



How to
Raise
Boys

REVAMPING NATO



*The
Key to
Prophecy*



SEPTEMBER 2010

THE PHILADELPHIA

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Where's the HOPE?

Political parties offer only dead hope.
You need better!



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THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except bimonthly May-June and November-December issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 14400 S. Bryant Ave, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to: THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083. ©2010 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A. Unless otherwise noted, scriptures are quoted from the King James Version of the Holy Bible. **U.S. How your subscription has been paid:** The *Trumpet* has no subscription price—it is free. This is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Philadelphia Church of God and others. Contributions, however, are welcomed and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers.

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The Hope That Politicians Can't Give You

Be honest: Political parties offer only dead hope. You need better!

WHEN YOU LOOK AT POLITICS IN AMERICA YOU SEE the deepest division ever. There is a vicious hatred, far worse than ever before, and it's getting worse every day. Both parties are at fault.

There are many people, especially on the left, who fuel that deadly division by playing the race card. White, left-wing radicals are allied with the majority of the non-white population. Extreme radicals have gotten control. What they really want is control of America! And they will do just about anything to get it.

It doesn't take much imagination to see what is coming. All you need is a little knowledge of human nature and history to see that this is leading to a serious clash between the right and the left. A deadly, racially charged time bomb is about to explode.

Still, our racial problems are about to be solved! It's time we understood this wonderful truth.

If we look at the political right in America, they talk incessantly about CHRISTIANITY. But do we see God's POWER in their political party? I mean real power. Are they really showing us how to solve America's problems? The answer is a thunderous no!

As strange as it may sound, our many problems are actually a sign that the solution is near. Most professing Christians don't

teach. At last, men will take the Bible seriously and prosper mightily.

That is how you can see hope in our suffering.

It is time that we dealt with the hard truths. We are facing human annihilation! **THIS IS NO TIME TO HAVE A DEAD HOPE. THIS IS THE TIME OF THE GREATEST HOPE EVER!** That is because the living hope is so near. Our problems are about to be solved in spite of us. This world is about to be filled with a bountiful hope. That message is taught throughout the Bible. But Christians don't believe it.

There are literally hundreds of prophecies of that imminent hope becoming reality. And you can prove every word to be true. Real hope is not built on vague ideas.

The Bible says we are "saved by hope." The other side of that coin is we are destroyed by hopelessness! This world is filled with hopelessness. That is because people have hopeless beliefs. The evidence is all around us.



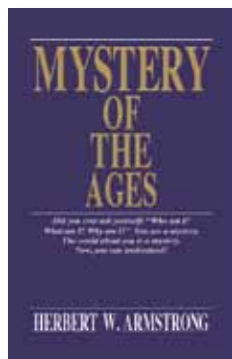
GERALD FLURRY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

We are facing human annihilation! This is no time to have a dead hope. This is the time of the greatest hope ever! That is because the living hope is so near. Our problems are about to be solved in spite of us.

see that because they don't understand their own Bibles! That book is supposed to be the source of their religion. But in most cases, it is not! (This is explained and proved in our free book *Mystery of the Ages*.)

This world must learn that there is no hope in any political organization. Nor is there hope in this world's Christianity, because most of their beliefs are not taken from the Bible!

Our people are going to suffer until they turn to the only living hope. This is why we must suffer. **GOD IS TRYING TO TURN US TO THE ONLY SOURCE OF HOPE.** That is the lesson our suffering will finally



false hope. And now all of the problems are ready to explode in our faces because of that wrong choice.

Still, God is going to save most of mankind—in His timeframe and according to His purpose, not ours. Every human being who has ever lived will have a chance to choose a living hope. Most of them will do just that, but only after much suffering. First we have to learn there is **NO HOPE** in man—in human nature.

Even this world's religions are founded on human reasoning—not the hope-filled word of the Bible. That hope has always been there. Very soon mankind is going to believe it!

We should have abundant hope in the imminent return of Christ—taught in more than a hundred prophecies of your Bible.

Is your faith strong enough in those prophecies to give you hope? It certainly can be. But you must **CHOOSE** that living hope!



I THOUGHT I HAD LEARNED A thing or two about child rearing after bringing up two daughters for several years. Then my wife and I had a son.

Noah is a unique creature. His sisters were fairly quiet and conservative in their play. He is a wrecking ball with lungs.

His sisters like to dress things, decorate things, set things up, stack things on top of other things. He sees a stack of things as an invitation for demolition. He likes to kick and punch. He enjoys collisions.

the arena; they are keen to exercise their strength—and often in undisciplined and damaging ways. But society fears this. We are deeply ambivalent about masculine energy. Our female-dominated early education seeks to squash it. We embrace the convenience of indulging our sons' natural enthrallment with inert entertainment; after all, if the boy is absorbed in a video game, he's not whacking his little brother with a bat. Without considering the consequences, we reward passivity; it is less alarming than ferocity.

How to Raise a MAN

Bible-based wisdom on bringing up boys BY JOEL HILLIKER

Somehow even his dinner plate looks to him like an artillery range. “Ah-h-h-h—BOOSH!” he says while dropping his carrot into his potato.

We didn't teach him these things. We are trying to teach him civilized table manners, and respect for other people's things and for the structural vulnerability of the walls in our home. But the urge to dominate, to subdue, to conquer, he's got in spades.

This is fascinating to me for a couple of reasons. One is that some delusional academics seem to think there are no inborn psychological differences between boys and girls—only what society teaches them. Absolute poppycock. Without prodding or guidance, from very early on my daughters would pick up a doll and begin cradling it and cooing to it. My son pulls the head off to see what's inside.

More importantly, I'm fascinated because what I'm seeing with my own eyes backs up a truth revealed in the Bible—a truth with staggering implications as to the responsibility it places on me.

General society's *complete ignorance* of this truth is creating a mess of problems with the way we rear our boys. Perhaps in their early years they yearn to do battle in

Then we watch—as if helpless—while our sons grow self-indulgent, lazy, soft. Bit by bit, the stuff that made them different from their sisters becomes muted, stifled. Or it gets swallowed whole.

That we do this is perfectly understandable. But it's a tragic mistake.

The fact is, there is something valuable in our sons' assertive boyishness. It needs to be shaped and guided; it needs to be refined and balanced. But woe be to us—and to them—if it gets crushed.

Why? Because they are destined to be *leaders*.

Where Did That Boyishness Come From?

Genesis 1:26-27 say that God created human beings male and female. God is the source of everything that makes men men and women women. He designed differences in physique, in emotions, in intellectual and psychological composition. He is the author of masculinity and femininity.

But why? Piece together all of the observable and scriptural evidence, and you can see unmistakably that God created these differences—physical, mental, emotional—to *establish order and structure*, especially within the family. “But I would

have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God” (1 Corinthians 11:3). Those who don't believe the Bible scoff at that scripture. “Christians” who don't like it find ways to make it mean something else. But godly men and women see simple logic and beauty in it.

For the sake of order and organization, God created men to fulfill one role within the family and within society, and created women to fill a different and beautifully complementary role.

Before we can prepare our sons to fulfill the role for which God created them, we need a clear concept of just what that role is. We need a vision of what godly masculinity is so we can measure our sons' behavior against that—to know what needs to *change* and what needs to *stay*, what needs to be shaped and developed. Raising a man requires knowing what the boy is to become.

That is not to say we should force our sons to grow up too soon. The men of tomorrow should begin their lives as happy, carefree *boys*; let them play and laugh and think as children. Similarly, we don't want to do anything to create any sense of a *battle* between boys and girls, pitting one against the other—or acting like there's some mystery about the opposite sex they'll never understand. They should play happily together with other boys and girls in active sports and games. When society artificially foists on them false concepts about the opposite sex, they can feel overwhelmed, uncomfortable and self-conscious; those relationships can seem complicated. Protect their simplicity and innocence: Let children be children!

However, as they grow, our sons must gain a sense of their uniqueness—not in a way that makes them *awkward* around girls and women, but that gradually teaches them their God-given *responsibilities* toward them. While the basic principles of child rearing are the same for boys and girls, each must be taught the different jobs they will fulfill in a future family. Boys require a different mindset, a different set of skills.

We parents must equip our sons to resist feminization and to grow to become successful men. We must take special effort to bring our boys up to be strong, effective, successful, ambitious leaders.

Teach Him to Work

Boys have a natural tendency to want to conquer—to storm the backyard and erect a barricade. We want to encourage that, not squelch it. We *want* our boys to be adven-

turous, courageous, visionary. After all, they were created to exercise dominion over the Earth and to subdue it (Genesis 1:28). Thus, we need to show them how to exert their strength in a godly, constructive way.

Teach the boy to *do things*. Don't let him stand awkwardly by as his friends dive into childhood experiences like swimming in the pool or riding horses. Don't let him lose valuable experience sitting on the sidelines while his friends or the family engages in an activity. Get him a dog and show him how to train it. Teach him to use things, to make things, to plant things, to manipulate his environment productively.

God began the creation of human beings with the man, and immediately gave him *work to do* (Genesis 2:7, 15). God gave man physical things to teach him *good stewardship*—taking care of the blessings we receive. Further, after Adam sinned, God actually made his workload *harder* (Genesis 3:17-19), knowing that physical labor is crucial to building character. God knows that when everything is handed to us, we just don't do well; He wants man to earn his bread through the sweat of his brow. And the Bible is clear in its command to men that they *work* to provide for their families (e.g. 1 Timothy 5:8).

Parents: Teach your boy **HOW TO WORK**. The lessons Adam learned by having to “dress” and “keep” the Garden are lessons

all boys need: to appreciate the value in hard work—to be patient and wait for fruits to show—to have realistic expectations of success—to enjoy labor. A boy needs to experience getting worn out, and having to push himself when he feels like quitting.

Give him chores. Boys tend to be lazy; it's a parental duty to help them overcome that. Eventually, your son will need to get and hold a job outside the home. He needs a steady progression of responsibilities and opportunities that teach how to *work*, how to be *responsible*, how to be *self-motivated*.

Proverbs 21:5-6 show that laziness leads to lying. This is something we especially want to guard our boys from. A young man who begins to lie and deceive rather than earning his pay through honest hard work might enjoy some perks at first, but they will always end up hurting him. “Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel” (Proverbs 20:17). As Douglas Wilson wrote in *Future Men*, we want them to taste that gravel right away—by *disciplining dishonesty*.

When your son understands the value of hard work, he will know the value of an honest day's pay. That provides another invaluable opportunity: teaching him how to save, how to pay his own way, how to spend wisely, how to be generous to others, how to give back to God. These are crucial skills for a man. Teach them when he is a boy.

A Leader of Women and Children

The Genesis account reveals another valuable truth: From the beginning, God did not intend for Adam to be alone. He needed a companion, a helper. He was incomplete without Eve, and she was incomplete without him (Genesis 2:18-24), and God placed the man in a leadership role within that marriage.

Our sons were created to become leaders of women and children. We must keep this end goal in mind as we work with them.

Teaching that role begins with the relationship between Dad and Mom. Our sons need a strong example of a godly marriage. They need to see proper masculine leadership in action—a man who leads his family in love. A boy is going to be drawn to emulate his father's strong, manly example.

Fathers: Be the man you want your son to become. He is watching you. Your life is his most powerful model of masculinity.

A father must ensure his son treats his mother with respect. God commands a son to *honor* and *obey* his mother (Exodus 20:12; Ephesians 6:1). This becomes increasingly crucial as he gets bigger. If at any time she does not have his respect and obedience, she should get the father involved immediately, and he should put a stop to it. (He should also make sure that his wife is never fighting her son, getting angry, ugly and shrill with him; this too is

Boys Don't Automatically Become Men!

AMBITIOUS, confident boys have become a vanishing breed. Our society is certainly producing a lot of assertive, self-assured young women. Throughout the English-speaking world, they are storming college campuses and flooding the workforce. More and more, they are leaving boys in their dust.

This trend emerges early: in the female-dominated world of elementary school. There, 90 percent of the teachers are women; many schools are staffed completely by women. Governments acknowledge that boys lag in reading and writing—in New Zealand, for example, two times more 10-to-12-year-old boys than girls require remedial reading help—but efforts to narrow the gap haven't worked.

By secondary school, grades, test scores and graduation rates all show girls outperforming boys by noticeable margins. In the U.S., nearly twice as many boys as girls repeat a grade. Only two out of three boys finish high school.

Women also dominate higher education. They outnumber men on America's college campuses almost three to two. Last spring in America, women earned almost 149 degrees for every 100 degrees men earned. They dominate men at every level, from associate's (167 for every 100 men) to doctoral degrees (107 for every 100 men).

College enrollment officers are scratching their heads, trying to puzzle out how to attract a greater number of qualified men. The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has launched a probe to scrutinize whether colleges

are actually discriminating against women by lowering male admissions standards. “In some circles, it still is not cool to be smart for boys,” laments one enrollment official at Rutgers.

For 28 years running, more women have received college degrees than men, and the gap has widened every year. This year's U.S. Census figures revealed that all told, more American women than men now hold undergraduate degrees. Women have also pulled even with men in advanced degrees, and could pass them this year.

These numbers represent a cultural sea change. The education system is society's incubator. Today's students are tomorrow's workers, spouses, parents. And the educational disparity between the sexes is fueling a revolution in traditional sex roles.

As the Prophet Isaiah foretold, strong men, wise men, honorable men are all gone! And society is ruled by women and children (Isaiah 3:4-5, 12). Increasing numbers of boys have no clue how to be men.

It is common to see grown boys who have cultivated no drive or ambition, no moral conviction, no ability or even desire to lead, and no bodily strength. They have few salable skills and a poor work ethic. They haven't been taught any sense of honor toward women or responsibility toward children, nor of duty to provide for or protect them.

Meanwhile, more and more successful women are struggling to find men who are “at their level” educationally and financially. Surveying the singles scene, they're having to ask themselves, in the words of the *Wall*

unhealthy.) A son who despises his mother is a fool (Proverbs 15:20). If he develops a confrontational relationship with her, he is going to be more competitive and combative around women.

On the other hand, a boy who honors his mom will grow up to honor his wife (1 Peter 3:7). When a boy learns this early, he begins to appreciate that men must always have a sense of responsibility and duty toward women. This makes it more natural to later step into the responsibility of leading, protecting and providing for a family of his own.

Teach your son gentlemanly habits that reinforce his duties toward females in general: opening doors for women, standing when a woman enters the room, being attentive to a drink or jacket or something else she might need, walking on the sidewalk between a woman and traffic, not treating her roughly or joking at her expense the way he might with another boy.

In preparing your son to fulfill his incredible role, pay close attention to how you discipline him. Do not browbeat him or put him down. Don't instill cowering submission in him. Teach him to have godly confidence—and godly humility. How? With lots of encouragement. Encourage his strengths. Praise his successes. Show joy in his accomplishments.

Without sacrificing her authority, a

mother should also lovingly support her son. She should have sensitivity to his God-given role. As he grows, she should show him respect, without demeaning him and emasculating him—or pampering him.

One of the Best Things You Can Do

Another area to give special consideration to is media. Technology is a strong drug. It grabs young minds and dominates them. Boys in particular tend to love the stuff—especially video games.

The Kaiser Family Foundation says children ages 8 to 18 spend an average of 6 hours a day with media: television, radio, computers (not including schoolwork), music players and so on. That's over 45 hours a week. Longer than the average workweek.

That's also more time than they spend with their parents (less than 16 hours), in physical activity (10 hours), or doing homework (just over 5 hours). Looking at those numbers alone, it's not difficult to see a correlation between increased media use and family breakdown, childhood obesity, and declining academic performance.



Street Journal, "Am I willing to 'marry down'?"

Some women lament that men feel threatened by their achievements and simply won't enter a relationship. This has contributed to an increasing number (a 145 percent rise in the last 30 years in the U.S.) of unmarried births among college-educated women, some of whom have simply grown impatient with looking for Mr. Right.

The education gap has also helped to flip the traditional family of a breadwinning father and homemaking mother on its head. Only one in five American families with children has a working dad and stay-at-home mom. The majority of America's workforce is now female. In fact, nearly 40 percent of moms are their family's primary breadwinner. "Now the standard working woman is a married woman with children," says UCLA women's history professor Ellen DuBois.

In the UK, almost half of women earn as much or more than the men in their lives. More than 600,000 British fathers are "homedads" whose wives or girlfriends bring home the bacon. The trend looks nearly identical in Canada and Australia. In general, today's men spend over twice as much time on housework as their fathers did.

"How do you manage not to emasculate your husband?" a *Telegraph* reporter asked a friend who out-earns her husband. "I don't manage," was the answer. "If we disagree about how money is spent, I decide because it's my money, and he hates it."

This tendency has been aggravated by the global economic crisis,

which has particularly rocked male-dominated industries. In America, of the 8 million jobs lost since September 2008, somewhere north of three fourths were held by men. Where unemployment among women is 7.8 percent, the figure for men is 9.9 percent.

Statistics suggest, however, that men are settling into their diminished role as providers. "The idea that men see themselves as breadwinners is collapsing," says Rob Williams of the UK's Fatherhood Institute. One short generation ago, 72 percent of men believed a man should provide his family's primary income and a woman should be the family's primary caretaker and homemaker. Today only 42 percent of men believe that.

It's a shame. Because those traditional roles were not arbitrarily concocted by a primitive society. They were assigned by the Being who created human beings and made them male and female. We ignore proper, God-given sex roles at our peril. An understanding and wholehearted embracing of the God-ordained roles for men and women is a vital key to success. A man's divinely ordained responsibilities include leading, protecting, providing for and loving his family. By failing to educate our boys to embrace these duties as men, we are dooming them to perpetual adolescence and depriving them of the genuine satisfaction that comes from fulfilling their potential. Worse, we are striking a mortal blow to the stability of our families and our society.

JOEL HILLIKER

Beyond the mere *time* issue, though, is the *content* of that media. Studies prove it's hurting our boys. It is our duty as parents to intervene. Vigilance here can help prevent a multitude of problems from taking root in our sons' lives.

"As a pediatrician I can tell you that disconnecting, or strictly limiting and strictly supervising your son's access to electronic media is one of the best things you can do for his emotional, mental and physical health," writes Meg Meeker in *Boys Should Be Boys*.

Boys tend to be drawn to media violence far more than girls, and there is plenty out there to inflame that appetite. But it is a trap. The American Academy of Pediatrics has repeatedly warned that television violence hurts our children. It has found that boys who watch violent TV turn more aggressive—even with brief exposure, but much more with larger doses. Playing violent video games correlates to even worse anti-social aggression; Meeker cites studies showing that they "increase aggressive thoughts, can increase feelings of anger or hostility, and can raise a boy's blood pressure and heart rate."

Video games are increasingly graphic and realistic, and in many of them the object is to kill people. Prof. David Grossman, a 24-year Air Force veteran who

► See **MAN** page 31

Wanted: Healthy, Vibrant Teens!

Parents, we need to be growing fitter, stronger, healthier young people. **BY BRAD MACDONALD**

THIS PAST JULY, 120 TEENAGERS descended on the campus that houses the *Philadelphia Trumpet* offices in Edmond, Oklahoma, and participated in our 17th annual youth camp here. This camp, sponsored by the Philadelphia Church of God, is designed to ensure these young people go home mentally charged and focused, their attitudes and spirits refreshed and renewed.

They also tend to arrive home *utterly exhausted, physically*.

For three weeks, these teens spent their days mountain biking, canoeing and practicing archery, as well as playing basketball, water polo, soccer, softball, volleyball and flag football. They walked, and often jogged, between activities, as well as to breakfast, lunch and dinner. In the evenings they often engaged in other taxing activities, including a track and field event and camp dances. And if all that activity wasn't strenuous enough, much of it occurred in daytime temperatures that hovered in the mid 90s.

For some, just reading that paragraph is enough to make us sweat. Personally, as much as I love sports and the outdoors, the thought of spending six to seven hours a day out in the sizzling Oklahoma weather—chasing balls, paddling across lakes and biking through ravines—isn't nearly as appealing as it once was. But to the teens who attended camp, God says this three-week display of **PHYSICAL STRENGTH** and **ENDURANCE** was *glorious* and *honorable!*

You can read His admiration in Proverbs 20:29: "The **GLORY** of young men is their **STRENGTH**."

Of course, it's true that physical health, strength and vitality in any person is praiseworthy. Isn't it interesting though, that God identifies explicitly **PHYSICAL STRENGTH** and **ENERGY** as a defining and *glorious* quality of youth? In God's mind, being a physically fit and healthy teenager—a young man (or woman) with strength and agility, someone who is robust and energetic—is a splendid and honorable accomplishment.

It's also a state of being that God wants all teenagers to experience!

This is why, beyond merely seeking to make camp fun, we have our teens engage in so much physically demanding activity. Together with the high-quality meals and snacks we feed them, the slew of sports and outdoor activities serve to improve the overall physical health and strength of the teens. It works, too. In virtually every case, teens depart camp *stronger, fitter* and *healthier* than when they arrived. Beyond the short-term goal of improved health, one of the longer-term goals of our youth camps is to encourage the teens to embrace *healthy* and *active* living as a way of life—a **LIFESTYLE**.

Once embraced, this lifestyle will help them develop a state of physical health,

strength and vibrancy that God says will be to their glory and honor!

A Dying Breed

It's a tragic fact that strong, healthy teenagers have become a dying breed. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, over the past 20 years the percentage of overweight teenagers has more than *tripled*. A 2007 report by the Stanford School of Medicine estimated that almost one in five 2-to-19-year-olds is overweight. One national survey, cited in the Stanford report, showed that *two thirds* of high school students are not getting the recommended level of physical activity. Another study found that in America, 10-to-16-year-olds are engaged in physical activity for only *12.6 minutes per day*.

It's fact. The majority of teens today have poor physical health and display embarrassingly little strength and vitality!

Naturally, our first inclination is to blame others for this epidemic of physical weakness and ill health. It's the fault of fast-food restaurants and the Internet, the mainstream media and video game companies, the government and our school systems. Truth is, most of the blame rests squarely on the shoulders of parents. We're often the ones purchasing the chicken nuggets and french fries. We're the ones buying the video game consoles.





We're the ones allowing our children and teens to laze on the couch.

Ultimately, we're the ones failing to cultivate within our teens the desire to live a healthy and active lifestyle.

"I'll Make My Body"

Consider the wisdom in the words of a father who clearly did not fail in his responsibility to forge his son—a puny child who suffered from chronic asthma—into a towering physical specimen. "Theodore," this man said one day to his 12-year-old son, "you have the mind but you have not the body, and without the help of the body *the mind cannot go as far as it should*. You MUST MAKE YOUR BODY. It is hard drudgery to make one's body, but I know you will do it."

Here was Theodore Roosevelt telling young "Teedie"—the future president of the United States—that he needed to STRENGTHEN HIS BODY!

With gritted teeth and fiery determination, young Theodore Roosevelt replied to his father, "I'll make my body." Once made, that promise "was adhered to with bulldog tenacity," wrote historian Edmund Morris. Young Theodore immediately joined a gym and began working out daily. At home, *his father* converted the back porch into a web of ropes, bars and mats. "For many years," wrote his sis-

ter Corinne, "one of my most vivid recollections is seeing him between horizontal bars, *widening his chest by regular, monotonous motion—drudgery indeed.*"

Motivated by his father's admonishment, Theodore Roosevelt spent his early teenage years outside—on the porch, on horseback and in the woods—*transforming* himself into the barrel-chested, risk-taking, energy-filled Rough Rider that he later became!

Like Roosevelt Sr., it is the responsibility of parents to help *make* their teens healthy and strong. Perhaps we lack the financial resources of the Roosevelts. Maybe we can't enroll our children in gym class or fill our yards with fancy sporting equipment. But we *can* make our children switch off the TV or computer. We *can* enroll them in a sport, or dispatch them to the local woods, or help them find a job. We can send them outside to climb trees and ride bikes, to shoot hoops or build a fort. We can take them hiking and fishing, or simply join them in doing a few pushups and sit-ups. We can have them do chores, even physically demanding ones, around the house. If they can wrap their thumbs around a joystick, they can surely wrap their thumbs around the broom handle.

As parents, the responsibility is on us to cultivate within our teens the desire

to be physically healthy and strong, to be active and energetic—to be motivated to make their STRENGTH a trait worthy of glory and admiration!

In Balance

Of course, these efforts to cultivate strong, healthy teens must be balanced. They must be complemented with similarly strenuous mental and spiritual exercises. This is why, in addition to all the physically demanding activities at our youth camps, teens take Bible classes, and classes on leadership and womanhood. It's why we teach them public speaking and ballroom dance. It's the reason we have them perform on stage and encourage them to play music and embrace art. And it's why, particularly in this technology-ridden age of perpetual distractions, we encourage our teens to develop a love for reading, study and meditation.

As the 120 teens that came to camp returned home, it was our hope that amid their meditations about camp they think about the strenuous activity they engaged in over those three weeks. Not how difficult or hot it was, or how much they sweated, or how sore they were. But on the wonderful opportunity they had to develop and display *physical strength and vitality*—traits God admires as the glory of youth. ■

NOTHING INFLAMES ANGER like perceived or real injustice. Throw in the tinder of a deteriorating economy in which millions of people are losing their homes and their jobs, and the situation can become extremely ignitable.

This was the firebox that the city of Oakland found itself in on July 8. Around 2:30 p.m., word leaked that the verdict in the Johannes Mehserle murder trial would be read at 4 p.m. The news set off a mass exodus of residents—just short of a panic.

Community organizers and other activists had been out in full force, agitating and instigating. “We are outraged,” said the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Residents knew what was coming. They flooded the downtown streets trying to get out of the city center. Trains were jammed; the interstates filled up. At the Federal Building, loudspeakers warned workers to head home. Companies sent out internal e-mails advising the same.

Some businesses had already taken the precaution of boarding up windows. The sign on one store read: “Do not destroy. Black owned. Black owned.” Fortunately for the owners, it was spared.

After the jury verdict was read—convicting white police officer Johannes Mehserle of involuntary manslaughter and not second-degree murder—sporadic rioting broke out, just as predicted, and despite pleas from the black victim’s family for people to maintain calm. By the evening hours, police had lost control of the angry protesters. Barricades were breached, and a mob of around 200 sought justice by looting jewelry and clothing stores, damaging property, setting fires and spray painting messages on buildings. Early reports said that up to 100 people were arrested.

It was clear that many non-white people feel the justice system is racially biased against them—that black people cannot get justice—that the law does not protect them.

Racially Motivated Appointments?

This is a view that President Obama became intimately familiar with from his time as a community organizer in Chicago, and from his close association with ra-



The President, the Black Panthers, and the Coming Racial Explosion

Truth is trampled in the street and judgment is turned around backward. BY ROBERT MORLEY

cially charged preacher Jeremiah Wright. And it seems he is trying to fix it.

He began by nominating Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Sotomayor controversially believes that when determining what a crime is, and the penalty for it, a judge should take into consideration the race and cultural background of the offender. She became famous for her remark: “I would hope that a wise Latina woman with the richness of her experiences would more often than not reach a better conclusion than a white male who hasn’t lived that life.”

Unfortunately, President Obama’s fix will only make matters worse.

Following the Mehserle verdict, the U.S. Justice Department, under Attorney General Eric Holder, said it will review the case to see if it can find a way to prosecute Johannes Mehserle under federal jurisdiction for civil rights violations. Holder is America’s first black attorney general, and was also appointed by President Obama. Holder’s decision to investigate the case normally might not have drawn much scrutiny, except for the fact that he, like President Obama, has been very vocal about America’s racial problems.

In a speech commemorating Black History Month, he said America was a nation of “cowards” when it came to race problems—and that essentially the majority of Americans were mild racists. “I think we have an obligation. We have to continue the fight of all the people who I mentioned in my speech [non-whites] to really kind of ultimately get this nation to the place where I think it can and should be.”

Holder’s Justice Department is currently under scrutiny for another high-profile race-based case—and for its purported belief/policy that racism is almost exclusively a white people’s problem.

Black Panthers

In early July, Justice Department whistleblower J. Christian Adams leveled accusations that Obama officials, including Holder, believe “civil rights law should not be enforced in a race-neutral manner and should never be enforced against blacks or other national minorities.”

As one example, Adams cited a Justice Department decision to drop a case against the black supremacist hate group, the New Black Panther Party. This is the group whose leader believes if “you want

freedom, you gonna have to kill some crackers. You gonna have to kill some of their babies.” For our readers unfamiliar with this racial slur, “crackers” is a pejorative for white people.

In the case in question, New Black Panther Party members were videotaped intimidating voters during the 2008 U.S. presidential election. One member dressed in military garb waved a metal rod around while shouting profanities and racial slurs at voters, causing some to leave.

When career Justice Department prosecutors brought the case to civil court, the New Black Panther Party didn't even show up to contest the charges, and the judge found in favor of the prosecution. Then for an undisclosed reason, the Holder Justice Department decided not to pursue an injunction that would bar the New Black Panther Party from voting stations, but to instead just bar the specific New Black Panther member from any polling stations in Philadelphia until 2012.

Just prior to the election, the Philadelphia chapter New Black Panther leader told the *Philadelphia Daily News*, “I’m about the total destruction of white people. I’m about the total liberation of black people. I hate white people. I hate my enemy The only thing the cracker understands is violence. ... The only thing the cracker understands is gunpowder. You got to take violence to violence.”

If what whistle-blower Adams charges is true, “lawlessness” runs rampant throughout the Justice Department—and the hierarchy refuses to use the law to protect all races against racism, even when racism is blatant. The unofficial—and possibly now the official—policy is to only pursue cases in which the victims are minorities. Government attorneys have been instructed to ignore cases that involve black defendants and white victims, Adams told a Senate panel. It is reverse racism at its worst.

Most recently, Eric Holder began floating the possibility of leveling a racial profiling suit against Arizona.

Even some black leaders have spoken out against the Justice Department's

actions. Jesse Lee Peterson, founder and president of BOND Action, noted that any racism is wrong. “It wasn't good when it happened to black people in the past way back when, and it's not good to happen to white Americans today,” he says. “I just hope white Americans really wake up and realize that they are under attack because of their color.” Peterson says the actions of Eric Holder and Barack Obama are only empowering the New Black Panther Party and others like it.

“It seems that there's a double standard; there's reverse racism going on,”



TOO LIGHT Men at a rally in L.A. protest a verdict for being too light against the white transit officer who shot and killed Oscar J. Grant III.

says Bishop Harry Jackson, senior pastor of Hope Christian Church.

Now, some Republican politicians are using the issue for political purposes—not to help fix a problem, but purely to discredit President Obama. The Justice Department is making matters worse by stonewalling subpoenas issued by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, raising questions about a cover-up. Political polarization is quickly sparking racial tension.

America's leaders are groping around like blind men in the dark.

The reality, however, is that the sun is out and getting hotter, America's leaders are playing games with magnifying glasses, and society is sitting on a pile of dried

leaves and twigs. Under these conditions, combustion is inevitable.

The Solution

You cannot heal differences between people or races by treating people differently

under the law. The law must be the same for all, otherwise it promotes hard feelings, a sense of injustice—and ultimately conflict. If America is not careful, it may soon have white-empowerment groups becoming mainstream too. What do you think that would do to race relations?

The answer to America's race problems is law—God's law.

The Bible talks about a time when justice would leave the land. In Isaiah 59, God warns that because people have forgotten Him and His commands, “judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.”

Judgment is backward. Truth is trampled. And there is no equity. Sound like America today?

“The way of peace they know not,” says God. “And there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.”

God is not a respecter of persons. Anciently, He commanded Israel that all Israelites were to be equal under the law. The law was not

to respect certain individuals or groups more than others. “Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty; but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour” (Leviticus 19:15).

In Zechariah 7:9-10, God commands, “Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother: And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger [or foreigner], nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.”

As long as America refuses to recognize and uphold God's laws as outlined in the Bible, there will be no peace between the races. In fact, the book of Ezekiel prophesies that America's actions are leading the nation toward a full-blown race war. (This prophecy is explained in Chapter 4 of our booklet *Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet*. Request your free copy.)

Injustice inevitably leads to conflict. When it is racially motivated, it leads to race war. Yet a merciful God gives America the answer to its racial problems: Just uphold His law. ■

You cannot heal differences between people or races by treating people differently under the law.

The Sea That Became a Desert

One of mankind's ugliest environmental disasters—and how it will be fixed! BY RICHARD PALMER

IT WAS ONCE THE FOURTH-LARGEST lake in the world. Now it's mostly a toxic desert. It covers an area over half the size of Iceland.

Situated in Central Asia, the Aral Sea was once a vast oasis amid an even vaster area of dry land.

Since 1960, the Aral Sea has shrunk by over 50 percent. Once a freshwater lake, it is now over twice as salty as the average ocean. Once the source for one sixth of the Soviet Union's seafood, it is now an aquatic graveyard. Huge boats lie marooned in the desert. The lake dried up so fast that boat owners didn't think to relocate their ships until it was too late.

The sea used to cool the air for miles around. Now the local climate is hotter and drier in the summer and colder for longer in the winter. The surrounding region, already dry, is becoming a hard desert.

This is not some nebulous, global-warming-type threat based on the predictions of computer models. This is actual, measurable and provable local climate change that has *already* happened.

This crisis stands to affect 40 million people. The two rivers that feed the Aral Sea—the Syr Darya and the Amu Darya—flow from the Tian-Shan Mountains over 500 miles away. Experts worry that the hotter local climate could cause the sources of these rivers to dry

up. If this happens, all of southern Central Asia will lose its rivers.

Tens of millions will be left without food and water.

A Toxic Dump

Beyond the mass evaporation, the Aral is turning into a toxic dump.

For decades, pesticides and other agricultural chemicals used on surrounding farmlands washed into the lake. As the water fled, these chemicals settled in the lakebed, forming a desert of deadly toxic dust. Today, strong winds blow the dust for hundreds of miles. These clouds of death damage and kill crops and vegetation in their path.

They are affecting humans, too. "Health experts say the local population suffers from high levels of respiratory illnesses, throat and esophageal cancer, and digestive disorders caused by breathing and ingesting salt-laden air and water," *Scientific American* reported in April 2008. "Liver and kidney ailments, as well as eye problems, are common. The loss of fish has also greatly reduced dietary variety, worsening malnutrition and anemia, particularly in pregnant women."

New Scientist writer Fred Pearce visited Karakalpakstan, an area close to the Aral Sea, while researching his book

When the Rivers Run Dry: Water—the Defining Crisis of the Twenty-First Century, published in 2006. The region, Pearce wrote, "felt like the end of the world."

In his book, Pearce details the horrific health problems that have hit Karakalpakstan in the wake of the Aral's disappearance. Ninety-seven percent of the women are anemic. Eighty-seven percent of the children are born with anemia. One in 20 babies has a birth defect. The region has the highest infant mortality rate in the former Soviet Union. It has the highest rate of cancer of the esophagus in the world, and one of the highest rates of tuberculosis.

In the area around the Aral Sea, life expectancy has fallen from 64 years to 51.

And it could get worse. Vozrozhdeniya Island, in the middle of the Aral Sea, was once the world's largest biological weapons testing site. Here, Soviet scientists infected animals with anthrax, bubonic plague and other bacteria. In the 1980s they buried tons of live anthrax on the island, thinking it would never be transported to the mainland. In 1999 scientists found *live* anthrax spores on the island. After 9/11 a few Americans spent a few months cleaning up the island. By comparison, Gruinard Island, where the British once tested anthrax,

SAILING IN PLACE

A long-abandoned ship now rides on sand dunes instead of waves in Aralsk, Kazakhstan.

was only declared safe 48 years after the testing stopped. Even then, the entire area had been soaked in formaldehyde. The cleanup on Vozrozhdeniya hasn't been nearly as extensive.

Now, thanks to the drying Aral, Vozrozhdeniya is no longer an island. Experts fear that animals could carry the weaponized microbes to populated areas. Looters visit the area regularly, making a living off of collecting what the Soviets left behind. Who knows what they could dig up?

This has to be one of mankind's worst environmental disasters ever. It is hard to imagine how you could mess up an area so badly without doing it on purpose.

No Isolated Example

The Aral Sea disaster was caused by gross water mismanagement during the days of the Soviet Union. Starting in the 1940s, the Soviets dug irrigation canals from the two rivers that feed the Aral. The canals were poorly built, badly maintained and horribly leaky. Most were carved directly into the sand. Scientists estimate that in one of the largest of these canals, the Karakum Canal, around 60 percent of the water soaked directly into the ground and was wasted.

The water is used to irrigate cotton—a thirsty plant hardly suitable for Central Asia, but one that fetches a high price on the international market. Even today the five nations around the Aral Sea—Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan—all rank among the top seven water users per person in the world.

The Soviets knew these practices would drain the Aral, but they didn't care. They reasoned that this would only give them more land on which to grow cotton. Instead, they have bitten off the hand that fed them: The rivers that carry water to the canals are the same ones that may disappear.

Perhaps it is easy to dismiss the crisis in the Aral as yet another disaster caused by communism and the Soviet Union. But the root cause isn't communism, nor is it the Russians.

The fact is, there are environmental crises like the Aral all over the world.

With the Deepwater Horizon disaster, the United States has made a mess of the Gulf of Mexico, spreading oil over an area of over 4,000 square miles. Granted, this single accident, perhaps due to carelessness, is not the same as decades of mismanagement—but then again,

there have been many similar spills, several of which were even larger. Man has been tipping oil into the oceans for years through these kinds of accidents.

In Australia, the Murray-Darling Basin—once a well-watered area responsible for 40 percent of Australia's agricultural output—is drying up. Some of the lakes are turning into sulfuric acid. The whole area is becoming increasingly salty.

In Iraq, the Shatt al-Arab marshlands are suffering a similar fate. The 6,000 square miles of wetland form where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers meet. "The waterway running from a land once synonymous with paradise to the Gulf is in the grip of an environmental catastrophe left by war, dictatorship, human thirst,

The real solution to the Aral Sea problem lies not in new, bigger and better canals or dams. It is in fixing this fundamental flaw in mankind: the way of greed and get that is central to man's way of life.

and a criminal disregard for the fragility of water, the essence of life," wrote the *Times*. The water level is so low that salty water from the sea is creeping into the area—killing the ecosystem.

Every continent in the world has similar examples. And such destruction is not purely a modern phenomenon. Syria, Iraq and Lebanon, for example, were once full of forests. Today they are known for their deserts.

Man has been destroying his environment for centuries. Of course, modern technology has allowed him to destroy it faster than ever before.

Tohu and Bohu

The Bible prophesied that in these modern times, man would be able to bring this level of destruction not just to some scattered areas around the globe, but *to the whole Earth*.

God gave the Prophet Jeremiah a vision of what this planet would look like in the end time. In Jeremiah 4:23, he wrote, "I beheld the earth, and, lo it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light." The words translated "without form, and void" are the Hebrew *tohu* and *bohu*. A better translation of these words, as Herbert Armstrong explained in *Mystery of the Ages*, is "waste and empty" or "chaotic, in confusion and in a state of decay."

Is there a more apt description of the Aral Sea?

Yet this condition only stands to get worse. In fact, Matthew 24:22 warns that if Christ did not return, mankind would wipe itself out. This too evokes images of the Aral Sea today. Fred Pearce wonders how much longer the area will be able to support human life. "Was I meeting the last farmers of Karakalpakstan?" he asks in his book.

What is the cause for the devastation in the Aral, in the Murray-Darling Basin, and ultimately the whole world?

Ultimately it is greed. The way of get. Short-term self-interest. Self-love.

In the Aral, the Russian central planners were greedy for the export revenues they could generate from growing all that

cotton. They had no concern for the future of the Aral or of the people who lived around the sea.

The disappearing Aral Sea is a grotesque monument to the fact that greed brings destruction.

After the Soviet Union disbanded, the sea could still have been saved. Yet the rivers that feed the sea, and the irrigation canals coming from them, flow through five different countries. These countries couldn't work together to save the sea. Now they are all about to suffer from its disappearance. Again, greed and self-love—the desire to have their own water and cotton exports—led to this destruction.

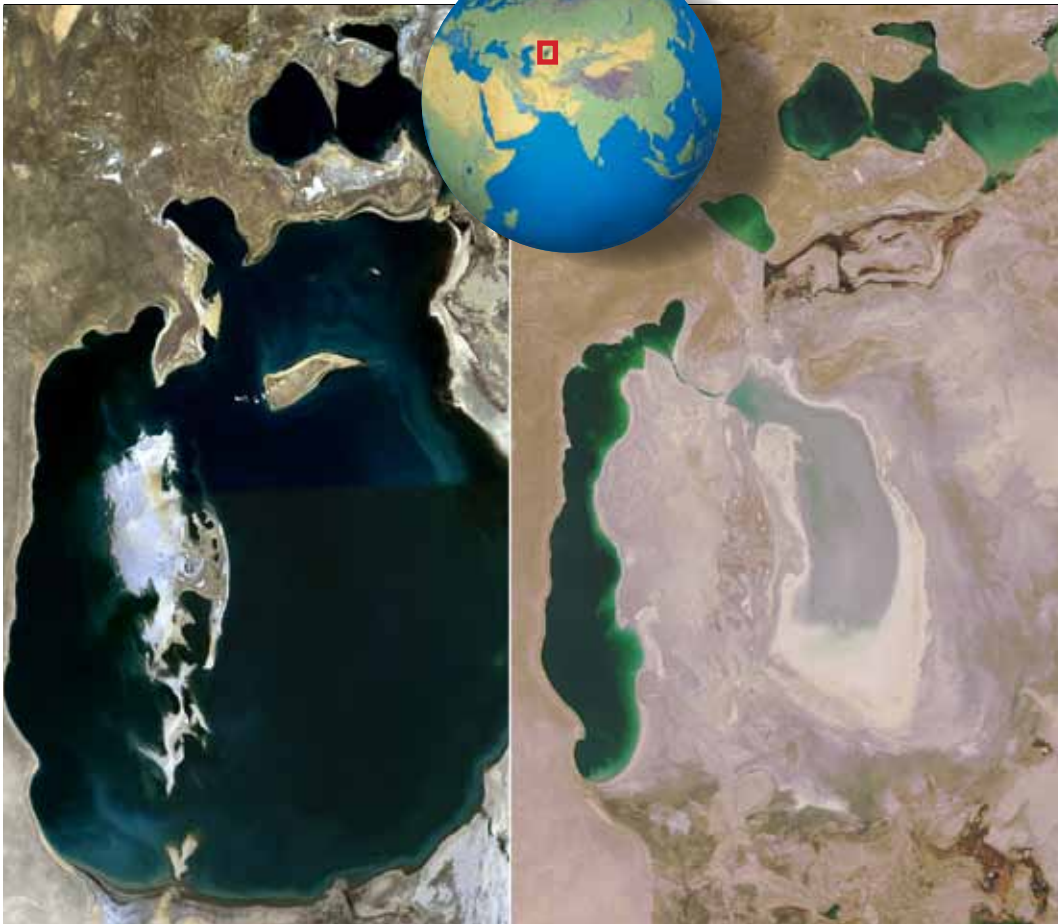
The real solution to the Aral Sea problem lies not in new, bigger and better canals or dams. It is in fixing this fundamental flaw in mankind: the ways of greed and get that are central to human existence today.

Absent that solution, no group of nations will be able to band together to save the Aral Sea.

Streams in the Desert

Although the Bible says the whole Earth will reach this Aral Sea-like condition, it also teaches that Christ will step in and save man from himself. After rescuing humanity from the brink of extinction, Christ will then rule over the Kingdom of God, which will be established on Earth.

Man's very nature will be changed,



FROM SEA TO DESERT The Aral Sea—September 1989 to October 2008

more than the area’s inhabitants in mind. They will be thinking of their children and their children’s children. They will seek a permanent improvement, not a superficial, short-term gain.

Back to Life

In November 2005, Kazakhstan completed a dam, funded by the World Bank, on the south side of a lake that was once part of the Aral Sea. Called the Small Aral, this lake used to be the northern part of the sea. In eight months, the dam proved a success. The water level rose from 131 feet to 138. Its area increased by 18 percent, and the salinity was cut in half.

Fish that were once abundant in the sea are returning. The area is coming back to life.

Of course, this is a far cry from fixing the whole sea—but fixing just a small part of it shows that what was once lost can be restored.

The same is true for this whole planet. No matter how horribly man wrecks it

in the future, God promises that it can and will be fixed. The Aral, the Murray-Darling, Lebanon and the whole Earth can and will bounce back. With God’s supernatural help, it will become more beautiful than ever.

Once the root problem *with man* has been fixed, the Aral will do more than return to its former glory. It will be better, and keep getting better, as mankind looks to God, and works to give, by turning the whole Earth into a Garden of Eden. ■

away from his ways of get and self-interest and toward God’s way of give. Request our free booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like* for a thorough explanation of this beautiful, prophetic truth.

Then, and only then, can man’s environmental problems be solved.

Read Isaiah’s prophecy about this time: “[I]n the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water ...” (Isaiah 35:6-7).

Rather than relying on himself to solve his problems, man will finally look to God. With that trust in self finally gone, God will be able to help man solve *all* his problems, physical and spiritual.

Self-reliance and the way of get brought us the current Aral Sea. Only reliance on God and the way of give can fix it.

Then, God will cause the rain to fall in the right places at the right time, so these massive dams and irrigation projects aren’t needed (Deuteronomy 28:12).

He promises to supernaturally make water available in the desert: “When the

poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst, I the Lord will hear them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers in high places, and fountains [artesian wells] in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the [acacia] tree, and the myrtle, and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the fir tree, and the pine, and the [cypress] together: That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the Lord hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it” (Isaiah 41:17-20).

Of course man will still have to work to improve and beautify his surroundings. But any engineering projects will be done in order to *give*. The needs of others, even of future generations, will be at the forefront of the planners’ minds. And as they look to God for direction, they won’t embark on any misguided projects that only backfire in the future, making the problem worse.

Cotton exports won’t be the priority in these projects. People will build with

Coming—utopia!

Did you know the Bible reveals that Utopia will happen? Learn about the inspiring world that is coming soon. Request your free copy of *The Wonderful World Tomorrow*.

Egypt's Next Pharaoh

A change of leadership in Cairo will alter the entire Middle East, particularly Israel. BY BRAD MACDONALD

EGYPT COULD SOON EXPERIENCE the most significant political development in three decades.

More than likely, the catalyst for this change will be the death of President Hosni Mubarak. Egypt's "Pharaoh," as he's not-so-affectionately known, is reported to be suffering the advance stages of stomach cancer and is expected to have less than 12 months to live.

Naturally, rumors of Mubarak's imminent demise are raising questions about his replacement, Egypt's future, and the future of the entire Middle East. These are important questions, not just for Egyptians, but for citizens of Israel and, ultimately, for all of us.

The Rise of Islam

Although he hasn't announced it officially, it is widely known that Mubarak has groomed his son Gamal to replace him as president. A smooth transition, however, is unlikely. Although Gamal has strong ties with Egypt's business community, his relationship with the military—the instrument through which his father has maintained his 30-year vice-like grip on Egypt—is tenuous.

Mubarak's death and the political chaos that will inevitably follow it will provide his many opponents a long-awaited opportunity. Without the military to silence dissenters, Gamal will face intense and unchecked opposition from his increasingly fearless enemies.

The group best positioned to gain from Mubarak's death and the subsequent struggle for power is the Muslim Brotherhood. Banned from government in 1954, the MB is a thriving organization of Islamic conservatives who seek strict implementation of Islamic law in Egyptian politics and society. The Brotherhood helped give rise to Hamas and al Qaeda and has strong ties with Iran.

Although persecuted, the MB's political footprint has grown, especially since parliamentary elections in 2005 in which it ran candidates as independents and won 20 percent of the seats in Egypt's parliament.

The organization's political popularity is peaking at the perfect time partly thanks to an added boost from Egyptian-born Mohamed ElBaradei, the internationally recognized Nobel laureate and former director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency. In February, after 12 years of living and working in sophisticated Europe, ElBaradei returned



to Egypt. While traveling through the rundown cities and villages of his homeland, ElBaradei says he was "shaken by the backwardness of my country, deeply moved by the people's palpable desire for change, overpowered by the sympathy and enthusiasm I was met with."

When the Mubarak regime took note of his swelling popularity and launched a smear campaign against him, ElBaradei says he realized he had no choice but to become "politically active." Since then, he and his National Movement for Reform, which has fanned out and spread the word in villages and cities across the country, has grown increasingly popular.

In June, ElBaradei led roughly 4,000 people in a protest against the Mubarak regime's strong-arm tactics. He has developed a robust presence on the Internet, out of the reach of Mubarak's censors; he has tens of thousands of permanent users on his website and more than a quarter of a million followers for each of his Facebook pages.

Tellingly, ElBaradei has also forged a relationship with the Muslim Brotherhood. In a July interview with *Der Spiegel*,

he confirmed having spoken with MB representatives about "the struggle against Mubarak." His embrace of the anti-Israel, pro-Iran Brotherhood reveals much about his moral and political leanings.

More than that, it says a lot about the *political weight and influence of the radical Islamic organization within Egyptian politics and society*. ElBaradei would hardly hitch his wagon to the MB if it was political suicide to do so.

For the Brotherhood, gaining the support of an internationally recognized mainstream figure surely positions the Islamic party to make significant political gains in the event of Mubarak's death.

Israel's Nightmare

Keep a close eye on Egypt. The death of Hosni Mubarak and the emergence of a more radical Islamic administration in Cairo will have monumental implications for the Middle East. Most notably, it will be a tremendous victory for Iran. For Tehran, forming an axis with Cairo would do more than provide an ally: It would provide Iran and its terrorist proxies game-changing *strategic and tactical* advantages over the Jewish state.

Ever since the Camp David Accords in 1979, Israel's safety—and *the entire security equation of the Middle East*—has hinged on Egypt's willingness to maintain peaceful relations with Israel. As Stratfor CEO George Friedman observed, "The only thing that could threaten the survival of Israel, apart from a nuclear barrage, *would be a shift in position of neighboring states*. [And] the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT NEIGHBOR ISRAEL HAS IS EGYPT" (June 19, 2007; emphasis mine).

Should Egypt sweep aside the Camp David Accords and align itself with Iran—which is certain if Islamic lawmakers in the MB gain power—Israel will face the nightmare scenario of having its southern border vulnerable to attack from Iranian-sponsored radical Islamic terrorists!

Ultimately, we must take note of the impending radical change in Egyptian politics because it will speed up the fulfillment of the biblically prophesied events to occur in the Middle East, and in Jerusalem specifically, immediately before Jesus Christ's return. As the *Trumpet's* editor in chief has written, Egypt is actually *prophesied* to align with Iran in this end time! Today's events appear to be pointing in that direction in a dramatic way. To learn more about these prophecies, request our reprint article "Egypt in Prophecy" and our free booklet *The King of the South*. ■

The KEY

to Unlock Biblical Prophecy

How can you know which modern nations are referred to in ancient prophetic texts? Here is the first in a series of articles on the origins of modern peoples! BY DAVID VEJIL

HOW CAN THE *TRUMPET* ACCURATELY forecast future world events? Any regular reader of this magazine should know the answer to this basic question.

The Bible is the foundation and source of all the forecasts in this magazine. It contains “the more sure word of prophecy” that guides our analysis of current world events (2 Peter 1:19).

Yet even if you believe the Bible is God’s unerring Word, a master key is still necessary to unlock these prophecies. Without that key, it is *impossible* to understand what the Bible prophesies will happen to the world’s nations in the near future.

Those who need to understand these prophecies the most—world leaders, news agencies, government policy makers and educational institutions—are all ignorant of them! They reject the divine revelation of the Bible, the only source revealing the significance and true meaning of today’s world news. They have also lost the vital master key needed to unlock biblical prophecy.

What is that key? The *identity* of Israel and the major world nations!

The Missing Key Revealed

The most important part of that key—the identity of the most powerful world powers in modern times, the United States and Britain—is explained in our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. This book’s author, Herbert W. Armstrong, founded three colleges as well as the *Trumpet*’s parent newsmagazine, the *Plain Truth*.

“Not knowing how and where these nations are specifically mentioned in basic and major prophecies, the educated of the world have been utterly blinded to the plain and simple meaning of prophecy,”

Mr. Armstrong wrote in that book. “Due to this lost key more than anything else, the Bible has come to be discredited and rejected in this world’s educational system. The unproved and unprovable theory of evolution has been substituted as the foundational concept which became the supposed rational approach to knowledge.”

The *main reason why* the world and its educational institutions lack understanding of world events is that *they don’t have this key!*

Well, the *Trumpet* will give you this key.

To help you to understand future world events involving the world’s major powers, the *Trumpet* is beginning a series of articles explaining the origins of the world’s major powers. You can’t know the future of these great nations unless you know their past!

Knowledge of this key will demonstrate how accurate the biblical record and its prophecies are. It will also explain how man came to be and where civilization started, powerfully disproving evolution, that flawed premise of our education system.

A good starting point in understanding the origin of man’s present civilization—and disproving evolution—is the study of language.

Case Study: Language

“Language is mankind’s greatest invention—except, of course, that it was never invented,” writes Guy Deutscher in *The Unfolding of Language: An Evolutionary Tour of Mankind’s Greatest Invention*. There can be no nation, no civilization nor culture without language. Therefore the history of language and our civilizations are inextricably linked.

Deutscher, who holds a Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Cambridge and was a professor at the University of Leiden in Holland, wrote his book

from an evolutionary standpoint, trying to demonstrate how language can evolve from basic grunts into the complex languages used today.

However, as he admits, there is one problem: *No evolutionist can determine the beginning of language.*

Let’s follow the evolutionists’ story and see how they try to reconcile their research and observations with their false premise to overcome this admitted paradox.

Before we start their story, we must acquire a penchant for the fantasy genre—“for how can anyone presume to know what went on in prehistoric times without indulging in make-believe?” asks Deutscher. Any evolutionist must possess a richer imagination than J.K. Rowling and be a greater master of fiction than J.R.R. Tolkien, or else what we are about to read would not sell.

Monkey See Monkey Speak?

The beginning of this erroneous story is set in a time long, long ago when mankind was evolving from apes. For this world to be constructed, apes must be able to learn language. Yet research conducted at Georgia State University concluded that this is impossible.

“[D]espite popular myth, not even chimpanzees can learn a human language,” Deutscher writes. Using the example of an advanced chimp named Kanzi, he concludes, “[E]ven Kanzi cannot string symbols together in anything resembling the complexity of a human language. The human brain is unique in having the necessary hardware for mastering a human language—that much is uncontroversial.”

The only indisputable thing in an evolutionist’s study of language is the insurmountable gap between human speech and animal communication!

The evolutionist must now ignore the research or pretend that even Kanzi, the genius hero of the chimp world, would be a fool compared to his predecessors, which, if evolutionists were to be believed, must also somehow be less evolved than Kanzi.

When we turn the page, we don't see a chapter two filled with the linguistic exploits of Kanzi's ancestors. Instead we skip toward the end of the story!

Deutscher starts his explanation of the evolution of language *late* in its development, assuming several important aspects were already formed: "[W]e must take as given ... its symbolic nature: the use of arbitrary signs, which can mean something only by agreed convention We also have to assume that these arbiter signs were conveyed vocally ... but which derive their sense from being joined up into words. ... And finally, we have to take it as given that these words were used essentially for the same purposes that motivate us today" He is starting off with three very advanced assumptions to make his theory work because, as he admits, earlier scenarios "don't really have a leg to stand on."

Our evolutionist author finds it pointless to fill in the missing chapters, because it is too fictional, even for readers who were sold on chapter one. Yet his story continues on the assumption that some future author will backfill the blank chapters with some missing research.

Clueless

Deutscher often uses words like "assume" and "a given," which are fancy ways of saying that he has to speculate and guess.

He even must speculate as to the time in man's history when this already advanced language would have evolved, because, "Unfortunately, *no one has any idea* (or more accurately, too many people have too many ideas) about when exactly this point should be located in time: 40,000 years ago, 100,000 years, or even much earlier than that?"

This is how history books read when it comes to origins of man. You will come across a profusion of words like *seem*, *likely*, *may* and *probably*. No evolutionist can decide on when man first made an appearance. Just as the scientific method starts with a hypothesis, so does the historical method, with each historian, anthropologist and archeologist choosing and interpreting the facts in a way that appears to substantiate his own theory, trying to turn fiction into nonfiction and oftentimes disagreeing with conclusions put forward by others in the process.

Linguists Ignore Two Basic Facts

Let's step away from the realm of fiction and make-believe and into the rational, observable world. When studying today's languages, evolutionists ignore two concrete facts.

First, they ignore that older languages tend to be of a higher order and complexity than modern languages. Deutscher writes, "[I]t seemed that the deeper linguists dug into history, the more impressive was the make-up of words they encountered, but when they followed the movement of languages through time, the only processes that could be discerned were disintegration and collapse."

That's not to say there haven't been any developments since that time, but the gen-

Knowledge of this key will demonstrate how accurate the biblical record and its prophecies are. It will also explain how man came to be and where civilization started, powerfully disproving evolution, that flawed premise of our education system.

eral trend is degeneration. Instead of languages getting more complex, they have grown simpler! Compare Old English with modern English, Latin with modern Romance languages, and ancient Hebrew with modern Hebrew. In every case, the trend directly contradicts the concept of evolution, that of ever increasing sophistication and complexity.

Second, evolutionists ignore how far back in time we find language. "The available written records of any language extend at most 5,000 years into the past," Deutscher writes, "and the languages around by that time already have pretty much the full repertoire of complex features found in today's languages."

Instead of seeing written records that show some kind of evolution of a primitive language, we see a sudden arrival, around 5,000 years ago, of already complex languages. There are no "missing links."

Is it a coincidence that the origins of language can only be traced back about

5,000 years, about when the dendrochronological record ends? (sidebar, page 16). Is there an account that explains this similarity in dates and explains why languages have gone through a trend of degeneration?

Yes there is—*IF* we accept divine revelation!

Linguists can't figure out how language was invented because it wasn't invented by man! That is the conclusion to which all the facts logically lead.

If we take the Bible as the foundational historical document that it is, there is an explanation—not an assumption, theory or guess, but an *absolutely true description*—of facts that fly in the face of evolution.

Interestingly, even Deutscher admits the biblical account confirms the research. Yet though the Bible perfectly explains the sudden arrival of multiple languages each equipped with powerful complexities and irregularities, he simply discards its accounts. "Taken literally, however, neither invention by divine fiat nor dispersal as a punishment for human folly seems at all likely today. But has anyone ever come up with a more convincing explanation?"

The answer to his question is no! And there can be no other explanation that fits all the facts. Though the biblical record is brief, it contains no missing chapters. The real story starts about 6,000 years ago.

The Real History of Nations and Language

At that time, Earth was renewed in one week from complete desolation and emptiness. On the sixth day, the first man, Adam, was created and given language—a fully formed, complete language! This explains the conclusion of modern research that only man's brain can master language: That brain was formed and designed for a specific purpose by a Creator!

It is no coincidence that one of the names for God is *the Word*. Neither is it a coincidence that divine authority declares that the Word was there "in the beginning"!

Names have meaning, and God's own name shows who invented man's language. It is only fitting that God would have this name. Just think how powerful language is: Without it, nothing can be done! When the Word spoke, the entire universe was created! (John 1:1-5). That is the power of this Supreme Being who gave us language.

About 2,000 years after the creation of Adam, mankind became so evil that God flooded the Earth and saved only one righteous man, Noah, and his family. Surviving the Flood with Noah was his wife and his three sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, each with their wives.

As Noah began to separate and colonize the growing families throughout the Earth, a rebellious people led by Cush and his son Nimrod decided to stay where they were and unite the families. The details are brief, but found in Genesis 10 and 11. "And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. ... Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth" (Genesis 11:5-6, 9).

This event begins the history of the nations. Here God *divided the people into nations by creating multiple languages*. God gave several unique languages to the people, probably one to each of the main families listed in Genesis 10.

These parent languages would have then been changed and simplified over time into all the languages we have today, much like Latin gave rise to Spanish, French and Italian.

Our ancestors would have had no real

choice but to migrate and dwell with the people with whom they could communicate, developing their own unique cultures and civilizations through their independent languages.

This account in Genesis explains everything! It is in complete agreement with all the established facts and observations—not just of the history of language, but of the history of our nations and even the provable elements of dating "science"!

Ancient Records Too!

But the account of Babylon is not just in the Bible. The building of the tower is also recorded in the ancient writings of Egypt, Babylonia, Assyria, Greece and Media. The most complete secular account is found in the Akkadian Creation Epic, reproduced in James B. Pritchard's *Ancient Near Eastern Texts*, which even speaks of a father and son leading the project.

The Chinese, Hindus, Irish, Native Americans and Persians also tell us of the divisions of speech by a supreme God. In fact, thanks to Chinese and Egyptian record keeping, we can trace the date of the tower of Babel to approximately 2200 B.C. That is roughly the time period that these ancient manuscripts mark as the beginning of the origins of their civilization.

That is within the same time frame as linguists can demonstrate when our complex languages started!

Yet modern scholars and educational institutions reject all of this. They not only reject the Bible, but they also relegate ancient manuscripts, which they spent years deciphering and trying to understand, to nothing but fantasy! These manuscripts do contain a large amount of myth, but they also carefully preserve annals of and references to their patriarchs.

The rejection of these sources is a fairly recent phenomenon. It wasn't until German rationalism became the rage within academia in the 19th century that the knowledge of the Bible and divine intervention was removed from education and the ancient manuscripts taken as pure myth. That is why today's linguists are trying to prove how language evolved using godless evolutionary methods.

Men are using human reasoning to explain something that was divinely ordained at the spiritual level—a level clear above human flesh, which divine authority created! Hence the confusion (1 Corinthians 2:14).

Scholars theorize by attempting to create a prehistoric time period for evolution—yet in the literal sense there is no

Radiocarbon Dating

WHAT about carbon dating? Doesn't that give accurate dates of "prehistoric" civilizations?

Carbon dating is the ultimate benchmark of the evolutionary dating world. Everyone assumes that dates that follow the word "radiocarbon" are accurate, precise and sure. But are they?

The basic principle of radiocarbon dating is that plants and animals absorb trace amounts of radioactive carbon-14 from carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere while they are alive but stop doing so when they die. The carbon-14 in a sample decays at a steady rate after it dies, and thus works like a clock. It is assumed that the amount of radioactive carbon left in the sample indicates how old it is.

But there is a major problem with this method. It is based on several assumptions, one of which is false. For this method to work, the rate of production of carbon-14 in the atmosphere has to remain constant through time. In truth, however, the amount of carbon-14 in the atmosphere varies with fluctuations in solar activity and Earth's magnetic field, changes in atmospheric conditions and even the exploding of atomic bombs!

As a result, radiocarbon dating isn't so accurate: "Provided they are adjusted, radiocarbon dates are now considered reliable as far back as 5000 B.C.," writes archeologist and professor Martha Joukowsky in *A Complete Manual of Field Archeology*. "Since the dendrochronological sequence extends back only as far as about 5500 B.C., no way exists at present to check radiocarbon dates from 5500 to 10,000 B.C."

When comparing radiocarbon dates with dates derived from tree rings, known as dendrochronological dating, the dates only agree



accurately as far back as A.D. 640, and only generally well back to the time of Christ. Anything further back and the dates are as much as 800 years off.

So scientists made calibration charts to make up for the variation. But they still have to verify their calibrations with samples of known dates. There is still a problem!

Radiocarbon dates can only be trusted up until the record left by trees can back them up. There is no other way to verify the calibration charts accurately! Scientists, however, will push the envelope to 10,000 B.C. without any way to verify it.

In 2004, the claimed reliability of radiocarbon dating supposedly got a boost to 26,000 years, and then again in 2010 back to 50,000 years ago—the point at which there is too little carbon-14 to measure accurately. Scientists now claim 50,000 years is as far back as this method can go. This latest system of dating developed by INTCAL, an international working group, was based on dating coral samples from the ocean floor.

INTCAL extended radiocarbon dates beyond the limit of dendrochronology by basing it on "matched uranium series and radiocarbon dates on fossil corals, coupled with radiocarbon-dated organic material from laminated marine sediments in the Cariaco Basin, Venezuela" (Mike Walker, *Quaternary Dating Methods*, 2005).

such thing as prehistoric man. Man was given language from the beginning, which was also used to pass on mankind's history, through oral traditions and written records! That is how Moses was able to write Genesis. The first language appeared with the first man, and there is no history of men before the written word existed!

The first recorded conversation was between God and man (Genesis 1:28-30; 2:16-17). The first conversation between two human beings is recorded in Genesis 2:23. The first attempt by man to reason without a foundation of divine revelation is recorded in Genesis 3:1-6, and its detrimental results in the remainder of that chapter.

Then What Is Prehistoric Man?

What about the artifacts and bones of "prehistoric" man? The remains of thousands of bones, rudimentary tools and weapons lie embedded in all the continents. How do these fossils and remains fit in if there is no such thing as prehistoric?



ORIGINS Identities and languages of modern nations trace back to a towering moment in history: Babel.

First, realize that today's scholars don't even know how these artifacts fit in their theory of evolution. Anthropologists and archeologists segment history into ages—such as the Stone Age for prehistoric times—yet this is useless for determining a chronological history because, as they admit, these ages may not be sequential, but actually contemporary!

There is no concrete time period for

the start and end of each age, nor is there agreement on how many ages exist. The ages only represent developmental periods in various *cultures* that occur at different times for different people. It's not a sequential order of time at all!

According to *The Encyclopedia of World History* by Peter Stearns, the term Stone Age "has little more than technological significance" and "has no chronological significance." In this age of space exploration, the Internet, and nuclear power, we still have people in a primitive "stone age" culture in places like tropical rainforests.

Stearns says the archeological theories on prehistory are intensely controversial even as highly "sophisticated" evolutionary theories are still being developed.

How sad that these theories are labeled sophisticated when in reality they are deliberately made complex in order to attempt to keep the evolution theory from completely falling apart! If scientists would

► See **KEY** page 36

Did you catch that? They apparently increased the effectiveness of radiocarbon dating by basing their calibration charts on *radiocarbon-dated* coral and sediment layers! That is circular reasoning—defending the method by using the very same method!

On top of that, radiocarbon dating coral presents great difficulties that make it unreliable. Why? Because of another assumption in radiocarbon dating: that it is a closed system. Once the "clock" starts, there is no gain or loss in radiocarbon elements used in dating. The trouble is, coral behaves differently. In coral, the carbon-14 decay rate is not stable; it picks up radioactive isotopes over time. In other words, the clock's hour hand doesn't move consistently.

The result?

"[P]roblems arising from past variations in the marine reservoir and also possible errors in the counting of laminated sediments mean this part of the *calibration curve is less secure than that based on tree-ring records*," says *Quaternary Dating Methods*. "Despite the uncertainties associated with the older part of the age range, the international radiocarbon community has recommended that *INTCAL 98 be used as the basis for calibration for the time being*" (emphasis mine throughout).

So even though it is less reliable and has some serious problems, scientists ignore that and still use it. This book was written on the basis of the calibration that INTCAL has been developing for over 20 years, a process that has unfolded in the stages listed above.

How did the newest development come about? In an article titled "Radiocarbon Daters Tune Up Their Time Machine," *Science* magazine explained: "[T]hanks to new and more accurate data from foraminifers, corals, and other sources—plus some *fancy statistical treatments* that help predict which way data gaps bend the curve—the INTCAL group has been able to resolve *most of the discrepancies*. 'It took the group

quite a while to come together and agree,' says INTCAL team leader Paula Reimer, a geochronologist at Queen's University Belfast in Northern Ireland. But the new data, combined with what Reimer calls a 'real sense of necessity' among team members to resolve the debates, won the day" (January 15).

"Fancy statistical treatments" that didn't even resolve all of the discrepancies? That doesn't seem like a sound scientific process, does it? And what was it that finally got the scientists to agree on their uncertain calibration curve? A "real sense of necessity" to resolve the debate!

The problem with all these theories and conclusions is that they hark back to the scientists' blind belief in the false theory of evolution. That is about the only thing the scientists agree on, yet it causes much confusion and chaos. Data has to be manipulated, skewed and given fancy treatment to make evolution fit the facts.

That is science based on a shifting foundation of sand! Yet that is the necessity by which these scientists are driven. They need a way to date artifacts further than 5,000 to 6,000 years ago so they can prove their false theory "true"!

If no dating system is created, evolution will forever be stuck in the realm of hypothesis. Even with such manipulation, the scientists still can't remove all the discrepancies. In the end, it is still an unprovable hypothesis!

It is under this pretense that scientists take up the false hypothesis of evolution as their religion, the foundation of their knowledge. That is what the Bible terms "the oppositions of science falsely so called" (1 Timothy 6:20).

The bottom line is that scientists cannot reliably use radiocarbon dating on artifacts beyond the time of Christ. The method they use to attempt to do so is twisted to fit evolutionary theory. **DAVID VEJIL**

1 Amid unrest, who's left standing?

GERMAN CHANCELLOR Angela Merkel continues to suffer blows to her leadership.

On June 17, Germany's Social Democratic Party and the Green Party agreed to establish a minority government in North Rhine-Westphalia, the country's largest and richest state. This means Merkel's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) no longer holds the majority in Germany's upper legislative chamber.

Two weeks later, Merkel was humiliated as her candidate for the new German president, Christian Wulff, failed to win an absolute majority in the first two rounds of voting as many in her own coalition rebelled. Wulff won in a third round, where a simple majority was all that was needed.

Süddeutsche Zeitung wrote, "This wasn't just an election day, it was a day of reckoning for Merkel. ... This Federal Assembly became Merkel's writing on the

wall." *Handelsblatt* said Merkel and Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle "are now fighting for their political survival." Spiegel Online said Merkel's "next major decision may be who to groom as a successor."

On July 18, the mayor of Hamburg, Ole von



Beust, became the sixth state governor to resign within just one year. A whole string of leading CDU lights in Germany have left the scene over the past year, including, most notably, President Horst Köhler, who suddenly resigned in June.

A July 19 poll found that Merkel's coalition parties had the lowest approval ratings since the agency Forsa began polling in 1986.

The three parties had a combined approval rating of just 34 percent.

On July 7, the *New York Times* singled out one man to watch as the German chancellor's possible successor. "Mrs. Merkel has deflected any threat to her leadership," it wrote, "except, possibly, **Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg.**"

Throughout the turmoil of Merkel's second term, Guttenberg has remained one of Germany's most popular politicians. "Unlike other potential challengers, Mr. Guttenberg will not be easily silenced," the *Times* continued. "As a member of the Christian Social Union party, he is politically independent from Mrs. Merkel's Christian Democrats. She cannot afford a fallout with her sister party in Bavaria. She needs that electoral support."

As the *Trumpet* has been saying for some months now, Guttenberg is a man to watch.

2 Smells like a superstate

THE EUROPEAN UNION HAS TAKEN two more major steps toward being a superstate.

July 14, EU countries agreed to propose a resolution that would give the European Union speaking rights at the United Nations General Assembly. Under the proposal, the EU would still be an observer at the UN, but would have the same rights as member nations to submit proposals and amendments, to circulate amendments, to reply, etc. The EU president could address the UN in the same way as a head of state.

Then on July 26, European finance ministers approved the overall structure of Europe's External Action Service (EEAS), paving the way for Europe's own diplomatic corps to become operational in December. The EEAS will operate 136 European embassies, employ around 6,000 people, and have a budget of around €7 billion—including EU money spent on aid and peacekeeping.

Even before the latest agreement, British member of the European Parliament David Campbell Bannerman said, "I believe that through the Lisbon Treaty, through [the EU foreign minister] role, and the External Action Service, the European Union now has all four criteria it needs under international law to declare itself a single nation-state, a United States of Europe, and to do so overnight."

3 Israel opens Gaza; considers EU help

ISRAEL ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 20 THAT it will now allow anything into Hamas-controlled Gaza as long as it could not be used for military purposes. This effectively ended the so-called land blockade of the Gaza Strip.

The Prime Minister's Office said the restrictions on civilian goods that had been in place since September 2007 had been aimed at weakening Hamas and gaining the release of kidnapped Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit. The lack of progress on both counts, it explained, motivated the change in policy.

Of course, Hamas and the terrorists who sponsored the Gaza-bound "human-

itarian" flotilla just three weeks earlier saw it as nothing less than a resounding victory for challenging Israel. Not only did their mission draw a lethal retaliation from Israel's navy, followed by a tidal wave of international outrage against Israel, but it brought enough pressure for Israel to end its sanctions against Gaza.

Meanwhile, Israeli officials said Israel was considering asking the European Union to monitor Gaza's land crossings. This would represent "a first step towards [Israel] surrendering its sovereign control over its borders," wrote Caroline Glick in the *Jerusalem Post* (June 21).

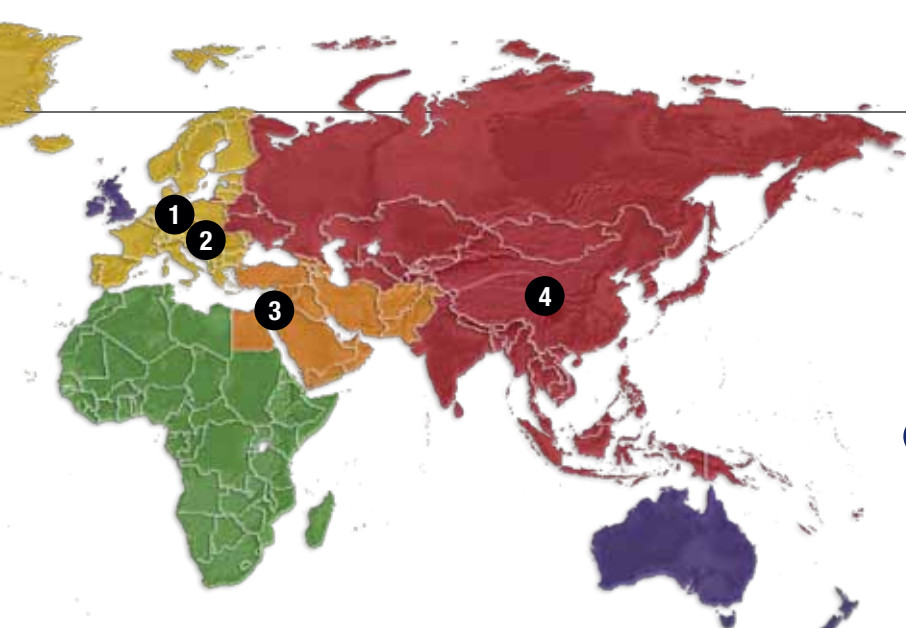
In another indication that the Jews are



OPEN A truck carries supplies into Rafah.

looking increasingly to Europe, on July 16 Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman proposed that Israel fully disengage from Gaza and hand responsibility for its development to the EU.

This trend portends danger for the Jews in light of Bible prophecy that warns that a European power will actually double-cross Israel in the end time.



4 Should U.S. really celebrate?

ON JUNE 19, CHINA'S CENTRAL bank announced that it was prepared to move toward reforming the country's exchange rate regime to allow more flexibility. On June 21, the yuan rose by 0.4 percent against the dollar. Although a relatively small move, it sent the yuan to its highest level since September 2008 and was hailed as a political victory for the U.S., which has argued that the undervalued currency gives Beijing an unfair exporting advantage.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, who has pressured Beijing to lift the currency peg in recent months, applauded the move. But the revaluation carries potential risks that could undermine Western economies. Europe's prolonged economic downturn, and European money fleeing to the U.S., could cause a free-floating yuan to actually weaken relative to the dollar, rather than appreciating. This could tilt America's trade imbalance further into Beijing's favor.

Some analysts say the move is largely symbolic, merely a political strategy designed to relieve pressure from Washington.

For America, the gravest danger is that a legitimate lift of the currency peg would require China to reduce U.S. government debt purchases, which would drive interest rates up. For an economy addicted to debt, the implications could be devastating. America has complained about the trade imbalance with

China that results from the yuan's peg to the dollar, but it is that same imbalance that enables America to maintain its debt-fueled policies.

China's loosening of the yuan's peg to the dollar will not solve Washington's problems, but it may replace the smoldering fire of trade imbalance with the raging inferno of soaring interest rates.

■ Data released in July shows that China became the world's largest energy consumer last year—usurping a title held by America for the past 100 years. China's predominance marks "a new age in the history of energy," said International Energy Agency chief economist Fatih Birol. The transformation of global energy markets has long-term implications for America and the world. Expect competition for resources to heat up, resulting in trade war.



5 Another popping housing bubble

HOUSE SALES IN Canadian cities are plummeting.

In Toronto, realtors reported a 23 percent drop in sales from last year. The *Globe and Mail* reported July 7 that home sales in Vancouver plunged by 30 percent in June compared to one year earlier. Calgary was even worse: In June, single-family home sales were down 42 percent from a year earlier—16 percent just from May.

Sitka Pacific Capital Management's Mike Shedlock warns that the trend is similar to how things cascaded in the United States once the housing bubble peaked. "I am now confident the peak in Canadian housing insanity is finally in," he wrote on July 6.

Canadian readers may want to take note of the calamitous events that followed America's housing bust. Millions of Americans are losing their homes and thousands of others are choosing to let the bank foreclose rather than spend decades paying for houses that are worth fractions of current market values. Hundreds of thousands of people associated with the construction,

real-estate and mortgage-related industries found themselves out of work. This, plus the resultant credit crunch, caused a snowball effect that hit virtually every sector of the economy.

Canadians should prepare for a drastic economic downturn.

■ The International Monetary Fund weighed in on American economic policy in early July, saying Washington should consider raising taxes and cutting Social Security benefits to get control of the nation's budget deficit and public debt. Watch for outside authorities to seek to increase influence over America's economy.

■ The dollar is unreliable and needs to be replaced as the world's reserve currency, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs said in a report released June 29. The UN wants to replace the dollar with a new global currency managed by the IMF. The new currency, called SDRs, or special drawing rights, would maintain stability, the UN says, while knocking the U.S. from its role as global economic leader.

● EUROPE

■ France's national assembly voted to ban face-covering veils, such as the burka, 335 to 1, on July 13. While the bill will probably be approved by the Senate in September, France's Council of State or the European Court of Human Rights may rule it unconstitutional. Belgium passed a similar law earlier this year, demonstrating the growing backlash against Islam in Europe.

■ In a June 16 letter, U.S. President Barack Obama urged his G-20 counterparts to maintain whatever stimulus programs their governments could finance. Germany rejected this counsel and urged cutbacks instead. The G-20 meeting on June 26 and 27 concluded with an endorsement of the economic policies of Germany and other European leaders, not those of the U.S. Gone are the days when Washington could set an agenda and lead the world in adhering to it.

■ The Vatican announced the creation of a new department on June 29: the Pontifical Council for New Evangeliza-

tion. Headed by Archbishop Salvatore Fisichella, the aim of the council is to re-evangelize once-Christian nations that have now become secular. The council will focus on Europe and the Americas. Expect the Vatican to unleash a major push to become more powerful in these areas.

been leaked to the WikiLeaks website were published by the *New York Times* July 25. Despite the hype surrounding the massive intelligence leak, the documents exposed little new about the fundamental reality of the war in Afghanistan. The leaked documents accuse Pakistan of providing both supplies and sanctuary for Taliban fighters. The secret military field reports detail how Pakistan's intelligence service has guided the Afghan insurgency, even while Islamabad receives more than \$1 billion a year from Washington for its help in fighting the Taliban. The *Trumpet* has long pointed out the duplicity of Pakistan as a U.S. ally in the war in Afghanistan. Washington's reliance on Islamabad despite this demonstrates the compromised nature of America's power on the world scene.

■ In July, Israel carried out final operational tests on a new

■ **COMMANDER OF THE REGIONAL BRIGADE IN N. ISRAEL COL. RONEN MORALI**

“It is clear that the Hezbollah organization wants to carry out a terror strike or a penetration, beyond the use of gunfire, light arms or rockets.”

anti-missile system, the Iron Dome, designed to protect Israeli communities from Hamas and Hezbollah rockets. The shield will soon be deployed in vulnerable towns close to Gaza. It seems, however, that it has been talked up to be more effective than it may prove to be, not to mention its cost: A single Iron Dome anti-rocket missile is \$100,000—as opposed to just a few dollars for a Kassam. While the technology is impressive, the Jews' reliance upon it for protection will



prove to be yet another false hope.

■ Hezbollah is establishing military positions, including the placement of weapons and explosives, next to schools and hospitals in southern Lebanon, an Israel Defense Forces officer said July 7. The Iranian-sponsored terrorist group is digging tunnels and setting up communications infrastructure as it prepares for war, the source said. This is occurring even while the United Nations' force in Lebanon is present, supposedly to stop Hezbollah rearming and rebuilding.

■ The commander of U.S. forces in Iraq said in a press conference on July 13 that Iranian-trained Shiite fighters pose an increased threat to American soldiers in Iraq as the U.S. draws down its forces there. Gen. Ray Odierno specifically referred to the threat posed by the Kataib Hezbollah militia trained by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Iran's influence in Iraq continues to grow as the United States' shrinks.

● ASIA

■ North Korean despot Kim Jong Il threatened the U.S. with nuclear war in July in response to **America's joint naval drills with South Korea**. The exercises came four months after a torpedo sunk the South Korean ship, the Chonan, and were intended as a display of unity between Washington and Seoul. However, the U.S.'s participation was undermined by repeated delays and a relocation that observers saw as being a sign of America's fear of China outweighing its desire to stand up for Seoul. In light of the U.S.'s weak will, expect Seoul's distrust to intensify. South Korea will draw closer to Asian nations, like China, in its search for security.



■ On July 11, Japanese voters delivered a rebuke to the Democratic Party of Japan, impairing the ability of **Prime Minister Naoto Kan's** ruling party to govern. Kyodo News observed that the parliamentary gridlock “may complicate attempts by Tokyo and Washington to ‘reset’ their political relationship” (July

● MIDEAST

■ A slew of documents relating to Afghanistan that had



14). Mr. Kan's promises to the Obama administration aimed at resolving the dispute over the location of a U.S. Marine base in Okinawa are now in doubt. When Tokyo emerges from its state of political gridlock, governmental consensus against the security partnership with the U.S. will likely solidify.

■ On July 12, China's premier credit rating agency stripped America of its AAA status. Dagong Global Credit Rating Co. downgraded the U.S. to AA, while Britain and France slipped to AA-. Belgium, Spain and Italy are ranked at A-, along with Malaysia. Meanwhile, Dagong raised China to AA+ with Germany, the Netherlands and Canada. Norway, Denmark, Switzerland and Singapore, along with resource-exporting heavyweights Australia and New Zealand, have the coveted AAA.

■ China and Taiwan signed an agreement on June 28 forging the strongest-ever trade ties between Asia's rising giant and its longtime rival. The deal heralds a bold step toward reconciliation between the former enemies but has many Taiwanese concerned that their nation's direction will erode its independence. The

trade pact reduces tariffs and opens up mutual market access across the Taiwan Strait, but Taiwan is negotiating with an immensely powerful neighbor that does not recognize it as an independent entity.

● AFRICA/ LATIN AMERICA

■ Somali Islamists from al Shabaab, a group linked to al Qaeda, claimed responsibility for two bomb explosions that ripped through crowds watching the World Cup final in Uganda July 11, killing more than 70 people. Later that month, the African Union (AU) agreed to send 4,000 more troops to join its peacekeeping force in Somalia. If the extra troops materialize (not all AU nations make good on their promises), the AU will have over 10,000 soldiers in the country. Uganda, the main contributor to the peacekeeping force, has expanded its troops' mandate beyond merely defending themselves against al Shabaab; soldiers can now preemptively attack the rebels if they feel the AU's forces are under threat. Al Shabaab is also gaining strength thanks to a warlord in the northern part of the country, Sheik Mohamed Said Atom, allying himself with the militant group. More warlords may follow.

■ The Vatican is helping to bring Cuba out of diplomatic isolation and closer to Europe. On July 7, Cuban officials announced they would release 52 political prisoners, following nearly two months of talks between Cuba and the Vatican. EU nations have refused to have normal relations with Cuba because of its human rights record, but Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos said the prisoner

release "opens a new era in Cuba." Several commentators pointed out that the prisoner release doesn't mean that conditions in Cuba are improving; the last prisoner release occurred in 1998, when Cuba released 101 prisoners after a visit by Pope John Paul II. Watch for the common Catholic heritage of the EU and Latin America to bring the two blocs closer together.

■ Tensions between Venezuela and Colombia rose in July as outgoing Colombian President Alvaro Uribe accused Venezuela of harboring Colombian rebels. Colombia presented photographic and video evidence before the Organization of American States on July 22 that 1,500 militants and several leaders belonging to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) were taking refuge in Ven-



ezuela. Venezuela's President Hugo Chávez responded by breaking off diplomatic relations with Colombia, saying Colombia's accusations were really American-inspired "aggression." On July 25, Venezuela said it would cut off oil to the U.S. if Colombia attacked.

● ANGLO- AMERICA

■ A U.S. federal district judge blocked the most contentious parts of Arizona's new immigration law on July 28, preventing police from asking suspected illegal aliens for

identification. The injunction was granted to the Department of Justice, which on July 6 sued Arizona, the state that is at the epicenter of illegal immigration into America. Watch this situation closely for its explosive potential to exacerbate racial tensions and social unrest in the United States.

■ British Prime Minister David Cameron attacked the "endless British preoccupation" with Britain's special relationship with America at his White House debut July 20. The prime minister said he failed to understand the "absurd" anxiety about the state of Britain's alliance with the U.S. He urged people to stop "over-analyzing the atmospherics" between the U.S. and the UK.

■ Three British Supreme Court judges have unanimously intervened for homosexuals who seek asylum in the UK. July 7 they ruled that the Home Office may not refuse asylum to homosexuals and expect

them to return to their home countries. Rather than toning down their homosexual behavior in their home nations to avoid persecution, one judge said, these individuals should be "free to enjoy themselves going to Kylie concerts and drinking exotically colored cocktails" in Britain.

■ The UK now ranks 17th in global manufacturing competitiveness according to an index published in June. Britain is expected to fall as low as 20th on the list by 2015. In 2009, the UK was responsible for 2.6 percent of the world's manufacturing production, down from 5.5 percent in 1980.

Reconstructing



Some call the North Atlantic Treaty Organization a relic of the Cold War. Its leaders are contemplating its new role in the modern world. What will that role be? The truth is shocking! BY RON FRASER

FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS, LEADERS of the 28 North Atlantic Treaty Organization member nations have been drafting a new strategic concept for the alliance. With NATO's original *raison d'être* having been long outmoded, since the end of the Cold War 20 years ago the alliance has struggled to justify its continuance.

Hence the current moves to reinvent NATO. What is its role in today's present disordered world, where no single nation dominates the global power equation?

A New Strategic Concept

Gainsayers will still maintain that the United States is the single most powerful nation on the Earth; just witness the deployment of its naval force globally and its prominence in the two continuing high-profile theaters of conflict, Iraq and Afghanistan. Yet one shouldn't be fooled by appearances. In reality, both America's will to fight and its economy are profoundly broken. Its economic condition is worse than that of Greece. This is leading to an inevitable drawdown in all theaters where American forces are deployed. These days, any pipsqueak nation can tweak Uncle Sam's nose and flee the scene without fear of any really powerful reprisals. This sorry state of affairs is only added to by the public declarations of a president uncommitted to pursuing, or even attempting to recapture,

any concept of American greatness.

Thus it is that the nations of Europe, realizing that their postwar protector is fading, seek a new life for NATO that will continue to help secure the Continent from threats by its enemies.

Since the end of the Cold War, NATO's membership has nearly doubled as it has absorbed former Soviet states, many of which joined the European Union. Now even Russia seeks an alliance with NATO, something Germany is keen to promote so as to secure its eastern flank from a repetition of past problems in that area. Though NATO cut its military contacts with Russia after Moscow invaded Georgia in 2008, those contacts have since resumed. Now the two sides are planning a joint review of "21st-century threats."

More important to Europe's security as America draws down its military presence there is the European Union's partnership with NATO. "The EU and NATO are taking further steps, hand in hand, with a view to deepening their relations," reported *Europe's World*. "[T]he EU has proceeded to the signing of a set of agreements with NATO in order to obtain access to its infrastructure. Otherwise, the EU, especially in difficult missions, does not have sufficient capabilities to carry out peacekeeping operations by itself" (March 19, 2009). The reality is that the EU is using NATO as its proxy war machine in pursuing its impe-

rialist agenda.

In November, representatives of NATO member governments will assemble for a summit in Lisbon, Portugal, to review a newly drafted strategic concept for NATO's future.

On July 2, NATO's Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen visited Lisbon to lay the groundwork for the summit. There he referred to NATO as "*this unique zone of stability, prosperity and common values*." He compared the current crossroads to the one faced by the alliance's founding fathers, saying that today's members are "*standing at the threshold of a new era*." The alliance today faces new challenges like terrorism, cyberattacks and piracy, he said, revealing that the new strategic concept will define NATO as "*a modernized alliance*" and a "*cooperative team player in a globalized world*."

Interestingly, at the same time NATO is seeking to reinvent itself, the German government is rushing to redefine the structure and role of its own military forces.

New German Military Organization

In July, Germany's defense minister met with Chancellor Angela Merkel and gained her full support for the submission of three alternative scenarios for a revamped Bundeswehr. Commenting on this meeting, *Die Welt* observed, "Angela Merkel (CDU) devotes a lot of her time to the mili-

tary these days. Today the chancellor meets with Frank-Jürgen Weise, who is working on the modernization of the military administration, ordered by Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg (CSU). On Tuesday, Mrs. Merkel, together with her minister, took part in the pledge of 420 recruits in front of the Reichstag building. Beforehand she received Guttenberg at the Chancellery to get information on the military technicalities which are part of the imminent army reform" (July 22).

What is at issue in the reform is, in reality, a reinforcement of the old High Command structure of the German military forces, a structure that the leaders of the Allied nations following World War II stated publicly they had eliminated with the intention that it never be resurrected to threaten the world with chaos again.

Such is the memory span of the Anglo-Saxons that the binding statement of their wartime leaders has long since faded from their minds. So, here we go again. For a third time within a single century, a German High Command is being advanced to head up a revamped, high-tech German military force with emphasis on its ability to strike quickly in foreign theaters. Any historian worth his salt should shudder at the thought.

This revamping and retooling of the Bundeswehr is being cleverly masked by apparent cost-cutting measures. *Die Welt* notes that "Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble (CDU) made strict rules for the Defense Department, which can only happen with strong personnel cuts of about 40,000 soldiers. Such a reduction, however, brings uncomfortable side effects for politics: the closing down of facilities or the elimination of conscription" (ibid.).

The defense minister is seemingly showing no remorse at wielding the knife to the defense budget. "Guttenberg regards the reform for security-policy reasons as mandatory: Much in the German military still is oriented by the challenges of the last century," *Die Welt* continued. "So, even having a present standing personnel force of about 250,000 soldiers, only about 10,000 are available for the constantly growing important foreign country deployments. That's why Guttenberg gave orders to clean up The defense minister, how-

ever, has given 'full support' to create a 'Bundeswehr of the Future.'"

One has to see the defense minister's motive here. Just as he used the Kunduz bombing affair (in which he was accused and later exonerated of trying to cover up misdeeds among German commanders in Afghanistan) to clean house at the top, he is now using the cost-cutting directive as a catalyst to totally reorganize the German military structure to raise it to a status such that it will be head and shoulders above any competing EU member nation.

Since Guttenberg was handed the defense portfolio back in October, he has proceeded at blitzkrieg pace to reinvent the Bundeswehr from the top down. He plans to have the foundation of the reform in place by the end of August and in discussion by the German cabinet and then the CDU and CSU party congress shortly thereafter.

A new military organization for Germany—just as NATO is developing a new strategic concept.

Coincidence? Not if you understand the true nature of Germany's position within the European Union.

nor for the rest of the world. One does not have to be much of a student of history or geopolitics to understand the true motives behind the "Bundeswehr of the Future."

The European Empire

What is really behind NATO's new strategic concept is an effort by European elites to change the alliance's charter to one consistent with the EU imperialist agenda.

To understand this, we need go back no further than the illegal Balkan wars of the 1990s. Though they started under combined UN and NATO jurisdiction, those sorry little wars soon became a sole combined NATO campaign when the United Nations withdrew. At that point, as Edward Spalton wrote, "NATO changed its character utterly, in contradiction of its own charter. In concert with the developing Western European Union (the supranational, united armed forces of the European Union) it ... became an imperial entity, waging its first war of conquest" (*Freedom Today*, October/November 1999).

Unseen by most at the time, this was in fact the first territorial war of the sev-



MAN WITH A PLAN Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg reviews Bundeswehr troops in Kosovo.

Apart from the U.S., Canada and Turkey, every other member nation of NATO is either an existing or aspiring member of the EU. Germany dominates the EU—economically, industrially, financially and politically. It is now determined to dominate it militarily.

Mark our words: A natural symbiosis will develop between Germany's "new military organization" and NATO under its new strategic concept. And that will not be good news—neither for Europe

ent and final resurrection of an ancient entity—the Holy Roman Empire. (Request a free copy of our booklet *The Rising Beast* for more details.)

The reality of what occurred 10 years ago has become even more entrenched in the time since. It is set to be more fully consolidated under NATO's new strategic concept. In 1999, citizens of the 27 nation-states of the EU were, in Spalton's words, but "pieces in the great game being played with their countries by the unaccountable,

undemocratic, supra-national agencies of new NATO and the EU.” They are now even more so since the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty on January 1 this year.

There is a great contrast between NATO and the EU in respect of their original mandates. NATO was established as a protector and defender of the free democracies of the U.S., Britain, Canada and Western Europe. It was the sole bastion of organized international resistance to the forces of tyranny during the Cold War. The European Union, by contrast, was never intended to be democratic. As Edward Spalton so rightly pointed out, “From its inception the EU worked to destroy the sovereignty of European democracies.” In that effort it has now succeeded through the implementation of the Lisbon Treaty/EU constitution.

The EU is *imperialist* in motive and intent. By definition of its present structure, it is an *empire*, an expansionist entity of 27 nation-states and a collection of Balkan colonies. The third edition, revised, of the *Oxford Dictionary* defines an empire as “a large group of states ruled over by a single ... ruling authority.” That is an apt description of the EU monolith within the

As the crucial November NATO summit approaches, we see the goals of two key entities merging—the EU and NATO—and overarching all this is Germany’s aggressive upgrading of its military machine.

context of the unreadable EU constitution in the guise of the Lisbon Treaty.

In Spalton’s words, the British people have unwittingly become “accomplices in the creation of an old-style continental land empire.”

If you check the history of those European continental land empires, you will find that they have been, over the past 1,200 years since Charlemagne, a continuing string of resurrections of one cruel old enterprise: the Holy Roman Empire! And what we now see is none other than the seventh such resurrection of that same ancient system.

As originally conceived, NATO was, as Spalton so rightly pointed out, “an organization of sovereign states cooperating under international law for a limited purpose.” But since the Balkan wars, that role has been confined to the dustbin of history. Today’s NATO “has arrogated to itself the right to go adventuring in other states” (ibid.).

It would be a grave enough danger to the world should such an enterprise be

permitted to continue. But a far greater danger is posed to the remaining free democracies of the world should NATO, in its present imperialist guise, become linked with the EU in pursuing that empire’s strongly Romish/Teutonic objectives.

That, in fact, is what is now happening.

Advancing Germany’s Interests

EU Observer pointed out that “NATO and the future of EU defense are closely intertwined” (January 22). That is really understating the situation. As Edward Spalton pointed out, fully a decade ago the EU’s Western European Union (WEU) was already “defined as the EU wing of NATO. Under the guise of closer cooperation, this is nothing less than the creation of an EU army, navy and air force” (op. cit.). Using Britain as an example, Spalton rightly stated that individual EU member nations are sacrificing their national military powers to the point that “their command will be so integrated with the WEU as to be beyond control or recall by Parliament.”

In the very year that the Bundeswehr engaged German forces in combat for the first time since World War II—deployment of the Luftwaffe in the Balkans—

Supreme German Military Commander Gen. Klaus Naumann “gave a strong hint of WEU and new NATO thinking when he said: ‘German troops will be engaged for the

maintenance of the free market and access without hindrance to the raw materials of the entire world” (ibid.).

A decade later, Germany’s president was forced to resign for making a similar statement. This past May, after visiting Afghanistan, President Horst Köhler said that “in emergencies, *military intervention is necessary to uphold our interests*, like for example free-trade routes, for example to prevent regional instabilities which could have a negative impact on our chances in terms of trade, jobs and income” (emphasis mine). Whose interests? Obviously the German president was speaking to his own nation about *Germany’s* own national interests: upholding Germany’s national interests by military interventions outside German borders!

Since 1999, Germany has deployed the Bundeswehr to uphold Germany’s interests, under various EU, NATO and UN mandates, in 13 international theaters. These have all been to the south and the east—from Bosnia to the Horn of Africa,

from Gibraltar to Afghanistan and right on up to the Mediterranean approaches to the Levant. Long-time *Trumpet* readers will grasp the significance of this strategy (prophesied in Daniel 8:9).

But why was General Naumann free to tout Germany’s military intervention to ensure trade in its own national interest, and a decade later the German president forced to resign because of an almost identical statement? All we can think of is that Naumann’s prediction was made at the very early phase of Germany engaging in conflicts outside its borders for the first time since World War II. Naumann’s statement was not seen to be endangering Germany’s postwar pacifist image at that time. His observation was made when Germany still appeared reluctant to engage militarily beyond its borders.

On the other hand, Köhler’s statement struck too close to Berlin’s bone at a time when the Defense Ministry is aggressively revamping the German military forces to take a more overt and effective involvement in such “emergencies.” Köhler’s statement came at an inopportune political moment—while Berlin is actively creating its “Bundeswehr of the Future” to take on a higher profile military role in protecting not only its national interests, but the interests of the German elites furthering their imperialist agenda.

So, as the crucial November NATO summit approaches, we see the goals of two key entities merging—the EU and NATO—and overarching all this is Germany’s aggressive upgrading of its military machine.

Why is Germany important to this whole equation of revamped European security? It’s very simple. The German Constitutional Court caught the whole of the EU off guard by creating an opt-out for Germany on any EU proposal (which must be unanimous) to deploy EU forces in battle. Of all 27 EU member nations, Germany alone must refer such a proposal to its national government for decision. *This effectively places Germany in charge of deciding when and how the EU will enter combat as a combined force.*

The Anglo-Saxons created NATO, as its first secretary general, Lord Ismay, declared, to “keep the Russians out, the Americans in, and the Germans down.”

The great paradox is that NATO’s new strategic concept, in tandem with the EU’s security objectives and Germany’s “new military organization,” will result in AN ALLIANCE WITH RUSSIA, THE AMERICANS PUSHED OUT, AND THE GERMANS RAISED UP! ■



THE STORY OF BRITISH PETROLEUM is that of empire. It is one of Britain's few remaining—perhaps even the last—vestige of a time when Great Britain truly was great. But it also supplies a warning to a nation facing a collapse every bit as rapid as the downfall of its most strategic and historic energy company.

On April 19, BP was the fourth-largest company in the world—worth almost \$200 billion. The next day, explosions rocked a Louisiana drilling platform, and one of the most promising oil discoveries in the Gulf turned into one of the greatest environmental disasters in history.

As the depth of the disaster sunk in, and as one fix after another failed, investor flight turned into investor stampede. As of August 2, BP saw nearly 40 percent of its value—\$75 billion—wiped out. Toss in the \$20 billion escrow money BP was forced to set aside for damages and all the lawsuits that will drag on forever, and visions of the end of BP become very real.

All it took was one well gone bad to wreck a 109-year-old company that produces oil from thousands of wells.

A National Disaster

Even if BP survives this disaster, its days are probably numbered.

Most big companies like BP find it difficult to discover enough oil each year to replace what they pump—so they are forced to continually purchase other smaller companies to replenish their reserves. To finance these acquisitions, the big companies often use their stock like cash.

BP's stock, however, is now ruined. It is feared that the company is doomed to deflating oil reserves, or a share price inflated away through the stock printing presses. At the very least, the company is now vulnerable to a buyout or hostile takeover.

But BP's troubles go far beyond its 80,000 employees.

Analysts estimate one out of every seven pension dollars in Britain *came* from BP—that is 14 percent of retiree paychecks. BP was considered one of the safest companies in the world to own, so virtually every pension fund in the country owned shares in the oil giant. The UK government receives more than a billion dollars each year from BP in taxes. In total, BP contributes tens of billions of dollars each year to the UK's economy through direct

The Rise and Fall of BP

British Petroleum's fortunes metaphorically mirror those of Great Britain, which skyrocketed from insignificance to spectacular greatness and has plummeted back again. BY ROBERT MORLEY

cash injection—never mind the thousands of jobs.

A BP bankruptcy would be an economic disaster. It would be a national one too.

Corporate-State Partnership

Few remember the integral role BP played in saving the nation. BP's roots go back to 1901. By 1908 it was on the verge of bankruptcy. After seven years of drilling and countless disappointments, it looked like the end of the road for the Anglo-Persian oil company—and not a barrel had been found. With creditors about to seize his home, William D'Arcy sent a final telegram to his representatives in Persia. He said simply: This is the last hole; drill to 1,600 feet and give up.

Just days later, a small miracle occurred: They struck oil. The Anglo-Persian Oil Company that would one day become BP was back in business. Within a few years, Anglo-Persian Oil had built the largest refinery in the world.

But it soon faced an unforeseen problem: It had too much oil and not enough buyers. 1914 changed all that. With war looming, Winston Churchill lobbied hard to convince politicians to abandon the old

coal-powered warships in favor of new, faster, more powerful oil-driven dreadnoughts. But politicians were reluctant to switch from using coal, which Britain had plenty of, to oil, of which it had none.

Anglo-Persian Oil's excess crude couldn't have come at a better time. Parliament acceded to Churchill's demands and the Navy began constructing diesel-powered ships. Six weeks later, Germany started World War I.

From that point until the late 1980s when Anglo-Persian oil (then British Petroleum) was privatized, the UK government and Anglo-Persian Oil worked hand in hand to become one of the most powerful corporate-state combinations in history.

Oil-powered battleships revolutionized warfare. And because Britain controlled the oil, and the Royal Navy controlled the sea lanes, British power expanded like never before.

By the end of World War II, the British Empire stretched from India to Australia to Canada. In Africa, the empire ran contiguously from South Africa to Egypt. Countless British islands and territories dotted the globe. The sun truly never set on the empire.

And it was the Anglo-Persian Oil Company that fueled the trade and commerce that made the empire possible.

It is this icon of empire—this most strategic of companies—that is now facing the same plight as the country that it helped make great.

Beyond for Britain

Just as the British Empire so quickly fell apart following the Second World War, so now may be the company that was so integral in preserving it during the wars.

Today, as BP has tried to distance itself from the oil industry's dirty image, it has adopted the marketing slogan "Beyond Petroleum." But what Britons really need to know is what is *beyond* for Britain. Will Britain ever be a world power again? Why is social tension on the rise? Why is family breakdown so rampant? Will Britain remain part of the European Union?

For the answers to these imperative questions and a whole lot more, read the book that more than 5 million readers have previously requested. Order a free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong's most popular work: *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. ■

What Is the King

Some think it is a feeling in your heart. Others assume it is the Church. Some confuse it with the Millennium. Just what is God's Kingdom? BY STEPHEN FLURRY

IN MARK 1:1, WE READ OF THE “BEGINNING of the gospel of Jesus Christ.” *Gospel* means good news. What was the gospel—or good news—Jesus preached? Verse 14 gives the answer: “Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the *gospel of the kingdom of God.*”

Christ's gospel is the Kingdom of God. Why is it important for us to understand the Kingdom of God? Because, Christ said, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and *believe the gospel*” (verse 15). In order to be saved, we must believe the gospel! To believe, we must know what it is. What is the Kingdom of God?

Daniel Knew

The book of Daniel was recorded at the time of the Chaldean Empire, between 605 and 562 B.C. The nation of Israel had already been taken out of its land and into Assyrian captivity in 721-718 B.C. Judah was still in the area that is called Israel today. But the people of Judah were taken captive by King Nebuchadnezzar and the Chaldean Empire. Nebuchadnezzar became the first world-ruling leader.

During the second year of his reign, he had a troubling dream. It troubled him so much that he demanded the magicians and sorcerers of the kingdom to come before him to interpret its meaning. None of them could.

Daniel, a Jewish teenager, was called before the king. God had given Daniel great wisdom and a special talent for understanding “all visions and dreams” (Daniel 1:17).

The dream Nebuchadnezzar had is recorded in Daniel 2. It was of a great image. The image's head was made of fine gold; its breast and arms were made of silver; its belly and thighs were made of brass; its legs were iron, and its feet were part iron and part clay (verses 31-33). In the dream, the king saw a *stone* smite the image at its feet, causing it to fall down and to shatter (verses 34-35).

Not taking any credit for the interpretation himself, Daniel quickly directed Nebuchadnezzar to the real Source behind the true meaning: “there is a **GOD IN HEAVEN** that *revealeth secrets*, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be *in the latter days*” (verse 28). Notice! Not only was it God who revealed it, but the meaning was for the latter days—the time we live in **NOW!**

The fact that Christ has not yet returned to Earth to set up that Kingdom should clarify exactly what the Kingdom of God is *not*. It is *not* in your heart. And it is *not* the Church.

The great image represented four world-ruling KINGDOMS. The head of gold represented the existing Chaldean Empire (verses 37-38). It was to be followed by “another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall *bear rule over all the earth*” (verse 39). These were to be world-ruling kingdoms, with leaders, or kings, ruling over people right here on Earth. In history, the Chaldean Empire was succeeded by the Persian Empire, which was followed by an even more powerful Greco-Macedonian Empire.

The fourth kingdom, represented by the two legs of iron, would be the greatest worldly kingdom of all: the Roman Empire (verse 40). It began around 30 B.C. and extended through A.D. 476, when it was crushed. But since that time, there have been six resurrections of the Holy Roman Empire, with the seventh and final resurrection now forming in Europe. Many other prophecies pinpoint the specifics concerning the seven resurrections. History has confirmed what God prophesied.

But what is important with regard to the question of the gospel is that all of these kingdoms were *world-ruling kingdoms* with governments presiding over subjects, or people.

Now notice verse 44: “And in the days of these kings [referring to the final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire to be comprised of 10 nations or kings] shall the **GOD OF HEAVEN** set up a **KINGDOM**, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand *for ever.*” Finally, after 6,000 years of a world that has escalated in violence and misery, God will set up *His Kingdom*, crowning Jesus Christ as King of that Kingdom (Luke 1:31-33). In the dream, God's Kingdom is represented by the stone that struck the image in its feet.

The kingdoms discussed in Daniel 2:37-40 all ruled over people *here on Earth*. And so will God's Kingdom! Yes, the Kingdom of God will be a *literal* government, just as the Roman Empire ruled over people. That Kingdom will be set up when Jesus Christ returns at the sound of the last trump (Revelation 11:15).

The fact that Christ has not yet returned to Earth to set up that Kingdom should clarify exactly what the Kingdom of God is *not*. It is *not* in your heart. And it is *not* the Church. God's Kingdom is going to “break in pieces”—**LITERALLY SMASH**—the kingdoms of this world. Plainly, that has *not* happened yet.

But there is more. God's Kingdom will be a world-ruling government. Who will be in that Kingdom? And why? Again, just what is the Kingdom of God?

Have You Seen the Kingdom?

In John 3, Jesus answered some critical questions about who would actually be in the Kingdom of God and how they would get there. Nicodemus, a Pharisee who knew Jesus was a teacher from God, questioned Christ. Notice verse 5: “Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee,

Kingdom of God?

Except a man be *born of water and of the Spirit*, he cannot ENTER INTO the *kingdom of God*.” We clearly see that the Kingdom of God is something one can enter into. How? By being born of water and of the Spirit.

Again, Jesus answered in verse 3, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be *born again*, he cannot SEE the *kingdom of God*.” The Kingdom of God is also something one might see.

It is the Kingdom of God. GOD IS that Kingdom! Yet God is spirit (John 4:24). In order to see it, we must be born again, which means it must be a *spiritual* birth, so that we might see God. John 3:6 verifies this: “That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit IS SPIRIT.”

Consider this point: If the Kingdom of God—His world-ruling government—has *not yet* been set up on Earth, and in order to see it, you must be born *again*, then what does that tell you concerning the popular belief among traditional Christianity concerning born again? There are many sincere people who *think* they are *now* born again—and are not. One cannot see the Kingdom of God until a spiritual birth has occurred.

Paul wrote, “Now this I say, brethren, that *flesh and blood* cannot inherit the kingdom of God ...” (1 Corinthians 15:50). If you are flesh and blood, then you haven’t seen the Kingdom of God yet. It’s impossible! We won’t see it until our spiritual *birth* occurs. And that happens when we are resurrected to spirit. “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised *incorruptible*, and we shall be changed [to spirit]” (verse 52).

Jesus Was Born Again

Few people realize it, but Jesus Christ was *born again!* But it wasn’t the kind of birth traditional Christians believe they have experienced.

Before the universe was created, there were two Beings—God and the Word (John 1:1). In John 1:14, we see that the Word was “made flesh.” At that time, He became the “only begotten [Son] of the Father.” He came in the flesh to overcome

and conquer Satan, thereby qualifying to replace him on the throne of this Earth. Jesus qualified to be King of God’s Kingdom. While in the flesh, Jesus also taught and trained disciples in preparation for the beginning of the Church of God. Then Christ was apprehended and eventually crucified so that He might die for us—because all have sinned (Romans 3:23). His life was worth more than all who have ever lived, because God created the universe through Him (Ephesians 3:9).

That is where most people stop—with Christ’s death. But remember: God is a

If the Kingdom of God has not yet been set up on Earth, and in order to see it, you must be born again, then what does that tell you concerning the popular belief concerning born again?

Kingdom. That Kingdom didn’t end with the death of Christ. It was about to begin! “And he [Christ] is the head of the body, the church: who is the *beginning*, the **FIRST-BORN from the dead**; that in all things he might have the preeminence” (Colossians 1:18). In order to see God’s Kingdom, one must be BORN AGAIN. Christ had already been born *once* of the virgin Mary. But He died. He was in the grave three days and three nights (Matthew 12:40). Christ gave up His immortality for you and me.

But God raised Him from the dead (Acts 13:30). And what did Christ become when God raised Him up? Romans 1:3 says that “Jesus Christ our Lord ... was MADE of the seed of David according to the flesh.” There is that *first* birth. He was made flesh, born of a human mother, Mary, of the seed, or lineage, of David. But notice verse 4: “And declared to be the SON OF GOD with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD.” After being born once and then dying, Jesus *became* the Son of

God when He was resurrected to immortal spirit life—when He was BORN AGAIN!

It is true that even while in the flesh, God referred to Christ as His beloved Son (Matthew 3:17; Mark 1:11). But at that point, Christ was only God’s *begotten* Son (John 1:14). He was actually made a Son (Hebrews 7:3), or became the Son, when He was *born again* by a resurrection from the dead.

Firstborn of Many Brethren

Yet Christ was only the firstborn. He went through the first spiritual birth ever—before Abraham, David, or any of the saints in the Bible. He was the *first*. But He won’t be the last. Romans 8:29 says that Christ will be “the *firstborn* among **MANY brethren**.” These brethren, as Paul points out in verses 12-14, are those Spirit-begotten individuals within the true Church of God. Remember, Christ trained disciples so they might eventually teach *the Church*. Why? To prepare the *brethren* for *their* second birth.

Who are the members of God’s Church? “And *if ye be Christ’s*, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and HEIRS ACCORDING TO THE PROMISE” (Galatians 3:29). If you are Christ’s, an heir according to the promise, then you are a member. Romans 8:9 explains further: “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that *the Spirit of God dwell in you*. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, HE IS NONE OF HIS.” We will be Christ’s if we have the Spirit of God.

Paul goes on to say what the Spirit actually makes us: “For as many as are led by the *Spirit of God*, they are the **SONS OF GOD**” (verse 14). And again in verse 16, we are referred to as “children of God” *if* we have the Spirit.

Like Christ, we, even though flesh and blood, are considered children of God *if* the Spirit of God is dwelling in us. But we haven’t yet been born. “Beloved, **NOW** are we the *sons of God*, and it **DOETH NOT YET APPEAR** what we *shall be*: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:2). We will be *like* the glorified Christ because we will have experienced the same *born again* process He did.

It’s the same process! Notice Romans 8:11: “But if the Spirit of him that RAISED

UP JESUS FROM THE DEAD dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also QUICKEN YOUR MORTAL BODIES by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

So the Kingdom of God is to be a world-ruling government. Now we are beginning to see who will fill the different offices within that government. God is calling a few out of this world (John 6:44) to teach and train for positions in that government so they might actually rule with Christ in the World Tomorrow (Revelation 2:26-27; 3:21).

The Church Is to Marry Christ

By ONE Spirit, the Spirit of God, those who have been called out of this world are baptized into ONE Body (1 Corinthians 12:13). The Body is one, yet made up of many members (verse 12). That one Body is the Church—composed of those who have been begotten as children of God. The Church, as Paul clearly points out in Ephesians 5, is preparing now to marry Jesus Christ at His return. “Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and HIS WIFE hath made herself ready” (Revelation 19:7).

But let’s understand what this all has to do with God’s Kingdom. As we have seen, that Kingdom will be a world-ruling government. In that government, God reigns supreme over all. Christ confirmed that when He said, “I can of mine own self do nothing ...” (John 5:30). Christ came to do the will of His Father. By so doing, He qualified to replace Satan on the throne of this Earth.

God has given “all power” to Christ, His firstborn Son, to rule and administer the government of God on Earth—in God’s Kingdom. But Christ is just the firstborn. Many others have been called and, with Christ, are begotten sons and heirs according to the promise. God is their Father. Soon, those saints will marry their Husband, Jesus Christ. It will all occur when they are *born again* as spirit beings. And it is at that time, as we have already proven, that they will in fact SEE the Kingdom of God.

Father, Son, Husband, Bride, marriage, birth, children; these terms all denote family. And that has everything to do with the Kingdom of God. What is the Kingdom of God? It is the world-ruling government of God. But who will be administering that government? God’s Family!

In short, THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS THE FAMILY OF GOD.

That may come as a shocking revelation to some of our readers. But it is true,

and provable, nonetheless. When we write about the soon-coming Kingdom of God, we are actually speaking of the Family of God.

“For this cause [because of Paul’s trials and tribulations] I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, OF WHOM



Just what do you mean ... born again?

What does it mean to be born again? Jesus Christ was asked that question 2,000 years ago. His answer may surprise you. To find out what He said about how and when you can be born again, request our free booklet *Just What Do You Mean ... Born Again?*

THE WHOLE *family* IN HEAVEN AND EARTH IS NAMED” (Ephesians 3:14-15). There is a Family, or Kingdom, in heaven. Right now, Christ is the only one who has *seen* the Kingdom, because He alone has been born again by a resurrection. He has seen God and therefore seen the Kingdom. That Kingdom is God. God is a Family. The Kingdom of God is the Family of God administering the government of God. When that Kingdom is set up, EVERYONE ON EARTH WILL KNOW IT!

What Does It Mean for You?

Now it becomes clear how this affects each of us individually.

“The very foundation of any stable civilization,” Mr. Armstrong wrote in the August 1985 *Good News*, “is a solid

FAMILY STRUCTURE.” As you look at the deteriorating family values in the once-mighty Western nations, it becomes clear why our nations are falling. The *family* is divided. Nations are divided politically, socially and racially; politicians, celebrities, activists and a host of others blame certain individuals, races or political parties. Few, however, seem serious about the real cause of the shocking downfall: FAMILY BREAKDOWN.

A happy family based on solid values, with the father as the head and provider for the family and a submissive wife teaching obedient children, is a thing of the past—the whole idea is ridiculed in this “modern” society.

“Nothing in this material world,” Mr. Armstrong wrote, “is as important as a happy homelife with father, mother and well-taught happy children—a close-knit FAMILY” (ibid.). Living the *right way* produces happiness—not seeking after those things that seem pleasurable.

A house divided against itself cannot stand (Matthew 12:25). That is the case for any physical family, but it also applies *nationally*. The end-time nations of Israel are deeply divided and cannot stand much longer. That fact alone proves we are fast approaching the end of this age, when Christ will return to restore right and proper family values.

For those who have been called out of this deteriorating society into the Church of God, or the Family of God in embryo, the task is clear. Preparing for the Kingdom of God begins in the home. When God’s ministers talk about qualifying to be in the Kingdom of God, it doesn’t mean just trying to *get there*—like trying to get to heaven as so many falsely believe. It’s about preparing and qualifying for the FAMILY OF GOD.

Mr. Armstrong warned Church members of this fact in no uncertain terms: “The KINGDOM is the divine FAMILY OF GOD. If we cannot live as a FAMILY should live, according to GOD’S SPIRITUAL LAW, now, while in God’s Church, WE SIMPLY WON’T MAKE IT INTO GOD’S KINGDOM (which is His divine FAMILY!)” (ibid., January 1981). For families that have suffered because of neglect of the proper roles, now is the time to get it straight with God. For those who have made mistakes in family life, now is the time to turn to God in repentance. Judgment is now upon the house of God (1 Peter 4:17-18). Why? Because the house of God, His Church, will eventually become the Kingdom of God—the actual, Spirit-born Family of God! ■

Tell Your Children the Truth

When grading their performance, give them the gift of perspective.

“WHY DON’T YOU BELIEVE IN ME?” MY 8-YEAR-OLD son asked me and my wife recently. He had just finished performing in the North American Irish Dancing Championships in Orlando, Florida, and wanted to know *why* we didn’t think he would claim one of the top three positions in the competition.

“We do believe in you,” my wife said. “And we’re proud of you. But there were at least three or four other boys in the competition who simply danced better than you.”

As my son left for the awards ceremony later that night, my wife whispered, “I hope he gets fifth, but I could also see him missing the top five and landing in sixth place.” There were 11 contestants in his group and both of us felt that, at his current skill level, he was somewhere in the middle of the pack.

He ended up placing sixth, which is what he deserved—and *needed*, if he intends to get better. On the way home, we praised him for making it to nationals and for placing sixth in such a difficult competition. We then told him that if he wanted to place higher, he simply had to practice *more*—and **BETTER**.

One thing I like about the Irish dance association is that dancers are promoted *only* when they perform **WELL**. That’s such an important concept to remember when working with children—particularly in this self-esteem age, where everyone is a champion and no one fails.

Consider the dreadful state of modern education. According to several reports cited in the *Boston Globe* July 4, the number of hours college students spend studying has been in sharp decline over the past half century. One survey found that nearly two thirds of incoming freshmen admitted to studying less than six hours per week during their senior year of high school. Another study asked college students to identify the biggest obstacles to their academic success. Topping the list, ahead of family difficulties and stressful lives, was this shocker: They simply don’t know *how* to study.

But why learn how to study when you can be an “A student” for merely warming a seat? In 2004, as Jean Twenge points out in *Generation Me*, almost half of college freshmen said they maintained an A average in high school. Compare that to 1968, when only 18 percent of college freshmen graduated from high school as straight A students.

These studies reveal the embarrassing outcome of self-esteem education. The halls of America’s high schools are now crammed with “A students” who’ve never really learned how to study. We’re living in a world where everyone is a championship dancer—and

no one has to practice.

In 2007, the results of an international test found that American students ranked 21st out of 30 industrialized nations in mathematics—25th in science. Yet, when asked to rate their own performance in the fields of science and mathematics, Americans penciled themselves in at the top of the list, **AHEAD** of their international competitors.

We may be getting dumber, but when it comes to self-esteem, no one outperforms America!

“By their estimation, today’s young people have been praised so much that some flail at their first taste of criticism or failure,” John Keilman writes for the *Chicago Tribune*. “Others develop a keen sense of privilege, believing they’ll coast into a golden future regardless of their actual talents, accomplishments or willingness to work” (July 4).

The fruits of self-esteem education have been disastrous in every respect.

In the Bible, God plainly reveals that the most important, and long-forgotten, principles of education are **DISCIPLINE** and **SELF-CONTROL**—*not self-esteem*. Every man who strives to master a skill, the Apostle Paul wrote, exercises self-control *in all things*. “Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but *only one* receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Corinthians 9:24-25, Revised Standard Version).

In a world where every runner is guaranteed a first-place trophy, there is little incentive to encourage athletes to work harder to improve their performance.

“Leave no child behind?” Rafe Esquith asks in *Lighting Their Fires*. “That’s ridiculous. Some children *should* be left behind until they’re truly ready to move on to the next level.”

If you want your children to move on to the next level, don’t lie to them about their performance. **Believe** in them—encourage them—and **LOVE** them enough to tell them the truth. Offer constructive criticism.

Teach them to be disciplined. Show them how they can get better. Motivate them to work harder.

This is the way God works with *His* children. “For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man *according to his works*” (Matthew 16:27). ■



STEPHEN FLURRY



If you want your children to move on to the next level, don’t lie to them about their performance.

Believe in them—encourage them—and love them enough to tell them the truth.

'Subprime' Nation

ANCIENT ISRAEL IS FAMOUS for not learning from its history. Time and again it would commit the same sins and suffer the same punishment. Is the same thing happening in America today?

In July, the Federal Housing Authority said it would no longer back mortgages for individuals with credit scores of less than 500. In case you are unfamiliar with credit scores, a rating of 500 is terribly, atrociously, horribly low—as in, how is it possible you got such a low score?

What was the government thinking issuing these kind of loans to start with? Does it make sense risking taxpayer money on people virtually guaranteed to default on their mortgage? If you have a score below 500, you've probably never made a single payment on time and have probably defaulted on loans multiple times.

Because virtually no one has such a bad score, virtually no one is going to be shut out by this new policy. As far as the government is concerned, anyone who wants a loan can still get one courtesy of taxpayers.

It is as if the government learned nothing from the subprime mortgage meltdown that triggered Wall Street's spectacular banking collapse. In 2008, it was the private banks that put the economy at risk. Now, instead of letting the bubble pop and the housing market reestablish at sustainable levels, the government is doing the same thing the banks did.

This cannot end well. Ancient Israel never learned its lesson: If you keep doing what you are doing, you will keep getting what you are getting. Thus the cycle perpetuated: broken laws ... loss of blessings ... escalating curses ... and eventually captivity. When things got bad enough, the nation would repent and cry out to God. God would have mercy and send a deliverer. But once things improved, Israel would soon forget God and return to paganism.

But at least Israel knew enough to ask God for deliverance. What will it take for America to do the same?



Taking Over the Bank Biz

THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION (FDIC) announced July 23 that it had seized the assets of seven additional banks. The seizures brought to 103 the number of banks that have gone bankrupt so far in 2010, putting the nation on pace for the most bank failures since the Savings and Loan crisis during the 1990s.

America's quiet banking collapse may be one of the most underreported stories of the year. If this failure rate continues, 175 institutions will become wards of the state by year's end. In 1992, during the height of the banking crisis, 179 banks were shut; this year could set a ghastly new record.

One difference with 1992 is that the banks that are failing now are bigger and more interconnected—hence the determination by the FDIC to keep a low profile. When banks do fail and are seized by regulators, the press is only notified as it's leaving the office for the weekend.

But going forward, the increasing numbers of bank failures may become more difficult to hide. At the end of 2008, there were 252 U.S. banks on the FDIC's problem list. At the end of 2009, the number was 702. As of July 30, 775 banks made the problem list—about one in every ten! And the list might be even worse had the government not eased accounting rules to help the banks.

But the fragility of the system is greater than most people understand. The approximately 8,000 banks that operate in America have about \$13 trillion in deposits. But guess how much money the FDIC has on hand to insure those deposits? The answer is worse than zero! The FDIC is completely broke and is operating in the red, even though banks are still paying their premiums for coverage. As of the end of the first quarter of this year, the FDIC was \$20.7 billion in the hole.

Who is going to bail out the FDIC?



Is 'Sudden' Collapse Possible?

AMERICA HAS TWO YEARS TO FIX ITS problems—or risk “sudden” collapse. This is the startling conclusion of Harvard historian Niall Ferguson. The world has seen what happens when investors lose faith in a country's fiscal policy, he says. Just look at Greece.

This year alone, according to the Congressional Budget Office, America will add \$1.5 trillion to its national debt. Under President Barack Obama's proposed spending plan, America will run trillion-dollar deficits until 2019. And that is if everything goes according to plan.

Speaking at the Aspen Ideas Festival in July, the British historian said that historically, one indicator of looming collapse was when the cost of servicing a country's

debt became larger than the cost of its defense budget. This has never occurred in America before, he said, but it will within five years.

Even if interest rates remain at historic lows, the interest payments alone will soon take up one in every five budget dollars, he noted. If interest rates return to the level they reached in the late 1970s, America would be bankrupted overnight.

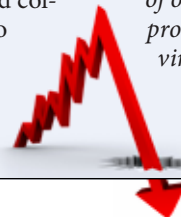
However, Ferguson said, there is a way out for America. Here, after a brilliant analysis of America's financial situation, he falls down flat. To avoid collapse, he said, America needs to re-energize the two things that made the nation great: technological innovation and entrepreneurship. Innovation

and entrepreneurship?

Sure, these played an important role in making America—but they are hardly the primary drivers of American greatness.

Abraham Lincoln knew the source from which America's greatness came. In 1863, he stated: “[I]t is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God ... and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord ... But we have forgotten God! ... [W]e have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.”

How many people today truly believe that it is God who makes nations great?



testified before a senatorial committee on youth violence, says the parallels are strong with the techniques used by the military to prepare men for violent combat. Violent video games desensitize our boys to human suffering and actually condition them to kill.

Most media violence is not only glamorous, it is morally ambiguous or downright immoral. “When the images are bombarded on an 8-year-old brain, a boy can easily shift from believing that a man is supposed to be trustworthy and self-controlled (as you, his father, might have taught him) to believing that real men are cruel and aggressive,” Meeker says.

If the media’s depictions of masculinity are brutal and destructive on the one hand, they are childish and stupid on the other. The almost universally portrayed stereotype is one of a strong, competent female having to deal with a goofy, idiotic male. The roles between the sexes as God intended are flipped upside-down and twisted in knots—then steeped in vulgar, adolescent humor that mostly appeals to childish males.

The greater our sons’ exposure to that nonsense, the more ingrained in their thinking it will become.

Ensuring that our sons’ model of responsible masculine behavior remains balanced and realistic requires that we strive to limit those false images, and provide a good example and solid instruction in what is true and right.

Safeguard His Purity

One particularly lethal stealth missile in the media aimed at our boys is sex. We must be defenders of our sons’ purity in a world where sexual impurity is everywhere.

Today, the average age of a boy’s first exposure to pornography is 11. And what is available on the Internet is *far worse* than at any time in the past—and far easier to access. *Almost half* of boys between grades 3 and 8 have visited “adult” websites.

“Porn and smut pose an awesome threat to your boys,” writes James Dobson in *Bringing Up Boys*. “A single exposure to it by some 13-to-15-year-olds is all that is required to create an addiction that will hold them in bondage for a lifetime. It is more addictive than cocaine or heroin. That was one of the conclusions drawn during the Attorney General’s Commission on Pornography, on which I served. It is known by those of us in the field of child development that the focal point of sexual interest is not very well established among young adolescents. It can be

redirected by an early sexual experience (wanted or unwanted) or by exposure to pornography.” In other words, that early exposure can distort the normal channels of stimulation by the opposite sex—which of themselves are designed by God and wholesome when used properly—into all manner of perversion. “Many men who have succumbed to these perverse sexual appetites have traced them to the dawn of their adolescence,” Dobson explained.

Pornography is horribly degrading, especially to women. Again, God intends your son to grow up to be a *protector* of and *provider* for women. If he becomes ensnared by lust, it takes his mind 180 degrees opposite his being able to successfully fulfill that calling.

Talk to your son. “[F]athers must assume that a difficult sexual struggle is occurring in their sons’ lives,” writes Douglas Wilson. “[A] father must talk to his son and teach him. The teaching must consist of more than, ‘Yeah, I had this problem when I was your age, too.’ The teaching must be grounded in the Word of God—what does the Bible teach about masturbation, lust, fantasy and so forth?”

“A father should check with his son and not wait for his son to ask. Further, he should check periodically and regularly. Every son needs guidance and accountability from his father in this area” (op. cit.).

If we do our part, we can go a long way to giving our sons one of the most priceless gifts he can possess: a clean conscience.

The world is filled with dangers—and a great number of them come via the media. Our sons need a strong moral compass in order to navigate this crucial aspect of their lives and to make it to manhood as unscathed as possible.

We want to facilitate any use of technology and media that is genuinely good for our boys—that builds right knowledge, cognitive development and character—while drawing firm lines on what will hurt them. Knowing where to draw the lines—both in quantity of use and in content—requires educating ourselves and asking God for wisdom and discernment.

Teach him right from wrong. Show him that a real man, like King David, says, “I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes” (Psalm 101:3). Provide an excellent example, and supplement that with plenty of instruction.

Embrace His Destiny

As your son grows, teach him to accept responsibility for himself. Teach him to own up to his actions and not make excuses. Don’t let him protect his selfish masculine pride. Don’t let him shift responsibility or blame and flee the burdens of leadership.

Being a leader requires making difficult, unpopular decisions. We all tend to be people-pleasers. Your son needs people skills—but also the courage to stand alone. Teach him to obey God’s definition of right and wrong, and to stand against the crowd when he has to. This requires *courage*, and you must teach it to him.

Teach him to overcome self-centeredness. Encourage him to seize opportunities to do things that benefit others at the cost of benefiting himself. Teach him the intelligence, the sensitivity and the magnanimity to identify the needs of others. Teach him to see the big picture. Teach him to see things from God’s perspective.

Build his physical and mental strength. If you can, show him how to change a tire, how to fix the car, how to do home repairs; help him learn to thrive outdoors, camping, hunting, fishing.

Most importantly, *spend time with him*. The father who teaches his son how to change the oil teaches a skill—but the more valuable thing is that he is *with* the boy.

“An unsupervised kid can get into more mischief in a single day than his parents can straighten out in a year,” writes Dr. Dobson. “Considering how the world has changed, it is doubly important to build relationships with boys from their earliest childhood. You can no longer rely on rules to get them past the predators in the wider world. It still makes sense to prohibit harmful or immoral behavior, but those prohibitions must be supplemented by an emotional closeness that makes children want to do what is right. They must know that you love them unconditionally and that everything you require of them is for their own good. ... With all the temptations buzzing around our kids, simply saying no a thousand times creates a spirit of defiance. We have to build bridges to them from the ground up” (op. cit.).

This world needs strong, masculine boys who will become strong, masculine men. The main way we as parents can fulfill that need is by training our sons to embrace their destiny as leaders. That means giving them a good example, instruction, discipline, increasing levels of responsibility—and plenty of encouragement.

Your boy needs you. Raise him to be a man. ■

“I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes.” —Psalm 101:3

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!

The War to End All War

WORLD LEADERS AND SCIENTISTS are frankly frightened by the prospects of the future! They warn that man now possesses the means of committing *cosmocide*—suicide of the whole human race! They realize something totally unforeseen must soon occur to stop the present trend of world events—or humanity will finally destroy itself!

“Nuclear terrorism is still often treated as science fiction. I wish it were,” said Kofi Annan in 2005, when he was secretary general of the United Nations. “But unfortunately we live in a world of excess hazardous materials and abundant technological know-how, in which some terrorists clearly state their intention to inflict catastrophic casualties. Were such an attack to occur, it would not only cause widespread death and destruction, but would stagger the world economy ... [creating] a second death toll throughout the developing world.”

Last September, then director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mohamed ElBaradei, told the UN General Assembly, “THE GRAVEST THREAT FACED BY THE WORLD is of an extremist group getting hold of nuclear weapons or materials.”

The danger of total nuclear annihilation is more real in the 21st century than ever before. In all, over 23,000 nuclear warheads of all sizes are spread all over the globe—more than enough to wipe out

humanity *many times over*. “Overkill,” it’s called. *Once* would be enough!

Many hoped, in the early part of the 20th century, that World War I would finally bring lasting peace. It was famously called a “war to end wars” by U.S. President Woodrow Wilson. But World War II followed only 20 years after the first.

All of mankind’s best efforts have not brought peace. No war has yet brought an end to all war.

After World War II, a solemn Gen. Douglas MacArthur addressed the U.S. Congress. “We have had our last chance,” he warned. “If we will not devise some greater and more equitable system ... Armageddon will be at our door.”

What Is “Armageddon”?

Armageddon is a biblical term directly associated with the Second Coming of Christ. Almost everyone has heard of it. World leaders and scientists frequently use it when speaking of the inevitability of nuclear warfare and the destruction of mankind.

Yet few *know* what “Armageddon” really is!

Make no mistake. World War III is prophesied in the Bible. And it *will* be the

war to end all war among nations.

But will it be the “battle of Armageddon” spoken of by statesmen, scientists and ministers alike?

Let’s understand exactly how “Armageddon” fits into Bible prophecy—especially with regard to the dramatic return of Jesus Christ.

1. When Jesus Christ returns, will He take full authority over the nations and peoples of the world to set up a divine world government? Revelation 11:15.

Comment: The seventh angel sounding announces the return of Jesus Christ. See also Matthew 24:30-31 and 1 Thessalonians 4:16.

2. When Christ returns to intervene and prevent nuclear mass suicide, will the nations be happy? Or will they actually be angry? Revelation 11:18. Will nations actually try to

FIGHT Christ? Revelation 17:14. (The “Lamb” refers to Christ—John 1:36.)

3. Who will incite the nations to fight against their Creator God? Revelation 16:13-14. Who is the dragon? Revelation 12:9.

Comment: The word “devils” in the



STAGING GROUND Megiddo, the battleground of the ages, is the perfect location for massing troops, and is already soaked with the blood of generations of armies. The land will soon see its final offensive.

King James Version ought to be rendered *demons*. There is one fallen archangel (Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-17) called the “devil,” but there are many fallen angels (Jude 6; Revelation 12:7) of lesser rank called “demons.”

4. Are these demons responsible for *gathering* the armies of all nations together? Revelation 16:16. (The proper translation of the Greek in verse 16 should read: “And they gathered them together.”)

Comment: At this time, the demons mentioned in verse 14 will stir up worldwide resistance to Christ, who will by this time already be in Jerusalem.

5. What will these evil spirits do to *cause* the armies to gather? Verse 14.

Comment: Notice that these spirits directly influence the leaders of nations—*deceiving* them with miracles—stirring them to a fever-pitch of hatred to fight Christ!

6. Exactly *where* do the demons cause the armies of the nations to be *gathered together* in preparation for the great battle against Christ? Read Revelation 16:16 again for the answer.

Comment: The “way of the kings of the east” will have been made ready by the drying up of the River Euphrates (verse 12). This will enable the nations to the east to easily marshal their armies and armaments at a place called “Armageddon.”

The word *Armageddon* is a Greek form of the Hebrew name *har Megiddo*. It means “hill (or mountain) of Megiddo.” This is the site of the ancient city of Megiddo, which is about 55 miles north of Jerusalem, and about 15 miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea. Anciently, the region that includes Megiddo and the Valley of Megiddo (on the southern border of the Plain of Esdraelon) was an important military site that guarded a nearby strategic pass.

For ancient Israel, Megiddo and the Plain of Esdraelon (also known as the Val-

ley of Jezreel) became the battleground of the centuries. Time after time the blood of battle was shed there. Over and over again the 13-acre mound of Megiddo was reformed. Today the site is nothing more than an unoccupied, silent mound of historic rubble. Occasional tourists and archaeologists traverse its rocky face, but it is not a major military site at this time.

But Megiddo is a *symbol!*

It is a symbol of war and human conflict. It overlooks the Plain of Esdraelon and stood at one of the great crossroads of the ancient world. And as the prophecy of Revelation 16 indicates, Megiddo and the Plain of Esdraelon will become the staging ground, or mustering area, for the greatest concentration of military might ever assembled!

Prophecy tells us that “ten kings” (Revelation 17:12-14) will comprise the modern and final end-time revival of the ancient Roman Empire. It will be a political, military and religious alliance of incredible power. The Bible reveals a spectacular sequence of conquests by this power, followed by epic clashes with the kings of the east. (This is explained in our free booklet *Russia and China in Prophecy*.)

In the end, these two superpowers will make their way into the Middle East for one final, climactic conflict. But instead of fighting each other in a battle that would end in the nuclear extinction of all life (Matthew 24:22), they will, ironically, unite their forces and *march southward toward Jerusalem* in an attempt to destroy their common “enemy”—Jesus Christ!

The Great “Battle of God Almighty”

1. What is the name of the ensuing great battle between God and man? Revelation 16:14, last part.

elation 16:14, last part.

Comment: You will notice the battle is *not* called “the battle of Armageddon”—it is called the “battle of that great day of God Almighty”!

2. Exactly *where* does the Bible say this battle will take place? Joel 3:1-2, 9-14. Compare verse 13 with Revelation 14:18-20; 19:15.

Comment: *Jehoshaphat* means “judgment of Yahweh,” or “judgment of the Eternal.” The focal point of the battle will be in the Valley of Jehoshaphat, also called the “valley of decision” in the Bible. This valley is a deep ravine having steep sides. It borders the city of Jerusalem on the east. The Valley of Jehoshaphat, which is situated between Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, is known today as the Kidron Valley.

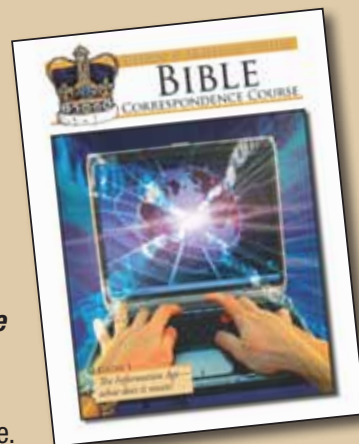
3. How is this great climactic battle pictured? Revelation 19:11-21. How does Zechariah describe the frightening manifestation of the righteous judgment of God in fighting against His enemies? Zechariah 14:12. Will the nations wage war against each other anymore after Christ’s overwhelming victory? Isaiah 2:2-4.

Comment: Here you have a graphic description of the war that will *end* war! Jesus Christ will utterly destroy those who, in attempting to enforce *human* world government, would have destroyed the Earth through nuclear warfare (Revelation 11:18).

The returning Christ will be forced to deal with rebellious nations in the only language they understand—*overwhelming force!* Only then will men be willing to try God’s way of life and come under His government, which leads to genuine peace, happiness and prosperity! ■

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Upside-Down World

IT IS SO GOOD TO READ ARTICLES THAT relate continuously to the occurrences in my life (“The Upside-Down World,” August). So-called “educational” reasoning in this world has transformed so many people whom I know to become politically correct drones to this world. Common sense, accountability and character were ideals I was taught while growing up, and now those ideals are to be smothered and are in very short supply in the world around us. I couldn’t have put it better than the last sentence of this article . . . Thank you for your continuing insightful articles.

Nathan Kennedy—VANCOUVER, B.C.

I CAN SEE THINGS GETTING DRASTICALLY worse in a short period of time. As bad as things are right now, they have gotten this way rather gradually over the past 10 years, and the general population, like the frog in the slowly boiling pot, are being given the time to absorb and get used to the sick world we currently live in. Obviously evil will accelerate in the next two years. *John Hopkin—NORTH CAROLINA*

GREAT ARTICLE, THANK YOU. DAILY I AM left speechless by the absurdity of this world and all that’s in it. However, I am just so grateful that I am able to see it. What a blessing that is.

M. Tesoriero—AUSTRALIA

He Was Right

MR. ARMSTRONG’S *PLAIN TRUTH* WAS ALWAYS in our home when I was growing up back in the 1950s and 1960s (“He was Right,” August). I read my Bible and no doubt some of the articles in the *Plain Truth* but none of Mr. Armstrong’s teachings really registered with me until now. I think God raises a shade on our window of understanding when He is ready. Thank God you carried on Mr. Armstrong’s teachings or people like me would never have known the truth about what is happening now. That took tremendous courage and faith in God’s power. . . . Thanks for all the great articles and work the *Trumpet* staff does. I used to think all TV preachers and religious movements are alike; I was wrong. Thank God He led me to the *Trumpet* via *The Key of David*.

Christine—WASHINGTON

A Bad Relationship

THANK YOU FOR SUCCINCTLY SUMMING up the world today: “a world where up is down, where facts are treated as propaganda and propaganda as truth” (“A Good Excuse to End a Bad Relationship,” August). I don’t think I’ve seen it said as well anywhere. Of course, I’ve come to expect that from the *Trumpet*’s writers and editors. What a wonderful—even if horrific in the short term—message God has for the world through this website and the *Key of David* television program. I must admit, much of what has to be said here makes me sick at heart: It’s so hard to watch the decline of once-godly nations that we love. Having said that, God speed that fall so that Jesus Christ may return and fulfill the wonderful, sure hope that is so much a part of your warning message—the establishment of God’s own Kingdom here on Earth. I send my tithes and offerings to the Philadelphia Church of God because you tell it like it really is.

Daniel A Köenig—ARKANSAS

THANK YOU FOR GIVING THIS BACKGROUND information about the Marmara incident. The media here in Germany do not tell us that Israel was simply trying to prevent the shipment of weapons to terrorist groups, a completely legitimate aim. Many people here actually believe that Palestinians now must starve because the shipment of “aid” has been prevented by Israel, not knowing that Israel feeds the Palestinians. I am sure Turkey will pay hard for giving up its friendly relationship with God’s chosen people. Let us all pray for Israel.

Thomas—GERMANY

How to Be Popular

A VERY BALANCED ARTICLE PRESENTING the facts (“How to be Popular in Europe,” August). . . . Mr. Palmer states that Wilders’s party is said to provide “a more reasonable response to problems caused by Islam and immigration.” The BZ party in Austria was described as “unashamedly Nazi.” That is a real concern!

AUSTRALIA

Cavemen Are People Too

THE EVOLUTION THEORY IS A WAY OF REMOVING God from the equation—a way to force science to correspond with atheist views (“Cavemen Are People Too!”, Au-

gust). God created the world and science, so they have to be compatible. . . . Scientists have never found a valid transitional fossil, and if they checked their facts, they would find that the DNA code itself prevents evolution from ever occurring. Finally, a source expressing the truth on the evolution theory! *Maxine Wilson—CANADA*

Australia’s House Bubble

YOU HAVE WRITTEN ONE OF THE BEST articles concerning the current housing bubble nightmare existing in Australia (“Is Australia’s Housing Bubble Bigger than America’s?” August). . . . When I purchased my property, it was around four times my annual salary. Now it is “worth” 10 times. This equates to a 350 percent increase over 10 years. I would imagine that the crash to occur in Australia will have more devastating consequences [than in] the U.S. due to the fact that prices will fall from a greater height.

Jason—AUSTRALIA

Israel the Outcast

THE WARPED SENSE OF REALITY GRIPPING the people of the world these days is mind-numbing (“Israel the Outcast,” August). Good is evil; evil is good. Unbelievable! I am just so grateful to have found the sanity of this website (theTrumpet.com). I admit I was lost and had no idea. But God led me to this site one day three to four years ago and I haven’t left. Thank you Lord, and thank you *Trumpet* staff!

Michael—OHIO

European Dream Dead?

I AM STAYING TUNED AND WATCHING (like the Lord commanded) the situation and others in the world to see who’s right (“Is the European Dream Dead?”, August). So that’s a very valid question. According to your interpretation, you’re right, of course . . . but yours is not the only interpretation. So I’m going to be watching world events closely. *Scott—NEW YORK*

THANK YOU FOR REMINDING US WHERE all the *Trumpet*’s accurate, irrefutable facts and forecasts stem from. It is truly wonderful and humbling reading this and envisioning how it will come to pass. The end part is the best though.

Rohann—SOUTH AFRICA

Comments?

letters@theTrumpet.com
 or: The Trumpet, P.O. Box 1099,
 Edmond, OK 73083



There Is No Such Thing as Two Fathers

America's government is working feverishly to redefine family. BY JOEL HILLIKER

PRESIDENT OBAMA USED THIS PAST FATHER'S DAY TO show his support for homosexuals raising children. "Nurturing families come in many forms," he wrote in a presidential proclamation, "and children may be raised by a father and mother, a single father, *two fathers*, a stepfather, a grandfather, or caring guardian."

Of course, biologically there is no such thing as "two fathers." A child may be raised by his father and his father's homosexual partner, but not by "two fathers." That euphemistic term is a gross error.

In June, completely outside the purview of elected legislators, the Obama administration's Labor Department unilaterally announced that the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) now covers "all families, including LGBT families." Thus, companies will now be forced to permit homosexual couples that adopt children up to 12 weeks of leave.

How could it make such a change? Simply by redefining "son or daughter" to "extend to the various parenting relationships that exist in today's world." Thus, using the president's own terminology, a child's father's homosexual partner may now legally also be considered a second "father."

"This action is a victory for many non-traditional families, including families in the lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender community," the press release from Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis said. "[A]n employee who intends to share in the parenting of a child with his or her same-sex partner will be able to exercise the right to FMLA leave to bond with that child."

All this language is framed to sound like it promotes family in general—that it is just win-win-win all around. In truth, it represents the ceaseless efforts of self-professed intellectuals to popularize deviant sexuality.

They are hostile to the actual meaning of deep and wonderful words like *father*, *son* and *daughter*, and are eager to redefine them after their own fancies.

On July 1, the administration gave another big assist to homosexuals. Now same-sex "domestic partners" of federal employees can receive long-term care insurance benefits as if they were married; all they have to do is sign a form to receive the benefit. The president ordered the change about a year ago, when he instructed agencies to find benefits that could be given to homosexuals who live together. Under the Defense of Marriage Act, the term "marriage" cannot refer to homosexuals, but the new Office of Personnel Management regulation circumvented that law by creating the classification of homosexual "domestic partners." It *denies* the same benefits to *heterosexual* co-habitators, saying that they can get them by marrying, whereas homosexuals cannot—yet.

On June 9, the Obama administration's State Department dropped this bombshell: "The U.S. Department of State is pleased to use the occasion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-

gender Pride Month to announce its new policy guidelines regarding gender change in passports and Consular Reports of Birth Abroad.

"Beginning June 10, when a passport applicant presents a certification from an attending medical physician that the applicant has undergone appropriate clinical treatment for gender transition, the passport will reflect the new gender. The guidelines include detailed information about what information the certification must include. It is also possible to obtain a limited-validity passport if the physician's statement shows the applicant is in the process of gender transition."

Thus, anyone with a doctor's note confirming his or her gender confusion can receive an official U.S. passport stating as fact that he or she is the *opposite sex* from plain biological reality! The press release nonchalantly states, "Sexual reassignment surgery is no longer a prerequisite for passport issuance."

What utter confusion! Even *male* and *female* are open to redefinition in their minds. Perhaps there is no clearer illustration of the muddled thinking plaguing liberal secularists than the

fact that they simply will not accept something so simple and clear-cut as male and female. In their twisted view, gender is a choice, and always open for reinterpretation.

Again, though, all this redefining is an intellectual fraud aimed squarely at exalting deviant sexuality.

The official language being deployed by the president and the federal departments he has staffed—"two fathers," "various parenting relationships," "LGBT families," "gender transition," "new gender"—camouflages some grotesque realities. Gussied up to look like it is *promoting* family, this is nothing short of an aggressive assault on family.

It is impossible to encourage *both* deviant sexuality and traditional family; they are diametrically opposite. And traditional family must be vigorously promoted and defended if it is to thrive.

The Ten Commandments speak to this fact by commanding both marital fidelity ("Thou shalt not commit adultery. ... [T]hou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife") and parental authority ("Honour thy father and thy mother"). Such laws are necessary to guide us toward appropriate conduct; our baser nature always gravitates toward what is not in society's or our own long-term best interests.

Today's society is forcefully pursuing a contrary, anti-Bible agenda that is dismantling families and leading to our ruin. All history proves that strong societies begin with strong marriages and families, yet self-professed intellectuals continue heedlessly striking blows at the pillars of family life.

In our own families, we must do all we can to resist this attack. Promote and defend family as originally and *correctly* defined by the Being who created it. ■



only look to the Bible, all their theories could be explained in one simple passage!

Job 30:1-8 contains the truth about the stone cultures we see today and in ancient history: "But now they that are younger than I have me in derision, whose fathers I would have disdained to have set with the dogs of my flock. Yea, whereto might the strength of their hands profit me, in whom old age was perished? For want and famine they were solitary; fleeing into the wilderness in former time desolate and waste. Who cut up mallows by the bushes, and juniper roots for their meat. They were driven forth from among men ... To dwell in the cliffs of the valleys, in caves of the earth, and in the rocks. Among the bushes they brayed; under the nettles they were gathered together. They were children of fools, yea, children of base men: they were viler than the earth."

Scripture actually speaks of men living in caves and under bushes. They descended from civilized people of low birth and degenerate habits—yet more proof not of evolution but of degeneration! These degenerate, primitive people were driven out of civilization into remote parts such as tropical forests—places where we can yet find them today!

If in our advanced time we still have these primitive people, then it is easy to believe that in ancient times, before and after the Flood, degenerate people were driven out into caves and forests. Their remains are the prehistoric fossils and artifacts scholars find, which, with the unreliable carbon dating method, are postulated to be tens of thousands of years old! In reality they can't be older than 6,000 years!

Your Only Option!

So what will you believe? The account from the written Word of God that explains all the facts and is corroborated by ancient secular manuscripts and modern research?

Or will you reject divine revelation and the truth that God intervenes in history so that you can blindly believe in evolution, whose supporters must ignore and discard facts, even accepting unreliable data that must first jump through hoops to match their theory?

Where will you put your faith?

If you want to know the origins of the major powers and understand the soon-coming earth-shattering events that these nations will participate in, *believe what the Bible says*. It must have come from another Source, the One who designed the human brain so man alone is able to master language! ■



UNITED STATES

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Direct TV DBS ION Ch. 305 6:00 am ET, Fri

Dish Network ION Ch. 216 6:00 am ET, Fri

Dish Network DBS WGN Chan. 239 8:00 am ET, Sun

Nationwide cable WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun

Alabama, Birmingham WPXH 5:00 am, Fri

Alabama, Dothan WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun

Alabama, Montgomery WBMM/WBMM-DT 8:30, Sun

Alaska, Anchorage KIMO-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Alaska, Fairbanks KATN-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Alaska, Juneau KJUD-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Arizona, Phoenix KPPX 5:00 am, Fri

Arizona, Yuma-El Centro KSWT-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Arkansas, Fayetteville KWFT 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Fort Smith KCWA 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Jonesboro KJOS 8:30 am, Sun

Arkansas, Rogers KWFT 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Springdale KWFT 8:30 am, Sun

California, Bakersfield KGET-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, Chico KHSL-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, El Centro KWUB 9:30 am, Sun

California, Eureka KUVU-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, Los Angeles KPXN 6:00 am, Fri

California, Monterey KMWB 9:30 am, Sun

California, Palm Springs KESQ/KCWQ-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, Redding KHSL-DT 9:30 am, Sun

California, Sacramento KSPX 6:00 am, Fri

California, Salinas KION 9:30 am, Sun

California, San Francisco KKPX 6:00 am, Fri

California, Santa Barbara KSBY-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Colorado, Denver KPXC 5:00 am, Fri; KWGN 10:00 am, Sun

Colorado, Grand Junction KKCO-DT 10:30 am, Sun

Colorado, Montrose KKCO-DT 10:30 am, Sun

Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00 am, Fri

Delaware, Dover WBD 9:30 am, Sun

Delaware, Salisbury WMDT-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Florida, Gainesville WCJB-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Florida, Jacksonville WPXC/WPXJ-LP 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Miami WPXM 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Orlando WOPX 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Panama City WJHG-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Florida, Tallahassee WTXL 7:30 am, Sun

Florida, Tallahassee-Thomasville WTLF-DT/ WTLH-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Florida, Tampa WXPX 6:00 am, Fri; WTTA 8:30 am, Sun

Florida, West Palm Beach WPXP 6:00 am, Fri

Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Augusta WAGT-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Brunswick WPXC 6:00 am, Fri

Georgia, Columbus WLGA 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Macon WBMN 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Savannah WGSA/WGCW-LP 9:30 am, Sun

Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo Chan. 54 6:30 am, Sun; 8:30 am, Wed

Hawaii, Kaula Ho' Ika Chan. 52 9:30 am, Tue

Hawaii, Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30 am, Mon

Idaho, Idaho Falls KPIF/KBEO 10:30 am, Sun

Idaho, Pocatello KPIF 10:30 am, Sun

Idaho, Twin Falls KMVT-DT/KTWT-LP 10:30 am, Sun

Illinois, Bloomington WHOI-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Illinois, Chicago WCIU 9:30 am, Sun; WCPX 5:00 am, Fri

Illinois, Peoria WHOI-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Illinois, Rockford WREX-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Indiana, Fort Wayne WPTA-DT 21.2 9:30 am, Sun

Indiana, Indianapolis WIPX 6:00 am, Fri

Indiana, Terre Haute WBI 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Austin KTTC-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00 am, Fri

Iowa, Des Moines KFPX 5:00 am, Fri

Iowa, Keokuk WEWB 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Kirksville KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Mason City KTTC-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Ottumwa KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Rochester KTTC-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Sioux City KTIV-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Kansas, Topeka KSNT 8:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO 8:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Lexington WUPX 6:00 am, Fri

Louisiana, Alexandria KBCA 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, El Dorado-Monroe KNOE-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, Lafayette KLWB 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, Lake Charles WBLC 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, New Orleans WPXL 5:00 am, Fri

Maine, Bangor WABI-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Maine, Presque Isle WBPQ 9:30 am, Sun

Maryland, Hagerstown WJAL 12:00 pm, Sun

Maryland, Salisbury WBD 9:30 am, Sun

Massachusetts, Boston WBXP 6:00 am, Fri; WZMY 8:00 am, Sun

Massachusetts, Holyoke WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

Massachusetts, Springfield WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30 am, Sun



Michigan, Cadillac WGTU/WGTQ 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Detroit WPXD 6:00 am, Fri; WADL 10:00 am, Sun
Michigan, Grand Rapids WZPX 5:00 am, Fri
Michigan, Lansing WLAJ-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Marquette WBKP 9:30 am, Sun
Michigan, Traverse City-Cadillac WGTU-DT/WGTQ-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Duluth-Superior WDLH 8:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Mankato KWYE 8:30 am, Sun
Minnesota, Minneapolis KPXM 5:00 am, Fri
Mississippi, Biloxi WBGP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Columbus WCBI-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Greenville WBWD 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Greenwood WBWD 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Gulfport WBGP 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Hattiesburg WBH 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Laurel WBH 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Mississippi, West Point WCBI-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Hannibal WGEM-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Joplin-Pittsburg KSXF 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Kansas City KPXE 5:00 am, Fri
Missouri, Quincy-Keokuk WGEM-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Missouri, St. Joseph WBJO 8:30 am, Sun
Montana, Billings KTUV-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Montana, Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Glendive KWZB 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Great Falls KRTV-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Helena KMTF-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Montana, Missoula KPAX-DT 10:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings KCWL-TV 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Kearney KCWL-TV 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, North Platte KWPL 8:30 am, Sun
Nebraska, Scottsbluff KCHW 10:30 am, Sun
Nevada, Reno KREN/KREN-DT 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Albany WYPX 6:00 am, Fri
New York, Binghamton WBXI 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Buffalo WPXJ 6:00 am, Fri; WUTV 10:00 am, Sun
New York, Elmira WBE 9:30 am, Sun
New York, New York City WPXN 6:00 am, Fri; WLNY 10:00 am, Sun
New York, Syracuse WSPX 6:00 am, Fri
New York, Utica WBU 9:30 am, Sun
New York, Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Charlotte WLMY 8:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Durham WRPX 6:00 am, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun

North Carolina, Fayetteville WFPX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, Greensboro WGFX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, Greenville WEPX 6:00 am, Fri; WNCT-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00 am, Fri
North Carolina, New Bern WNCT-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Raleigh WRPX 6:00 am, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
North Carolina, Washington WNCT-DT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Wilmington WBW 9:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Bismarck KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Dickinson KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Fargo WDAY-DT 8:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Minot KWMK 10:30 am, Sun
North Dakota, Valley City WDAY-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Cincinnati WSTR 8:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00 am, Fri
Ohio, Lima WLIO-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Steubenville WBWO 9:30 am, Sun
Ohio, Zanesville WBZV 9:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Ada KSHD 8:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Lawton KAUZ 8:30 am, Sun
Oklahoma, Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00 am, Fri
Oklahoma, Tulsa KTPX 5:00 am, Fri
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Eugene KMTR-DT 9:30 am, Sun; KEVU 10:00 am, Sun
Oregon, Klamath Falls KMFD 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Medford KMFD 9:30 am, Sun
Oregon, Portland KPXG 6:00 am, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WBEP 9:30 am, Sun
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia WPPX 6:00 am, Fri
Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh WPCW 9:00 am, Sun
Pennsylvania, Wilkes Barre WQPX 6:00 am, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence WPXQ 6:00 am, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston WCBD-DT 9:30 am, Sun
South Carolina, Florence WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30 am, Sun
South Carolina, Myrtle Beach WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Mitchell KWSD 8:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Rapid City KWBH-LP 10:30 am, Sun
South Dakota, Sioux Falls KWSD 8:30 am, Sun
Tennessee, Jackson WBJK 8:30 am, Sun
Tennessee, Knoxville WPXK 6:00 am, Fri
Tennessee, Memphis WPXX 5:00 am, Fri
Tennessee, Nashville WNPX 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Abilene KTWS-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Amarillo KVII-DT/KVIH/KVIH-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Brownsville KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Harlingen KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Houston KPXB 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Laredo KTXW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Longview KCEB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Lubbock KLCW 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Midland KWWT 8:30 am, Sun; KMID 9:00 am, Sun
Texas, Odessa KWWT 8:30 am, Sun; KMID 9:00 am, Sun
Texas, Port Arthur KFDM 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, San Angelo KWSA 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, San Antonio KPXL 5:00 am, Fri
Texas, Sherman-Ada KTEN-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Sweetwater KTWS-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Tyler KCEB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Victoria KWVB 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Weslaco KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30 am, Sun
Texas, Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00 am, Fri
Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:00 am, Sun
Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Virginia, Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30 am, Sun
Virginia, Norfolk WPXV 6:00 am, Fri
Virginia, Roanoke WPXR 6:00 am, Fri
Washington D.C. WDCW 8:00 am, Sun; WPXW 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Kennewick KCWK 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Richland KCWK 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Seattle KVO5 8:30 am, Sun
Washington, Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Spokane KGPX 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Yakima-Pasco-Richland-Kennewick KCWK/KCWK-LP 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Bluefield KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Charleston WLPX 6:00 am, Fri
West Virginia, Clarksburg WVFX-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Oak Hill KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Parkersburg WBPB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Weston WVFX-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Wheeling WBWO 9:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WQOW-DT/WXOW-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, La Crosse WQOW/WXOW 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Milwaukee WPXE 5:00 am, Fri
Wisconsin, Rhinelander WAOW/WYOW 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Casper 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Cheyenne KCHW 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Riverton 10:30 am, Sun

CANADA

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British Columbia, Vancouver KVOS 8:30 am, Sun; CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
British Columbia, Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Maritime Provinces CIHF 7:30 am, Sun
Ontario, Toronto WADL 10:00 am Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun; WUTV 10:00 am, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WVNY 10:00 am, Sun

LATIN AMERICA

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

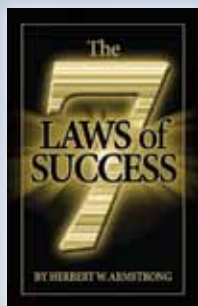
CARIBBEAN

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Arua WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Bahamas WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Belize WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Cuba WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Dominican Republic WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Haiti WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Jamaica WGN 9:00 am, Sun
Puerto Rico WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Trinidad and Tobago WGN 8:00 am, Sun

SUCCESS!

Why are only the very few—women as well as men—successful in life? Just what is success?

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