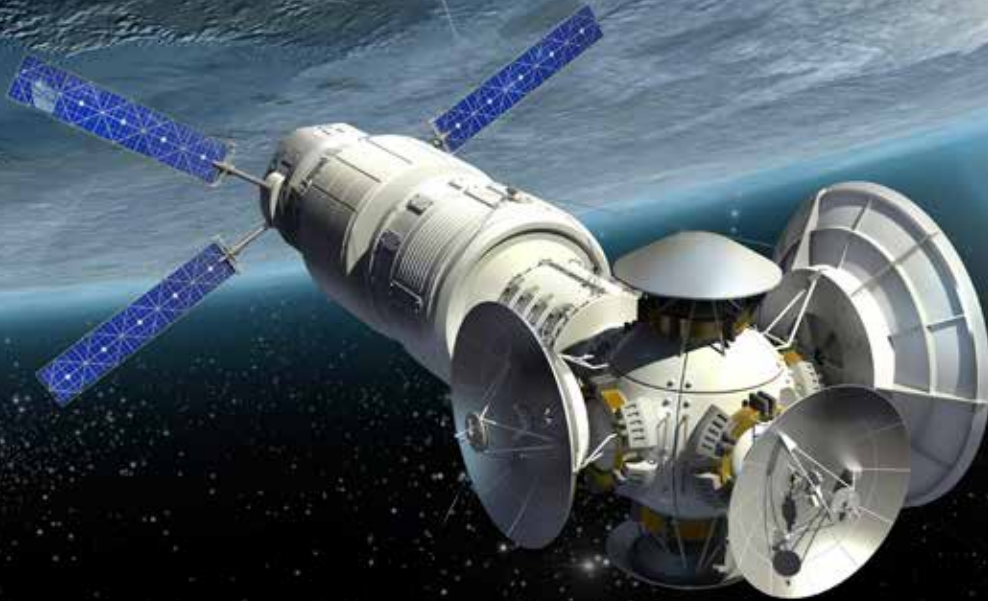
What long-term changes can I make in my diet, exercise and other lifestyle habits that could improve my health without pharmaceuticals? These kinds of changes often can be difficult. But take note: Side effects of this solution can include, but are not limited to: a higher quality of life, greater clarity of thought, a larger savings account balance, a more abundant life, more time for family and friends, greater productivity at work ...

#4

Where “pharmaceuticals used as prescribed” appears on the list of leading causes of death for Americans

16%
Percentage of all hospital admissions that are related to adverse reactions to prescription drugs

Space: The Final Military Frontier



Dependence on satellite technology has turned *Star Wars* into strategic reality.

BY RICHARD PALMER

STAR WARS. STAR TREK. GUARDIANS of the Galaxy. War in space is the standard plot for science fiction movies. It's not something we expect to make a difference in our everyday lives.

But we already live in a "science fiction" world.

Right now, unmanned killer robots hover in the skies above the Middle East, ready to rain down death from above on America's enemies. They are guided by pilots sitting hundreds of miles away, bouncing their instructions off satellites. Smart bombs are guided within inches of their targets using America's GPS satellite-navigation system. When America's special forces take out a high-value target, their commanders and even the president in the White House can watch and respond in real time, thanks to satellite communication. American commanders view the battlefield and watch their soldiers move across it using American surveillance and positioning satellites. They rely on this information to coordinate attacks and avoid friendly fire. American missile-warning satellites are watching the atmosphere of the entire planet

for any possible missile attack on the United States or its allies.

So much of America's military dominance on Earth relies on its power above the skies—and America *dominates* space. No one else has anything like its capabilities. Even the excellent French military, after fighting alongside America in Afghanistan, had to *unlearn* its reliance on space-based systems.

It would be *fantasy* to suppose that other nations would not challenge the Americans' dominance in this crucial theater of war.

Uniquely Vulnerable

Over the last few months, China has developed the ability to threaten America's entire space-based infrastructure. Europe and Russia almost certainly have the same ability.

"The world's most worrisome military flash point is arguably not in the Taiwan Strait, the Korean Peninsula, Iran, Israel, Kashmir or Ukraine. In fact, it cannot be located on any globe," wrote *Scientific American* in October. "The contested territory? The no-man's-land of Earth's orbit, where a conflict is unfolding that is an arms race in all but name."

America's dominance in space has made the U.S. military uniquely vulnerable in this arena. The U.S. is "increasingly reliant on its space-based systems—of which a significant percentage are highly vulnerable and largely indefensible," Stratfor wrote (Nov. 11, 2015). Striking one of these would deliver a "critical blow ahead of any physical strike." Take away these space systems, and American commanders become blind, deaf and dumb.

Most other countries don't have the same satellite technology. Therefore, as Stratfor explained, "[T]he United States cannot use the threat of disabling other countries' space-based communications infrastructure to prevent attacks because other countries do not rely as heavily on the technology." The type of mutually assured destruction that has so far prevented nuclear weapons from being used does not apply to space.

If another nation destroys all of America's satellites, America cannot retaliate. Smart bombs and GPS-guided battlefields help America avoid collateral damage and gives it an edge. But it also creates a unique dependency. Cut any other nation off from space, and it's a

minor inconvenience. But deny America the use of space, and its normal methods of conducting warfare are useless.

Stratfor continued: “[T]here is a strong incentive to pursue anti-satellite technology in the hope it could neutralize or disrupt one of the greatest advantages that the United States has”

Russia and China

Russia and China in particular are developing the capability to destroy America’s space infrastructure. To win, they don’t need to copy all of America’s technology. They just need to create systems to destroy it. Anyone who has played with wooden blocks knows that it is much easier (and cheaper) to destroy something than to build it up.

“Now, as China and Russia aggressively seek to challenge our superiority in space with ambitious defense and exploration programs of their own, this power struggle risks sparking a conflict that could cripple the entire planet’s space-based infrastructure,” *Scientific American* wrote. “And though it may begin up high, such a conflict could easily ignite full-blown war on the surface of Earth” (op. cit.).

China made headlines in 2007 when it shot down one of its own satellites as it orbited 530 miles above Earth’s surface. China’s action was certainly noteworthy—it demonstrated that America’s low-orbit satellites are vulnerable. But it wasn’t a great technological achievement. Prof. Desmond Ball of the Australian National University said at the time that shooting down the satellite “involved a fairly primitive system.”

“It is the sort of capability available to any country with a store of [medium-range/intercontinental ballistic missiles] or satellite-launch vehicles, and a long-range radar system, such as Japan, India, Iran and even North Korea,” he said.

Now China has taken its capability much further. It performed a test in 2013 that proved it could now shoot down satellites 19,000 miles above Earth’s surface.

If Earth were a basketball, then a satellite 530 miles away would be less than 1 inch from the ball’s surface. But with this latest innovation, China has proved that, on that same scale, it can

shoot down a satellite nearly *two feet away* from the ball. This means just about every U.S. communication, spy and navigation satellite is within range.

Air Force Lt. Gen. John “Jay” Raymond, commander of the Joint Functional Component Command for Space, confirmed this last March, telling the U.S. House of Representatives, “We are quickly approaching the point where every satellite in every orbit can be threatened.”

If China can do this, the more advanced space powers of Russia and Europe likely possess the same capability. No wonder the RAND Corporation published a report in September saying that “the risk to most U.S. space functions appears to be growing faster than the U.S. ability or effort to mitigate them” (“The U.S.-China Military Scorecard”).

Shooting down a satellite is a blatant act of aggression, but *Scientific American* describes other, subtler ways of sabotaging a satellite’s functions: “A spacecraft could simply approach a satellite and spray paint over its optics, manually snap off its communications antennas, or destabilize its orbit. Lasers, too, could be used to temporarily cripple or permanently damage a satellite’s components, particularly its delicate sensors. And radio or microwaves could jam or hijack transmission to or from ground controllers” (op. cit.).

Russia, China and the U.S. have all demonstrated these kinds of abilities: satellites that can maneuver close enough to other satellites and then destroy or destabilize them. Brian Weeden, an analyst with the Secure World Foundation who used to work at the U.S. Strategic Command’s Joint Space Operations Center, noted that these capabilities “present a significant challenge for future space security and stability.” In October, he wrote a report focusing on America’s, Russia’s and China’s activities in this area, but he noted that “other spacefaring

countries such as Canada, Japan and Europe already possess many of the same capabilities.”

America’s Achilles’ Heel

In June 1999, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry quoted from *Intelligence Digest*, which said, “[T]he Gulf War showed what a critical role technology now plays in warfare. But the course of a battle would be very different *if effective technology-sabotaging measures could be instituted against the superior force.*

... Computer dependence is the Western world’s ACHILLES’ HEEL, and WITHIN A FEW YEARS THIS WEAKNESS COULD BE TESTED TO THE FULL” (emphasis added).

Most of Mr. Flurry’s article focused on cyberwarfare and the danger of a cyber-attack, which he identified as America’s Achilles’ heel. But many of the points he made also apply to America’s reliance on satellite observation, navigation and communication technology.

The U.S. military is growing more aware of its vulnerability here. For example, U.S. Navy personnel are now trained to navigate using the stars. But these kinds of efforts would only ameliorate part of the problem. They would keep a destroyer from crashing, for example, but they couldn’t guide the ship’s cruise missiles.

America assumes its military is absolutely predominant, but it has not fought a war against a major power since World War II. There has been no test of how resilient America’s technological edge would prove in such a conflict.

In their novel *Ghost Fleet*, military experts P.W. Singer and August Cole imagine how World War III could be fought. It begins with a cyberattack and the destruction of America’s satellites. Robbed of its technological edge, America is all but crippled.

It’s a fictional scenario. But the technology is no longer fiction. America is more vulnerable than our cozy lives would let us think. ■

How to defeat a superpower

The Bible prophesies America’s downfall, and there’s one easy way to make it happen. Read “**America’s Achilles’ Heel—and Germany**” for Gerald Flurry’s explanation of this important prophecy (theTrumpet.com/go/1394).



How Much Radicalism Is in the Muslim Community?

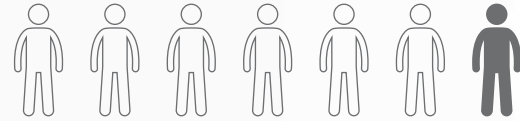
After attacks such as those committed in Paris on November 13, many are quick to say the actions do not speak for true Muslims, but only for rogue terrorists who violate Islam's peaceful tenets. For example, British journalist Piers Morgan tweeted in the aftermath of the attacks:



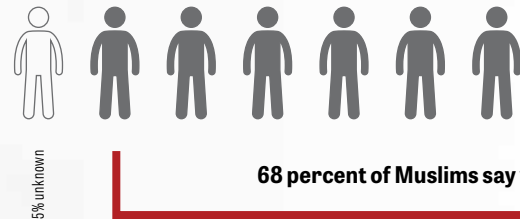
“These murderers aren’t ... real Muslims. They’re terrorists who’ve hijacked a religion for nefarious gain.”

But what do Muslims say for themselves? How do the world's 1.6 billion followers of Islam feel about such topics as suicide bombing of civilians, ubiquitous sharia law, and the actions of the Islamic State? Pew Research Center has surveyed more than 38,000 Muslims from 39 different nations to find the answers to these questions. Here is what they found.

SHARIA



VIOLENCE



68 percent of Muslims say violence is justified

SUPPORT

The Clarion Project found in June 2015 that more than **8.5 MILLION** people in the Arab world “support” the Islamic State, and as many as **42 MILLION** express at least “somewhat positive” opinions of the group.

Should sharia be the law of the land? Sharia law is a body of legal and ethical principles derived from the writings of the Koran and the Hadith. It is notorious for prescribing severe, and often torturous, punishments such as mutilation, amputation, caning and crucifixion for such crimes as drinking alcohol, stealing, gambling or abandoning the Islamic religion.

69 percent of Muslims think sharia should be the law of the land.



THIS PERCENTAGE REPRESENTS 355 MILLION MUSLIMS.

Of these, 44 percent think all people—Muslims and “infidels” alike—should be subjected to it.

Is suicide bombing and other forms of violence against civilian targets in defense of Islam justified?

While the majority of Muslims do not think targeting civilians with violence can be justified, a surprisingly high percentage say it can. Support for such violence is highest in the Palestinian territories, where 40 percent of residents approve of it. This percentage represents 1.6 million Muslims.



violence against civilians is “never” justified.

27 PERCENT OF 1.6 BILLION MUSLIMS, OR 432 MILLION, BELIEVE SUICIDE BOMBING CAN BE JUSTIFIED.

Is violence justified?

**12 percent say RARELY
10 percent say SOMETIMES
5 percent say OFTEN**

Do you support the Islamic State? The Islamic State is known for its extreme cruelty and fanaticism. The group calls its members “soldiers of terror.” It publishes videos and photos of its members slaughtering “infidels” by the most painful methods it can devise. A surprising number of Muslims around the world have expressed varying degrees of support for this particularly radical terrorist group.



A May 2015 survey by AlJazeera.net showed **81 PERCENT** of respondents voted “Yes” on whether or not they supported the Islamic State’s conquests in the Middle East.



The U.S.-based Center for Security Policy found in June 2015 that **38 PERCENT** of Muslim-Americans say the Islamic State’s beliefs are “Islamic” or “correct.” Forty-three percent said they are “un-Islamic.”



Seven days after the Paris attacks, the Survation polling company concluded a survey showing that **19 PERCENT** of Muslims in the United Kingdom have sympathy for Muslims who have gone to Syria to fight with the Islamic State. Among British Muslims ages 18 to 34, the number was even higher at 25 percent.



“In Eurasia the great historic fault lines between civilizations are once more aflame. This is particularly true along the boundaries of the crescent-shaped Islamic bloc of nations from the bulge of Africa to Central Asia. Violence also occurs between Muslims, on the one hand, and Orthodox Serbs in the Balkans, Jews in Israel, Hindus in India, Buddhists in Burma and Catholics in the Philippines. Islam has bloody borders.”

Dr. Samuel P. Huntington
The Clash of Civilizations



“It’s very important for us to align ourselves with the 99.9 percent of Muslims who are looking for the same thing we’re looking for: order, peace, prosperity.”

U.S. President Barack Obama
February 2015

ABOUT THE WEATHER ...
People show their support for the Paris climate summit.



The Climate Summit Wasn't About the Climate

If you think the Paris talks were just about carbon dioxide emissions and saving the planet, I have some air I would like to sell you.

BY ROBERT MORLEY

WHEN U.S. PRESIDENT BARACK Obama arrived at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, he began by apologizing to the world for how America has helped cause global warming. He said he had come “as the leader of the world’s largest economy and the second-largest emitter to say the U.S.A. not only recognizes our role in creating this problem, we embrace our responsibility to do something about it.”

Two weeks later, a 32-page climate paper in hand, the president called the summit a “turning point” for the world—and a defining moment for his administration. “The American people can be proud,” President Obama said. “Because this historic agreement is a tribute to American leadership. Over the past seven years, we’ve transformed the United States into the global leader in fighting climate change.”

This climate change agreement *may* ultimately be very “transformational,” as the president said, but sadly, not in the way most people think.

What Did They Agree To?

The agreement calls for holding global average temperature to below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to adopt efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels.

To accomplish this, countries agreed to “reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible.” Countries will monitor and report greenhouse gas emissions using a standardized global system. And they will submit action plans to reduce greenhouse pollution. Additionally, nations will come together every five years to report on their progress. They agreed to create a global monitoring committee to verify reporting. Rich nations also agreed to provide at least \$100 billion per year to tackle the problem.

“[M]ake no mistake, the Paris agreement establishes the enduring framework the world needs to solve the climate crisis,” President Obama said.

But here is one big problem—that is, assuming that reducing greenhouse

gas emissions will stabilize the global climate. The problem is that nations like the United States and those in Europe may be committed to reducing their carbon dioxide emissions, but much of the rest of the world is much less so—and there is no enforcement mechanism.

This much-heralded agreement is *not legally binding in any way*, except that nations have agreed to report how much greenhouse gas they emit. Nations can submit any emission reduction plan they like. They can be laughably low, like the Russian plan. Or they can be like the Indian plan, which basically amounts only to emission increases for the foreseeable future. India has said outright that it will not change plans to double its coal usage by 2020. India is the world’s third-largest greenhouse gas emitter. Saudi Arabia, Nigeria and the rest of the oil-exporting nations also have little interest in capping fossil-fuel usage. And China, although this time around it seems to have reversed its stance on reducing greenhouse gases (this may be part of the price it agreed to pay to have its currency included in the IMF’s international currency basket—article, page 23), few people really believe it is serious about making significant cuts.

And here is the most absurd part: Developing nations like China and India are allowed to revise their goals as they go. In fact, every nation can.

So the question arises: With a deal this absurd, what was really accomplished?

Contrary to popular belief, stopping “man-made global warming” is only one aspect of the talks.

President Obama, for example, said that signing a climate deal to reduce carbon emissions was *the best way to combat Islamic State terrorism in Syria and Iraq*. He said it would be an “act of defiance” against terrorism.

But the talks were not really about stopping terrorism either. Or about saving polar bears, or stopping small Pacific islands from disappearing. They were about so much more.

These talks were about money, power, and mostly, *about igniting a revolution*.

Revolutionizing the System

In February, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

executive secretary Christiana Figueres revealed the real motivation behind the Paris climate talks. “This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of *intentionally, within a defined period of time, to change the economic development model that has been reigning for at least 150 years, since the Industrial Revolution,*” she said. “This is probably the most difficult task we have ever given ourselves, which is to *intentionally transform the economic development model* for the first time in human history” (emphasis added throughout).

The Paris climate summit was about revolutionizing the world’s economic system. What system is that? Capitalism.

Pope Francis said on the first day of the talks: The world is headed toward “suicide” if a climate agreement isn’t reached. “Africa is a victim,” he said. “Africa has always been exploited by other powers ... there are some countries that want only the great resources of Africa. ... Africa is [a] martyr, a martyr of the exploitation of history.”

As a result, Africa is “mired in poverty [and] social injustice,” he said. *This has to change.*

And what does Francis convict as the main perpetrator of exploitation, pollution and other misdeeds? *Capitalism* has increased inequality and caused the destruction of the environment for “profit at any price,” Francis told a crowd earlier this year. Capitalism is “the dung of the devil,” he said.

The pope was *just one* of the powerful forces behind the Paris summit.

Look at the various climate-change protests taking place around the world. They are filled with anti-capitalist, socialist and openly Communist activists. And these people are not just hangers-on; *they are the protest organizers.*

Ecopsocialists or Ecocommunists?

“What seems to have happened,” the *National Post* reported, “is that the international far left, having been decisively routed with the collapse of the Soviet Union and of international communism, has attached itself to the environmental movement, usurped the leading positions in it from the bird-watching, butterfly-collecting, and conservation organizations, and

is carrying on its anti-capitalist and anarchist crusade behind the cover of eco-Armageddonism” (Dec. 5, 2015).

“System change, not climate change,” is the message behind this movement. *This is a call for revolution.* Many of these activists call themselves “ecopsocialists.” And their demands are revealing (sidebar, page 22).

Many of these demands are coming from the highest levels of government.

Consider Van Jones. He was President Obama’s “special adviser” for “green jobs.” He was the face of the movement responsible for helping create more environmentally friendly jobs or convert environmentally destructive jobs. That was his official agenda.

But Jones had a very different unofficial agenda (past tense, since he was forced to resign once some of his more radical views became public). Jones is a self-admitted Communist. He promotes social justice (using the power of government to forcefully redistribute wealth and to give special privileges to minority groups to make up for past wrongs) and talks about eco-apartheid (how white people get all the benefits of green energy).

Speaking at the Power Shift youth climate change conference in 2009, Jones said America needed to *completely revamp the whole economy to create justice for all.* “[W]e are going to change the whole system,” he said. “We want a new system. ... We are going to change the whole thing.”

For current policymakers in Washington, creating a green economy is so much more than stopping global warming. Global warming—or climate change, as it has now been renamed—is just a catalyst. The real agenda is far bigger.

The agenda is partially revealed in Jones’s résumé. He is a founding member of STORM (Standing Together to Organize a Revolutionary Movement), a radical Marxist organization. In one of its publications, STORM asserted that it looked “towards the revolutionary traditions of *Third World communism and found valuable and inspiring models for revolutionary change.*”

It is very telling that such a radical was personally chosen by President Obama to help green America’s economy. He was chosen for a job that was a perfect fit with his résumé. That job is *revolutionary change.*

What Will It Cost to Adopt Clean Energy?

Last August, President Barack Obama announced new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules on allowable carbon dioxide emissions by utilities. The rules mandate that carbon dioxide emissions be reduced from 2005 levels by 32 percent by 2030. Around 30 states will have to cut emissions by more than 32 percent and at least 12 will have to implement 40 to 48 percent reductions.

According to *Forbes*, the new guidelines are the “most far-reaching regulation for the energy sector in the history of the United States.”

The cost to America will be large. But how large?

Analyst Paul Driessen, writing on Townhall.com, says that to meet these goals, electricity rates in some states will not merely double to levels found in green California, but quadruple to levels paid in some countries like Denmark and Germany.

Last October, the National Economic Research Associates (NERA) consulting group found that the costs to comply with EPA’s proposal could total \$366 billion. The actual EPA regulations are 9 percent more stringent than those analyzed by NERA.

The conservative Heritage Foundation says there will be an additional \$2.5 trillion loss to gross domestic product due to higher energy costs, increased job losses and lower economic activity. The EPA’s new rules will “hammer everything we make, grow, ship, eat and do,” wrote Driessen (Aug. 8, 2015).

Many people love to argue the economic benefits of solar and wind power, but the bottom line is that the government wouldn’t be forcing the utilities to adopt wind and solar power if it made economic sense for them to do so. Profit-focused businesses naturally try to make as much money as they can. If green power made economic sense for them, they would have done it.

So there will be a cost. And it will be big. And it will get passed down to consumers.

The question is just how big, and is it worth it?

ROBERT MORLEY

System Change, Not Climate Change

As one keynote speaker at last year's massive People's Climate Rally in Oakland, California, said, "What we are facing is a systemic problem. A conflict between two systems. First is the environmental system, which sustains life on Earth. Then there is the economic system of capitalism that is attacking the stability of our environment. Capitalism and a healthy environment cannot coexist! ... [W]e're going to have to disrupt and transform the capitalist system. That is why we say, 'System change, not climate change'!"

In these words, the communistic coopting of the environmental movement becomes shockingly obvious. There was a movement that argued that corporations should pollute less. It has been taken over by people who say there should be no corporations. Someone recognized something valuable in the environmental movement: *power*. Power to overthrow the entire Western system.

According to some environmentalists, and even many of America's top leaders, America's economic system is rooted in colonialism and slavery and based on exploitation. *And it needs to*

be completely destroyed before a new system can be rebuilt.

It is this blatant anti-capitalism/anti-American climate change movement that led previous administrations to reject the Kyoto Protocol talks and other environmental agreements.

America has nothing to gain at these talks—unless you believe its system needs to be completely torn down and revolutionized. Unless you believe that America is a force of evil in this world—that it is defined by systems of oppression. Unless you believe something more *collectivist*—more *authoritarian*—would be an improvement.

From a global economic perspective, this Paris summit will produce no winners. That's because any deal would involve transitioning away from fossil fuels to more expensive, less reliable, less powerful green energy. The costs will be in the trillions. And there is no guarantee the cuts will be enough, or that they will have any effect on the climate at all. And sadly, the poorest of nations will be coerced into borrowing vast sums of money from China and the West to build unaffordable green-energy projects. Once again, Africa and

South America will have their resources exploited to pay for all their debt.

But there *will* be relative winners and losers.

Winners and Losers

The United States is an economic and energy powerhouse. It is a world leader in coal, oil and natural gas resources. Energy supplies are so abundant that costs are near multi-decade lows. Of the world's 3 billion barrels of available petroleum inventories, more than 2 billion are located in the U.S., according to the International Energy Agency. This inexpensive and abundant energy gives America a huge economic advantage over other nations. It keeps heating and transportation costs down; it fuels industry; and it subsidizes living standards. And perhaps just as importantly, the cost for all that oil, gas and coal stays mostly at home in America, building the economy and providing jobs.

From a competition standpoint, limiting fossil-fuel usage makes little sense for America. But for Europe, it could be a big advantage.

For resource-constrained Europe, fossil fuels are expensive and

CLIMATE SUMMIT PAGE 36 ►

What Does System Change Mean?

Some of the most vociferous "climate change" activists call themselves "ecosocialists." To save the world from climate change, they say we must revolutionize the global economic order. Here are their demands:

- Public ownership and government control of production, starting with the energy and financial industries.
- A democratically planned economy based upon social need and ecological sustainability.
- Full indigenous sovereignty and complete recognition of the right to self-determination. Governments must honor and fulfill all treaty obligations that entitle native peoples to land, water, food, hunting rights, fishing rights, health care, housing, etc. Full reparations to indigenous peoples for historical injustices.
- Cut the military (ranging from a 50 percent cut to actually *cutting* the entire military).
- Full employment, transitioning millions from military and fossil-fuel related jobs to union jobs creating a renewable energy infrastructure. Community-based small businesses, worker co-ops, small farmers and government jobs become the norm.
- Banning of fracking and tar sands extraction and an immediate transition away from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. One hundred percent clean renewable energy by 2030.
- Wealthy nations pay for poor nations to adopt clean energy.

- Ecologically sustainable agriculture and fishing, and the production of healthy foods.
- Source reduction of waste and toxic products.
- Full development of public transportation, a national rail system and bicycle-friendly infrastructure. Ban new airports, new pipelines and new motorways.
- Protection of biodiversity, including species and genetic diversity.
- Environmental justice: Removal of waste sites, incinerators, polluting industries, generators, transportation hubs and highways from oppressed communities. Access to clean drinking water, adequate sanitation facilities, green spaces and fresh, nutritionally dense foods at low cost. Protection and empowerment of communities most vulnerable to climate catastrophes.
- High taxation of the corporations most responsible for the economic and environmental crises.
- End Third World debt.
- End student debt.
- Free housing.
- Reduced work hours without loss of salary.
- Control human population numbers.

(These demands are taken directly from the websites of various environmental organizations, including System Change Not Climate Change, The Global Climate Convergence, Popular Resistance, Climate and Capitalism, and the Sierra Club.)



Is the Yuan About to Become a Reserve Currency?

What does the Chinese currency's upgrade mean for the dollar? **BY ROBERT MORLEY**

THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY Fund (IMF) welcomed the Chinese yuan into its elite Special Drawing Rights (SDR) currency on November 30, a move that recognizes China's rise to global superpower status. The Chinese currency joins the euro, Japanese yen, pound sterling and U.S. dollar.

Yet the move is more than a confirmation of China's arrival as an economic juggernaut. It is a sign that America's power is waning and the dollar's role as the world's reserve currency is being increasingly challenged.

The yuan's inclusion in the IMF basket has been a Chinese political goal for years, as Beijing seeks greater international influence. It is an objective the United States has steadfastly resisted.

Owning—and thus controlling—the premier currency of global commerce comes with enormous benefits. The world uses dollars for trade. This creates enormous demand for the greenback, which allows America's central bank to keep interest rates much lower than other nations are able to. This makes borrowing less expensive for America's banks, businesses and consumers, and gives them an advantage against international competitors without the usual negative side effect of currency depreciation. Similarly, it allows America to simply print money to cover government spending—also without turning the dollar into confetti.

The primary reason America's economy has outperformed the rest of the world since the 2008 great recession is that reserve currency status allowed Americans to borrow and spend more money than anyone else.

Reserve currency is what Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, French finance minister and later president, called America's "exorbitant privilege." It is a privilege the world envies—that China

wants—and that America should be very afraid of losing.

Dissatisfaction

Last March, after furious diplomatic effort, the U.S. lost the battle with China over the creation of the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank. America opposed this bank as an effort to undermine U.S. influence in Asia—yet it was routed. Even America's closest European allies like Britain and Germany joined this Chinese-led initiative. It was a telling sign of America's waning influence.

The yuan's inclusion in the SDR currency confirms that world opinion is turning against America.

The *single best predictor* of any given country's investment in yuan is that nation's dissatisfaction with the U.S.-led order, according to analysts Michael Bailey, Anton Strezhnev and Erik Voeten. They say that much of the world's interest in adopting yuan for trade is fueled by China's rise as America's geopolitical rival.

This is not a new trend. At least 37 central banks added yuan to their foreign exchange savings between 2010 and 2014, according to the *Washington Post*. This was before the recent IMF announcement, so there will soon be more.

Many of these central banks are in nations less aligned with U.S. policy. But worryingly, there are now signs that America's *allies* are also looking for alternatives to the dollar.

Overhyped?

The current value of all SDRs is only around \$280 billion, and most economists estimate that the yuan's inclusion will take up only around 10 percent of the value of the currency basket. This has led some analysts to conclude that the yuan's inclusion in the SDR basket is overhyped. The big impact, however,

isn't just from the IMF decision, but from the actions of both the world's central banks and its investment community. Asset manager AllianceBernstein estimates that up to \$3 trillion could move into China over the next few years.

Analysts argue that ultimately the economic attractiveness of the yuan will have the greatest impact on whether it can challenge the dollar as a reserve currency. To a certain extent this is true, and China is making great strides toward making the yuan an attractive investment.

But what we are increasingly seeing is that it is not purely economic incentives, but *geopolitical preferences* influencing central bank decisions on which currencies to hold. This is an ominous sign for America.

If the dollar loses its reserve currency status, the implications for your pocketbook and the entire geopolitical order will be massive. Whether through a slow chipping away process, or a sudden dramatic move, the result is the same: loss of purchasing power. The only question is, will it come fast, or will it start slow and then give way?

The Next Crisis

The dollar's reserve currency status helped America get through the 2008 economic crisis. But another economic crisis is coming. This time, America may not so easily be able to print money to pay its debts.

As Herbert W. Armstrong wrote back in 1968, "If the dollar is devalued, INFLATION will almost surely result—and eventual economic COLLAPSE for the United States. Those of you who truly BELIEVE the prophecies of your Bible KNOW such economic collapse is prophesied to happen!" (co-worker letter, March 26, 1968).

Although the yuan's inclusion in the SDR basket does not in itself guarantee this outcome, it is an obvious step in China's not-so-secret plan to make the yuan a reserve currency. This will come at the expense of the dollar, since most international trade with China uses dollars.

The dollar's global status is being challenged. America may think it is still the world's unchallenged economic superpower—but other nations are banding together to change that. ■

Your Most Important Ch

You have to make the same choice that faced Adam: the tree of life, or the tree of death. **BY GERALD FLURRY**

EVERY DAY, YOU MAKE LIFE-AND-death choices. You may not recognize it, but some things you do lead to life, and others to death.

The biblical account of the Garden of Eden reveals this truth in a profound way.

Many people regard the Bible as fable with little relevance to their lives. This is terribly false. There is no better example than what you read in the first few chapters of the Bible's first book.

The two trees of Genesis 3 are at the heart and core of the entire Bible. Yet the real meaning of these trees remains a huge mystery to most of mankind.

This foundational doctrine is as deep as the oceans and as broad as the universe. But at the same time, it gives your life simplicity and clarity.

Instruction in Righteousness

God made Adam physically perfect, but Adam's mind was a blank slate. "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it" (Genesis 2:15). God gave man the opportunity to cultivate the most beautiful garden ever seen. Adam and Eve and all their children had a brilliant future ahead of them—if they would only obey Him.

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (verses 16-17).

The *first instruction* God gave to the *first man* was about the TWO TREES: the tree of life, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God considered this critical understanding the most important of all.

God revealed that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was the tree of *death*. He wanted Adam and Eve to eat from the tree of *life*.

God was preparing Adam to make the most crucial choice of any man ever. Adam's choice between the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil would set the course of human civilization for 6,000 years.

As God instructed Adam about the two trees, He was revealing the truth of the *way of give*—the way that brings peace instead of violence and destruction. In essence, He was teaching the gospel, the good news of the coming Kingdom of God, the Family of God that will rule the world and the universe!

God finished supplying Adam with the necessary instruction for resisting Satan the devil. Then he allowed Satan to approach Adam and advertise *his* way.

Temptation

"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God

hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, *Ye shall not surely die*: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:1-5).

Satan **LIED** about the tree of death. It **DOES** cause physical death—and if we don't stop eating from it, it causes *eternal* death! But Satan caused Eve to doubt what God had revealed and to rebel against God (verse 6).

Adam and Eve rejected God and believed Satan. They chose to design their own society, their own laws, their own religions, their own science. The civilization that came about as a result has been built on rejecting God's definition of good and evil and deciding for *ourselves* what is good and evil.

Parts of this world seem pleasant and desirable, just as that fruit appeared. But look at the problems we are experiencing! Fighting among men is intensifying. Human survival is in question! It is becoming more and more obvious that our entire world is eating from the tree of death!

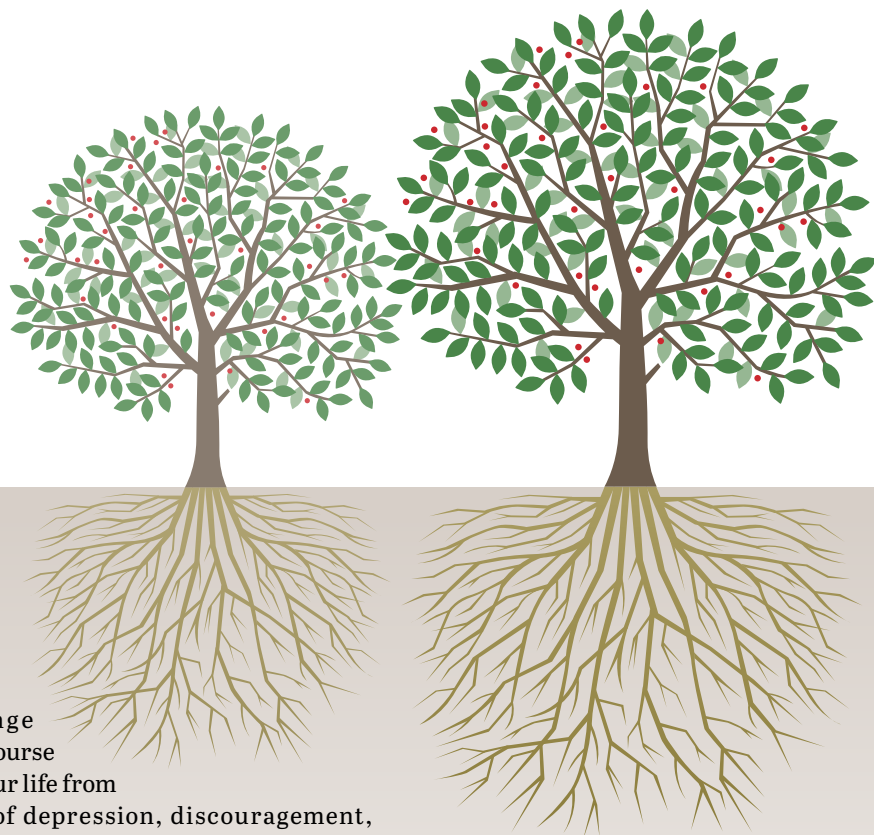
The Spirit of Power

What would have happened if Adam had eaten from the tree of life instead?

"Had Adam taken of the proffered tree of life the whole course of civilization would have been entirely different," Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in *Mystery of the Ages*. "Peace, happiness, joy, health and abundance would have spread over the Earth."

God wants to give all human beings the tree of abundant, joyful *life*! He

oice



wants us to receive His Holy Spirit, which is what that tree symbolizes. If we will just obey Him, we will build His love within our lives, and we will get along with Him and with fellow man.

The Holy Spirit is God's Spirit of POWER. If we eat from the tree of life, God will help us win overwhelming victories in our individual struggles, and our lives will change *dramatically!* But He lets us *choose* which tree to eat from.

Cut Off From God

When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, “[H]e drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life” (Genesis 3:24). Think about what this means: Humankind as a whole—the world that developed from Adam and Eve—is CUT OFF FROM GOD.

John 6:44 tells us that nobody can simply *choose* to come to God. The only way someone can come is if God first *draws* him. Today, God is calling a *select few* for His purposes on Earth. They have access to the tree of life, while most people at this time do not. This is the terrible result of Adam's wrong choice.

Satan deceived Adam and Eve as they made their life-and-death choice. They made a mighty decision for the worse, causing this world to suffer in darkness. Since then, Satan has deceived the whole world! (2 Corinthians 4:4). Though *most* human beings are cut off from God, we are NOT cut off from Satan! Look at our suffering world: We are cursed! (Genesis 3:17).

The two trees are a MYSTERY to this world. Solve this mystery, and you can

change the course of your life from one of depression, discouragement, disappointment, anger and frustration to one of love, joy, peace and hope. Though few actually do it, God tells us to CHOOSE LIFE.

“You have to go back to the origin and see how it all started,” Mr. Armstrong said in 1983. “You have to get the PREMISE right or else our CONCLUSIONS based on that premise are going to be FALSE!” This world is built on the wrong premise: a mix of good and evil knowledge. If we don't allow God to replace our very *foundation*, we will continue to suffer, and ultimately we will die!

This world needs the foundation upon which the World Tomorrow will be built: the tree of life.

The Conclusion

The Bible doesn't stop talking about the two trees in Genesis. In the very last book of the Bible, God says, “To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the *tree of life*, which is in the midst of the paradise of God” (Revelation 2:7). Eat of the tree of life, and you will be living in a goodly PARADISE!

In Revelation 22:2, God prophesies the future of Jerusalem: “In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there *the tree of life*, which bare twelve manner

of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.” In the World Tomorrow, the tree of life will HEAL THE NATIONS! They need healing after eating from the tree of death and choosing to go their own way apart from God. Soon, the tree of life will bring abundant blessings to *all mankind*. There is tremendous, life-changing HOPE in this message!

Genesis records this world's foundation—Revelation prophesies its future. For 6,000 years, our world has eaten from the tree of death. We are now suffering the advanced stages of that terminal illness. But God sent a *second* Adam, Jesus Christ, whom Revelation reveals will return *soon* to rule all nations and to *feed us from the tree of life!*

Today, however, *right now*, YOU are facing this same choice: the tree of death, or the tree of life? Will you decide for yourself what is right and wrong? Will you choose a mixture of good and evil? Or, will you choose to OBEY GOD? Will you choose *life*? To make the choice that will bring abundant, life-changing blessings to your life, you desperately need to understand the mystery of the two trees.

How to Listen to God

The Philadelphia Trumpet, in conjunction with the Herbert W. Armstrong College Bible Correspondence Course, presents this brief excursion into the fascinating study of the Bible. Simply turn to and read in your Bible each verse given in answer to the questions. You will be amazed at the new understanding gained from this short study!

IF YOU WANT A LIFE FILLED WITH PEACE, HAPPINESS, joy and prosperity, you must have regular contact with the source of all good things: your Creator God.

In the August 2014 *Trumpet* issue, we learned how to pray (theTrumpet.com/go/11878)—how to talk to God. Now let's learn how God talks to us. This Bible IQ will show you how to “listen to God” by studying His inspired Word.

Many people become frustrated when they try to study the Bible because they find it difficult to understand. But there are simple lessons in *how* to study that can dramatically improve your appreciation and understanding of this wonderful resource.

Grab your Bible so you can begin putting this powerful tool into practice right now. It is a good idea to also have a pen and a notebook handy so you can write out the following verses, along with your notes and thoughts to help you remember what you learn.

Why Study?

1. Does man really need daily guidance from God? Can't he reason out for himself how to properly lead his own life? Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12.

Man has proven throughout history that he *doesn't know how* to live. He has been unable to discover for himself the way to true happiness, abundance and peace.

2. What is the main problem with man? Jeremiah 17:9. The “heart” this verse speaks of is the human mind without God—a state the Bible refers to as “carnal.” What is wrong with allowing yourself to be governed by your carnal mind? Romans 8:6-8.

3. So for what purpose did God give His Word to us? 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Notice the words *reproof* and *correction*. Most people are very resistant to receiving reproof (rebuke) or correction. What about you? Will you let God, through His Word, show you where and how to change? After you read a scripture or a passage, ask yourself, *How does this apply to me? How do I need to change my life in order to follow what God is telling me here?*

4. What *attitude* is God looking for in us as we seek Him through Bible study? Isaiah 66:2; 1 Peter 5:5.

It is a mistake to try to seek God with a “take me as I am” attitude. God looks for sincere *humility*—our knowing that we don't have the answers of ourselves. Then we will “tremble at his word,” meaning we will respect what He tells us enough to act upon it and turn away from our mistakes. See also Isaiah 57:15. God will actually *dwell with the humble!*

5. To whom did the psalmist turn when he needed help, understanding and guidance? What was his source of counsel? Psalm 119:9-11, 17-18.

To truly understand your studies of the Bible, you must act on the lesson in the August 2014 issue and pray first for understanding the way this psalmist did. Most of the Psalms are written by King David, and they vividly show the wonderful relationship he had with God. In your future studies, the Psalms can show you how to develop that same deep relationship with your Creator.

6. In seeking God, was the psalmist half-hearted? Psalm 119:10.

7. What are the rewards of seeking God's understanding through His Word? Proverbs 3:13-18.

This is the bottom line: You will never receive these blessings without seeking after God's wisdom. Bible study is the chief way to do that. That is the way to achieve *success, peace, happiness and abundance*. If you lack the motivation to study, ask God to help you find it! (Luke 11:9-10).

How to Understand It?

1. Though we understand that the Bible is God's Word, it seems that there are as many different interpretations of the Bible as there are religions and churches. Should we rely on any man's interpretation of the Bible, including our own? Proverbs 3:5; 2 Peter 1:20.

Let the Bible interpret *itself!* As Herbert W. Armstrong often stated, God's Word is coded, formed like a jigsaw puzzle, “Here a little, and there a little” (Isaiah 28:10). Avoid taking scriptures out of context or using only one scripture to prove a point. Read numerous scriptures on a given subject in order to gain a clear picture of what a specific verse or passage means.

2. Amid all the confusion, how can we get *God's* interpretation, and not that of the



many men who claim to understand the Bible?
1 Thessalonians 5:21.

Study to prove God's Word. Look into world history and check whether God has brought His prophecies to pass. Look into world events today and see whether God's forecasts have come true.

God speaks to us through His Bible, nurturing us, helping us to grow. We should never approach Bible study with an attitude of *disproving* Him. Test and prove God's Word by *obeying* what it says and measuring whether the results are good! That is the path to truly understanding it. As Psalm 111:10 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: A GOOD UNDERSTANDING HAVE ALL THEY THAT DO HIS COMMANDMENTS: his praise endureth for ever."

God promises blessings for heeding His commands and taking correction. Obey and put those promises to the test. See if God lives up to His promises. Read Malachi 3:10 as an example.

Then, once you prove something to be good, HOLD FAST TO IT! Never let it go! Build your life around the foundational truths you learn in your Bible study.

The Basics

Here are a few helpful hints to make sure you get the most out of Bible study.

1. Study consistently and frequently.

As with any education, consistent study is essential for you to advance. This takes self-discipline. So the first thing to do is build a regular study schedule into your everyday routine. Study at a time when you are alert, when it can be something you truly anticipate.

2. Study by subject.

Start off simple. Pick one subject or one book of the Bible and study it thoroughly. Some Bible handbooks will give you historical background on books of the Bible. This can provide you with valuable information so you can understand what was going on in history as the events of whatever book you are reading unfolded. A great resource is *Strong's Concordance*. It will give you deeper understanding into the meaning of words that are translated from their original Greek or Hebrew into English.

Be careful which translation you read. Some translations are less accurate than the King James Version. For instance, the New International Version has mistranslations in many cases and even omits a few scriptures completely.

3. Develop a system to mark your Bible.

Colored pencils work well for this purpose. For example, you might mark promises in green, personal correction in yellow, and doctrine in orange. In addition, you can find good indelible fine-point ink pens that will allow you to write notes in your margin to remind you of details and instruction that apply to the noted verses.

4. Meditate and review.

After learning lessons, it does not take long to forget. How can you make God's Word come alive and really penetrate your heart and consciousness? You must meditate on what you learn (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:2; 77:12). You have to think about what you study for it to really sink in.

Consider: The world's best-selling book is the very inspired Word of God. That is truly astounding. Far too many allow it to sit on the shelf and collect dust.

Don't miss out on being educated by your Creator! Nothing is more exciting than fulfilling His purpose in your life—to be a member of His Family—by seeking Him, talking to Him, and then letting Him reply. Take the time; ask for the discipline from God and begin your regimen of life-changing Bible study today. ■



This short study is a sample of the method employed in each lesson of the free **Herbert W. Armstrong College Bible Correspondence Course**. Over 100,000 people have enrolled in this exciting, dynamic course. Ordering information is on the back cover of this magazine.

You can read previous articles in this series online at trmpt.co/bibleiq.

CRISIS A Russian airliner is brought down by the Islamic State on October 31.



Is Egypt about to fall into chaos—again?

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi is besieged by crises. All over Egypt, there are groundswells of support to oust the former coup leader as tough times hit Egypt's citizens. Many now wonder how much longer Sisi will remain in power.

One crisis occurred on October 31, when a passenger plane fell from the sky over the Sinai Peninsula, killing all 224 on board. As evidence of an Islamic State bomb attack on the plane emerged, nations began stopping flights in and out of the Sinai Peninsula and Egypt. This hit Egypt's tourism industry, which accounts for about 14 percent of the country's economy. Its economy was already faltering thanks to high unemployment and low oil prices drying up Gulf investment in the country.

Devin Nunes, the Republican chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, told *Bloomberg View*: "I hope Sisi can keep the country together [T]he Sinai is completely unstable where

jihadis are roaming all over; and on the other side of Egypt you have Libya, where we have no plan. This could potentially set Egypt into chaos."

Sisi is a man besieged by extremist groups at his borders. However, many feel that the greatest threat comes from within the nation.

"He is under constant death threats," Vin Weber, co-chairman of the Washington Institute for Near Eastern Policy, said in November after discussions with senior Israeli security officials. "Many people said, 'We're not sure where he sleeps at night.' And I think there is a question mark in the minds of Israelis about whether or not the government can succeed."

Sisi has undertaken a widespread crackdown on the former ruling party—the Muslim Brotherhood—sentencing many of them to death, including former president Mohamed Morsi. Justified or not, this has intensified the rage of younger Muslim Brotherhood recruits who are impatient and likelier to

use terrorism as a tool of protest. This tense reality was witnessed in Cairo earlier last year when assassins used a car bomb to murder the chief prosecutor for the government.

In an effort to put down radical incitement against his rule, Sisi has rounded up media agencies on grounds of corruption or "publishing false news that harms national security." In turn, international human rights agencies

have pushed their respective governments to pressure Sisi to step down or change his policy on human rights.

Sisi faces a witch's brew of serious problems, any one of which could take him down. Bible prophecy indicates that Egypt will soon turn radical. Sisi's demise could trigger that outcome. ■

How many Syrian refugees are terrorists?

In his Thanksgiving Day radio message, United States President Barack Obama compared Syrian refugees to the first Pilgrims who sailed to America on the *Mayflower* in September 1620. Opening the nation's borders to those refugees is the compassionate thing to do, he said.

But how many of the subjects of the *Mayflower Compact* were terrorists?

On November 15, deputy national security adviser Ben Rhodes said, "We have very extensive screening procedures ... a very careful vetting process ... so we can make sure that we are carefully screening anybody that comes to the United States."

However, many counterterrorism experts say it is *impossible* to vet Syrian migrants. As FBI director James Comey said in October: "We can only query against that



Arak heavy water facility in Iran

Iran lied about its militarized nuclear program

It's now official: Iran lied about the military dimensions of its nuclear program.

In its conclusive December 2 report, "Final Assessment of

Past and Present Outstanding Issues Regarding Iran's Nuclear Program," the International Atomic Energy Agency confirmed that the Islamic Republic has been developing



INFLUX Refugees enter Croatia via the Serbian border in September.

And some of those would-be terrorists were refugees.

On November 19, the FBI said its intelligence officials were conducting “tight surveillance” on “dozens” of suspected radicals plotting attacks similar to those in Paris.

When European authorities revealed that at least one of the suspects in the Paris attacks entered Europe on the Syrian

refugee pretense, 31 American states declared they would not accept any Syrian refugees under current circumstances. The Obama administration responded by threatening legal action against those states, citing the Refugee Act of 1980.

As the deadly San Bernardino Islamic terrorist attack shows, if even one Syrian refugee is a terrorist, that is one too many. ■

which we have collected. And so if someone has never made a ripple in the pond in Syria in a way that would get their identity or their interest reflected in our database, we can query our database till the cows come home, but [nothing will] show up because we have no record on that person.”

At least 66 people have been arrested in the U.S. in the past 18 months for Islamic State-related terrorist plots.

a nuclear warhead as recently as 2009.

The IAEA report was “not really surprising,” as Dr. Jeffrey Lewis, a scholar at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, said. “It more or less [said] what everybody thought.”

The IAEA reported that Iran worked in a “coordinated” way to develop a nuclear explosive device.

Iran conducted its most intense work on nuclear weapons production before 2003. According to the report, Iran’s weaponization program “was brought to a halt in late 2003.” That was the same year Libya publicly renounced its nuclear program. It was also the same year the United States invaded Iraq.

After 2003, Iran continued some aspects of its weapons program until 2009, but these never expanded beyond the planning stages such as computer modeling of nuclear warheads, according to the report. The IAEA said it found “no credible indications of activities in Iran relevant to the development of a nuclear explosive device after 2009.”

The report contradicted Tehran’s consistent claims that its nuclear program has always been a peaceful one. However, because the IAEA found no evidence that Iran continued its nuclear weapons program after 2009, U.S. officials believe that this revelation will not prevent Iran from receiving relief from sanctions, as was agreed to in the nuclear deal last summer. ■

Boko Haram: Exporting terrorism beyond Nigeria

In August, three months after becoming Nigeria’s president, Muhammadu Buhari ordered his nation’s military to end Boko Haram’s insurgency in the northeast of the country by the end of the year. That deadline came and went, but Boko Haram terrorism didn’t. Instead, it spread to Nigeria’s neighbors.

In November alone, the al Qaeda-related, Islamic State-allied terrorist group killed more than 65 people in Nigeria. In one attack, the assailant was an 11-year-old girl who killed 14 people.

Since Buhari began his presidency, Boko Haram has murdered 2,000 people. The terrorist group has killed more than 20,000 and displaced more than 2 million since the current insurgency in Nigeria began in 2009.

In neighboring Niger in October and November, the group killed about 20 people and burned more than 50 houses.

“Mosques, grocery stores, homes, vehicles, motorbikes—Boko Haram burns everything in its path,” Col. Mahamadou Abou Tarka said. In October and December in neighboring Chad, Boko Haram conducted two triple suicide bombings that killed almost 70 people.



The group also orchestrated twin attacks by women suicide bombers in Cameroon, killing six.

Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Cameroon and Benin have pledged to contribute personnel to an 8,700-strong task force to fight Boko Haram.

The European Union has expressed its concern over Boko Haram’s growing threat in the region, vowing to “use all available means to help in the fight against terrorism” in West and North Africa.

This is the real trend to watch: How Europe responds to the rise of radical Islam and asserts itself militarily in Africa and the Middle East. ■

Russia’s \$7 billion loan to Iran

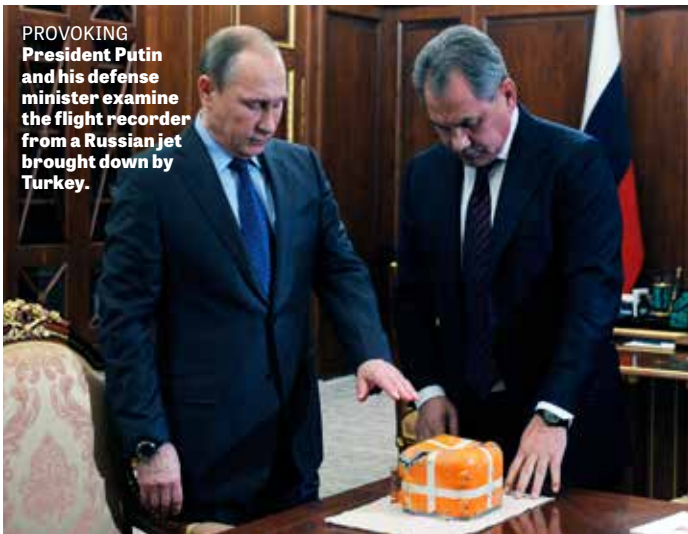
On a November 23 visit to Iran, Russian President Vladimir Putin said Moscow is ready to provide a \$5 billion state loan to Tehran for joint infrastructure projects. Meanwhile, Russian state lender Vnesheconombank said it will lend an additional \$2 billion to Iran for infrastructure projects.

The projects will include high-tech areas such as energy, port facilities and railway electrification. Russia also said it will continue nuclear power cooperation with Iran.

Both countries remain under international sanctions. Since their interests coincide, cooperation between them is likely to increase. “We expect that after sanctions are lifted, Iran will prefer to work with the Russian Federation on many tracks,” Russian Deputy Premier Dmitry Rogozin said. “The Iranians emphasize the pivotal role Russia played in the lifting of sanctions, so if we’re active, we’ll open a new market for ourselves.”

The blossoming Russia-Iran cooperation shows that Moscow is gaining leverage in the Middle East as American influence wanes. ■

PROVOKING
President Putin
and his defense
minister examine
the flight recorder
from a Russian jet
brought down by
Turkey.



Turkey's provocation—Russia's response

Turkey's downing of a Russian warplane on November 24 injected new tensions into the already volatile Syrian conflict. Turkey says the Russian fighter jet violated its airspace and provided a radar picture indicating as much, but Russia produced satellite imagery appearing to show that its plane remained within Syria's borders.

Russian President Vladimir Putin castigated the Turkish leadership for failing to apologize for the incident or to give assurances that "the culprits of this crime" would be punished. Russia's foreign minister, Sergei Lavrov, said the incident was a "planned provocation" by the Turks, and said Russia "can't but react to what has happened."

The reaction began on November 28, when Putin issued a decree suspending employment of Turkish workers in Russia. Russia also suspended its visa-free travel agreement with Turkey, levied bans on imports of certain Turkish goods, and suspended

military cooperation with the Turks. Turkey has called for a cancellation of these punitive measures and a restoration of relations, but so far Russia has refused.

Turkey is a member of NATO, which gives it close ties to the nations of Europe. This incident could serve to deepen the geopolitical divide that is emerging between Russia and Europe. ■

China-Russia cooperation grows

Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Paris on November 30 at the United Nations conference for climate change. Xi said the China-Russia bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership is progressing significantly. He said the two leaders should hold frequent meetings in order to exchange views on relations and issues of global concern. China is

Forced to choose between America and China

The nations of East Asia are being forced to choose between partnership with the United States or allegiance to China, according to a November 2 report published in *The World in 2016*.

For decades, many smaller Asian countries have managed to delicately balance themselves between the two powers, maintaining good relations with both. But now, China is challenging the existing order, forcing smaller nations to pick a side.

Several examples in recent months show smaller Asian nations siding with one of the two powers over the other. Singapore has agreed to host a new fleet of American war vessels. The Philippines has relaxed its resistance to the presence of U.S. troops.

Nations are also being forced to choose sides in economic matters, such as whether or not to join China's new Asian

Infrastructure Investment Bank, the U.S.-led Trans-Pacific Partnership and others. In theory, such economic groups



SLIDING EAST
A Malaysian
protester
demonstrates
against the
Trans-Pacific
Partnership
Agreement.

would complement each other. But reality is different. "The trend in economics as in diplomacy is towards parallel sets of institutions: the old ones, where America has a leading role; and the new, where it is absent and China dominates," the article notes. "It is a rather alarming trend, and one likely only to intensify in 2016." ■



EASTWARD BOUND
Xi meets with Putin

willing, he said, to work with Russia to push for more cooperation across all fields.

Xi also said China is prepared to back Russia in its fight against terrorism, including the Islamic State and other Islamist elements in Syria. While it remains unlikely that China will take on a direct military role in the Syrian war, Xi's statements suggest that

in terms of diplomacy, fighting cyberterrorism, and other indirect facets of the war, China will robustly support Russia. This is as biblical prophecy indicates; request a free copy of *Russia and China in Prophecy* for proof. ■

Students forced to pay attention achieve higher grades

Success Academy Charter School students in New York City outperformed the city average by a considerable margin this past year. Of 3,065 Success Academy students tested, 93 percent were proficient in math, and 68 percent were proficient in English. Comparatively, the citywide averages are 35 percent and 30 percent.

The difference is that Success Academy requires its students to sit up and pay attention.

Eva Moskowitz, who founded Success Academy in Harlem in 2006, explained the method behind the results in the *Wall Street Journal* (Nov. 12, 2015). The approach came from educator Paul Fucaloro, whom Moskowitz described as “instructionally sophisticated” yet “decidedly old-school on the topic of student behavior.”

Moskowitz explained that students are not allowed to “stare off into space, play with objects, rest their head on their hands in boredom, or act like ... ‘sourpusses’ who brought an attitude of negativity or indifference to the classroom.”

Critics of the school’s

FASCINATING STUDY
Students who participate in class learn more.



standard claim the methods used “take a toll on teachers and students by creating high-stakes environments that are often competitive and stressful.”

Moskowitz rejects such claims. “If we lessened our standards for student comportment [behavior], the education of the 11,000 children in our schools would profoundly suffer,” she said, adding that if a student has trouble paying attention, he or she is moved to the front of the class, parents are notified, and the student is kept after school to practice.

As Moskowitz says, the results of Success Academy have not come from any new truth. They have come from what many used to accept: that children succeed when required to pay attention and engage with their education. ■

Australia: ‘no jab, no pay’

The Australian Parliament passed a tighter law on November 23 that will prevent parents from receiving childcare benefits if they don’t immunize their children. Changes were enforced beginning Jan. 1, 2016, and will cost parents thousands of dollars in lost benefit payments.

Previously, parents could still receive childcare benefits by declaring themselves conscientious objectors. Now the law may not offer any exemptions.

Liberal M.P. Andrew Laming said, “Having a vaccination is an overwhelmingly positive individual and public good We certainly shouldn’t be funding families, and giving them large amounts of public cash, if they’re not prepared to take publicly responsible decisions like getting their children vaccinated.”

Campaigners against immunization say the vaccinations can be dangerous, and over 7,000 have signed a petition that states Australian parents should have the right to an “uncoerced choice.” ■

Mattel casts little boy in Barbie doll commercial

For the first time ever, the Barbie doll brand highlighted a boy in one of its commercials. The commercial, which aired in October, received praise for upending gender barriers.

The ad displays Mattel’s new line of Barbie dolls created as part of a partnership with the Italian fashion house Moschino. The dolls sport outfits of black mesh and leather, with edgy golden

accessories to match.

However, it is not the doll’s racy clothing that steals the show, but rather, the mohawked, lipstick-wearing boy playing with the dolls. “Moschino Barbie is so fierce,” he exclaims to the camera with an exaggerated head roll. This single line is garnering the Barbie boy a huge fan base worldwide.

This is part of a trend away from

gender-based toys for children. Target is removing gender-based signs from its toy section; Hasbro switched to a gender-neutral Easy-Bake Oven a few years ago.

The Moschino Barbie commercial is another step in society’s effort to radically change gender expectations. ■



violence are becoming more common and widespread. Riots are increasing. Where will this end? What happens in America as major groups of angry, violent people are mobilized?

The Bible tells us!

Do you realize that the Bible contains *many* end-time prophecies about the U.S.? If you have never proved this truth, you need to do so. We will gladly send you a free copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* to help you recognize America's identity in biblical prophecy.

Prophecies about America show that IT IS ABOUT TO EXPLODE IN VIOLENCE.

This is an end-time prophecy referring to America: "Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers" (Isaiah 1:7).

What is happening on these campuses is leading into this prophesied scenario. Higher education—or I should say MIS-EDUCATION of these pathetic people who think they know so much—is going to have a lot to do with the fulfillment of this prophecy!

There is an evil spiritual force that seeks to destroy America. That spirit is working in these young people to fulfill that goal. This is all about destroying America's Constitution—the supreme law of this land! Satan is leading these young people to destruction and leading them to cause this nation to die! People are surrendering to this hateful, evil thinking. It is terribly racist—but it is even worse. It is aligned with *satanic will*. That is what is truly happening here!

America has *rejected God* and *embraced sin and evil*. You can see why God is so enraged with America that He would allow this to happen.

Prophecy shows that burning in the cities is only the *first phase* in America's demise. Once our population is weakened by internal violence and warfare, the nation will be attacked by a foreign power. And then, those who manage to survive that intense tribulation will be taken captive from their own nation and sold into slavery! This is the nightmare that is coming upon America.

THESE STUDENTS ARE ABOUT TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS REALLY LIKE TO BE IN CHAINS—if they remain alive!

Education With Vision

There is a paradox here. Our educational system is supposed to solve society's problems. But instead, THE MORE EDUCATION PEOPLE RECEIVE, THE GREATER THESE PROBLEMS GROW!

Supposedly, higher education is to produce leaders who can lead us *out* of these problems. But it does not! Our leaders make matters worse. When you look at the way these students are handling the issue of racism, you can clearly see why. They are not interested in stopping racism! Their methods for supposedly solving the race problem are making it far, far worse—and will lead to a racist explosion! That is a perfect illustration of this terrible paradox.

There is something dreadfully *WRONG* with the knowledge taught in these schools. Look at the fruits! We have so much of it, and it isn't helping us! The problems in America's universities today are powerful proof that this educational system was built on the wrong foundation. The knowledge it teaches is based on the wrong premise.

Modern education has rejected God and His revealed knowledge. It has demolished moral absolutes and biblical instruction. It has exalted *human reasoning* as the highest source of truth.

If you will open your eyes, you will see that the problems with higher education today show what an abominable failure that approach is!

Where can you find high-quality education that truly can and will solve the problems of this world? It does exist!

I'd like to offer you a free booklet: *Education With Vision*. It is especially relevant in light of what is happening. It describes the origins of the modern educational system. This will help you understand the crises on our campuses today.

This booklet also has a chapter explaining what *true* education really is and how to become truly educated. It shows what a blessing education can be when it is built on the revealed knowledge of God.

Herbert W. Armstrong was a terrific educator. He explained the cause of youth violence in his day this way: "The *TRUE* answer is this: Something has been *taken away* from this Earth that sorely needs to be restored! That 'something' is knowledge of, respect for and obedience to *THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LAW OF GOD!*" (*The Missing Dimension in Sex*; request your free copy).

Mr. Armstrong knew whereof he spoke. He wrote in 1970: "I happen to be president of a college with three campuses. On these campuses there are no campus protests, no opposition marches, no student rioting and violence, and no hippies. There is *PEACE*, happy cooperation between students and faculty and administration. Student faces are wreathed in *SMILES* which are real and genuine—the outward expression of an inner joy. Visitors are amazed.

"This is the *RESULT!*"

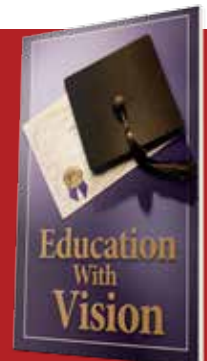
"The *CAUSE?* We are not a factory of *KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION*, but of *HUMAN CHARACTER PRODUCTION*" (*Plain Truth*, August-September 1970).

The work behind this newsmagazine is all about education. We sponsor a K-12 academy and two colleges that provide a model of true education. Contained in these schools is a vision of how right education is about to spread all over this Earth!

As Isaiah 11:9 prophesies, there is coming a time when "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

Isn't higher education supposed to take us ... higher?

Why is it that the more educated society becomes, the more problems it faces? To learn why education is failing and how the problems will be solved, order our free booklet *Education With Vision*.





Your Duty as a Mentor

Grow by helping others to grow.

IF YOU'VE ACHIEVED ANY SUCCESS IN LIFE, YOU'VE PROBABLY had help. It can be a huge boost to have someone teach you, guide you, provide an opportunity, or open a door as you progress through your education and career.

With experience and success comes a responsibility you may not have considered: to turn around and *help those behind you*. To give back by being a *mentor*.

A mentor is a trusted counselor or guide who teaches, helps or advises a less experienced, often younger person. Mentoring is a *partnership* between one person with knowledge and another who wants to learn. It is a relationship that builds up society. It is a principle of living that can change lives—including your own.



JOEL HILLIKER

As Gen. Wilbur Lyman Creech, commander of the U.S. Air Force Tactical Air Command, said, “The first duty of a leader is to create more leaders.”

There are probably *many* younger people in your life you could help if you will embrace this challenge. And it *is* a challenge: It takes time, energy, investment. But recognize that when a younger person is struggling or needs attention, it is not an imposition, but an opportunity.

There is *power* in sharing knowledge. The Bible is loaded with admonitions about and examples of this teaching dynamic. Most revolve around teaching our children God's truth: “And thou shalt teach [these words] diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up” (Deuteronomy 6:7; also read Deuteronomy 4:9 and 11:19 and Psalm 78:1-8). Ephesians 6:4 exhorts fathers to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Titus 2 contains detailed instruction to older women, telling them to work not just with their own daughters but also with younger women in general.

The way you treat your children and other young people or those with less experience and expertise says a lot about your character. One quality of the great patriarch Abraham that impressed God was that he would *teach, guide, counsel, advise, instruct—mentor!* (Study Genesis 18:19.) When God commended him in this way, Abraham had only one son. You don't even have to *have* children to develop the mind-set of a mentor.

To think like a mentor, you must do two things: Recognize someone's *potential*; and recognize *your own power* to help him or her achieve it. These are difficult tasks. They require unselfishness, maturity and big-mindedness. They require seeing people the way God does, and then caring enough to actually help them.

Once you begin to build this mind-set, then you will see opportunities arise all around you.

The *act* of mentoring includes two components: providing *guidance* and providing *opportunities*. It is more than simply giving counsel, offering advice and delivering instruction. It also means arranging opportunities, opening doors and providing challenges—giving assignments that will help your students' growth.

A mentor asks himself these questions: What do I know that can benefit others? Who can benefit from this knowledge? What can I *learn* that will be useful knowledge to teach others? What do I wish someone had taught *me*? What opportunities can I provide?

If you have a son or daughter, **START THERE**. *Double* the amount of time you spend together. Look for every opportunity to do things together. Look for appropriate challenges to give him or her. Think of every little thing you can teach to prepare him or her for adulthood.

How much better equipped for manhood would a boy be, for example, if his father took the time to teach him how to stay focused on a task; how to tie a tie; how to build a fire; how to treat a wound; how to change a car's oil; how to fix a leak; how to hunt. Then of course are matters of relationships and character such as how to have meaningful conversation; how to treat a woman; how to be a man of your word, how to admit mistakes; how to build a relationship with God—and so on?

Once you make headway at home, look at other people you can help: people who work for you, your students, other young people in your community. Pay attention to them. Show interest. Develop a rapport. Think about whether you can include them in your work, in your plans. Look for opportunities to teach and pass along something of value. Young people have so many things they *need* to learn.

In addition to benefitting your student, mentoring also benefits you! **YOU NEED** opportunities to think beyond yourself. Mentoring requires genuine effort. It takes sacrifice and time—time you may not want to give, frustration you may wish to do without, sacrifice you would prefer not to make. But that is thinking selfishly. You need opportunities to think unselfishly, like God. The real joy in life comes from giving, not taking (Acts 20:35). Devoting attention to helping someone else grow, to struggle through setbacks and learn from mistakes, is truly a blessed act.

Your life isn't just about bettering *yourself*. It's about bettering yourself *through* bettering others! It's about growing by helping *others* to grow!

There are young people all around you who are waiting for *you*, needing *you*, and they don't even know it. But now *you* do. So wake up to your critical duty: being a mentor! ■

This is an incredible piece of journalism (“The Roots of America’s Dangerous Turn Left,” theTrumpet.com/go/13314). Nowhere else will you find the unabashed “truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.”

Theodore Trecker FLORIDA

Thank you for this article. It has gotten to the point that I don’t know who or what to believe anymore. I know I can come here for the truth. God bless!

Susan Hire
INDIANA

Wow that was a very powerful article. Thank you, Mr. Flurry, for speaking with power the truth.

Storm Simpson
AUSTRALIA

Thank you for your courage in speaking the truth in this politically correct (corrupt) world. If I did not understand why the insane events in this world are unfolding, and have the hope of the eventual awesome ending, it would

truly make me faint of heart. I can only thank God that it is almost over!

Theresa Garber
FLORIDA

Perhaps the *Trumpet* hasn’t been keeping up with current events—like the last 30 years or so. Communism has declined as an unworkable system (perhaps with the exception of China, which remains staunchly Marxist and the darling of the American right wing). Most Communist countries have moved to socialism—a much more workable system. If capitalism (another unworkable system) can move toward socialism, we may actually find a middle way that works. Yes,

there will be problems, even major ones, but pure capitalism is as bankrupt as pure communism.

Robert Nicolazzo
FACEBOOK

Vladimir Putin

This is a chilling but very insightful piece on the grave danger facing the world (“Fear This Man,” theTrumpet.com/go/13323). Mr. Putin is getting his way and is exposing the weakness of our leaders here in the West. They are afraid to stand up to even lesser threats. Thank you for this article—clear, concise, and based on the sure word of prophecy.

Rory Harper
BAHAMAS



Mr. Putin is the leader of the kings of the east. He is now actively laying the groundwork for the role they will play during the last days. Very informative article! This great article uncovered facts that I was not aware of!

Angelo

The power of decision-making

Thank you for a simple, yet powerful article (“Your Glorious, God-Given Power,” theTrumpet.com/go/13318). A mantra to focus on: “Decision is vital to character development.”

Michelle van der Leeuw
SOUTH AFRICA

Radio just got better

KPCG goes beyond the chatter of typical talk radio to deliver real insights on world events, Bible-based living and enlightening music. It’s more than just radio—it’s your source of understanding.

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The Song of Fools

Are you listening to it? What is it teaching you?

BY JOEL HILLIKER

POP MUSIC GRABS YOUR EAR AND DRAWS YOU IN. THE catchy tune, the enchanting vocal, the clever lyric, the sweet beat—the radio dial is full of these: songs crafted to captivate you and stick in your mind.

And now here you are, humming along to that mesmerizing hook. But wait—what are these rich, glamorous people singing about?

Have you *looked* at the lyrics of the top pop songs? Pick any hit, read the words, and you quickly see how stupid it is. Or vulgar. Or self-indulgent and vain. Or immoral and perverse. Or dangerous and sick.

“Gotta kiss myself, I’m so pretty. I’m too hot!” sings Bruno Mars in “Uptown Funk.” It is basically a celebration of the singer’s own awesomeness and of the glamour of lascivious city life. “If you sexy then flaunt it. If you freaky then own it. Don’t brag about it, come show me.” This is a theme in a lot of these songs: *Don’t hold back—just be as crazy as you want!* “Girls hit your hallelujah, ‘cause uptown funk gon’ give it to you.” Excuse me, what?

This was the biggest song for most of 2015. It might have been the most “uplifting” of the handful of hits I looked at. *Every one of them* was terrible. Gross, lustful, boastful, angry, depressing, brutal, violent, disgusting, nasty. Far worse than I expected! Sampling these lyrics requires skipping over most of them because they are so explicit and profane, if they even make sense at all.

So many of these songs celebrate the shallowest, basest lusts. “Call me on my cell phone late night when you need my love. I know when that hotline bling, that can only mean one thing.” That’s Drake in “Hotline Bling.” “I’m like, yeah, she’s fine. Wonder when she’ll be mine. She walk past, like press rewind to see that [profanity] one more time, and I got this sewed up.” That’s Fetty Wap singing “679.” “I had a summer lover down in New Orleans; kept him warm in the winter, left him frozen in the spring. My, my, how the seasons go by,” Elle King sings in “Ex’s & Oh’s.” “Nothing lasts forever, but this is gonna take me down,” Taylor Swift says of a doomed affair in “Wildest Dreams”—“He’s so tall, and handsome as [profanity]; he’s so bad, but he does it so well. I can see the end as it begins. ... Someday when you leave me, I bet these memories hunt you around.”

Unsurprisingly, equally popular to these anthems of immorality are the ballads of the brokenhearted. “At least I can say that I’ve tried to tell you I’m sorry for breaking your heart. But it don’t matter—it clearly doesn’t tear you apart anymore,” sings Adele in her hit “Hello.” “I thought that I’ve been hurt before, but no one’s ever left me quite this sore,” Shawn Mendes sings in “Stitches”—“Your words cut deeper than a



VAINGLORY Bruno Mars performs during the 2014 Super Bowl.

knife. ... You watch me bleed until I can’t breathe; I’m shaking falling onto my knees. And now that I’m without your kisses, I’ll be needing stitches.” These fools followed their hearts into disastrous relationships, and pathetic fans are now grooving on their depressing confessions. Do you really want to absorb yourself in that miserable world?

The Country Music Award’s 2014 “song of the year” was Kacey Musgraves’s “Follow Your Arrow.” What is this catchy little number teaching? Well, since people are going to criticize you no matter what you do, “You might as well just do whatever you want. So make lots of noise, kiss lots of boys, or kiss lots of girls if that’s something you’re into. When the straight and narrow gets a little too straight, roll up a joint—or don’t (I would)—just follow your arrow wherever it points.” Billboard writer Jewly Hight described the song as a “toast to conformity-bucking, pot-smoking and same-sex affection.”

This exercise in absurdity could go on and on. Are you listening to this nonsense?

Take a breath of fresh air and note this up-to-date wisdom from Solomon in Ecclesiastes 7:5: “It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear THE SONG OF FOOLS.”

You hear “the song of fools” everywhere today. *Lange’s Commentary* says this refers to “the extravagant, boisterous and immoral songs that are heard in the riotous carousals of foolish men.” The SONG OF FOOLS fills the airwaves! Another appropriate term for it can be found in Psalm 69:12: “the song of the drunkards.”

Everything about “the song of fools” engages the carnal mind. It has instant appeal, like sugar on the tongue. But like refined sugar, its messages are incredibly toxic. And it affects you more than you realize.

The peddlers of these songs are attractive—or certainly fascinating, even in bizarre ways. But theirs is the seduction of the “strange woman” of Proverbs 5 and 7. They often live debauched lives. Their views are twisted; their morals are sick. The most popular among them openly advocate rank materialism, illegal drug use, sexual license and perversion. They are miserable—often openly, proudly so! Yet millions of young people listen, watch, hum along, absorb and allow these pop stars to shape their thinking.

2 Corinthians 6:17 tells us to *come out* from the world and *be separate*. Hear the rebuke of the wise! It’s so much better than getting caught humming the song of fools. ■

imported—meaning the money goes to the Saudis or Russians. This is partly why Europe has generally been quicker to embrace higher-cost, less-reliable green energy. It is just switching from one high-cost energy source to another—except, instead of sending euros to Russia for gas, it sends them to Germany or Spain for wind turbines.

European businesses are already paying high energy prices. In Germany, electricity costs are roughly triple those in America. If America wants to voluntarily handicap itself, so much the better from a European economic competition perspective.

But what about the Chinese? China imports a lot of fossil fuel at prices much higher than in the U.S. So, like Europe, for them, there would be less of an economic hit to make a switch. Additionally, China has become the world's premier solar manufacturing center. So reducing dependence on imported coal from Australia, for example, would come with the benefit of spending the freed-up money at home on domestically produced solar products. China is also becoming a leader in wind-power turbine manufacturing. So this industry would also benefit.

But there is no way China will sacrifice economic growth in order to reduce carbon emissions, especially if it risks social unrest.

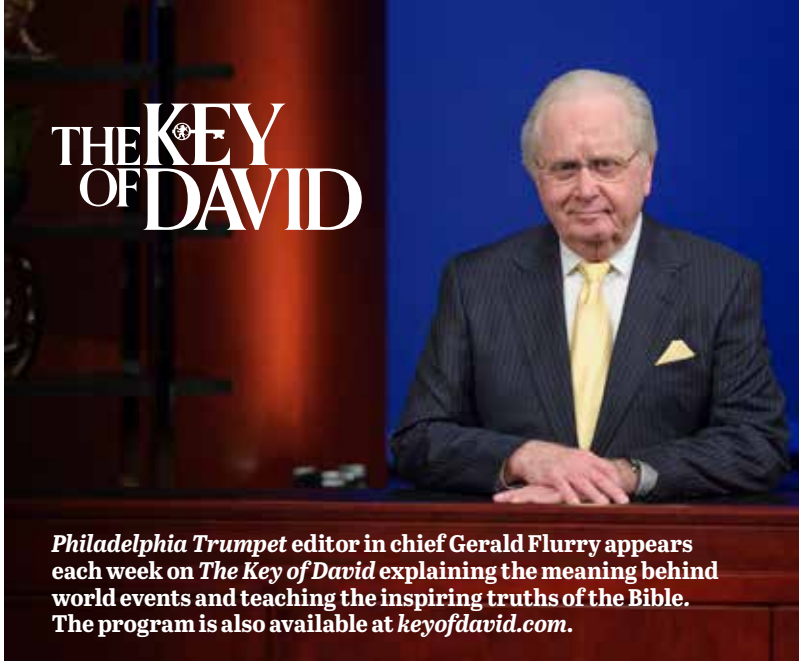
China has hundreds of millions of very poor people who cannot afford more expensive and less reliable electricity. According to the Institute for Energy Research, China is currently building one coal-fired power plant every seven to 10 days. This is an astounding pace. Even if it slowed the construction of these plants, it currently uses almost four times as much coal as the United States. And with China's economy dramatically slowing in recent months, any switch will not be easy.

From an economic perspective (excluding hypothetical costs due to theoretically worsening weather), the Paris talks don't make much sense for America; it is a lose-lose proposition. Europe and China, America's two biggest competitors lose too, but they lose a lot less. For them, the economic playing field will be leveled. So from their geopolitical perspective, there is an upside.

We all need clean air. Pollution is not a good thing. And America has made huge strides in protecting the environment. If the global warming/climate change movement were *only* about finding ways to reduce and eliminate pollution, it would be a worthy cause. Capitalism and conservationism are not mutually exclusive.

But the movement has been hijacked. It is now being piloted by activists, including many powerful Americans whose main goal is to bring down the American system. Talk about an inside job.

There is an acute danger in the global climate change movement. This movement may once have been about improving the environment, and theoretically stopping ocean levels from swamping coastlines, but it has morphed into something that seeks to completely upend the global economic system. And that means starting with America. ■



*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.*

ALL TIMES ARE A.M. LOCAL TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

UNITED STATES

- Nationwide Satellite**
Galaxy 3 Trans. 17:11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Galaxy 3 Trans. 21:11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
- Direct TV**
CW Plus, Chan. 34, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
Discovery, Chan. 278, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, Chan. 305, 6:00 ET, Fri
WGN, Chan. 307, 8:00 ET, Sun
- Dish Network**
Discovery, Chan. 182, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, Chan. 216, 6:00 ET, Fri
WGN, Chan. 239, 8:00 ET, Sun
- Nationwide Cable**
CW Plus, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
Discovery, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, 6:00 ET/PT, Fri
WGN, 8:00 ET, Sun
- Alabama, Birmingham** WPXH 5:00, Fri;
WVUA 1:00 p.m., Sun
- Dothan** WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun
- Mobile** WFGX 7:30, Sun
- Montgomery** WBMM-DT/WVCF-DT 8:30, Sun
- Alaska, Anchorage** KYUR-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fairbanks** KATN-DT 8:30, Sun
- Juneau** KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun
- Arizona, Phoenix** KPPX 5:00, Fri;
KAZT 8:00, Sun
- Yuma** KEYC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Arkansas, El Dorado** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fayetteville** KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fort Smith** KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Jonesboro** KJOS 8:30, Sun
- Rogers** KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Springdale** KHBS-DT/KHOG-DT 8:30, Sun
- California, Bakersfield** KGET-DT 9:30, Sun
- Chico** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun
- El Centro** KEYC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Eureka** KUVU-LP/KVIQ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Los Angeles** KPXN 6:00, Fri;
TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- Monterey** KION 9:30, Sun
- Palm Springs** KCWQ/KESQ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Redding** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun;
KRCR 9:00, Sun
- Sacramento** KSPX 6:00, Fri;
TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- Salinas** KION 9:30, Sun
- San Diego** TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- San Francisco** KKPX 6:00, Fri
- Santa Barbara-Santa Maria** KSBY-DT
9:30, Sun
- San City-Menifee** TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- Colorado, Denver** KPXC 5:00, Fri
- Grand Junction** KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun
- Montrose** KJCT-DT 8:30, Sun
- Connecticut, Hartford** WHPX 6:00, Fri
- Florida, Gainesville** WCJB-DT 9:30, Sun
- Jacksonville** WPXC/WPJ-LP 6:00, Fri
- Miami** WPXM 6:00, Fri
- Orlando** WOPX 6:00, Fri
- Panama City** WJHG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Pensacola** WFGX 7:30, Sun
- Tallahassee** WTLX 7:30, Sun; WTLF/
WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
- Tampa** WXPX 6:00, Fri
- West Palm Beach** WPXP 6:00, Fri
- Georgia, Albany** WSWG-DT 9:30, Sun
- Atlanta** WPXA 6:00, Fri
- Augusta-Aiken** WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun
- Brunswick** WPXC 6:00, Fri
- Columbus** WLTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Macon** WMAZ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Savannah** WGSB-DT 9:30, Sun
- Thomasville** WTLF/WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
- Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo** Chan. 54 6:30, Sun;
8:30, Wed
- Kaui Ho' Ike** Chan. 52 9:30, Tue
- Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku**
Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon
- Oahu Focus** Chan. 49 7:00 am, Sat
Chan. 27 5:00 am, Fri; KPXO
- Idaho, Boise** KYUU-LP/KBOI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Idaho Falls** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Pocatello** KIFI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Twin Falls** KMVT-DT 8:30, Sun
- Illinois, Bloomington** WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Chicago** WCUI 7:00, Mon-Fri; WCIU 9:30,
Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri
- Peoria** WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Rockford** WREX-DT 8:30, Sun
- Quincy** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
- Indiana, Fort Wayne** WPTA-DT 21:29:30, Sun
- Indianapolis** WIPX 6:00, Fri
- Terre Haute** WBI 9:30, Sun
- Iowa, Cedar Rapids** KPXR 5:00, Fri
- Des Moines** KFPM 5:00, Fri
- Keokuk** WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
- Mason City** KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Ottumwa** KWOT 8:30, Sun
- Sioux City** KTIV-DT 8:30, Sun
- Kansas, Topeka** KTKA-DT 8:30, Sun
- Pittsburg** KSXF 8:30, Sun
- Kentucky, Bowling Green** WBKO-DT 8:30, Sun
- Lexington** WUPX 6:00, Fri
- Louisiana, Alexandria** KBCA-DT 8:30, Sun
- Monroe** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
- Lafayette** KADN 7:30, Sun; KATC-DT
8:30, Sun
- Lake Charles** KVHP-DT 8:30, Sun

New Orleans WPXL 5:00, Fri
Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30, Sun
Portland WPME 7:30, Sun; 7:00, Mon-Fri
Presque Isle WBPQ 9:30, Sun
Maryland, Salisbury WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun
Massachusetts, Holyoke
 WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun
Springfield WWLP-DT 9:30, Sun
Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30, Sun
Cadillac WBVC 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-DT/WBUP-DT 9:30, Sun
Traverse City WBVC 9:30, Sun
Minnesota, Duluth KDLH-DT 8:30, Sun
Mankato KWYE 8:30, Sun
Minneapolis KPXM 5:00, Fri
Rochester-Austin KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun
Sioux Fall (Mitchell) KWSW/KSWD-DT 8:30, Sun
Mississippi, Biloxi WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun
Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Greenville WBWD 8:30, Sun
Greenwood WBWD 8:30, Sun
Gulfport WXXV-DT 8:30, Sun
Hattiesburg WHPM-DT 8:30, Sun
Laurel WHPM-DT 8:30, Sun
Meridian WTKO-DT 8:30, Sun
Tupelo 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 KSXF 8:30, Sun
Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri
Kirksville KWOT 8:30, Sun
St. Joseph KBJO/KNPN-DT 8:30, Sun
Montana, Billings KTVQ-DT 8:30, Sun
Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 8:30, Sun
Glendive KWZB 8:30, Sun
Great Falls KRTV-DT 8:30, Sun
Helena KMTF-DT 8:30, Sun
Missoula KPAX-DT 8:30, Sun
Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings
 KWBL 8:30, Sun
Kearney KWBL 8:30, Sun
North Platte KNOP 10:30, Sun; KWPL 8:30, Sun
Scottsbluff KGWN-DT/KCHW 8:30, Sun
Nevada, Reno KRNS-CA/KREN-DT 9:30, Sun
New York, Albany WYPX 6:00, Fri
Binghamton WBNG-DT 9:30, Sun
Buffalo WPXJ 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:30, Sun
Elmira (Corning) WENY-DT 9:30, Sun
New York City TVCLT-Bilingual, 10:30 Sun; WPXN 6:00, Fri
Plattsburgh WPTZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Rochester WUHF 8:30, Sun
Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri
Utica WKTV-DT 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 WGXP 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 WWAY-DT 9:30, Sun
North Dakota, Bismarck KWMK 8:30, Sun
Dickinson KWMK 8:30, Sun
Fargo WDAY-DT/WDAZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Minot KWMK 8:30, Sun
Valley City WDAY-DT/WDAZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00, Fri
Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun
Lima WBOH 9:30, Sun
Steubenville WBWO 9:30, Sun
Toledo WMNT 8:00, Sun
Zanesville WBZV 9:30, Sun

Oklahoma, Ada KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Lawton KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00, Fri
Tulsa KTPX 5:00, Fri
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Eugene KEVU-TV 10:00, Sun; KLSR 8:30, Sun; KMTR-DT 9:30, Sun
Medford-Klamath Falls
 KTVL-DT 9:30, Sun
Portland KPXG 6:00, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WSEE-DT/WICU-DT 9:30, Sun
Philadelphia WPPX 6:00, Fri
Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence
 WPXQ 6:00, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston
 WCBF-DT 9:30, Sun
Florence WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Myrtle Beach WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
South Dakota, Rapid City
 KWBH/KNBN-DT 8:30, Sun
Sioux Falls (Mitchell) KSFY-DT 8:30, Sun
Tennessee, Chattanooga WFLI 10:30, Sun
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
Amarillo KVII-DT/KVIH-DT 8:30, Sun
Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun
Brownsville KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun
Dallas KDAF 7:00, Sun; TVCLT-Bilingual, 9:30 Sun
Harlingen KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri
Laredo KTXW 8:30, Sun
Longview KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun
Lubbock KLCW-DT 8:30, Sun
Midland KWES-DT 8:30, Sun
Odessa KWES-DT 8:30, Sun
Port Arthur KFDM 8:30, Sun
San Angelo KWSA 8:30, Sun
San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri
Sherman KTEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Tyler KYTX-DT 8:30, Sun
Victoria KWVB 8:30, Sun
Weslaco KCWT/KNVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00, Fri
Vermont, Burlington WVVY 10:00, Sun; WPTZ-DT 9:30
Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Norfolk WPXV 6:00, Fri
Roanoke WPRX 6:00, Fri
Washington D.C. WPXW 6:00, Fri
Washington, Pasco KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
Richland KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00, Fri
Seattle KCPQ 7:00, Sun
Spokane KGPX 6:00, Fri; KAYU 7:30, Sun
Yakima KIMA-DT/KEPR-DT 9:30, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Bluefield WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Charleston WLPX 6:00, Fri
Clarksburg WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun
Oak Hill WVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Parkersburg WCWP 9:30, Sun
Weston WVPX-DT 9:30, Sun

Wheeling WBWO 9:30, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
La Crosse WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Milwaukee WPXE 5:00, Fri
Rhineland WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun
Superior KDLH-DT 8:30, Sun
Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Wyoming, Casper KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun
Cheyenne KGWN-DT/KCHW 8:30, Sun
Riverton KCWY-DT 8:30, Sun

CANADA

Nationwide satellite
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 17, 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Nationwide cable
 WGN 8:00 ET, Sun
 Discovery 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
 Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun
 CHCH 11:30 ET, Sun
Alberta, Red Deer KAYU 8:30, Sun
Calgary KAYU 8:30, Sun
Edmonton KAYU 8:30, Sun
Medicine Hat KAYU 8:30, Sun
Lethbridge KAYU 8:30, Sun
British Columbia, Vancouver
 CHEK 9:00, Sun; CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun;
 KCPQ 7:00, Sun
Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Manitoba, Winnipeg WUHF 8:30, Sun;
 CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun
Nova Scotia, Halifax WUHF 8:30, Sun
Sydney WUHF 8:30, Sun
Ontario, Ottawa CJOH 5:30, Sun
Toronto WADL 10:00, Sun;
 WUTV 10:00, Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun
P.E.I., Charlottetown WUHF 8:30, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WVVY 10:00, Sun
Saskatchewan, Saskatoon CFQC 5:30, Sun;
 WUHF 8:30, Sun

CARIBBEAN

Regional satellite
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Aruba WGN 8:00, Sun
Bahamas Discovery Chan. 26, 6:30, Sun
 FOX W Chan. 216, 10:30, 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

LATIN AMERICA

Regional satellite
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
 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 TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun;
 WGN 7:00, Sun
Panama WGN 7:00, Sun

AUSTRALASIA

Australia
Adelaide TV44 11:30, Sun; 10:00, Wed
Perth TV11 30, Sun/Sat
New Zealand TVNZ, 5:30, Sun
Philippines TV49 30 PHT, Sun

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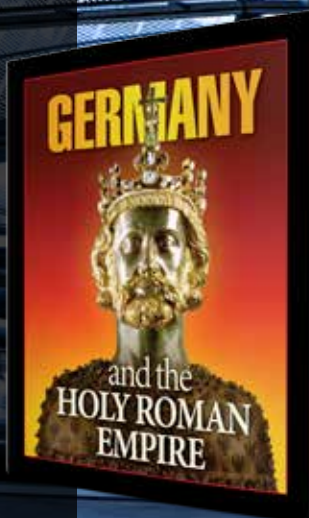
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CBS Drama	Sunday	7:30 am	Ch. 149	Ch. 197	Ch. 74	Ch. 134
CBS Reality	Sunday	8:00 am	Ch. 146	Ch. 148	Ch. 66	Ch. 135

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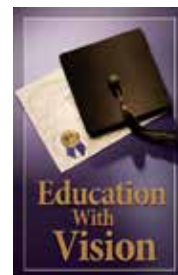
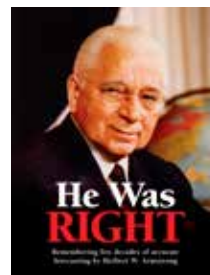
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