

FRIENDS? ENEMIES?
The breaking of the
German-U.S. alliance

White House:
Everything is
awesome!

How bad is
California's
drought ?

Who
were the
Druids?

THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET

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Our Incredible Shrinking Planet

How improved global communication will impact your future

THE PHILADELPHIA
TRUMPET

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COVER STORY

- 10 The Incredible Shrinking Planet**
What happens when we bridge the geographic and linguistic gaps that have separated us for centuries?
- 13 Urbanization Speeds Advancement**

FEATURES

- 1 FROM THE EDITOR The Significance of Germany's Break From America**
- 2 Ja, Sir!**
- 4 An Invitation From Israel**
- 6 Everything Is Awesome!**
The world is burning, but you wouldn't know it judging by statements coming from the White House.
- 15 Putin Won't Just Survive, He'll Thrive**
Reports of the Russian's demise are greatly exaggerated.
- 18 INFOGRAPHIC How Bad Is California's 'Record' Drought?**
- 20 The History That Is Prophecy**
- 22 Who Were the Druids?**
More evidence of America and Britain's ancient identity

DEPARTMENTS

- 26 WORLDWATCH Building a Euroarmy, Vatican vs. ISIS, Ebola spreading, EU in South America, etc.**
- 31 PRINCIPLES OF LIVING Fathers: Rule the Family Well**
- 32 DISCUSSION BOARD**
- 34 SOCIETYWATCH Who's your daddy?, etc.**
- 35 COMMENTARY How to Watch the News**
- 36 TELEVISION LOG**

*Photo: German Chancellor Angela Merkel eyes U.S. President Barack Obama during a May 2 press conference. (GETTY IMAGES)
Cover Photo: A small, technologically interconnected world.
(HKEITA/SUPERPOPOV/ISTOCKPHOTO/REESE ZOELLNER/TRUMPET)*





The Significance of Germany's Break From America

A spying scandal has sparked a lot of hatred for America among the Germans. Bible prophecy states that this trend will intensify. **BY GERALD FLURRY**

AFTER WORLD WAR II, GERMANY LAY IN RUINS. THE nation was wiped out economically and couldn't afford to rebuild. The United States came to Germany's aid with the Marshall Plan, giving billions of dollars to Germany and other European states to help them recover. This prevented Soviet communism from spreading into Western Europe, and it bound West Germany, and the future united German state, to the rest of Europe and the Western world. It also ensured a strong post-war alliance between America and West Germany. This alliance continued when Germany reunified in 1990.

Recent events, however, are destroying this alliance.

In 2013, former NSA contractor Edward Snowden began leaking secret National Security Agency documents to the press, including the German weekly *Der Spiegel*. Documents revealed this year that the Obama administration has been spying on the Germans from over 150 NSA sites in Germany—including a listening post at the American Embassy in Berlin that tapped German Chancellor Angela Merkel's cell phone.

These revelations enraged German politicians, public and media. President Obama sent high-level officials to Germany to try and mend the relationship, but public opinion had already turned against the United States. An ARD survey of the German public conducted in July 2013 showed that their trust in the U.S. had plummeted from 76 percent in November 2009 all the way down to 49 percent. By that November, the number of Germans who believed America is a reliable partner for Germany stood at only 35 percent. Meanwhile, more than 60 percent of Germans view Edward Snowden—the man who illegally exposed America's spying on Germany—as a hero.

THERE IS FIERCE OUTRAGE THAT AMERICA, ITS STRONGEST ALLY, SPIED ON THEIR LEADER AND ON GERMANS IN SUCH A MASSIVE WAY! While the U.S. media did not cover the scandal in great detail, it created a huge splash in the German media. This whipped the German public up into a frenzy, which politicians exploited.

German politicians have already discussed plans to scrap the no-spy agreement Germany has held with Britain and the U.S. since 1945. "We must focus more strongly on our so-called allies," claimed Stephan Mayer, a domestic security spokesman for Merkel.

"So-called?" wrote Jacob Heilbrunn in the *Los Angeles Times*. "Such statements, unthinkable only a few years ago, accurately reflect a broader antipathy toward America among the German public" (July 10).

Where is this German antipathy to the United States leading? What does it mean to you and your future?

In the short run, this hatred is going to lead to terrifying problems. But in the long run, it is introducing us to the most wonderful news we could ever hear.

From Ally to Adversary

"After the Nazi defeat in 1945, the republic's first chancellor, Konrad Adenauer, emphasized that Germany had to end its tradition of trying to maneuver between East and West as an independent power," Heilbrunn wrote. "Instead, it had to bind itself to the West, economically and militarily But it is precisely this tradition that is coming to an end as Germany begins to act on what it perceives as its new national interests."

Did you catch that? THE TRADITION OF GERMANY BEING CLOSER TO THE UNITED STATES IS COMING TO AN END.

"President Obama may discover that he is helping to convert [Germany] from an ally into an adversary."

The article concluded by stating that President Obama "may discover that he is helping to convert [Germany] *from an ally into an adversary*." That is a significant development. It is about the dismantling of a relationship that has helped to preserve peace in Europe for nearly seven decades!

Pressure on the Chancellor

Because of continued revelations of American spying, in July German Chancellor Angela Merkel ordered the Central Intelligence Agency's station chief to get out of Berlin. The decision was a slap in America's face, and the German public loved it.

However, reports also surfaced that other German leaders are upset with Chancellor Merkel for *not being forceful enough* against the United States. That fact is going to help usher in a new German leader—a strongman who will more broadly reflect the German public's opinion of the United States.

The Bible has many prophecies of a strong leader rising on the European scene in the end time and wreaking havoc in the world. The *Trumpet* has been watching for this leader for many years, and now conditions in Europe and the rest of the world are opening the door for him to emerge. As crises intensify, Europeans are crying out for strong leadership!

We have said for years we believe that strongman will be Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg, the former defense minister of Germany. We believe there are strong indications this man will become the next German chancellor.

Mr. Guttenberg wrote an article in Germany's biggest-selling tabloid, *Bild*, about the spying scandal. He warned about the strong anti-Americanism it was creating in Germany. He said that the government's decision to expel the CIA station chief "should sound President Obama's alarm bells." He said that the president could "enter the history books as THE GRAVEDIGGER OF THE TRANSATLANTIC FRIENDSHIP."

Guttenberg is saying this relationship is about to die and be buried! This is the man who could rule Germany in a very few years.

Most Americans don't realize how violently our allies are condemning our foreign policy. They are too absorbed and distracted with sports, entertainment and domestic issues to be interested.

But this is something everyone *should be* concerned about. What makes the German-American split especially important is this: *It is exactly what biblical prophecy told us would happen!*

A Prophecy About Two Sisters

One of the prophecies of this breakup is found in Ezekiel 23. Ezekiel is an end-time book, and this is an end-time prophecy. Please pay close attention to what this passage is saying.

"The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying, Son of man, there were two women, the daughters of one mother: And they committed whoredoms in Egypt. . . . And the names of them were Aholah the elder, and Aholibah her sister: and they were mine, and they bare sons and daughters. Thus were their names; Samaria is Aholah, and Jerusalem Aholibah" (verses 1-4).

This may sound complicated, but it isn't. These two sisters, *Aholah* and *Aholibah*, symbolize the two nations of Israel following its division after Solomon's reign. Samaria was the ancient capital of the northern 10-tribed kingdom of Israel, and Jerusalem remained the capital of the remaining tribes in the southern kingdom of Judah. "They were mine," God says. He was *married to Israel* anciently (e.g. Jeremiah 3:14; 31:32).

In the end time, God applies the name *Israel* specifically to two nations: America and Britain. Most end-time prophecies about Israel are aimed at them. (This truth is explained in our book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Request a free copy.) These nations are symbolized by *Aholah* in this prophecy.

"And Aholah played the harlot when she was mine; and she doted on her lovers, on the Assyrians her neighbours, Which were clothed with blue, captains and rulers, all of them desirable young men, horsemen riding upon horses. Thus she committed her whoredoms with them, with all them that were the chosen men of Assyria, and with all on whom she doted: with all their idols she defiled herself" (Ezekiel 23:5-7).

These scriptures show how America and Britain became *lovers* of the Assyrians. Who are the Assyrians? We have proven for years that in Bible prophecy, Assyria refers to the modern nation of Germany. To prove this for yourself, read our free e-book *The Remarkable Identity of the German People*. You can download it at theTrumpet.com/go/GermanyID. (If you don't have Internet access, call us and we will send you a printed copy.)

If we don't understand these biblical names, we cannot understand Bible prophecy. The Bible is a coded book, and we need the code in order to understand it. Thankfully, God has given us that code. He has revealed who these people are in this end time because He *wants us* to take warning from these prophecies. Such prophecies take up *one third of your Bible!* Yet *even religious people* act like they are not concerned.

Has America been Germany's *lover*? Since World War II, the U.S. has snuggled up to Germany. It has actually done a lot to help Germany become the number one power in Europe! In 2000, Germans recognized President Bill Clinton by giving him the Charlemagne Prize, one of the most prestigious awards in Germany. In 2009, America's ambassador to Germany called the Washington-Berlin partnership "the most important relationship of the past 60 years." For many years now, America has been encouraging Germany to take on a stronger global leadership role and even to strengthen its military might.



Brigadegeneral
LAUBENTHAL,
Markus

USAREUR CHIEF OF STAFF

D.O.B.: 12/04/1962 NATIONALITY: German

- **AUGUST 4:** Laubenthal made chief of staff for the U.S. Army Europe, holding one of the top offices. This is the first time such a position has been held by a non-American.
- Previously served in German Army as commander of Panzerbrigade 12 and chief of staff for International Security Assistance Force Regional Command North in Afghanistan.

Ja, Sir!

Meet the new chief of staff for the United States Army in Europe. **BY RICHARD PALMER**

Until recently, Brig. Gen. Markus Laubenthal served in the German Army as commander of Panzerbrigade 12 and chief of staff for the International Security Assistance Force Regional Command North in Afghanistan. Now he has a far more unique job—for a German: one of the top commanders in the United States Army in Europe.

On August 4, Laubenthal became chief of staff for the U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR). This is one of the top offices in USAREUR after the commanding general and deputy commanding general. It is the first time a non-American has held this position.

Along with the U.S. European Command (EUCOM), USAREUR is responsible for all American military activity in Europe—including any activity aimed at responding to Russian aggression in Ukraine.

In the U.S. military, a chief of staff position is not a command role (except at the very top). Laubenthal will coordinate his staff to carry out what his commanding officer wants done. Nonetheless, the job is important. The German edition of the *Wall Street Journal* wrote that Laubenthal would be "practically the right hand of the commanding general of the U.S. land forces in Europe" (July 31). USAREUR is

The Second Sister

Ezekiel 23 goes on to talk about Aholibah, referring to Judah. The modern identity of Judah is well known, because it was never lost: It is the Jews—in our day specifically, the Jewish state called Israel. Ezekiel’s prophecy reveals that the Jews also have an inordinate love for Assyria, even worse than what Aholah had.

“And when her sister Aholibah [the Jews] saw this, she was more corrupt in her inordinate love than she . . . She doted upon the Assyrians her neighbors, captains and rulers clothed most gorgeously . . .” (verses 11-12). Most of this prophecy revolving around Judah’s love affair with Assyria is yet to come. Notice that God specifically references the “captains and rulers” of Assyria who are “clothed most gorgeously.” This is referring to the military might of Assyria. Germany displayed it powerfully in World Wars I and II. Germany started both of those wars, and it is gaining that military might back once again today. Yet the birthright nations of Israel—America and Britain—and the modern nation of Judah are just doting on their lover. America, Britain and the Jews have an inordinate love relationship with Germany.

God established that nation for the Jews in 1948 and sustained it for many years, but they are bringing deeper and deeper problems upon themselves. God is acutely upset about this. He commands His people to warn Judah and Israel about their sins and the consequences they will bring.

Verses 16 and 17 discuss more lovers of these two sisters—not just Assyria, but also Chaldea and the Babylonians. While these two were different than Assyria anciently, the Babylonian lover today is in cahoots with Assyria, morphing into the Holy Roman Empire. (To understand, request *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.)

When the U.S. and Britain fought Germany in World War II, we were fighting the Holy Roman Empire. And yet, we have embraced the Germans for more than half a century, only to be spurned by them, as we are witnessing today.

What is the end result of this “lover” relationship? Ezekiel’s prophecy reveals exactly where it is leading! It records the news for us in advance! This is an end-time prophecy aimed specifically at these two sisters, which happen to be three modern nations.

responsible for over 37,000 troops, 90 percent of whom are stationed in Germany.

Laubenthal’s appointment puts a non-American—and a national of one of the region’s major powers—at the heart of American military decision-making. Someone whose ultimate allegiance is not to the United States will help shape decisions and oversee how those decisions are implemented.

When asked if this would give “a German general real insight into American strategies,” Klaus Naumann, former inspector general of the Bundeswehr, told Deutschlandradio Kultur that Laubenthal would not be allowed to “peek” at documents marked “NOFORN”—off limits to foreigners. However, he will have complete access to “operational concepts for these 37,000 U.S. troops in Europe.” “He needs

to coordinate and manage,” Naumann said.

Naumann explained that the German Army would “certainly benefit” from the new appointment. “For once we have an insight into what is thought in the armed forces of the United States,” he said.

This type of appointment is something we will probably see more of. “Officials said the addition of a German general officer to the USAREUR . . . is part of an American effort to give a more multinational flavor to its major overseas commands,” the *Army Times* wrote.

America is trying to draw closer to Germany, even as Germany is forging its own path. This trend is consistent with the prophecy in Ezekiel 23 about America “doting” on the Germans. Meanwhile, Germany, at the head of Europe, is a major power in its own right, and

The Propheesied Split

Verse 17 shows that the Jews’ “mind was alienated from them”—from their German lovers. The Jews were the Germans’ most hated victims in World War II. America and Britain have fought two world wars against the Germans. That indicates that we are alienated from them in that sense.

Verses 9-10 show what will become of America and Britain because of this tryst. It says the Germans “slew her with the sword” and “executed judgment upon her”! This relationship ends with a *massive double cross* that brings these nations down!

That is where this is leading! This is just one of *dozens* of prophecies showing how Germany is going to turn once again into the worst enemy of these nations in the end time.

Germany was prophesied to break away from America, and it is happening before our eyes. But the animosity we see today is only the smallest beginning!

Why would God allow this to happen to America, Britain and the Jewish state? It is His CORRECTION against these nations for their sins. “The Lord said moreover unto me; Son of man, wilt thou judge Aholah and Aholibah? yea, *declare unto them their abominations*” (verse 36). God is concerned with the *abominations* taking place in Israel and Judah, and He has His people declare their sins to them.

God is revealing what is happening in this end time, and uses a little group of people to declare those prophecies to the world through understanding these biblical peoples. But who is going to understand that unless they are willing to really study their Bible?

Watch It Happen

You can know absolutely where the German-American relationship is heading. Events right now are leading toward a terrifying end, and you can recognize it if you pay attention.

Deutsche Welle, a powerful German broadcaster with a worldwide reach, is saying extremely condemnatory things against America. One article featured on its website on July 10 discussed the failure of the U.S.’s Middle East policy. It quoted a Mideast expert at the German Marshall Fund as saying, “The

is developing a foreign policy independent of the U.S.

Such cavalier trust of other nations is not new for America. Even the close integration with European militaries in NATO gives foreign powers a huge amount of insight into how the American military is run. But this trust is dangerous.

America’s security is being entrusted to the goodwill of other nations. This is built on the assumption that the days of war between major powers are over. People have made this assumption throughout history—and repeatedly been proven wrong. For more on why this is such a dangerous move, read editor in chief Gerald Flurry’s article “Alamogordo: A Mistake You Only Make Once” at theTrumpet.com/go/512. ■

An Invitation From Israel

Will Germany intervene in crises in the Middle East—and beyond? **BY BRAD MACDONALD**

AT THE MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE in February, Germany's president, defense minister and foreign minister all spoke about the need for Germany to bear more of the burden of international security. They all endorsed a more robust, proactive and interventionist German foreign policy.

In August, Germany was given a prime opportunity to implement its new foreign policy.

In an interview with the *Bild* on August 7, Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman called on Germany to help find a lasting solution to the conflict in Gaza. He asked Germany to revive the 2005-2007 EU Border Assistance Mission (EUBAM) in which European inspectors monitored traffic at the Rafah crossing on the Egypt-Gaza border. "Germany should take responsibility as the leader of such a mission," he said. "Germany, as the political lead nation in Europe, must play a pivotal role in the Gaza conflict."



PLEASE HELP Israel's Lieberman meets with Germany's Steinmeier.

Israel's New Go-To Ally

Of itself, the arrival of European inspectors in Rafah may have little prophetic significance. If the 2005-2007 EUBAM is anything to judge by, the presence of European inspectors will have only marginal

benefits for Israel and for peace. After all, it was under the European Union's supervision during those years that Hamas managed to smuggle enough weaponry into Gaza to stage a violent coup and take over the government there.

Berlin has expressed interest in participating in an international agreement over Gaza. However, it is moving ahead cautiously, and is downplaying its leadership role. "Together with our European partners, we are ready to make a contribution, such as an EU mission to oversee border crossings," Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said during peace talks in Egypt. "At present we are holding intensive talks with all sides to create the conditions for such a solution."

However, that takes nothing away from the prophetic importance of this fact: When Israel went looking for help, it did not turn to a multinational force, or even to Europe in general. Israel's leaders are looking to Europe's lead nation, its chief decision-maker, as the one they must trust and rely on: *Germany*.

Steinmeier's words and tone will only intensify Israel's (and Europe's) desire for German leadership and intervention. No one wants to be led by the arrogant control-freak scrambling for power. It's more reassuring and far easier to submit to the strong, humble, capable guy who doesn't want power or responsibility—or at least who appears that way.

This, in some ways, is logical. Germany is the clear-cut leader of Europe—the nation with the wealth, resources and geopolitical influence to get things done.

On top of that, America has lost its clout in such matters. The Islamists in Gaza hate America as much as they

U.S. has abdicated its responsibility as an umbrella of security and of dialogue in the Middle East." He says that "U.S. policies in the region have been nothing short of disastrous." This is typical of the message it is promoting about America.

This article quoted Victor Davis Hanson saying, "IT IS FAIR TO SAY THAT AMERICA HAS SOMEHOW MANAGED TO ALIENATE FRIENDS, EMBOLDEN ENEMIES, AND MULTIPLY RADICAL ISLAMIC TERRORISTS" (emphasis mine). This message of America's downfall is being broadcast around the world. It is important to this German news source to draw attention to that.

Germans recognize a huge power vacuum in the Middle East. Yet what they do not report is that Germany is rising to superpower status, and German elites are planning to fill that vacuum!

Bible prophecy warns that a German-led European empire is going to rise up. We have said for over 50 years that it will probably be more powerful than both America and Russia!

The age of American global leadership is drawing to a close. While the Germans might not come out and say so, they are revealing in that fact. The U.S. may try and repair relations with its former lover, but irreversible damage has already been done. The breakup, which started with the spying

scandal, is going to continue to worsen until one of America's greatest allies since World War II becomes, once again, its greatest enemy!

What Germany doesn't realize is that it is only a tool in God's hands to accomplish His purpose of correcting Israel, both Aholibah and Aholah.

The Ultimate Conclusion

If you follow the prophecies to their conclusion, you recognize that all of this is going to END with the most wonderful civilization on Earth you could even dream of!

Daniel 7:7 describes a dreadful and terrible beast that represents the Roman Empire. It has ten horns, and the last seven of these are the Holy Roman Empire. That empire has come and gone six times throughout history, and the seventh and final resurrection is emerging today.

But notice what comes immediately after that: "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and THE ANCIENT OF DAYS did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before

hate Israel, therefore they would flatly reject any request for U.S. inspectors in a broader peace agreement. Besides, Israel can't be certain America would even provide such assistance. Europe, despite the frightening anti-Semitic outbursts in various European cities, is perceived to be more neutral and objective.

Finally, compared to most of the rest of the international community, Germany—at least its government—is one of Israel's closest friends and partners. Chancellor Angela Merkel has spoken often about Germany's special duty to protect Israel and has drawn close to the Israelis, even establishing a tradition of holding joint cabinet meetings with Israel. Under Merkel, Berlin has given Israel significant discounts and generous terms on purchasing submarines capable of carrying nuclear missiles.

For several reasons, then, Israel is coming to view Germany as its most important ally, its most reliable source of help.

Germany's Role in the World

Watching Germany in the time ahead will be fascinating. The nation is a rising global power and is viewed with tremendous admiration by most of the world. America and the West have no problem with Berlin assuming more responsibility, exerting more global leadership, and becoming more involved politically and militarily in the world's hot spots. In fact, they crave

German leadership. Meanwhile Germany, at least in word, has indicated that it is prepared to increasingly take on the role of global alpha dog. Moreover, as global crises intensify—Gaza, Ukraine, Iraq, Syria, Europe's financial crisis—so does the perceived *need* for Berlin to intervene and lead.

This past summer marked the 100-year anniversary of World War I, a war that represented the beginning of a three-decade putsch by Germany to subjugate Europe and establish a Teutonic world order. In the geopolitical structure the Germans fought to create, Germany would have been the chief power, the arbiter of peace, the nation all others would look to for guidance and inspiration.

One hundred years later, conditions in Europe and across the world are such that Germany is perhaps closer than it ever has been to world rule. America has abdicated the role. Russia and China are powerful, but their power is neither stable nor sustainable at this time. Who else does Germany have to compete with? With a little finagling and no doubt some exertion and pain—and under the right leadership—Germany could conquer Europe and establish a German-led European world order, effectively accomplishing what it failed to achieve in World Wars I and II.

Perhaps that sounds foolish, but so did the notion of intractable trench warfare, prolonged global military conflict and

tens of millions of dead people in 1910 and 1935. Surely one of the great lessons of World War I (and II) is that we can never underestimate human nature and man's proclivity for self-destruction. History tells us it would be foolish *not* to consider the possibility of another global conflict, one in which Germany once again plays the feature role.

What about Israel's invitation to Germany to take leadership of the crisis in Gaza, and the broader trend of Israel looking to Germany for assistance? Perhaps it seems logical, at least on paper and in the moment. However, both history and Bible prophecy warn that it too is foolish. You know the history of Germany and the Jews. To learn the prophecy, request our free booklet *Jerusalem in Prophecy*. ■



IGNORE AT YOUR OWN RISK
Prophecy warns that Germany's involvement with Israel will affect the whole world. Order *Jerusalem in Prophecy* to find out what the Bible says about this breaking trend.

him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened" (verses 9-10). This is about a *new civilization* that is coming—ruled by "the Ancient of days"!

"These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever" (verses 17-18). This is what God says about our future and about the saints who get behind God's message before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and *declare* this message to Aholah and Aholibah and many others.

"Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom" (verse 22). People who help support this message today are going to help Jesus Christ rule over that new civilization. God is training new rulers right now to prepare for this marvelous future—and it is almost here!

This is what comes *after* the bad news. The fulfillment of these end-time events shows that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ is very near. But there is going to be some catastrophic suffering first! All of us should take heed to God's warning. ■

Who is Germany in the Bible?

Learn the biblical name of Germany to unlock some of the most exciting prophecies you'll ever read. Download our free e-book: **The Remarkable Identity of the German People** at theTrumpet.com/go/GermanyID.



AMERICA HAS “RARELY been stronger,” President Barack Obama said on May 28. He believes critics who challenge that assessment are either misreading history or are partisan ideologues. “Our economy remains the most dynamic on Earth, our businesses the most innovative,” he said. “The United States is and remains the one indispensable nation. That has been true for the century past, and *it will be true for the century to come*” (emphasis added throughout).

Even as the world burns, this administration’s unrelenting response has been: *Everything is awesome!*

On July 14, Press Secretary Josh Earnest said, “I think that there have been a number of situations in which you’ve seen this administration intervene in a meaningful way that has substantially furthered American interests and substantially improved the *tranquility* of the global community.”

Not to be outdone, Secretary of State John Kerry said this about the administration on July 20: “The United States of America has never been more engaged in helping to lead in more places than we are now.” He said that with “*every* fundamental issue of conflict today, the United States is *in the center* LEADING and trying to find an effort to make peace where peace is very difficult.”

“I think the American people ought to be *proud* of what this president has done in terms of peaceful, diplomatic engagement,” Kerry said. “I think the president’s on the right track and I think WE HAVE THE FACTS to prove it.”

That is an extraordinary assessment of America’s foreign policy. Actually, when you really do look at THE FACTS—both of the disorder enveloping several hot spots around the world, and of how much America is contributing to these problems—then the FACT that the secretary of state would view the situation with *pride* is downright *scary*.

Global Chaos—the New Normal

Six years ago the United States had large armies in Iraq and Afghanistan. Its national debt was \$9.5 trillion. Egypt, Libya and Syria were comparatively stable. America’s traditional allies in Europe, Asia and



Everything Is Awesome

The world is burning, but you wouldn’t know it judging by statements coming from the White House. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**

even the Middle East still looked to the United States for leadership and assistance in time of need.

That’s not to say that everything was awesome. In fact, if you were reading the *Trumpet* at the time, you know that the United States was in bad shape. It’s just that it is much worse today than it was then.

Look at the facts. Since 2008, we have seen a new administration brush off its traditional allies, embark on an “apology tour,” draw down its forces and encourage its most dangerous enemies to rise in power. We have seen its Arab outreach fall flat. Its “pivot to Asia” never materialized. We have seen a U.S. ambassador murdered for the first time in 30 years. We have seen this administration allow Russia to take over handling the civil war in Syria, not to mention Russia literally taking over Crimea and destabilizing Ukraine. We have seen this administration soften its sanctions

against Iran and abandon U.S. allies in Iraq.

Radical Islam is not “on the run,” as President Obama proclaimed on the campaign trail in 2012—it’s *on the rise*. Right now, Islamic death squads are gang-raping and mass-murdering their way across Iraq. Syria’s ongoing civil war has claimed at least 170,000 lives—with no end in sight. Libya’s civil war forced America to shut down its embassy in Tripoli. Russia is breathing down Eastern Europe’s neck. Jews are fleeing persecution in Europe.

America’s national debt is galloping toward \$18 *trillion*, making the United States the greatest debtor nation in the world. Ninety-two million Americans are out of the labor force; 23 million are either unemployed or underemployed. The number of people on food stamps, welfare and disability are *all* at record highs. And all of this domestic instability comes at a time when tens of thousands of

game!



illegal immigrants are pouring across the southern border and America's big cities are exploding in violence.

The world today is anything but tranquil. "The breadth of global instability now unfolding hasn't been seen *since the late 1970s*," the *Wall Street Journal* reported on July 13. The *New York Times* followed a week later with this headline: "Crises Cascade and Converge, Testing Obama" (July 22). According to the *Times*, "Rarely has a president been confronted with so many seemingly disparate foreign policy crises all at once—in Ukraine, Israel, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere" These head-spinning events prompted the *Los Angeles Times* to wonder, "Is global chaos the new normal?" (July 29).

Many commentators in recent months have compared the world today to the way it was in 1914, at the outset of World War I. Before the Great War, there had

been many breakthroughs in technology—particularly in the fields of travel, communication and trade. The world was getting smaller. A popular book at the time, called *The Great Illusion*, maintained that the world was too integrated—too sophisticated and advanced—to ever experience another large-scale world war.

Everything was awesome! That's what many of the educated elites thought at the time. And then the war came.

"Today's parallels with 1914 are very worrying," the *Telegraph* wrote on August 1.

The *Wall Street Journal* makes a more striking comparison to the years before World War I: "In 1938, British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, not unlike John Kerry today, shuttled tirelessly between London and wherever Adolf Hitler consented to meet him to discuss a nonviolent solution to Hitler's intention to annex the Sudetenland, the part of Czechoslovakia

inhabited by ethnic Germans. Hitler earlier in the year had annexed Austria, with nary a peep from the world 'community.' Many said the forced absorption of Austria was perfectly understandable" (July 30).

Isn't that how Western leaders have reacted to Vladimir Putin's recent conquests? *It's understandable. Crimeans, after all, are pro-Russian.*

Notice this recent headline from *The Atlantic*: "Yes, It Could Happen Again" (July 29). The trigger points that could start World War III are now in place, the author contended. He even gave a lengthy hypothetical explaining *how* World War III might start! Nothing makes this world more dangerous than American weakness, he wrote. "It is understandable that the United States is looking inward after more than a decade of post-9/11 war. But it is also worrying, because the credibility of American power remains the anchor of global security."

In his article "As the world burns, America shrugs," author Robert Fulford wrote: "The slow American withdrawal from world affairs has been apparent for a long time, but has never been so glaringly evident as this week in the Middle East" (*National Journal*, July 19). He referenced the latest round of warfare between Israel and Hamas, the brutal civil war in Syria, the territorial gains made by the Islamic State in Iraq, and Iran's quest for nuclear weapons.

Fulford concluded, "The United States has a position of sorts in each of these arenas, but it's not powerful in any of them. American influence has faded."

But try telling that to an administration official or a spokesman at the State Department and you're liable to provoke a retort like this: *What are you talking about—everything's awesome.*

Another 'Brilliant' Stroke

This summer, while promoting her latest book, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton was asked about America's deteriorating relationship with Russia. Clinton, you may remember, was the architect of the infamous "reset" strategy, which basically gave Russia a pass for its invasion of Georgia and then resulted in the removal of America's missile defense systems from Eastern Europe and its abandonment of Ukraine. This essentially cleared the way

for Vladimir Putin to devour Crimea and trigger a civil war in Ukraine.

“You famously pressed the reset button,” a BBC reporter reminded Mrs. Clinton in June. “Are you embarrassed by that now—that gesture?”

Then came the “everything is awesome” response: “No I think it was a BRILLIANT

America’s leaders can fiddle away and pretend that the nation isn’t burning if they like. But facts, as former U.S. President John Adams once said, are stubborn things.

STROKE which in retrospect it appears *even more so*, because LOOK AT WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED.”

In other words, this was an awesome strategy *at the time*—and it keeps getting *more awesome* with each passing day.

In Iraq, Not Awesome—But ...

Three years ago, President Obama said America’s withdrawal from Iraq was a culmination of a campaign promise he made before becoming president. “After taking office, I announced a new strategy that would end our combat mission in Iraq and remove all of our troops by the end of 2011,” the president said on Oct. 21, 2011. “So today, I can report that, *as promised*, the rest of our troops in Iraq will come home by the end of the year.”

Later in 2011, he assured the American people that everything would be awesome in Iraq after America’s departure. “We’re leaving behind a sovereign, stable and self-reliant Iraq with a representative government that was elected by its people. ... This is an extraordinary achievement, nearly nine years in the making” (Dec. 14, 2011).

During his reelection campaign the following year, one of the applause lines he repeated HUNDREDS of times was, *I promised to end the war in Iraq and I did*.

In June of this year, with the situation in Iraq having turned horribly bad, President Obama agreed to send Special Operations forces to help protect Baghdad. According to the *New York Times*, the administration accepted the same kind of immunity agreement from Iraq

that it rejected in 2011, “when it opted to withdraw all American troops from Iraq rather than

keep a residual force behind” (June 23).

It was the *administration’s* decision, in other words—NOT Iraq’s refusal to grant immunity to a residual force—that resulted in America’s full-scale withdrawal in 2011.

The *Times* noted that by accepting the same kind of deal today that he turned down three years ago, President Obama

was opening “himself to further questions about whether he made the right decision to pull out all American troops at the end of 2011.”

When questioned about that decision on August 9, President Obama said this: “This issue keeps on coming up *as if this was my decision*. The reason that we did not have a follow-on force in Iraq was because a majority of Iraqis did not want U.S. troops there and politically they could not pass the kind of laws that would be required to protect our troops in Iraq,” he said.

So everything might not be awesome in Iraq right now. *But that’s the Iraqis’ fault—not ours*.

Libya Pullout

When President Obama unilaterally invaded Libya in 2011, he said he had to act when he did because the city of Benghazi was only a day away from being slaughtered by Muammar Qadhafi’s forces. And so, the United States smashed Qadhafi’s army and handed the nation over to Libya’s rebel forces. They eventually captured the colonel, sexually assaulted him and then televised his public execution. At the time, the United States government laughed off the barbaric lynching and told us this: *Everything in Libya would turn out awesome*.

President Obama said Qadhafi’s death marked the end of a long and painful chapter in Libya. He said the people in the “new and democratic Libya” now had a chance to determine their own destiny. According to the president, Qadhafi’s demise came at a time “when we see the strength of American leadership across the world. We’ve taken out al Qaeda leaders, and we’ve put them on the path to defeat. We’re winding

down the war in Iraq and have begun a transition in Afghanistan. And now, working in Libya with friends and allies, we’ve demonstrated what collective action can achieve in the 21st century” (Oct. 20, 2011).

Since making that statement, the reality on the ground has become frighteningly dangerous. First there was the murder of Ambassador Stevens and three other Americans on September 11, 2012—by the very terrorist militias America joined forces with the year before, by the way. And then this past summer, due to the ongoing civil war, the United States of America was forced to shut down its embassy in Tripoli.

Notice this warning, posted by the U.S. Department of State on July 26: “Extremist groups in Libya have made several specific threats this year against U.S. government officials, citizens, and interests in Libya. ... [T]ravelers should be aware that they may be targeted for kidnapping, violent attacks or death. U.S. citizens currently in Libya should exercise extreme caution and depart *immediately*.”

Incredibly, just two weeks after the State Department told Americans to GET OUT of Libya immediately, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) lifted a 30-year ban on Libyan nationals attending flight schools and nuclear science training facilities in the United States. The ban was put in place during the Reagan era, following a wave of Libyan terrorist attacks. Today, however, DHS says the ban is obsolete because the United States and Libya have—and I’m not making this up—“*normalized their relationship*,” as the DHS directive states. According to DHS spokesman S.Y. Lee, the Obama administration is reviewing and revising its policies on Libya “to better align with U.S. interests *in light of its revolution*.”

Never mind that America has absolutely no presence in Libya today—not in Benghazi or in Tripoli. Never mind that American citizens have been warned, in the strongest possible terms, to get out of Libya now. What the administration wants you to know about post-revolution Libya is that it is *new* and DEMOCRATIC.

And its relationship with the United States is awesome.

A Modern-Day Rome

In August, while President Obama was vacationing at Martha’s Vineyard in

Massachusetts, the foreign minister of France slammed the U.S. leader for being out of touch with the many crises that are now happening.

"I know it is the holiday period in our Western countries," Laurent Fabius said during an interview, "but when people are dying, *you must come back from vacation.*" Even as hundreds of Christians and Yazidis were being slaughtered in Iraq, many Western leaders—not just President Obama—were on holiday.

Mr. Obama actually did return to Washington for a brief stint beginning on August 17. Before that, he broke away from vacationing to give a speech at a fundraising event in Tisbury, Massachusetts, on August 11. During that speech, he talked again about how awesome everything has been the past few years.

America today, he said, is stronger "in all sorts of ways," compared to when he first came into office. America has added jobs. Unemployment is down. Deficit spending has been slashed. The stock market has rebounded. Corporate profits are booming. The housing market has recovered.

America is in the best position in the world, he said. "There's no other country you'd rather be than the United States." And even though the news is filled with negative stories about Ukraine, Gaza and the Ebola virus, the world still looks to America for solutions to these crises, he said.

"There's a reason for that," the president continued. "Because despite the complaints and the second-guessing, and the anti-American sentiment that you hear sometimes on television around the globe, when there's an actual problem they all recognize *we're the one indispensable nation.*"

There may be a few hot spots here and there, but as far as America's power, prosperity and security is concerned—*everything is awesome.*

America's leaders can fiddle away and pretend that the nation isn't burning if they like. But facts, as former U.S. President John Adams once said, are stubborn things. By any objective indicator, the United States of America is far worse off than it was five or six years ago.

We've added \$7 trillion to the national debt just under this administration. Americans are already overtaxed and the nation itself is bankrupt. No nation has

WORLDWATCH

U.S. general killed in Afghanistan

UNITED STATES ARMY MAJ. GEN. HAROLD Greene was shot and killed in a "green on blue" insider attack on August 5, when an officer in an Afghan uniform opened fire at a military training facility in Qargha, Afghanistan. The 55-year-old, two-star general died on a deployment to Afghanistan after serving in the U.S. military for over 30 years. He became the highest-ranking U.S. military official to be killed in the line of duty since the Vietnam War.



The Afghan assailant, wielding a NATO-supplied machine gun, opened fire at a gathering at Marshal Fahim National Defense University, wounding 15 others, including a German brigadier general. The shooter is suspected of being a "sleeper jihadist" who joined the Afghan Army 2½ years ago and bided his time for such an attack. Vetting such insidious elements is tough in Afghanistan, where an opening for 200 jobs can draw as many as 10,000 applicants. The attacker's motive and possible ties to the Taliban have not been established.

"The insider threat is a pernicious threat, and it's difficult to always ascertain, to come to grips with the scope of it anywhere you are, particularly in a place like Afghanistan," Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. John Kirby said at a press briefing. This latest attack is the third this year. There were 15 "green on blue" attacks in 2013 and 48 in 2012, according to the Pentagon's April 2014 "Report on Progress Toward Security and Stability in Afghanistan." All in all, over 140 coalition troops have died as a result of such attacks, and more than 170 have been injured.

This attack comes amid gridlock between Afghanistan's squabbling presidential candidates, Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani, who both allege fraud in the June 14 run-off presidential election. It also comes amid concerns over America's exit strategy from war-torn Afghanistan.

The U.S. plans to end combat missions by December and reduce the current deployment of approximately 30,000 troops to 9,800. At the end of 2015, the number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan is expected to be less than 5,000.

ever been able to dig out of a financial pit this size.

Look at our moral decline—the breakdown of FAMILY and the epidemic of teen sex, cohabitation, same-sex "marriage," children born out of wedlock and the curse of all curses—fatherlessness. Think about what FAMILY LIFE is like along the crime-ridden streets of Chicago, Detroit and New York. Look at the race war in Ferguson.

Look at the assault on the U.S. Constitution. Look at the lawlessness promoted at the southern border, where hardened criminals and gang members are streaming across the Rio Grande along with all the other illegals. Everywhere we look, we see authority, discipline and justice being undermined by a spirit of rebellion and disobedience.

And look at the insatiable appetite Americans have for popular culture—for celebrities, sporting events and all other forms of entertainment.

Think about the gross ignorance and blindness of the average American who *sincerely believes* that EVERYTHING, for the most part, IS AWESOME.

That is what America's leaders want him to believe. That's why they say, "*Peace, peace; WHEN THERE IS NO PEACE*" (Jeremiah 6:14).

If you have eyes to see and ears to hear, be forewarned. God says when the ambassadors of peace proclaim peace and safety—when they say EVERYTHING IS AWESOME—beware *sudden* destruction (1 Thessalonians 5:3).



The Incredible Shrinking Planet

What happens when we bridge the geographic and linguistic gaps that have separated us for centuries? **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

THE WORLD TODAY IS TINY. BEFORE 1850, TRANSMITTING A message from Kansas City to Tokyo would have taken almost two months. Today it takes a few seconds. Before 1900, a journey from Philadelphia to Madrid would have taken 10 days. Today it takes eight hours. A culture that was totally unknown to the average 19th-century American—take the Vietnamese Kinh, for example—now has its own section in grocery stores, and representatives in most Western schools, universities and office complexes. Before 2000, translating a 10-page document would have taken hours of tedious labor. Today, you can use software to crudely render it almost instantly.

Planet Earth, always so vast and unknowable, has effectively been shrunk. Globalization, technological advancement, knowledge explosion and language trends are homogenizing it, blending its inhabitants into an ever more interconnected community. The integration between nations and cultures is utterly unprecedented.

What does it mean to live in a world that is shrinking so much and so fast? What will be the effect of smashing the geographic and linguistic barriers that have segregated us into distinct cultures for so many centuries? Many believe that our shrunken, interconnected, technology-saturated environment is ushering in a new age of peace among peoples. Some evidence seems to support such a view—but other factors point to a very different, far more disturbing outcome.

And Then There Was One

“Never, ever did I expect to be the last speaker of the Wichita language,” Doris McLemore said on July 10 during an interview with the *Trumpet*. McLemore was born 87 years ago in Anadarko, Oklahoma, where she still lives. She was raised by her full-blood Wichita maternal grandparents; Wichita was her first language.

Wichita is a difficult language—a halting stream of consonants and vowels broken by abrupt stoppages of air at the back of the throat called glottal stops. Linguists say evolving forms of it have been spoken in parts of North America for millennia.

McLemore clearly remembers a time when it was spoken by everyone around her. But now that has all been replaced by English. McLemore is the world’s last known fluent speaker. “It’s sad that the language is going to be gone,” she said.

After there are no more fluent Wichita speakers, a handful of linguists and members of the tribe will continue studying the basics of the language. But it will only be as a cultural curiosity, as a relic of a bygone era.

When Wichita goes extinct, it will join a quickly growing number of languages that die each year. In the last five years alone, the world has lost Nyawaygi in Australia, Pazeh in Taiwan, Livonian in Latvia, Klallam in the United States and some

150 other languages. The rate of language death is accelerating every year. It’s now happening at an unprecedented pace.

“Something like 30 to 50 languages per year go extinct,” biologist Mark Pagel said in a January 2 interview with National Public Radio. “[W]e’re losing our linguistic diversity at a really alarming rate.”

Already, more than half of the world’s people speak just 10 common languages.

And if current trends persist, Pagel says “it’s virtually inevitable that there will be a single language on Earth.”

What is the effect of such linguistic unification on our world?

A New Worldwide Mania

Until recently, in nations where this language isn’t natively spoken, proficiency in it was a marker of the elite. Now, it is a basic requirement for most everyone in the workforce. By a wide margin, it is the world’s most commonly studied foreign tongue. It is one of the easiest natural languages for non-native speakers to learn. It is the global media language—the primary tongue of TV, cinema and the computer world. Recent international treaties have established it as the official language for maritime and aeronautical communications. It is the *lingua franca* of the modern era. More than 2 billion people—almost one in three human beings—speak it daily.

The language, of course, is English.

The spread of English began during the 16th century with the expansion of the British Empire. Its diffusion was greatly intensified in the 20th century thanks to America’s economic, political, military and cultural dominance. It is now sweeping the world with what American entrepreneur Jay Walker calls “English mania.”

“English is the world’s second language,” Walker said in a recent TED talk. “Your native language is your life. But with English you can become part of a wider conversation: a global conversation.... The world has other universal languages. Mathematics is the language of science. Music is the language of emotions. And now

English is becoming the language of problem-solving. Not because America is pushing it, but because the world is pulling it.”

Pagel says the strength of English is its adaptability across cultures: “English is fissioning into many forms of English: Spanglish, Franglish.... But the remarkable thing around the world is that all of these sort of dialects of English are very good at communicating with each other.”

Lately, it has become routine for lead players from Russia and China to conduct meetings about mammoth trade deals, military cooperation, and ways to end the dollar’s dominance. Do you know the language they use during these talks? Mostly English. The same is true for an increasing number of international exchanges around the globe.

University of California–Irvine professor Mark Warschauer said, “It’s gotten to the point where almost in any part of the world, to be educated means to know English.”

The Ongoing Explosion

Meanwhile, mankind is in the midst of what can only be called an *explosion* of knowledge and technology. Its growth is exponential.

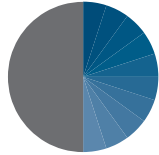
In 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright flew an airplane for 59 seconds. Four decades later, nimble Japanese warplanes bombed Pearl Harbor. Less than three decades after that, the United States landed men on the moon. So, mankind went from awkwardly gliding a few feet off the ground for less than a minute to shooting manned rockets to the moon and back—all within one human lifetime.

And from there, the speed of the exponential growth has only accelerated.

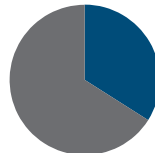
Google CEO Eric Schmidt recently said mankind now creates as much information *in two days* as humans did from “the dawn of civilization up until 2003.”

YouTube alone uploads more than 100 hours of video every single minute. Computer pioneer Mitchell Kapor said, “Getting information off the Internet is like taking a drink from a fire hydrant.”

The smartphone in your pocket has far more processing power than any computer



HALF OF ALL PEOPLE SPEAK ONE OF ONLY 10 LANGUAGES



ALMOST ONE IN THREE PEOPLE ON EARTH SPEAK ENGLISH DAILY



TAKEOFF Orville and Wilbur Wright fly the first successful airplane at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in 1903.



ONE GIANT STEP An Apollo 15 astronaut on the surface of the moon in 1971.

aboard the Apollo 11 spacecraft. It is a better communication tool than anything President Reagan had. And it gives you access to more information than President Bill Clinton could access.

Smartphones are not just for the affluent. More than one in five human beings on the planet now owns one. In Albania, it is not uncommon to see a person riding a donkey while speaking on an iPhone. In India, some beggars take breaks from solicitations to make calls on their Android devices. In the popular revolutions sweeping across the Arab world, they play a central role in informing and coordinating history-altering uprisings.

Technology has also given numerous culture-bridging options to those who do not yet speak a common language. Google Translate, ImTranslator, PROMT, Bing Translator and other services can provide crude translations among dozens of languages in just a few seconds—free. The translations are far from perfect (and can sometimes render comically incorrect interpretations), but even some professional translators use them as first drafts and then correct and polish the automated text.

Free online language-learning programs are also now widely available. One called Duolingo is designed so that as users progress through lessons, they simultaneously translate websites and other documents. “You learn a language, but while you’re learning, you’re also helping to translate the Web,” said Duolingo CEO Luis von Ahn. To ensure accuracy of translations, Duolingo has multiple students translate the same document. “We’ve measured,

and it’s as accurate as a single professional translator,” von Ahn said.

These and dozens of other new technologies are serving as trampolines beside the language barrier, letting millions hop over it every day. Another development, Skype Translator, combines speech recognition, machine translation and speech synthesis to provide uncannily fluent, cross-lingual conversations between speakers of different languages. That means a user can speak to someone who doesn’t understand his language, and the software will translate his words and speak them to him in almost real-time. Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella said, “It is going to make sure you can communicate with anybody without language barriers.” Demos show that translations rendered by Skype Translator are startlingly accurate. The product will be released to the public later this year.

Scientists are also rapidly developing artificial intelligence, medical technology, genetic engineering, nanotechnology, data science and an innumerable list of other technologies. More than 50 years ago, Danish physicist Niels Bohr said, “Technology has advanced more in the last 30 years than in the previous 2,000. The exponential increase in advancement will only continue.”

With each passing year, those words become truer.

Stop, Collaborate and Listen

When you add the explosion of knowledge/technology to the spread of English and the accelerating pace of language extinction,

it’s plain to see that the world today is tiny. Perhaps the most noteworthy result of the shrinking world has been the *mass intercultural collaboration* that has resulted from it.

In the pre-industrial world, it was not unheard of for large numbers of people from different cultures to work together on massive projects, but such projects were quite rare. And the definition of “large numbers” has evolved over time.

In the 10th century B.C., an unusually large group of Phoenicians and Israelites—more than 150,000—worked under King Solomon to build the first temple. In the 17th century, some 20,000 craftsmen from India, Persia, the Ottoman Empire and Europe pooled their efforts to build the Taj Mahal. In the early 20th century, 70,000 men from the West Indies, Panama, the United States, Italy and Spain collaborated to dig the Panama Canal.

But in the Internet age, tens of thousands or even 150,000 collaborators is a small number.

Wikipedia, the free online encyclopedia, is the product of collaboration by more than 22 million researchers, writers and editors from all over the world. Duolingo, launched only two years ago, already has more than 25 million users in nations around the globe working to translate the Internet into other languages.

But even these colossal figures pale in comparison to the number of people working together on a particularly brilliant project called reCAPTCHA.

Have you ever tried to order something using an Internet form and been asked to read a distorted word and then type it into a box? That is reCAPTCHA. It’s there to prove that the entity trying to submit



20,000 PEOPLE COLLABORATED TO BUILD THE TAJ MAHAL



22,000,000 PEOPLE COMPILED THE INFORMATION ON WIKIPEDIA



Mankind went from awkwardly gliding a few feet off the ground for less than a minute to shooting manned rockets to the moon and back—all within one human lifetime.

problem that's large enough that innovation and entrepreneurship can't solve," he said.

Theoretical physicist Freeman Dyson agrees. He said, "Technology is a gift of God. After the gift of life it is perhaps the greatest of God's gifts. It is the mother of civilizations, of arts and of sciences."

President John F. Kennedy differed. "I am sorry to say that there is too much point to the wisecrack that life is extinct on other planets because their scientists were more advanced than ours," he said.

Albert Einstein thought mankind's technological developments would lead to war so cataclysmic that it would "reset" civilization. "It has become appallingly obvious that our technology has exceeded our humanity," he said. "I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones."

Which side is right?

The Unfinished Skyscraper

For the answer, let's examine the world's first large-scale collaboration. More than 4,000 years ago, just two generations after the great Flood, Earth's human population exploded with growth. As recorded in Genesis 10 and 11, the bulk of the people gathered somewhere in the region of what

is now called Iraq (Genesis 11:2). They began collaborating on a massive project.

No communication barriers hindered their work on this project because everyone on Earth at the time spoke the same language (verse 1). This huge, single-language workforce *could have* accomplished virtually anything. In fact, the Creator God assessed the progress of their collaborative work, saw how seamlessly and rapidly they were advancing, and said it was clear to Him that such an integrated workforce could accomplish *anything its people could imagine* (verses 5-6).

God created human minds. He gave them their astounding power. He knew that with lots of people laboring together, unhindered by language barriers, the Iraqi sky was the limit.

But He also knew something else: "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5). Those words were written specifically about the people of the world *before* the Flood. But when the Genesis 11 account is viewed alongside Genesis 6:5 and other Bible passages (such as Jeremiah 17:9 and 2 Timothy 3:7), it is plain that this aspect of men's hearts did not change after the floodwaters

Urbanization Speeds Advancement

A CREW OF physicists and economists led by Geoffrey West of the Santa Fe Institute recently examined cities in a new way. They discovered that, as cities grow larger, they generate ideas more quickly.

After measuring the copyrights, patents, inventions and book production rates of numerous cities of various sizes, they concluded that a metropolis that is 10 times larger than its neighboring city does not have 10 times more patents, inventions, and books, but 17 times more. And a city 50 times bigger is around 130 times more creative and innovative.

So, despite noise, crowding, distraction and squalor, the average resident of a metropolis of 5 million people is almost three times more creative than the average resident of a town that is home to 100,000 souls.

The growth of villages into towns, towns to cities, and cities into bustling metropolises has been central to mankind's technological advancement.



the form is human and not some nefarious computer bot.

But here is the brilliant part: Those words are not random. Every person who enters reCAPTCHA text is also helping to digitize old books and newspapers. For newer publications, computers can recognize and digitize text without any human help. But for anything written more than 50 years ago, computers can only recognize about 70 percent of the words. Nothing short of a real, live human being can read the remaining words.

Every time you type a fuzzy word into a reCAPTCHA field, you are not only verifying to the website that you are a real human being, you are also helping to digitize an old document—making it available to Internet users around the world.

How many people—knowingly or unknowingly—have collaborated on this massive online project so far?

Seven-hundred and fifty million. That is *more than one in 10 of all living human beings*. Put together, these collaborators are digitizing the equivalent of 2.5 million books per year.

Dawn or Doom?

Truly, human collaboration has soared to unprecedented heights. But this raises a pressing question: Is all of this development good or bad? Does it mean mankind is on the cusp of ushering in a bright new dawn, or are we edging—gigabyte by gigabyte, invention by invention—nearer to extinction?

On both sides of this question, there are passionate arguments from leading thinkers.

Entrepreneur Naveen Jain believes technological advances will solve all of mankind's ancient problems. "There is not a

Man's greatest collaborative effort has produced 17,300 nuclear bombs. That's enough to wipe out all life on earth five times.



receded and the rivers crawled back into their banks.

Mankind's ideas, creativity and innovations are consistently motivated by selfishness. For proof, consider the project that this powerful, post-Flood workforce collaborated on. Remember, they could have accomplished virtually anything. So, what did they pool their resources and put their brilliant minds together to build?

A tower.

The Flood was fresh in their memories. They knew that God had sent it on earlier generations as punishment because they had chosen to live in rebellion against Him and His law of love. What did the post-Flood people learn from that history? That they should be different from the pre-Flood people, obey God, and avoid angering Him?

No. They learned that in order to continue rebelling, they should build a structure that would place them above the reach of any floodwaters in case God decided to send another one. They reasoned that if they could outclimb any future flood, then they could live their lives as they pleased and still avoid the punishment that had come upon earlier generations (Genesis 11:3-4).

This massive collaboration was as anti-God as any could be. And it progressed with stunning speed. God knew that this construction project was only the beginning. "[N]othing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do," He said (verse 6).

God knew that virtually anything a man can imagine, mankind can accomplish! Anything a scientist, science fiction author or child can dream up—radio, cars, airplanes, microwaves, smartphones, e-mail, space travel—mankind can eventually bring about if people are able to collaborate on a large enough scale.

God also knew of one thing that would perpetually be central in man's imagination: *weapons*.

He knew, as our history has proven, that humans would collaborate to build ever-more-destructive weaponry.

God had a plan for mankind and a specific time frame for that plan. He knew that if He didn't intervene with their project, then mankind would continue collaborating and would soon develop weapons of mass destruction that could *and would* wipe mankind out. This would interfere with His plan for humanity.

So He did something ingenious—something utterly original. He abruptly divided the people into separate linguistic groups, presumably by "rebooting" the language centers in their brains. There may have been dozens or even hundreds of language groups. Perhaps one was an early form of the Wichita that Mrs. McLemore speaks. With the laborers no longer able to communicate, work on the Tower of Babel screeched to a halt. It was never completed, and the groups scattered all over the planet (verses 7-9). Separated from each other linguistically, they dispersed geographically.

This phenomenon greatly slowed man's ability to collaborate, and to thereby bring to life the imaginations of his selfish heart.

Babel Undone

Four thousand years later, the world has changed. Man is learning to surmount language barriers. He is overcoming geographic segregation. The segregation of humanity that God caused at the Tower of Babel is essentially being undone.

Is this against God's will? Does it mean we have finally outfoxed our Creator? No. God knew we would eventually integrate and collaborate. In fact, He specifically prophesied the dawning of this interconnected, knowledge-saturated age we now live in. Through the Prophet Daniel, God said that at "the time of the end," knowledge would be increased. He forecast through the Apostle Paul that "in the last days, perilous times shall come," in part because people would be "[e]ver learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:1, 7). He condemns those who become "vain in their imaginations ... [p]rofessing themselves

to be wise," though they are "inventors of evil things" (Romans 1:21-22, 30).

The modern world—interconnected and knowledge-drenched—is a fulfillment of these prophecies. It has come to be as it is in perfect accordance with God's timetable.

God also spelled out another incredible prophecy, explaining that He would permit man's technology to advance enough to bring about those weapons capable of extinguishing *all human life* on Earth. "For there will be greater anguish than at any time since the world began. And it will never be so great again. In fact, unless that time of calamity is shortened, not a single person will survive. But it will be shortened for the sake of God's chosen ones" (Matthew 24:21-22; New Living Translation).

At the time that Jesus Christ spoke that prophecy, destruction of every "single person" was not possible. Warfare in those days of Roman rule consisted of hand-to-hand combat with swords, spears and weighted pila. The closest thing to a WMD was the stone-slinging catapult. Even after 1,200 years had passed, Attila the Hun was still using similar weaponry: bows, arrows and sabers. With these, his army was able to kill about one in 10 human beings alive at the time. By the 15th century, the advent of gunpowder had led to widespread use of guns and cannons. Soon after came rockets, grenades and bombs. All of these greatly increased the efficiency of extinguishing lives, but mankind still couldn't create a war that "not a single person" could survive.

But now that mankind is "reconnected," what is one of the landmark collaborative projects he has undertaken?

The atomic bomb.

Where We Are Now

Some 130,000 people collaborated on the Manhattan Project and other work that brought about the A-bomb. They came from many nations and language backgrounds. It couldn't have happened without the theory of relativity established by the German-born Jew, Albert Einstein. Germans Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann, and Austrians Lise Meitner and Otto Frisch, also contributed to the

► **SHRINKING PLANET** on page 36



SECURE Putin views his presidential regiment in Moscow.

Putin Won't Just Survive, He'll Thrive

Reports of the Russian dictator's demise are greatly exaggerated. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE DOWNING of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, a growing number of Western voices are saying the reign of Russian President Vladimir Putin is near its end.

“[I]t should be the beginning of the end for Vladimir Putin,” the *Australian* wrote on July 18.

Analyst Paul Vale said the “push by the EU to inflict more punishing strictures against Russia’s elites could ... pose an existential threat to the Putin regime” (*Huffington Post*, July 23).

Russia expert Ben Judah said the “European sanctions have spooked Russian elites. ... Putin is slowly morphing from being the guarantor of the oligarchs’ billions into a threat to their wealth. They

have started—for the first time—to become losers in Putinism” (*Politico*, July 31).

It is true that the tough sanctions the United States and Europe imposed on Russia after the MH17 tragedy were designed to squeeze Russians—elite and otherwise—enough to bring about regime change. Putin’s response was to ban virtually all food imports from the U.S. and Europe. It is hurting the West, but it is also intensifying the instability of Russian markets and the discomfort many individuals. All of this has some Russians questioning the direction Putin is leading them in.

But despite these developments, the *Trumpet* believe Putin will probably remain in office—and even survive politically in the longer term. This is our view for three main reasons.

Long Live the Czar

First, Putin is likely to survive because, despite the increasing economic discomfort most Russians are feeling, a growing number of them adore and fully support him.

“He made our people remember we were once a great nation,” Sevastopol resident Olga Rogachova told the *Trumpet* in July. “He is truly the hope of the nation.”

How is Mr. Putin pulling it off?

The sanctions on Russia, and Putin’s on Western food, have sent the prices of many foods climbing at alarming rates. It has prompted price hikes and runs on grocery stores, and may well lead to shortages. Russians who lived during the Soviet Union days remember price hikes and food shortages all too well. But Putin’s propaganda machine has shifted into overdrive to convince Russians to associate the new hardships with the heroic struggles of World War II rather than with the miscarried economy of the Soviet Union. As a result, most Russians view their setbacks as noble sacrifices made in the name of the war effort.

The latest opinion poll, published August 6 by the Levada Center, put Putin’s approval rating at a stratospheric 87 percent. It also said that a record 66 percent of Russians think the country is now going in the right direction.

The only time Putin’s popularity level soared higher was in September 2008 just after Russia crushed Georgia’s military and accomplished a de facto annexation of two Georgian regions. A full 88 percent

of Russians expressed approval of him at that time.

The pattern shows that Putin’s popularity climbs when he is boldly leading Russia to expand its territory and power. This is because he taps into the national pride abundant among Russians; he harnesses the deep-seated belief of many Russians that they are misunderstood by Westerners.

Political analyst George Bovt said, “The more pressure the international community applies, the stronger the anti-Western sentiment will become and the higher Putin’s ratings will climb” (*Moscow Times*, July 23).

But what about those who don’t approve of Putin? There is certainly some opposition. There is grumbling behind the scenes in the Russian Duma and among some oligarchs who, because of the trade war, are watching their wealth wither. A few are probably eyeing Putin the way vultures watch a wounded bear. But the president’s suppression of opposition is likely effective enough for any of the grumbling to translate into regime change.

Putin has taken several steps recently to neuter his opponents. He put opposition leaders such as Alexei Navalny under house arrest or in prison. In July, he made laws essentially making participation in opposition rallies a crime punishable by prison time and steep fines.

In mid-August, Putin quietly sacked 18 top-ranking Russian officials. Among them were the head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the chief of the Federal Drug Control Service, the head of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation and several high-ranking military personnel. Were these 18 pressuring Putin or disagreeing with him to a degree he found unacceptable? Were they suspected of staging a coup? We don’t know the reason for the ousting, but the message it sends to Russians is clear: Putin is in charge, and he has no tolerance for those who forget it.

In order to keep the propaganda machine well oiled, Putin has also been clamping down on domestic media. In November 2013, he greatly extended his grip over TV and radio when the media arm of state-controlled Gazprom bought Profmedia. In December, he dissolved Russia’s primary state news agency, RIA Novosti, after being angered by its coverage of the

Maidan protests in Ukraine. After shutting RIA Novosti down, he gave its facilities to Rossiya Segodnya, a news agency that is totally submissive to the Kremlin. Putin then went after smaller threats, passing legislation requiring all bloggers with

We believe Putin will survive not only the ongoing trade war, but also any larger conflict it may escalate into.

more than 3,000 subscribers (or Twitter followers) to register with the authorities.

As a result of all these measures, Putin's opposition has lost momentum. Meanwhile, his supporters are multiplying.

The Asian Alternative

Second, Putin can weather the Western frost by continuing to warm up to Asian nations. Since the earliest days of the Ukraine crisis, he has been tilting Russia ever more steeply toward the East, especially China and India. And these nations are gladly tilting right back toward Russia.

In March, just after Russia annexed Crimea, most in the West believed the so-called international community would stand together in condemning the move. But both Beijing and New Delhi made clear that *they supported Putin*. “Backing Russia is in China’s interests. ... We shouldn’t disappoint Russia when it finds itself in a time of need,” the *Global Times*, a mouthpiece for China’s Communist Party, wrote on March 5. The next day, India threw its support behind Russia, with a senior official saying, “There are legitimate Russian and other interests involved [in Ukraine].”

Both powers have consistently refused to join in on Western sanctions. Both have made strengthening ties with Moscow a top priority of their foreign policies. They both have robust economic interests in Russia, and share increasingly in Moscow’s anti-Western ideology.

Many Westerners seemed to think the downing of MH17 would change the minds of the Chinese and Indians. In its aftermath,

Washington renewed its requests for both to join Western impositions of new sanctions. But China was actually *more critical of the West’s response to the tragedy* than to Russia’s involvement. China’s official Xinhua news agency even printed—unchallenged—Moscow’s claim that it had spotted a Ukrainian fighter jet flying near the Malaysian airliner before it was downed. In India, the initial response to the tragedy was silence. Then came indications of increasing skepticism about the evidence presented by America and Ukraine. The Indians, like the Chinese, seemed to move even further into the Russian camp in the aftermath of the MH17 tragedy.

As the European Union scrambles to find ways of reducing its dependence on Russian gas and oil, China has giddily increased its consumption, signing a \$400 billion deal in May to buy Russian gas. It was the largest known business transaction in human history.

In mid-July, the leaders of the BRICS nations—Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa—announced the creation of a BRICS-supported New Development Bank, with a \$100 billion currency reserve fund, and \$50 billion in initial capitalization.

On August 4, more blowback from the sanctions occurred when Russian oligarchs began de-dollarizing their cash holdings and shifting instead to Hong Kong dollars. Days later, the Russian and Chinese central banks agreed on a draft currency swap deal, which lets them cut their dependence on the U.S. dollar.

BRICS nations are also supplying Russia with much of the food that it has stopped importing from the U.S. and Europe. China said on August 11 that it will start selling fruits and vegetables directly to Russia. Brazil also approved 90 new Brazilian meat plants to sell beef, chicken and pork to Russia. In addition, Brazil is increasing its exports of corn and soybeans to Russian buyers. Russian Agriculture Minister Nikolai Fedorov said that because of these moves, “No food shortages are expected.”

Even Japan has limited its sanctions against Russia to a degree that leaves the door open between Tokyo and Moscow. “Japan is sending the message that we are not enthusiastic about these sanctions,” said Yoshiaki Mine, a research director at the Canon Institute for Global Studies in

Tokyo and a former high-ranking Japanese diplomat. “Japan ... wants to keep an opening with Russia.”

Leaders in the West enjoy referring to the “international community” when they discuss the force that opposes Russia, but in reality such solidarity does not exist. Western attempts to isolate Russia have failed. And as tensions between Moscow and the West intensify, we can expect Russia’s lean toward Asia to become its permanent geopolitical posture.

On High Authority

Finally, the *Trumpet* believes Vladimir Putin will likely survive the current calamity because of evidence in the world’s most reliable geopolitical authority: the Holy Bible.

It would be easy to scoff at that statement, but consider the Bible’s track record in forecasting major geopolitical events. Scripture foretold the rise and fall of the Chaldean Empire, the Persian Empire, the Greco-Macedonian Empire, and several iterations of the Roman Empire. Then, years after those scriptures were written, all these kingdoms rose up and then crumbled away exactly how and when the Bible had said they would.

In the case of the Greco-Macedonian Empire, the Bible even prophesied the vital role that would be played by *one individual*: Alexander the Great. Passages in the book of Daniel foretold—some 200 years before he was even born—Alexander’s rule, his fierce conquests, and his sudden demise. (For a full explanation, request a copy of our free booklet *History and Prophecy of the Middle East*.) Alexander was shown the scriptures that had foretold his rule, and he believed that he did, in fact, fulfill the prophecies. First-century historian Josephus recorded the event. It happened when Alexander visited Jerusalem and met with the high priest, Jaddua. “And when the book of Daniel was shewed him, wherein Daniel declared that one of the Greeks should destroy the empire of the Persians, he supposed that himself was the person intended; and as he was then glad, he dismissed the multitude for the present ...” (*Antiquities of the Jews*, Book 11, Chap. 8, Sec. 5; William Whiston translation, 1981).

Alexander the Great is not the only history-altering individual whose impact was prophesied by Bible writers. Among

Russian military to add aircraft, vessels

THE RUSSIAN AIR FORCE WILL RECEIVE MORE THAN 200 NEW warplanes and helicopters by the end of 2014, Russian Air Force commander in chief Viktor Bondarev said on August 12. The announcement came just weeks after Moscow announced that its naval force will add more than 50 new vessels by the end of the year.

During celebrations of Russia's Air Force Day, Bondarev said the Russian Air Force has received more warplanes in the last three years than in the previous two decades.

In late June, the Russian Navy launched a Project 636 diesel-electric ultraquiet submarine, as well as a new-generation Project 12700 mine countermeasures ship. Navy commander in chief Adm. Viktor Chirkov said in a June 21 statement that by the end of the year, the navy will receive five more Project 636 submarines, four Raptor patrol boats and more than 40 additional combat and logistics vessels.

The announcements come at a time of increasing aggression by Vladimir Putin's Russia. And Kremlin analysts say that Russia is not even disclosing the full extent of its military spending.

After Russia announced its defense budget last year, Langley's Intelligence Group wrote, "[T]he budget put forth by the Duma's defense committee cannot accurately reflect either the real cost of Russia's growing expenditures on nuclear and conventional forces or the real size of deficits being run up to finance increased military spending."

Just as during the Cold War, Moscow's true military budget is a state secret. Langley Intelligence reported that the Duma figures are "transparently false to the point of absurdity, since the Russian armed forces outnumber those of the United States in every category and are embarked on ambitious modernization programs, while the U.S. military is cutting its budget."

for the prince of Rosh to appear! ... This much is absolutely certain: The restoring of Russia's power by Vladimir Putin—the prince of Russia—was prophesied! He has already solidly allied Russia with China. The prophecy about the prince of Russia includes that main alliance. ... The only question is whether or not Putin personally finishes the entire prophecy."

Since the *Trumpet* has this vital understanding of Vladimir Putin's role in end-time prophecy, we do not agree with those who think he won't survive the current turmoil. Part of this prophecy is already fulfilled, and it seems likely that Putin will survive to fulfill even more of it.

To learn more about this vital truth, and how it will directly affect your life in the very near future, download our reprint article "[The Prophetic Significance of the Ukraine Crisis](http://theTrumpet.com/go/ukraine)" (theTrumpet.com/go/ukraine). ■



SU-35S

Among the planes Russia obtained

- SU-35S
- SU-30M2
- SU-34
- MiG-29SMT
- SU-30SM
- IL-76MD-90A
- AN-148-100
- Yak-130 planes

It also received these helicopters

- Ka-52
- Mi-28N
- Mi-35M
- Mi-8AMTSh
- Mi-8MTV-5-1
- Mi-26
- Ka-226.80
- Ansat-U

Putin is prophesied

Learn what the Bible says about Russia—and specifically Vladimir Putin! Download our reprint article "[The Prophetic Significance of the Ukraine Crisis](http://theTrumpet.com/go/ukraine)."

theTrumpet.com/go/ukraine



the others are Josiah, the king of Judah; Cyrus, the king of Persia; and even Winston Churchill, the prime minister of Britain. All were prophesied to come onto the scene generations before they were born.

And there is another important individual whose appearance was foretold in the Holy Bible: Vladimir Putin.

A Prophesied 'Prince'

Around A.D. 90, the Apostle John recorded a jaw-dropping prophecy: "And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them" (Revelation 9:16). That is describing an army of 200 million men—far more people than were even alive when that prophecy was written.

The Bible provides many vital details about this largest army ever assembled on Earth. Revelation 16:12 calls it the "kings of the east," which shows it to be a confederacy of Asian nations. Other scriptures tell which specific countries will contribute soldiers to it. And others still reveal that the confederacy will have one lead country—and one individual man at the helm.

A prophecy in Ezekiel 38 lays out some of these important details. "And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, 'Son of man, set thy face unto Gog, of the land of Magog, PRINCE OF ROSH, Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy concerning him' (Ezekiel 38:1-2; KJV, Young's Literal Translation). *Rosh* was the ancient name of Russia, once called *Rus*. Many encyclopedias and commentaries (such as the *Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary*) recognize this.

The passage goes on to discuss the conquests of the mighty army led by this "prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal." It also discusses the army's eventual defeat. So, who is this mighty prince?

An in-depth study of the above scriptures, placed alongside other Bible passages, and viewed in the context of current events in Russia, makes the answer clear. Here is what editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote about it in the September *Trumpet*: "I strongly believe Vladimir Putin is going to lead the 200 million-man army. Just look at the power he already has. Can you think of any other Russian politician who could become so powerful and have the will to lead Russia into the crisis of crises? I see nobody else on the horizon who could do that. And only a tiny few years remain

How Bad Is California's 'Record' Drought?

"WE ARE facing the worst drought impact that we or our grandparents have ever seen," State Water Board chair Felicia Marcus said on July 15. "And, more important, we have no idea when it will end."

Across America, the economic and social impacts of California's record drought are beginning to be felt—and they may soon get a lot worse. At the current usage rate, California has less than two years of water remaining.

The state's snowpack, the source of roughly one third of the state's drinking and agricultural water, is only at about 20 percent of its normal water content. Earlier this year, the state announced that 17 small communities were within 100 days of running out of drinking water.

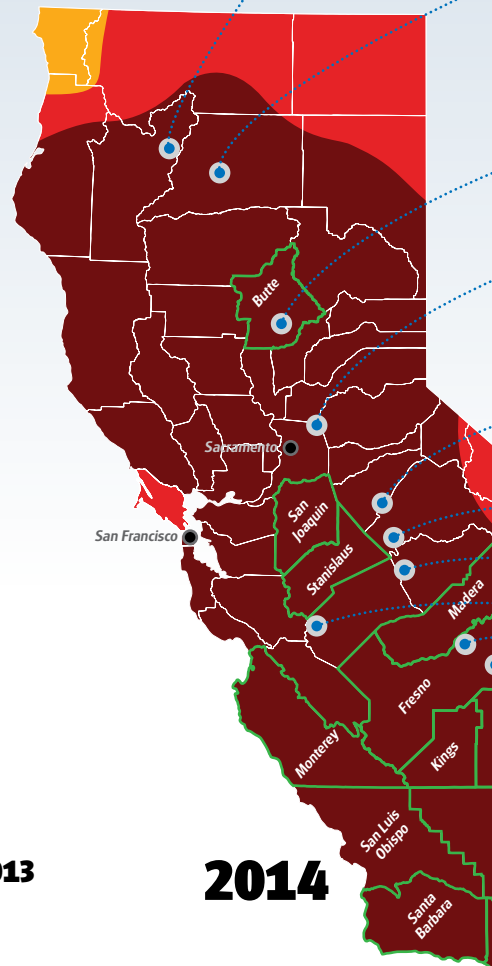
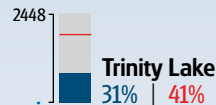
The dramatic statistics on this infographic point to the severity of California's current

three-year drought. What they don't tell is how bad the drought will be tomorrow.

The archaeological record points to far worse droughts in the past, including some that lasted more than 50 years. *California's current problems are only three years old.*

What would the state that produces so much of the nation's food, and is home to 38 million people, look like after an extended drought? This is what Californians should ask themselves. It has happened before. Actually, paleoclimatic data indicate that during the last 400 years, the U.S. has probably received some of the best weather North America has had to offer over the past 2,000—even considering the Dust Bowl of the 1930s.

The Bible prophesies that mega-droughts are on their way again.

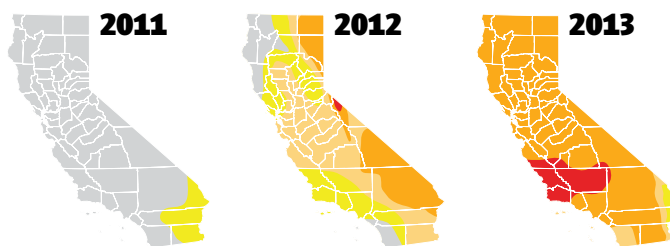


From seared to fully scorched

All it took was three short years to go from no drought to 85 percent of the state plagued by "extreme" or "exceptional" drought—the most severe levels used by the National Drought Mitigation Center. The current year is the driest since the start of record-keeping in 1895.

INTENSITY

- Exceptional Drought
- Extreme Drought
- Severe Drought
- Moderate Drought
- Abnormally Dry



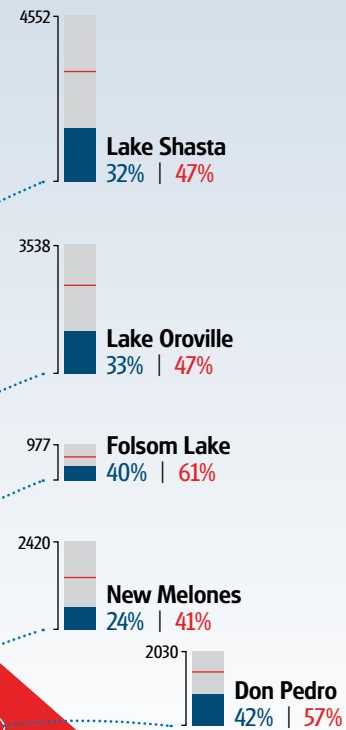
2014

- Leading food producing counties
- Major reservoirs



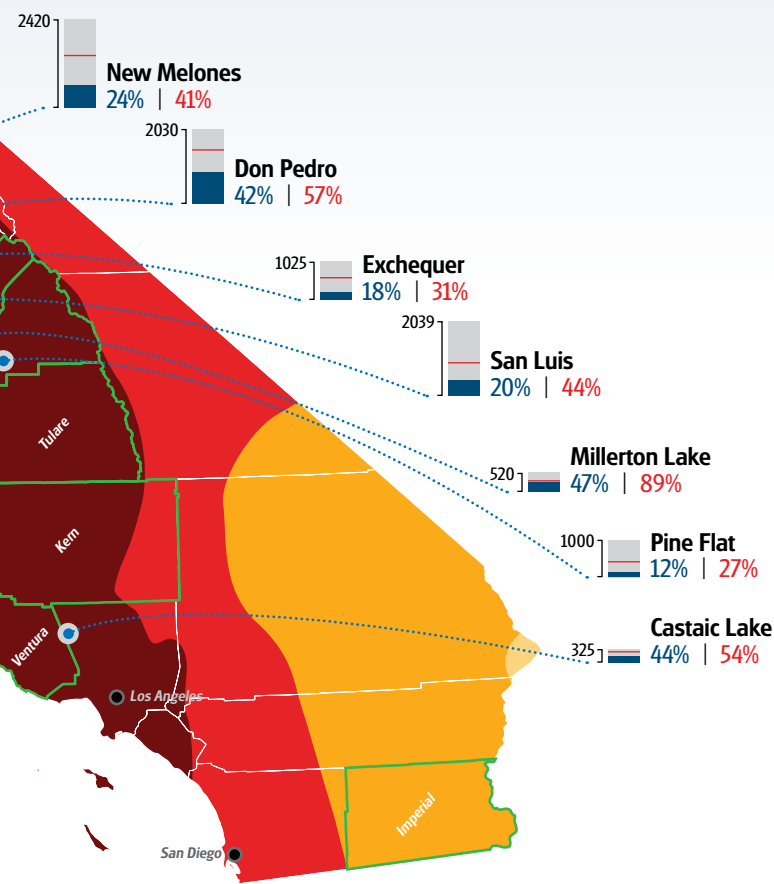
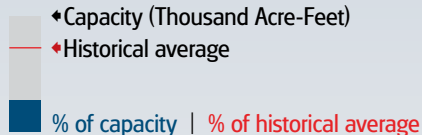
Folsom Lake





From plenty to empty

The state's major reservoirs are nearing crisis levels. There isn't a single major reservoir within the entire state of California at or above its historical average.



From bounty to bare

Thousands of acres of tinder-dry forests have gone up in flames. Fish and wildlife communities are being devastated. Orchards and vineyards are being bulldozed. Fields lay fallow. Thousands of workers are losing their livelihoods. Unless the drought ends soon, food prices could rise dramatically.

% of U.S. production grown in California | Water requirement per unit grown in gallons

	Broccoli	95%	5.4 (1 head)
	Walnuts	99%	4.9 (1 nut)
	Lettuce	74%	3.5 (1 head)
	Tomatoes	90%	3.3 (1 fruit)
	Almonds	99%	1.1 (1 nut)
	Pistachios	98%	0.75 (1 nut)
	Strawberries	92%	0.4 (1 fruit)
	Grapes	91%	0.3 (1 fruit)



Lake Oroville





The History That Is Prophecy

Why it is so important to study the former prophets

BY GERALD FLURRY

HOW OFTEN HAVE WE HEARD THAT “history repeats itself”? It does—time and time again.

The Old Testament is divided into three main sections: the law, the prophets, and the psalms, or writings (e.g. Luke 24:44). The prophets include what are classified as the “major” and “minor”

These books show that if we live the same lifestyles our forefathers did, we will attain virtually the same results—good or bad.

prophets. There also are the “former prophets,” comprised of the biblical books of Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, and 1 and 2 Kings. These were originally just two books: Joshua-Judges and the Book of Kings. They are all tied together; you need to understand them individually and as *one prophetic unit*.

20 These books record a broad sweep of history of the nation of Israel—from the time the

Israelites entered the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua until the two parts of the divided kingdom, Israel and Judah, were conquered and taken into captivity. There is a special message in all the former prophets. They are mostly about *history*, but they are called *former* PROPHETS for a reason. The word

former simply means that they are the *earlier* prophets. These books were written *by prophets* and are filled with end-time prophecy.

The message in Joshua and Judges is unique: If nations would follow Joshua’s way, then things would go well for them. The nations would have to look to Moses and the law of God. If, on the other hand, our modern nations of Israel chose to live as Israel did during the time of the

judges—when “every man did that which was right in his own eyes”—then there would be disaster! The books of Joshua and Judges contain prophecy of how we shall succeed or fail.

THE BOOKS OF KINGS AND SAMUEL TEACH US HOW TO BE KINGS AND PRIESTS. If people today followed these books, our nations would not be in the terrible condition they are today. These books record how to succeed or fail as God’s nation. They are a strong witness that if a nation goes the same way as ancient Israel, everything will fall apart.

Only History?

Traditional Christianity says the former prophets contain only history and are of limited value for us today. Such reasoning is ignorant and spiritually dangerous. There is a lot more to these books than just history. The former prophets contain many vital spiritual lessons for us today that we need to understand. These books teach us about leadership. They teach us

how to build faith. They give instruction especially pertinent to the ministry.

MANY AUTHORITIES CALL HISTORY OUR MOST EFFECTIVE TEACHER. There is a lot of truth to that statement. Napoleon Bonaparte said that if you want to be a great general, you must study the great generals of the past. That is good advice for us spiritually as well. Bible history is the greatest history of all because it's God's history. We have to learn about these spiritual warriors of the past. We need to learn about Joshua and Samuel, and about David—who has the greatest, longest biography in the Bible. We should understand why Saul failed even though he had such a great opportunity. We need to know about Elijah and Elisha.

What were these powerful leaders all about? We MUST learn from our history!

The former prophets contain a lot of direct *prophecies*—pivotal prophecies that are especially for this end time. The former prophets also give us *indirect* prophecies. Of course these books record history, but it is history that, in most cases, ALSO BECOMES PROPHECY. For example, it shows how the state of religion in ancient Israel revealed the state of the nation. So if we have the same or similar religious problems today, this is an indirect prophecy of what is happening in the end-time nations of Israel, which are primarily America and Britain. (If you have not proved this important truth, study our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.) These books show that if we live the same lifestyles our forefathers did, we will attain virtually the same results—good or bad. HISTORY BECOMES PROPHECY. Not all prophecy is history, but a lot of history becomes prophecy. *History prophesies the fate of nations*—whether they will thrive or collapse!

As long as we reject our history, we will never accept Bible prophecy. That means God must punish us as never before. The instrument God will use is rising quickly in Europe (Isaiah 10:5-7).

British and American leaders have been utterly contemptuous of World War II history that cost 50 million lives! Our nations will pay dearly for such dangerous contempt of history. But an *even worse* problem is that our *religious* leaders have forgotten our SPIRITUAL HISTORY. They don't even know that America, Britain and the Jews in the Middle East are all

a part of biblical Israel. THE ISRAELITES WERE THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO EVER HAD A HISTORY WITH GOD!

“Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are *written for our admonition, UPON WHOM THE ENDS OF THE WORLD ARE COME*” (1 Corinthians 10:11). Israel's history was recorded for our instruction. The lessons of the former prophets were written for you and me! There is *no excuse* for people to call them just history.

Primarily for Us

Ephesians 3:5 says God reveals truth *only* to His prophets and apostles. Ephesians 2:20 says that this is all “built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.” God revealed prophecy *only* to prophets in the Old Testament. Prophets certainly wrote the books of the former prophets. The writing prophets usually were the most outstanding in the work they did for God. Much of the content in these books is about prophets, and IT WAS ALL WRITTEN BY PROPHETS. So they are all prophetic history.

In Luke 24:25, Christ spoke these strong words of condemnation: “O fools,

and slow of heart to believe *all* that the prophets have spoken.” Do YOU believe ALL that the prophets have spoken? Christ called these people *fools* for failing to do so.

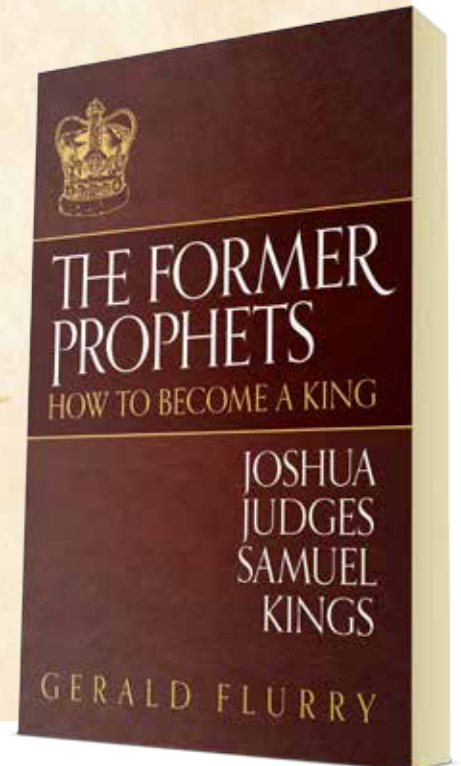
What prophets was Christ talking about? Verse 27 says, “And BEGINNING AT MOSES AND ALL THE PROPHETS, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.” He went all the way back to the Pentateuch and then the former prophets. Christ was very condemnatory of those people for not understanding what was in these books, including the former prophets. So we had better learn everything we can about these books and everything in the Bible that God leads us to understand. We don't want Christ calling us fools.

The former prophets are mostly prophetic. They contain *spiritual history* that is *primarily* for us today. God inspired these books *mainly* for our day—just before Jesus Christ's Second Coming.

We will never understand the lessons God wants to teach us if we don't study the former prophets. But few people heed God's warnings. And we are going to pay the ultimate price if we don't learn these God-inspired lessons! ■

Lessons in kingship

The former prophets were meticulously researched, written, edited and preserved with divine inspiration to provide lessons especially relevant to our day. This book will teach you • How to slay your giants and win your life's battles • How to be strengthened rather than defeated by trials • How to have more miracles in your life • How to shine more of God's light in a dark world • And many more valuable lessons in kingship. See the back cover of this magazine to learn how to request your free copy.



WHO WERE THE DRUIDS?



More evidence of America and Britain's ancient identity **BY BRAD MACDONALD**

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED HOW OFTEN THE *TRUMPET* encourages readers to study *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Of all the literature we publish, this book is the most important for understanding world events and Bible prophecy. Together with the Bible, it forms the prophetic foundation of this magazine.

The United States and Britain in Prophecy explains the origins of the United States, the British Commonwealth and the Jewish nation of Israel. Herbert W. Armstrong, the book's author, showed that these nations are the descendants of ancient Israel and therefore the inheritors of the extraordinary promises God made to Abraham, the father of Israel's patriarchs.

Among the many proofs of Israel's modern identity and location, Mr. Armstrong explained how the "lost 10 tribes of Israel" left the Levant in the eighth century B.C. and migrated through Europe and into the British Isles. From there, descendants of the tribe of Manasseh later departed for America ("new Israel," as many of them called it) and formed what became the United States of America.

Many people contest the idea that the Bible can provide insight into the identity of nations and international relations. But the facts in *The United States and*

Britain in Prophecy are validated by science, by rational argumentation, and by convincing empirical evidence.

Here we will look at some tangible evidence, not only historical documents, but actual artifacts—multiple giant features that one can visit and touch—showing that the lost 10 tribes of Israel migrated from the eastern Mediterranean, through Europe, and into the British Isles.

Meet King Jeroboam

When King Solomon died around 940 B.C. Israel was a united, rich and powerful kingdom. Solomon left Israel to his son, Rehoboam, who dealt harshly with the people, even dramatically raising taxes. King Rehoboam's cruel leadership provoked a revolution. In 1 Kings 12, the chapter that describes these events, the term "Israel" refers to 10 specific tribes. Verse 19 says that Israel "rebelled against the house of David unto this day."

The rebellion was led by Jeroboam, a prominent leader from the northern tribe of Ephraim (verse 20; 2 Chronicles 10:3). Following the revolt, Jeroboam was made king "over all Israel."

This was the moment Israel split into two kingdoms. The northern kingdom, situated in the region of Samaria, the Bible continued to call "Israel." This kingdom consisted of 10 tribes and was led by King Jeroboam. The southern kingdom, named



WRITTEN IN STONE Stonehenge, located in Wiltshire, England, is one of numerous tangible evidences of an ancient culture that lived there—one more familiar to Britons than they might think.

Judah, consisted of the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, as well as the Levites. Judah was led by King Rehoboam, and its headquarters remained in Jerusalem.

These two kingdoms, though family, became archrivals.

King Jeroboam didn't bask in success for long. Securing the allegiance of 2 to 3 million disgruntled Israelites was easy; he now faced the challenge of keeping it. His people were accustomed to looking to Jerusalem, to the temple priesthood and the Davidic monarchy, for leadership. Under kings David and Solomon, the government displayed strong, stable leadership, politically, religiously and culturally.

Israel's new king knew this would have to change, and quickly. Jeroboam's immediate goal was to sever his people's connection to Jerusalem, lest they gravitate back to Judah and its capital (1 Kings 12:26-27). To do this, Jeroboam invented an independent political and religious system in Israel.

Read for yourself what King Jeroboam told his people: "*It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt*" (verse 28). The king told his people, "Stop looking to Jerusalem, embrace this new political-religious system I have developed for you!"

So, what did King Jeroboam's counterfeit political-religious system look like?

Many people contest the idea that the Bible can provide insight into the identity of nations and international relations. But the facts in *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* are validated by science, by rational argumentation, and by convincing empirical evidence.

The Religion of Jeroboam

Like all good counterfeiters, King Jeroboam relied heavily upon the original product for inspiration. Basically, he took Israel's existing religion and refashioned it to his own liking, adding in doses of paganism that he had gleaned from Egypt (where he had lived) and surrounding Gentile nations. His strategy was effective. To the Israelites, King Jeroboam's political-religious system was similar enough to the one in Jerusalem to be believable. The people embraced it and never looked back.

You can see some of the specific beliefs and practices of Jeroboam's religion in the accompanying table. Let's notice some especially pertinent details.

1 Kings 12:31 says that Jeroboam "made an house of the high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi." The Hebrew word for *house* here means palace or temple. Jeroboam didn't want his people looking to the temple in Jerusalem, so he built a counterfeit temple in Samaria. Notice, he then filled that temple with "priests of the lowest of the people." King Jeroboam recognized the tremendous value of the temple and the Levitical priesthood, which God created and King David established in the united kingdom of Israel. Jeroboam created his own priesthood of ministers, musicians and poets.

Verse 32 continues, "And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, *like unto the feast that is in Judah*, and he offered upon the altar . . ." Jeroboam established his own holy day system, but it was patterned after the holy day system practiced in Judah. It was a perverted form of the true religion.

Notice. In Leviticus 23:34 God had established the timing of when Israel was to keep the Feast of Tabernacles, commanding, "The FIFTEENTH DAY of this SEVENTH MONTH shall be the feast of tabernacles . . ." King Jeroboam kept *his* feast of tabernacles one month later. (Keep this in mind.)

King Jeroboam also replaced worship on the Sabbath with worship on Sunday. For proof, see Hosea 2:11. Here, God sends the Prophet Hosea to denounce Israel for practicing the religion of Jeroboam, which included replacing God's Sabbath and holy days with "her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts."

King Jeroboam promoted idol worship, and created a number of pagan idols, many of them taken from Egypt and the surrounding Gentile peoples. He turned his people to these false gods, even claiming that these pagan

Religion of Jeroboam

A pagan system of seven annual feasts, counterfeited from God's true holy days (the biggest of which occurred in September or October). Spring and fall festivals were postponed one month.

The snake and cow were key symbols of pagan worship.

Worship often occurred on a "high hill" or in an elevated location.

Worship often took place in "groves" (small clumps of trees) or under a large tree.

Worship occurred within a circle of stones, often with a stone altar in the center.

Worship sometimes included human sacrifice.

Religious worship included the practice of witchcraft, divinations and enchantments.

A well-organized priestly system, patterned after the Levitical priesthood.

The primary centers of religious worship were in Ephraim (at Bethel) and in Dan.

Celtic Druidism

Eight annual feasts. The main Druidic festival, Samhain, occurs on November 1. Some people celebrated it for seven or eight days.

The snake and cow were important Druidic symbols.

Worship often took place on hilltops.

Worship would take place in groves.

Worship included stone monuments, stone circles.

Pagan religious practices included human sacrifice.

Worship included the practice of paganism and witchcraft.

Druids had a well-developed religious organization that included priests, bards and poets, teachers and judges.

Britain and Ireland were the center of Druidic religion.

gods were responsible for releasing Israel from Egyptian captivity (1 Kings 12:28).

King Jeroboam reigned for 22 years, during which he deeply entrenched his political-religious system in Israel. We know Jeroboam's religious system survived because biblical passages such as 2 Kings 17 show it to be alive and thriving more than 200 years after his death! Verse 22 describes Israel's condition toward the end of the eighth century B.C.: "For the children of Israel walked in ALL THE SINS OF JEROBOAM which he did; they departed not from them."

In verse 10 we read that practitioners of Jeroboam's religion at this time "set them up images and groves in every high hill, and under every green tree." The Hebrew term for *images* means "a column or memorial stone." Gesenius' *Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon* says it means "something set upright, specially: a) a pillar . . . b) a statue, the image of an idol, e.g. the statue of Baal." The Israelites also worshiped in "groves in every high hill, and under every green tree." The term *groves* refers to a place marked by trees. Often, as the scripture clearly says, they would gather under one large tree. (Groves can also refer to the pagan goddess, Asherah.) They also constructed worship places at the summit of "high hills."

Verses 16-17 provide further documentation: "And they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger."

The Israelites were deeply immersed in the practice

of "divination" and "enchantments," which means sorcery, witchcraft, fortune-telling, and looking to heavenly signs and omens. In fact, their religion had become so depraved they were practicing human sacrifice using their own children.

By the late eighth century B.C., the religion of Jeroboam was so entrenched—and the Israelites were so unrepentant, even rejecting multiple warnings from God's prophets—that God was left with no choice but to intervene and punish Israel severely. "For the children of Israel walked in ALL THE SINS OF JEROBOAM which he did; they departed not from them" (2 Kings 17:22). The primary reason for Israel's punishment was the unrepentant, pervasive practice of the religion of Jeroboam!

But remember: Despite their rebellion and although they didn't look like it at the time, these people were God's chosen people, a once-great cluster of tribes that God Himself had established and loved and had been working with for nearly a millennium!

2 Kings 17 discusses Israel's besiegement, capture and destruction by the Assyrians in 721-718 B.C.

"Until the Lord removed Israel out of his sight, as he had said by all his servants the prophets, *So was Israel CARRIED AWAY out of their own land to Assyria unto this day*" (verse 23).

The Bible couldn't be clearer! Millions of Israelites, a people deeply steeped in the religion of Jeroboam, were literally "carried away" to the land of Assyria. At this time, the Assyrians lived north and east of what we call the Black Sea. The Israelites settled here for a time, but continued to move into Western Europe (as did the Assyrians). Eventually, the tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh and Dan settled in the British Isles.

How can we prove this? Well, among other proofs, there is tangible evidence of the religion of Jeroboam being practiced in Western Europe and, even more so, in the British Isles!

Celtic Druidism

The *Oxford Dictionary* defines a Druid as “a priest, magician or soothsayer in the ancient Celtic religion.” The common perception today is that the Druids were a relatively small and insignificant class of people, and that ancient Druidism was an obscure religion, not widely practiced and without influence. This perception is false.

In *Celt, Druid and Culdee*, Isabel Hill Elder writes: “The popular belief that Druidism was the religion of ancient Britain and nothing more is entirely erroneous. Druidism was, in fact, THE CENTER AND SOURCE FROM WHICH RADIATED THE WHOLE OF ORGANIZED CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF THE COUNTRY The truth about the Druids ... is that they were men of culture, well educated, equitable and impartial in the administration of justice” (emphasis added).

Druidism was in fact the *defining* religion of the Celts, the people who lived in the British Isles, including Ireland, before the arrival of the Romans in the first century A.D.

1 Kings 12:28-33 records that King Jeroboam established centers of religious worship in Ephraim (in the border city of Bethel) and in Dan. Here, among the tribes of Ephraim and Dan in particular, Jeroboam placed his pagan priests on “the high places which he had made.” Isn’t it interesting that a few hundred years later, both Britain (Ephraim) and Ireland (Dan) were the centers of Druidism? This pagan religion was practiced in parts of Western Europe, but, just as it did during the time of Jeroboam, it thrived in, and emanated from, Ireland and Britain!

Druidism arrived in the British Isles in waves; however, historians agree that it was entrenched and thriving by the third century B.C. Prior to the arrival of the Romans, Druidism, though localized, was an elaborate and well-developed system of government, law and education. Druids were the leaders of local societies; the guardians of the law, politics and culture; and the chief musicians and artists.

The *Encyclopedia Britannica* introduces the Druid as a “member of the learned class among the ancient Celts. They seem to have frequented oak forests and ACTED AS PRIESTS, TEACHERS AND JUDGES.” Isn’t it interesting that Druid priests were also judges, teachers and even poets and musicians? This was similar to the Levitical priesthood established in Israel, which we know King Jeroboam counterfeited (1 Chronicles 23:3-5).

There are various forms of Druidism, and there are differences in the practices, customs and beliefs between the various forms. Most, however, recognize eight annual feasts. (God established seven annual holy days in ancient Israel). The four primary Druidic festivals are Samhain, Imbolc, Beltane and Lughnasadh. The four minor feasts revolve around the movement of the sun (winter solstice, spring equinox, summer solstice, and fall equinox).

For many Druids, Samhain was the most important festival. This festival was celebrated on November 1, though some people celebrated it for seven or eight days. Recall what King Jeroboam did with the *seven-day Feast of Tabernacles* that God inspired, which generally falls sometime during the months of September and October? He postponed it by one month!

Historical records show that the Druids worshiped in stone and timber circles, or henges, which were often situated on a high hill. Ireland and the United Kingdom today are littered with stone henges of all shapes and sizes. (Timber henges are rare due to decomposition.) There are well over 100 such ancient stone circles. Elder discusses these: “The gigantic monoliths placed in circles and the piles of stones were alike unhewn. These piles, called *si’uns* or *cairns*, and in the north of England known as *laws* or *lows*, were usually placed on the summit of hills and mounds. ... The similarity of *si’un* with the Hebrew word *Zion* (fortress), the Mount of Stone (as the name *Zion* in Celtic means), is striking.”

Most stone henges have been dated to *before* Israel’s Assyrian captivity. How can we explain this? Historical record shows that many Celts traced their ancestry all the way back to Egypt and

The Druids worshiped in the same manner as the Israelite practitioners of Jeroboam’s religion.

the Israelites’ captivity in Egypt (circa 1600 B.C.). After the Exodus, some Israelites, mainly from the tribe of Dan, separated and set off for the British Isles. The Bible also records that the patriarchs and early Israelite leaders such as Moses and Joshua also used stone monuments and altars (e.g. Genesis 31:45-46; Joshua 4:19-21). This history requires another article, but the point is: There was a series of smaller Israelite migrations to the British Isles more than a thousand years before the arrival of the lost 10 tribes and the religion of Jeroboam (e.g. Judges 5:17).

Druids also worshiped in groves, or clumps of trees. Oak trees were especially appealing and an important part of religious worship. In *Age of Fable*, 18th-century author Thomas Bulfinch wrote: “These sacred circles were generally situated near some stream, or under the shadow of a grove or wide-spreading oak. In the center of the circle stood the *Cromlech*, or altar, which was a large stone, placed in the manner of a table upon other stones set up on end. The Druids had also their high places, which were large stones or piles of stones on the summits of hills. These were called *Cairns*, and were used in the worship of the deity under the symbol of the sun.”

The Druids worshiped in the same manner as the Israelite practitioners of Jeroboam’s religion.

Among the various Druidic symbols, the snake and the cow were especially important. In *Mysteries of the Druids*, written in 1861, Winwood Reade wrote, “[T]he Druids worshiped the heavenly bodies, and also trees, and water, and mountains, and the *signs of the serpent, the bull and the cross*.” The serpent and cow featured heavily in Jeroboam’s religion as well (2 Kings 18:4; 1 Kings 12:28-30). Archaeological excavations in Britain have uncovered the remains of sheep, goats and cows at Druidic sites. These animals were obviously used in sacrifices. But notice, these are all “clean” animals. The Druids—and King Jeroboam before them—could have learned the truth about “clean and unclean meats” from only one place:

RIGHTEOUS ISRAEL! (see Leviticus 11).



A Dutch troop carries its flag during its integration into the German Army in June.

Building a Euroarmy before your eyes

THE DUTCH ARMY CONTAINS three brigades, plus support staff and Special Forces. On June 12, the German Army swallowed one of those brigades. The Netherlands' 11th Airmobile didn't lose a battle—it voluntarily joined the German military.

This was the first time in history that one European country has handed part of its army over to another. “Never before has a state renounced this elementary and integral part of its sovereignty,” *Die Welt*'s Thorsten Jungholt wrote on August 7.

And this is not a one-off circumstance. Berlin is making it clear it intends to follow this pattern and to absorb more units from foreign militaries.

Jungholt's title summed it up: “Germany Is Driving the European Army Project.”

Expanding the German Army

German generals already have their eyes on a second Dutch brigade. German Army Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Bruno Kasdorf wrote a letter outlining these plans. “The integration of

the Dutch 43rd Mechanized Brigade into the [German] 1st Armored Division shall be encouraged,” he wrote (date/reference). This would leave the 13th Mechanized Brigade as the only Dutch brigade still under Dutch command.

This military merger has received little attention in the Netherlands, but consider what is happening here. This is no small experiment simply to pay lip service to the idea of multinational cooperation. This is the Netherlands signing the core of its army over to Germany.

This comes in addition to extensive training and cooperation that already goes on between German and Dutch armed forces.

Kasdorf wrote that Germany wants to employ the Dutch model to its military relationships with other nations. “The bilateral cooperation with Austria and Poland is currently gaining much momentum,” he wrote (date/reference). In Austria, this coordination comes mainly in the form of “mountain-specific” activities, he said, but the

German military is considering “a more intensive ... cooperation ... in a form similar to the Netherlands” with Poland. Poland has agreed “to study the exchange of units/organizations,” with Germany, Kasdorf wrote.

These nations already share military training and exercises. Could we see Polish brigades joining the German Army soon? Last year Poland and Germany signed a naval agreement to train together and cooperate in the Baltic Sea. In the wake of the crisis in Ukraine, there may soon be more.

The Ultimate Goal

Hans-Peter Bartels, chairman of the German parliament's defense committee and the recipient of Kasdorf's letter, left no doubt as to the final goal for all this cooperation. “The hour has come, finally, for concrete steps towards a European Army,” he told *Die Welt*.

German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen has

a similar goal. “Today we embark on a new era of integration,” she said as the Dutch Airmobile brigade officially joined the German Army. “This cooperation will continue and even intensify. Our new partnership can also be seen as a model for Europe and its common security and defense policy.”

In his letter, Kasdorf wrote that Germany is a “driver and a pioneer” of international cooperation between armed forces.

As part of this effort, Bartels suggested that Germany may put some German soldiers under the command of other nations. This may happen, but it will have limits. Germany's constitution, and its interpretation by the Constitutional Court, ensures that the German parliament remain in ultimate control of the German Army. Europe's other militaries lack the same strict constitutional protection.



Kasdorf

Bartels's defense committee's job is to advise and scrutinize, not to make decisions. Bartels is a member of the Social Democratic Party, not the Christian Democratic

Union, which is the senior coalition partner. The ultimate decision makers in the German Defense Ministry have given no indication that they would be willing to sign over parts of the German Army to other nations.

Forced by Russia

For several years, financial pressures have been prompting Germany's neighbors to seek military cooperation. By working together, they can achieve the same bang for fewer bucks. But Russia's aggression in Ukraine is prompting an additional push in this direction.

“Something is sprouting in Germany,” wrote Jan Techau, director of the Carnegie Europe think tank. “As Europeans ponder the necessity of military strength after Russia’s annexation of Crimea, and NATO charts its course for the post-Afghanistan era, Europe’s reluctant central power is doing some serious soul-searching on its role as a military player.”

“This reflective process started years ago, when former defense minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg started to set things straight by calling the war in Afghanistan a war and a fallen soldier a fallen soldier—things that had previously been taboo. But now, after those linguistic adaptations to reality, it seems that a more profound change is happening, one that might eventually lead to a shift in political behavior” (Real Clear World, June 18).

Germany has sent planes to help patrol the Baltic states’ airspace and supplied a ship to NATO’s Baltic task force. It has also doubled to 120 the number of staff officers it has at NATO’s Multinational Corps’ northeast headquarters in Szczecin, Poland. This enables the corps to “increase its level of readiness significantly,” Techau wrote. “This NATO headquarters is predominantly dedicated to territorial defense—in other words, more than anything else, it looks at Russia.”

“Most importantly, Germany decided to integrate its land forces into the exercise scheme NATO is currently putting together to strengthen the alliance’s troop presence on its eastern flank,” he wrote. The scheme will probably be approved in September, giving NATO a constant presence in Central Europe, but without actually stationing any soldiers there permanently.

“Only months ago, Berlin would have categorically ruled out such a step,” continued Techau. “Now, Germany has put itself firmly at the center of a substantial NATO compromise that is addressed, of course, at Moscow. This is not a revolution in Germany’s military posture, but it is substantial progress.”

The Germans were already working on a European army before the Ukraine crisis. Now it has new urgency—and so do its eastern neighbors.

Germany is once again a major power in the world, and now, with the consolidation of its neighboring militaries into its ranks, it is on the road to become a major military power. Its attitude toward all things military is changing—right when it is openly building a European army. Berlin is not just going along with the conglomeration of a European army. It is the driving force.

Germany is entering a new era. For seven decades it has not been a military power. For seven decades it has allied with and trusted the United States to defend it. But the Americans abandoned Eastern Europe, abandoned red lines in Syria and abandoned Ukraine. So for Berlin, trusting anyone besides a European army commanded from Berlin is no longer an option.

Thus, as Russia rises in power, Germany is looking to its own defenses, building a credible military force from the fractured armies of Europe. Before long Germany will lead a world-class military quite independent from American interests.

Germany will be able to act independently of the United States in a way that has not been possible over the past 70 years. We are witnessing the birth of a new world power. ■



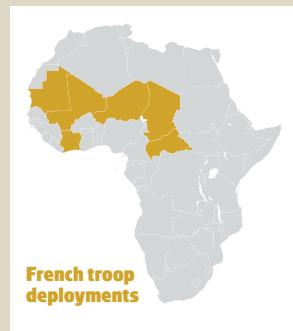
French Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian visits a French base in the Central African Republic in July.

FRANCE EXPANDS MALI MILITARY MISSION

France will replace its military mission in Mali with an expanded counterterrorism operation across the Sahel region, Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian announced on July 13. This will give France a substantial military presence across North Africa.

France currently has about 1,700 troops in Mali as part of Operation Serval. This will be replaced with Operation Barkhane, which will station 3,000 soldiers in Mali, Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso and Mauritania, supported by six fighter jets, three drones and 20 helicopters. One thousand soldiers will remain in Mali.

The 3,000 count does not include 2,000 French soldiers in the Central African Republic, nor does it include France’s 450-strong presence in the Ivory Coast, which will increase to 800 next year.



“[T]he deployment stands in marked contrast to the mood six or seven years ago—when François Hollande’s predecessor, Nicolas Sarkozy, felt able to plan for a significant reduction in the French military presence in West Africa,” noted BBC’s West Africa analyst, Paul Melly (May 8).

“Northern Africa is turning into a battleground with enormously important prophetic implications,” *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in our April 2013 edition.

It is a battleground France is taking very seriously.

“Iran has designs on being the strongest power throughout the region,” Mr. Flurry wrote, “and is extending its reach throughout North Africa. But Iran isn’t the only one interested in Africa.”

Iranian-backed radical Islamists have made huge gains in the region, but Europe is pushing back. While France’s latest deployment will not be enough to defeat the Islamists, it will make it much harder for them to expand. The fact that even in a time of austerity France is prepared to undertake an expensive military mission shows the importance Paris places on the region.

For more on the confrontation between Islam and Europe in North Africa, and why *Germany* will increasingly take the lead in that battle, read Mr. Flurry’s article “Watch Algeria!” (theTrumpet.com/go/10419).



Cardinal Fernando Filoni accepts a kiss from a displaced Iraqi in August in Iraq's Kurdish region.

Vatican calls for action against Islamic State

SENIOR VATICAN OFFICIALS called on the international community to take action against the savagery in Iraq by jihadists from the Islamic State.

A statement released by the Vatican on August 7 said Pope Francis “addresses an urgent appeal to the international community to take action to end the humanitarian tragedy now underway, to act to protect those affected or threatened by violence and to provide aid, especially for the most urgent needs of the many who have been forced to flee and who depend on the solidarity of others.”

Three days later, during his Sunday homily, Francis told tens of thousands of pilgrims congregating at St. Peter’s Square that the news coming from Iraq left him “incredulous and appalled.” Calling on the international community again to “stop these crimes,” the pope decried the eviction of thousands of Iraqis, including many Christians, the starvation and deaths of many children and the kidnapping of women—“violence of every kind; destruction everywhere.”

The Vatican’s ambassador to Iraq, Archbishop
28 Giorgio Lingua, was more specific. In an

August 10 interview with Vatican Radio, he praised U.S. air strikes, saying that the intervention was “something that had to be done, otherwise [the Islamic State] could not be stopped.”

The Vatican’s envoy to the United Nations, Archbishop

Silvano Tomasi, also expressed Vatican support for military action against the Islamic State. He told Vatican Radio that while reconciliation was the long-term objective, the short-term solution was “practical action” involving

“effective military protection.”

Catholic Online observed that Lingua’s call to arms “is virtually unprecedented for a papal envoy in modern times, but our age is an extraordinary one, and the Islamic State has no interest in a bargaining table. Instead, the Islamic State is bent on genocide and barbarism, ruthlessly exterminating anyone who opposes them” (August 11).

Such a call, however, was not unprecedented in medieval times. The Catholic Church has a well-documented, disturbing history of military expeditions called crusades. Medieval history teaches us exactly what provokes this church to such militant acts. That history, illuminated by Bible prophecy, shows the inevitability of another Catholic “holy” war against Muslims. ■



Palestinian supporters in Paris burn an Israeli flag.

JEWES FEAR A NEW HOLOCAUST

“Exodus: Why Europe’s Jews are fleeing once again.” That was the dramatic cover story of the August 8 edition of *Newsweek*. The response to the latest war in Gaza between Israel and Hamas has been so virulently anti-Semitic, especially in Europe, that news outlets around the world are taking notice.

“Never before since the Holocaust have we seen such a situation as today,” Israeli Jewish Congress President Vladimir Slutsker warned the Israeli Knesset Immigration Absorption and Diaspora Affairs Committee on July 28.

Around the world, throngs of protesters have chanted anti-Semitic slogans, burned Israeli flags, and even incited destruction of Jewish-owned property and assaults on Jews.

Protests were particularly violent in Paris, where thousands have rallied and attempted to attack Jewish synagogues and shops. Germany has also seen a disturbing rise in protests. The anti-Semitic chants the protesters used “haven’t been seen since the founding of the Federal Republic of Germany” after World War II, said Micha Brumlik, senior adviser at the Berlin-Brandenburg Center of Jewish Studies. Seven decades after the end of World War II, German youth are once again shouting, “Gas the Jews.”

“Fight together with us,” pleaded Israeli M. K. Shimon Ohayon to the foreign diplomats present at the July 28 meeting. “We ask you to stop this wheel [of] anti-Semitic hatred in Europe.”

At many of these protests, a phrase is becoming popular: “From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.” It’s a genocidal slogan calling for the total destruction of the State of Israel, which lies between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. It is little wonder that so many Jews fear violence, a new Kristallnacht—or another holocaust.

These protests have exposed the fact that much of the hatred against Israel is really hatred for the Jews. For more on the motivation for this hatred, watch Stephen Flurry’s *Trumpet Daily* video “Why So Much Hatred for Jews?” at theTrumpet.com/go/11938.



A 10-year-old boy with possible Ebola symptoms lies in an alley in Monrovia, Liberia.

Ebola going global?

THE EBOLA VIRUS HAS killed almost as many people this year as it has since its discovery in 1976. The virus's latest outbreak in the West African nations of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria is the deadliest on record, having killed 1,350 people as of August 20. Doctors say that 1,123 others are carrying the lethal virus.

At least three people are known to have carried the virus outside Africa. Miguel Pajares, a Spanish priest who had been treating patients in Liberia, died on August 12, five days after being evacuated to Spain for specialized treatment. Americans Dr. Kent Brantly and Nancy Writebol, were flown back from Liberia

IRAN RALLIES MUSLIMS AGAINST ISRAEL

Every Muslim around the world should arm Hamas in Gaza in its fight against Israel, Iran's supreme leader said during a prayer ceremony on July 29. "[T]he Muslim world has a duty to arm the Palestinian nation by all means," Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said. He called Israel a "rabid dog" and a "rapacious wolf" that has "attacked innocent people, and humanity must show a reaction. This is genocide, a catastrophe of historical scale."

Iran is committed to destroying Israel and is now Hamas's largest supplier of weapons and cash. Recently, however, that flow has dwindled under the strain of economic sanctions against Iran and because of ideological differences between Iran and Hamas over the Syrian civil war.

After firing almost 3,000 rockets at Israeli civilians in a month and losing some of its military hardware to Israeli counterstrikes during Operation Protective Edge, Hamas is seeking to replenish its arsenal. But the European Union and the U.S. have been adamant in their calls for Hamas's disarmament. Khamenei characterized disarming Hamas as inhumane: "[Israelis] have been pounding innocent people day and night, and these men, women and children are defending themselves with minimum means, and now Americans and Europeans want to take even that away ... so that those merciless beasts could pound without qualm."

Though the U.S. is treating Iran like a reasonable negotiation partner, the radical goals of the Islamic state remain unchanged.



in early August for quarantined treatment at an Atlanta hospital. All three patients were treated with an experimental drug sanctioned by the World Health Organization (WHO) out of desperation. WHO assistant director general, Marie-Paule Kieny, told reporters: "[I]n the special circumstances of this Ebola outbreak it is ethical to offer unregistered interventions as potential treatments or prevention."

The Ebola virus—which has a fatality rate of up to 90 percent—has an incubation period ranging anywhere from a few days to three weeks. With a major outbreak ongoing, no licensed treatment or vaccine available, no known cure, a long incubation period and an infection that spreads by contact between blood or bodily fluids, the virus threatens to spread. Experts fear it already may be taking hold beyond West Africa.

Experts say the disease traces back to bats, which are considered a delicacy in parts of West Africa. The government in Guinea has banned the consumption of bats in an attempt to stop the spread, but many refuse to adhere to health laws laid down by the state.

However, an authority greater than Guinea also forbids the eating of bats: the Bible (Leviticus 11:19). Those who break the health law the Creator provided for human benefit are suffering and putting the world at risk.

Symbolized by the fourth horseman of the apocalypse in Revelation 6:8, disease epidemics and pandemics are prophesied to occur directly before the return of Jesus Christ. While it's unknown the extent to which this outbreak of Ebola will spread, worldwide infectious diseases are set to increase in the future. ■

Mercosur, EU draw closer

MEMBERS OF ONE OF South America's trade blocs, the Southern Common Market (Mercosur), agreed the last week of July on a joint proposal to negotiate a trade and cooperation agreement with the European Union.

Four of the five members of Mercosur—Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay—agreed on a tariff reduction proposal to go before the EU on August 7. The bloc now awaits the EU's decision.

"The objective is to negotiate a comprehensive trade agreement," the European Commission website says, "covering not only trade in industrial and agricultural goods but also services, improvement of rules on government procurement, intellectual property, customs and trade facilitation, and technical barriers to trade."

Brussels had been pressuring Mercosur to finish negotiations and finalize a free trade agreement with the EU. This exchange of proposals was meant to occur in December 2013. South America, rich in resources, is attractive hunting ground for resource-hungry European manufacturers.

The *Trumpet* and its predecessor, Herbert W. Armstrong's *Plain Truth*, have warned for more than 50 years that South America and Europe would join to form a powerful trading bloc. As the *Plain Truth* forecast in May 1962, this will have serious ramifications for America: "The United States is going to be left out in the cold as two gigantic trade blocs, Europe and Latin America, mesh together and begin calling the shots in world commerce." ■

► **DRUIDS** from page 25

Roman records, specifically the writings of Julius Caesar, indicate that at least some Druids conducted human sacrifices. As we read earlier, this too was a practice of the religion of Jeroboam.

It is also fascinating to consider the way the Druidic ministry was organized in various orders. In *How the Gospel Came to Britain*, Brian Williams writes: “One class was concerned strictly with the priestly or sacrificial office. There was another class which were considered prophets and were occasionally employed at the altar, but with a special duty of the composition of music and sacred hymns. A third strictly secular class was occupied in composing and reciting poetry for the encouragement of virtue and condemnation of vice. A fourth class was devoted to astrology, sorcery and occultism. The priesthood was hereditary, but the chief Druid was elected.”

Again, compare that with the Bible’s description of how King David organized the Levites in 1 Chronicles 23 and 24. Under God’s direction, David divided the Levites into departments, or “courses.” These included “officers and judges,” “porters,” singers and musicians, and departments responsible for even more specific functions. King Jeroboam counterfeited all of this, and Israel’s descendants in the British Isles centuries later *still* practiced his corrupted forms!

Archaeological excavations in the British Isles have uncovered the remains of Druid priests. Along with the skeletal remains, priestly garments—intricately designed clothes of amazing patterns and colors, studded with precious stones—have also been found. From whom did the Druids, and Jeroboam before them, learn about priestly garb? Again, from the high priests in righteous Israel! Passages such as Exodus 28:15-21 show the high priest wearing a white robe and a golden breastplate set with 12 precious jewels.

Records show that the Druids perpetuated their religion and government through a well-developed system of education. There were educational institutions, or colleges, spread throughout the British Isles. Elder wrote that when the Romans invaded there were “40 Druidic centers of learning” and that these “40 colleges were each presided over by a chief Druid.” During the time of Julius Caesar, people were traveling from Europe to the British Isles to be educated in Druidic colleges. But where did the Druids, and King Jeroboam before them, get the idea of institutionalized education?

Once again, from righteous Israel! The Bible clearly reveals that Samuel the prophet established a sophisticated, well-ordered system of education in Israel during the late 12th century and 11th century B.C. (1 Samuel 19:18-24; 2 Kings 2:3-15). Samuel had three colleges, and probably hundreds of students, “sons of the prophets.” King David himself was educated by Samuel and probably attended one of these colleges.

The Arrival of Christianity

What happened when Roman Christianity began to arrive in the British Isles in the late first century? Was Celtic Druidism eradicated? Was it absorbed into British Christianity? The answer is: BOTH!

Elder writes: “Upon the introduction of Christianity the Druids were called upon, not so much to reverse their ancient faith, as to ‘lay it down for a fuller and more perfect revelation.’ *No country can show a more rapid, natural merging of a native religion into Christianity than that which was witnessed in Britain in the first century A.D.* The readiness with which the Druids accepted Christianity, the facilities with which their places of worship and colleges were turned to Christian uses, the willingness of the people to accept the new religion are facts which the modern historian has either overlooked or ignored.”

In *The Offshore Islanders*, historian Paul Johnson describes how Britain’s Christianity has always been distinct from Roman Christianity. Johnson calls it a “Celtic Christianity,” and it was prominent—in various forms and often localized—throughout the British Isles, especially Wales, Scotland and Ireland, before the large-scale arrival of Roman Catholicism in the late seventh century. Celtic Christianity was essentially a blend of Celtic religion and tradition and Christianity.

A lot of people would agree that this history is remarkable and fascinating. But it is also a wonderful opportunity. Before you set this article down and move on, take a few moments to think on what we have just witnessed. You have just seen the convergence, *in astonishing detail*, of secular history—tangible, quantifiable, undeniable facts about the Celtic religion—with the biblical narrative. Doesn’t this prove the veracity of the Bible?

Think too about our book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. This book isn’t a careless, lightweight, amalgamation of a few Bible stories and scriptures. It is not the impromptu thoughts of a modern Christian minister or the compilation of a few conspiracy theories. The message of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* is a thorough, well-researched, logical explanation of Scripture that has been repeatedly proven accurate by actual historical events and by mountains of tangible, quantifiable evidence.

If you haven’t already, you really should request and read this book. If you thought this study of the Druids was interesting, you will be astonished by the journey Mr. Armstrong will take you on in *Britain’s 4,000-Year-Old History*.

The first Druid lived here

How the Israelites migrated from Israel to Ireland is a remarkable story. To learn more about it, read our free e-book *Britain’s 4,000-Year-Old History*. You can download it right away at theTrumpet.com/go/Britain.





Fathers: Rule the Family Well

Your most important God-given duty **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**



THE MANY DISADVANTAGES OF GROWING UP IN A FATHERLESS home are beyond dispute. Fatherless families produce far more teenage delinquents, dropouts, drug addicts, profligates, brutes, criminals and suicides than homes in which the father is present.

If the father's mere *presence* at home automatically helps child development, think about the many additional benefits that come from a dedicated father who considers it his God-given duty to **TRAIN UP** a child in the way he should go (Proverbs 22:6).

The Bible outlines numerous **RESPONSIBILITIES** every man has as head of the family. What is the *most important*?

Notice what Paul told Timothy to look for when selecting men for lead positions in the Church: "One that *ruleth well* his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity" (1 Timothy 3:4). Paul could have stressed any number of fatherly responsibilities—that he should *lead, provide, sacrifice for, teach* and *love* his family. But Paul emphasized the *one duty* that encompasses **ALL** those responsibilities: *ruling* the family **WELL**.

The number one duty every Christian father has is to **RULE** the family well—to make sure children are brought into subjection. "For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?" (verse 5). It's not enough for a father to simply *be there*. **FATHERS MUST RULE**, and they must do it *well*, striving for *excellence* in fulfilling their God-given role as head of the home.

What happens when that job is neglected? A biblical example illustrates: King David. As a father, he was *there*, for the most part—although because he had several wives and at least 20 children, he surely struggled to provide his children with the proper amount of fatherly instruction and love. One of his sons, Adonijah, had a lot of leadership ability. He was a confident, talented, nice-looking, masculine young man. He had been educated well in the king's court and assumed himself to be the obvious successor to the throne. But as he "exalted himself" and tried to wrest the throne from his father, here is what the Bible says about David: "And his father had not displeased him at any time in saying, Why hast thou done so?" (1 Kings 1:6).

Notice! The Bible doesn't attribute Adonijah's rebellion to a lack of loving instruction or affectionate attention. It doesn't say Adonijah got lost in the shuffle because David had so many children. IT SAYS KING DAVID DIDN'T REBUKE HIM! David was *too easy* on his son. The Moffatt translation says David "never checked" Adonijah. He didn't confront him about his rebellious ways. Perhaps David saw all his good traits and thought the boy didn't really need discipline. Whatever the reason, David did not train his son.

He didn't restrain him. He gave him free rein. And in the end, because David failed to **RULE** his son *well*, Adonijah lost his life!

Such curses are everywhere in our world. Isaiah 3:1-2 prophesy of a time when the leading men, including strong fathers, would be gone. "And I will give children to be their *princes*, and babes shall **RULE** over them," the passage continues. "As for my people, *children are their oppressors*, and women **RULE** over them" (verses 4, 12). Children, instead of being a blessing to society, have become a curse. And notice the emphasis on *rule* in these verses: Strong fathers are gone—women and children *rule*.

Herbert W. Armstrong often said that a solid family structure is the foundation of any stable society or nation. Consider the Roman Empire. "First, at the bottom as it were of Roman society and forming its ultimate unit, was **THE FAMILY**," author Philip Van Ness Meyers wrote. "The *most important feature* or element of this family group was the **AUTHORITY OF THE FATHER**" (*Rome, Its Rise and Fall*, 1900; emphasis added). Rome, at its apex of power, was underpinned by a rock-solid *family* foundation.

The breakdown of that foundation contributed mightily to the fall of the empire, as Edward Gibbon noted in *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. Rome's fall, in other words, emphatically confirms what the Bible says about the role every father has within the family sphere.

God demands that fathers rule well for an important, ultimately spiritual reason. "[T]he united, closely knit together family of Christians—the Church—will, at the coming of Christ and the time of the resurrection, become the Kingdom of God!" Herbert W. Armstrong wrote. "The Kingdom of God starts with a family relationship—first the physical human families, second, the one compacted together Church and, finally, when the Church is changed to immortality, the God Family—which is the Kingdom of God!" (*Good News*, August 1985).

Yes, God's Kingdom starts with a *family* relationship! God is a Kingdom—the supreme, divine Family that **RULES** the universe *well*. He has called the saints—true Christians—out of this present evil world so we might ultimately assist Jesus Christ in bringing salvation to all of mankind. This miraculous, Earth-wide transformation starts with the families in God's Church! God has given us the opportunity to **RULE His way** now, *before* He turns over the reins of His family government to us. That means we, as Christian fathers, must implement God's loving family government in the home today. This world *needs* to see that government **IN ACTION** within our individual families. And our children **DESPERATELY** need to be brought up under God's family government—in a home where the *father rules WELL!* ■



On the border

Immigration to the United States was much different in the 19th and 20th centuries (“Borderline Breakdown,” September). Those immigrants who desired to make America their new home had to pass a vetting and screening process. Those who were deemed to be criminals, strikebreakers, carriers of disease or anarchists were denied access and summarily returned on a ship back to their place of origin. Those who were given approval didn’t just disappear into the morass of society. They found jobs, learned to speak English, learned the Constitution and the laws of the land and swore to obey them. Today, our current administration and most liberals want open borders to allow all comers, although they will deny it. Lawless people are pouring into America. This policy will not end well for America. *Theo Trecker—FLORIDA*

FEEDBACK

24% The United States of Gomorra

20% Vladimir Putin Is the Prophesied Prince of Russia

16% The World’s Newest Most Radical ‘State’

16% Tapped Out

8% Borderline Breakdown

16% (other articles)



The building of the atom bomb that ended World War II in the Pacific theater and secured our nation’s freedom and posterity was called “The Manhattan Project.” The current administration is swiftly building an immigration bomb that will help to fundamentally change the nation’s law-based freedoms and constitutional moral heritage. It should be called “The Washington Project.” *Thomas Garstka—MASSACHUSETTS*

God’s transcendent education

Many thanks for a truly inspiring article! (“Education That Transcends America, History and Time Itself!” September). What you are describing is ed-

ucation for life and that is exactly what *Trumpet* readers get in all the relevant and timely articles online and in the monthly publication. Thanks for the effort and hard work that goes into reporting on all of today’s many world events and how it is all fulfilling Bible prophecy. You don’t get that kind of educational news anywhere else on Earth!

Ross Freeman—ARIZONA

What a beautiful article, so full of hope and inspiration for the future. When I do get into discussions regarding the British Empire with people and the state of the world, they just go on about all the negatives regarding the greatest empire the world has ever seen. They go on about the slave trade, Britain exploiting other nation’s resources, etc. I let them finish and just ask them do they think if the empire was still in existence today, would the world be worse or better? Ninety percent say “better” as there would be much more stability in the world especially in the extremely explosive region of the Middle East. There would not be so much mass starvation, injustice and hatred in the former third world nations Britain once ruled with a sense of fair play and justice. I rest my case.

John—UNITED KINGDOM

SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Most Likes (*Trumpet Daily: The Alarm Is Sounding—But Is Anyone Listening?*)

#TrumpetDaily: Our world of disorder continues to degenerate.

theTrumpet.com/go/11986

Most Shared (IDF Soldiers Claim ‘Hand of God’ and ‘Clouds of Glory’ Saving Israel)

Is #Israel receiving divine protection from God in the Israel-Hamas war?

theTrumpet.com/go/12005

Most +1s (*Key of David: The Incredible Human Potential*)

What do you know about the incomprehensible future that awaits all humanity?

theTrumpet.com/go/11911

Most Favorited Tweet (The War Over World War I)

WW1 began 100 years ago. If we don’t learn from that history, we are doomed to repeat it.

theTrumpet.com/go/11873

Most Retweeted Tweet (Gaza War: Iran Rallies Muslims Against Israel)

#Iran’s supreme leader calls on every Muslim to arm Hamas in its fight against #Israel. Will he be answered?

theTrumpet.com/go/11952

The ISIS Problem

The lack of *will* among Americans is contributing to this ISIS problem (“The World’s Newest Most Radical State,” September). America is the most powerful country on Earth and it should act like one. Why wait until there are mass killings and displacements of people to do something? American media plays a huge part in not taking enough interest in what is happening in Iraq at the moment.

Muslihi Akida—CANADA

The November 2001 *Trumpet* edition warned that the only way to overcome Islamic terrorism is to dry out the entire “terrorist swamp” and not by merely killing individual terrorists. Only an all-out attack on its main source would be effective. America failed to do so. Now the door is open to the European “strongman” to accomplish this task. Again, three cheers for the *Trumpet* staff for their fantastic insight!

Peter Thomas—MALAYSIA

Wow! What a great article! No other news source even came close to exposing the truth about ISIS like this one did. How shameful of our so-called “free press.” Thank you *Trumpet* staff for publishing the facts!

Clyde Meador—FLORIDA

Living a Movie

Everything is falling into place and soon we will be led into the final conflict! (“Radical Islam’s New Top Target: Rome,” September). What really surprises me is how that the pace is advancing each and every day now. It’s as if we are watching a movie. It was written thousands of years ago and here we are living it.

Richard Villegas—CALIFORNIA

The prophesied Putin

It’s good to know that these times are moving so fast (“Vladimir Putin Is the Prophesied Prince of Russia,” September). I pray that it will all be over in a very short amount of time. Thank God that He is in complete control of it all.

David Messier—CANADA

Thank you for explaining the hope behind the horror. You are being led to explain “why” to the world in such detailed, yet simple terms.

Emma Morris—AUSTRALIA

Thank you for breaking this down step-by-step. This really makes it more real and urgent to the reader. Thank you for allowing God to work in you so you can warn about this prophesied prince of Russia.

Michelle Montgomery—VIRGINIA

Wells gone dry

I certainly appreciated your article (“Tapped Out,” September). What has happened to Detroit’s publicly owned water and electric companies is why Obamacare will not work. Most people, like the leaders in Detroit, are myopic; they cannot see past their liberal ideology. So, it is going to take a wake-up call, like the Tribulation to open their eyes and see that God’s way is the answer.

Danny Boren—ARKANSAS

What an eye-opener. If only the liberals would read this article, but you know they won’t. I believe deep down that they know their system is unfair and selfish. They just don’t want to be embarrassed enough to admit it. In the meantime they are ruining our country. The World Tomorrow is almost here. I can hardly wait! It will be a world without competition, political races, pain or suffering. Thank you!

Bridget Johnson—TENNESSEE

America’s moral decline

The comment mentioned by experts such as Sarah Brown, “Experts like Brown say teens are ... using contraceptives more” tells me that they are having more sex and not less (“The United States of Gomorrica,” September). This nation is living in an upside-down world, but what do you do when the majority of people are against us that want to live godly? The people that do not believe in homosexuality are “haters.” The ones that speak up against the immigration issue are “racists.” I could go on, but it is becoming harder to live the Christian life here in Gomorrica!

Chance Gill—TEXAS

It is hard to read, but prophecy tells us the U.S. will not be a factor in the end days. God is going to remove us from the world stage as a major power. This process will not be pretty. As His word is being fulfilled, we must accept what is coming with the knowledge that God is in control and His will shall be done.

Randy Townsend

There is a sense in the air that our national slide into decadence is not even a downward slope. It’s not a case of 2013 being 3 percent more deviant than 2012, while on track to be 30 percent more deviant in 2023. Oh no! Not necessarily on public display, but unless washed, dirty laundry gets stashed and hidden until there is no closet room left. So, hedonism is an exponential slope, growing yearly worse and worse until there is no room to hide it. In two years could we see 80 percent of our people a-okay with porn, divorce, homosexuality, public lewdness, drugs, etc.? By 2018, 95 percent of all U.S. and British citizens will be flushed down the moral toilet.

Tom Furmanski—NORTH DAKOTA

Thank you for the truth. This touches all of us. What we watch, what we read, what we listen to and even how we dress and eat. We are a sexually perverse, gluttonous, drugged nation. We are being warned!

Susan Garcia—TEXAS



More analysis More prophecy More Christian living

**Watch the *Trumpet Daily* on the Web,
at theTrumpet.com! Its Bible-based look
at world conditions and instruction in
living a successful life is some of our
most popular content online.**

Why So Much Hatred for Jews?

theTrumpet.com/go/11938

**The Immigration Crisis, President Obama
and the Truth**

theTrumpet.com/go/11910

**Revelation Series—Part 1: The Truth
About the Apocalypse**

theTrumpet.com/go/11895

An Agonizing Day of Global Disorder

theTrumpet.com/go/11931

**The Alarm Is Sounding—Is Anyone
Listening?**

theTrumpet.com/go/11986

Don't miss out!



Who's your daddy?

BRITAIN'S NATIONAL Health Service (NHS) announced a one-time \$130,000 grant to a sperm bank based at Birmingham Women's Hospital on August 1. The new sperm bank, National Gamete Donation Trust (NGDT), will cater to both NHS patients and private clients.

Heterosexual couples will be able to use this service, but a large percentage of the clientele is anticipated to be professional, single women—women who want to start a family without having a relationship with a man—women who want children without a father. The sperm bank will cater

“designer sperm,” allowing women to choose sperm based on the donor's height, age, ethnicity, skin tone, eye color, hair color and even his education and occupation.

The NHS aid makes obtaining sperm more affordable and keeps recipients from searching for donors online, which are considered more risky. The average visit will cost \$500, almost a third of the average

private rate of \$1,425.

In most cases, no matter which donor “designer babies” come from, they will be missing a father figure. That is nothing to worry about, according to Ms. Witjens, CEO of NGDT.

Many leaders and experts claim that a traditional father is unnecessary, that fatherlessness isn't a problem, and that any “family” arrangement will suffice. But the truth they cover up is that families without a father will cost the nation far more than the \$130,000 spent by NHS. The delinquency rate of children from single-parent homes is 10 to 15 percent higher than from two-parent homes. More than 80 percent of youth involved in homicide come from single-parent homes or broken families. You cannot simply eliminate the father figure and think society will function properly.

Of course there are exceptions, but take a look at society and you can see the importance of the father's role in the home. By aiding clients in their search for sperm, the NHS is accelerating the decline of society by assaulting the role of the father in the family. ■



DIVORCING? THROW A PARTY!

In years past, divorce was a subject associated with shame, regret and remorse. Those times have vanished: In 2014, divorce is not only rampant, it is celebrated.

According to journalist Martin Zabell, divorce parties are the new trend. Newly divided families happily get together with respective friends to have “freedom parties,” go out to dinner, go skydiving or some other exciting activity.

Practitioners say divorce parties are intended to make the separation easier. They are meant to help the children, if any, cope with the idea of Mom and Dad splitting up. It is to celebrate moving forward by yourself. To top it all off, you get gifts to replace what you lost in the divorce. Give the kids cake and ice cream, and hopefully they will forget about the family breakdown.

“It's part of life, and yet it's the only

major event for which we have no ritual,” Christine Gallagher said, owner of an event company in Los Angeles, The Divorce Party Planner.

Many divorcing parents console themselves with a belief that divorce repercussions on their children can be minimized if the couple maintains a good relationship after the separation. But according to a 2005 poll, even a “good divorce” causes psychological trauma to children with effects that last into adulthood.

Divorce is being glorified in Western society, but when families fall apart, the nation soon follows. Strong families are the backbone of a strong nation. Ancient Rome is an example of what will happen to a nation with rampant family breakdown. *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote, “Rome in its heyday was affluent and had the mightiest army on Earth, just like America today. Back then, when people talked about Rome falling, they were scoffed at and scorned. When Seneca, the famous Roman, warned that Rome would fall—even telling people *why* it would fall—the people ignored him. In the words of Seneca, one of the foundational reasons Rome would fall was the fact that ‘they divorce in order to remarry. They marry in order to divorce’” (March 2009).

When couples are divorcing, marriages are falling apart and children are suffering psychologically, the path the nation is traveling is clear. Even as divorcees celebrate their divorce, America will suffer the consequences.

A recent report titled “Hunger in America 2014,” released by Feeding America, revealed that 46 million Americans have relied on charities for food in the past year. That equates to one in seven Americans who cannot afford to feed themselves.

How to Watch the News

—without getting overwhelmed **BY DAVID VEJIL**

HUNDREDS OF HEADLINES PER MINUTE ARE POURING OUT right now from websites, apps, social media, networks, cable, magazines, radio and newspapers. The *New York Times* alone, for example, publishes 700 articles, 600 images, 14 slide shows and 50 videos online *per day*.

It's impossible to watch it all. The news glut is so excessive that we have now created news aggregators, programs that exist solely to sift the overflow of news: Flipboard, Pulse, Reddit, Instapaper, Reeder, Feedly, Digg, Readability, StumbleUpon, Taptu, Zite, etc. Yet now we find ourselves with a glut of *aggregators*. That is the kind of news deluge we are living under.

In this ocean of news, it's easy to miss information that is interesting or even accurate—let alone what is *truly important*. Millions of the news reports piling up today are simply a waste of time. Most reports are selected for their value in terms of sensation, shock, entertainment or celebrity. News writers focus on what you *want* to know, not what you *need* to know. Online, it's even worse. Millions of posts exist not to actually provide you with useful information, but to direct your eyes toward the advertisements that generate revenue for the website.

But submerged in this information overflow are some major events that will affect *your* life! Dramatically. Imminently. In fact, your world has *already* been shaped by news happening everywhere from down the street to the other side of the planet.

This is an important reason to watch the news: *because some of those events affect you*. They affect your loved ones, your nation and your world.

This has been true throughout human existence. Free republics are particularly dependent upon their citizens being well informed. But sadly, voters in declining societies focus mostly on local events that affect their own property. They overlook the effects on other people, and they ignore the bigger picture. History is full of the suffering and deaths of people who have ignored the world around them.

Disregarding the news is like sailing the ocean without ever coming on deck. Living your whole life in your cabin may keep you dry and warm for a while, but it also blinds you to the winds and waves and storms and reefs outside.

A world full of human nature is more tempestuous than the roiling high seas—and now, more than ever, it's more deadly.

But if you do come out on deck to be vigilant and discern the skies, how do you know what you're looking at? How do you know what's important?

You can try your best to absorb as much news as you can. You can use your judgment to reason out how the events you're seeing might affect you. You can use the judgment of others to analyze what is truly important. And you can come away feeling informed.

But feeling informed is not the same as being informed. The news stream saturates you with plenty of facts. Things you can remember and repeat. But Ray Bradbury called this “a *sense* of motion without moving.” It's the *feeling* of being well informed—without actually *being* well informed.

To be able to ignore these distractions and to spy a true course, you need a chart. You need information from a source that knows where the currents and the debris and the squalls are. Otherwise you're sailing by sight.

Believe it or not, there is one chart that claims to show you how to navigate world news. It was plotted by a cartographer who asserts knowledge of every current and wave of human nature. That chart is the Holy Bible. And that chart-maker is Jesus Christ.

Although He is not generally recognized as such, Jesus Christ was a news forecaster. During His life on Earth and throughout the Word of God, Christ's message has focused on world events. And

most of those events are actually occurring in our day. And as He prophesied, these world events are actually leading to His return!

Jesus Christ said in Matthew 24:42, “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.”

Jesus gave that directive while delivering His detailed “Olivet prophecy.” In that forecast, He gave His disciples the sign of His return and the end of the age. Along with other prophecies, this forecast tells us where we are in history, why world events are happening the way they are and how much time is left. They explain which nations rise to power and which ones fall. They show who will ally with whom, and what great wars will erupt.

Christ has been correct about major world trends that occurred centuries after He predicted them. This may seem outlandish, even to many Christians, but Revelation 19:10 says “the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” You can measure the accuracy and authority of Christ's words—by His prophecy.

This leaves you with a clear choice when watching the news: Prove whether or not the Bible contains this remarkable and relevant news insight, or rely on your own judgment and the analysis of others.

As you sail a dangerous world full of tumult and evil, this is a crucial decision you cannot avoid. ■



In this ocean of news, it's easy to miss information that is interesting or even accurate—let alone what is truly important.

For more information, read our free e-book *You Can Understand Prophecy*. Download it at theTrumpet.com/go/prophecy.

► SHRINKING PLANET from page 14

groundbreaking physics theory that made it possible. Other leading collaborators came from the U.S., Hungary, Italy, Poland, Canada, the United Kingdom and Denmark.

Research and production for the bomb occurred in the U.S., the United Kingdom and Canada. So the working language was English.

Not long after the Manhattan Project, mankind developed hydrogen bombs. These fusion-powered bombs are up to a thousand times more powerful than the fission-powered atomic ones dropped on Japan.

Today, mankind has at least 17,300 nuclear warheads. Only these nuclear weapons—developed just in the last seven decades—have the potential to erase *all human life* from Earth and thus fulfill Christ’s mind-boggling, 2,000-year-old prophecy recorded in Matthew 24.

Could another world war happen in which these bombs are detonated?

During this age in which 750 million people can labor together on a noble project, and in which innovation and collaboration are exploding with growth, shouldn’t we expect to see rapid progress toward global stability? Instead we see the opposite: exacerbating instability in Israel, Iraq, Syria, Iran, Ukraine, North Korea, Africa, the South China Sea, Central America and elsewhere. Civilization today has no shortage of flash points that could escalate to a thermonuclear level. Our collaborations, our technology, our imaginations have not resolved our conflicts. In fact, they have made them worse.

Herbert W. Armstrong was a leading expert on civilization’s origins, its turbulent history and its unstable present. He wrote: “[C]ould anything be wrapped in more mystery than this world’s civilization? How explain the astonishing paradox: a world of human minds that can send astronauts to the moon and back, produce the marvels of science and technology, transplant human hearts—yet cannot solve simple human problems of family life and group relationships, or peace between nations?” (*Mystery of the Ages*).

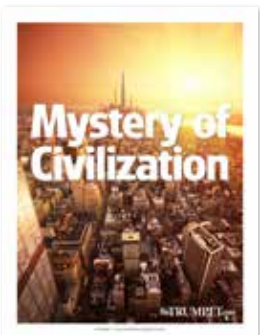
These questions are burning with more relevance than ever before. And you need to know their answers. To discover them, download your free copy of Mr. Armstrong’s e-book *The Mystery of Civilization*.

Research assistance by **WHITNEY KELSEY** and **BREANNA LEIFERMAN**

More knowledge, more problems?

Why doesn’t an increase in information lead to a decrease

in suffering? Learn the answer: Download our free e-book *The Mystery of Civilization* at theTrumpet.com/go/civilization.



THE KEY OF DAVID

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



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

UNITED STATES

- Nationwide Satellite**
Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
- Direct TV**
CW Plus, Chan. 34, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
Discovery, Chan. 278, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, Chan. 305, 6:00 ET, Fri
WGN, Chan. 307, 8:00 ET, Sun
- Dish Network**
Discovery, Chan. 182, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, Chan. 216, 6:00 ET, Fri
WGN, Chan. 239, 8:00 ET, Sun
- Nationwide Cable**
CW Plus, 9:30 ET/PT, Sun
Discovery, 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
ION, 6:00 ET, Fri
WGN, 8:00 ET, Sun
- Alabama, Birmingham** WPXH 5:00, Fri; WVUA 1:00 p.m., Sun
- Dothan** WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun
- Mobile** WFGX 7:30, Sun
- Montgomery** WBMM/WBMM-DT 8:30, Sun
- Alaska, Anchorage** KIMO-DT 8:30, Sun
- Fairbanks** KATN-DT 8:30, Sun
- Juneau** KJUD-DT 8:30, Sun
- Arizona, Phoenix** KPPX 5:00, Fri; KAZT 8:00, Sun
- Yuma-El Centro** KSWT-DT 9:30, Sun
- Arkansas, Fayetteville** KWFT 8:30, Sun
- Fort Smith** KCWA 8:30, Sun
- Jonesboro** KJOS 8:30, Sun
- Rogers** KWFT 8:30, Sun
- Springdale** KWFT 8:30, Sun
- California, Bakersfield** KGET-DT 9:30, Sun
- Chico** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun
- Eureka** KUVU-DT 9:30, Sun
- Los Angeles** KPXN 6:00, Fri; TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- Medford-Klamath Falls** KTVL-DT 9:30, Sun
- Monterey** KION 9:30, Sun
- Palm Springs** KESQ/KCWO-DT 9:30, Sun
- Redding** KHSL-DT 9:30, Sun; KRCR 9:00, Sun
- Sacramento** KSPX 6:00, Fri; TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- Salinas** KION 9:30, Sun
- San Diego** TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- San Francisco** KKPX 6:00, Fri
- Santa Barbara** KSBY-DT 9:30, Sun
- Sun City/Menifee** TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun
- Colorado, Denver** KPXC 5:00, Fri
- Grand Junction** KCJT 8:30, Sun
- Montrose** KKCO-DT 10:30, Sun
- Connecticut, Hartford** WHPX 6:00, Fri
- Delaware, Salisbury** WMDT-DT 9:30, Sun
- Florida, Gainesville** WCJB-DT 9:30, Sun
- Jacksonville** WPXC/WPXI-LP 6:00, Fri
- Miami** WPXM 6:00, Fri
- Orlando** WOPX 6:00, Fri
- Panama City** WHG-DT 8:30, Sun
- Pensacola** WFGX 7:30, Sun
- Tallahassee** WTLX 7:30, Sun
- Tallahassee-Thomasville** WTLF-DT/ WTLH-DT 9:30, Sun
- Tampa** WXPX 6:00, Fri
- West Palm Beach** WPXP 6:00, Fri

- Georgia, Albany** WBSK 9:30, Sun
- Atlanta** WPXA 6:00, Fri
- Augusta** WAGT-DT 9:30, Sun
- Brunswick** WPXC 6:00, Fri
- Columbus** WPGA 9:30, Sun
- Macon** WBMM 9:30, Sun
- Savannah** WGSB/WGCW-LP 9:30, Sun
- Hawaii, Hawaii Na Leo** Chan. 54 6:30, Sun; 8:30, Wed
- Kauai Ho’Ike** Chan. 52 9:30, Tue
- Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku** Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30, Mon
- Oahu** Focus Chan. 49 7:00 am Sat (Olelo) Chan. 27 5:00 am, Fri KPXO Chan. 333 3:30 am, Sun The Discovery Channel
- Idaho, Idaho Falls** KPFI/KBEO 10:30, Sun
- Pocatello** KPFI 10:30, Sun
- Twin Falls** KMVT-DT/KTWT-LP 10:30, Sun
- Illinois, Bloomington** WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Chicago** WCUU 7:00, Mon-Fri; WCIU 9:30, Sun; WCPX 5:00, Fri
- Peoria** WHOI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Rockford** WREX-DT 8:30, Sun
- Indiana, Fort Wayne** WPTA-DT 12.2 9:30, Sun
- Indianapolis** WIPX 6:00, Fri
- Terre Haute** WBI 8:30, Sun
- Iowa, Austin** KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Cedar Rapids** KPXR 5:00, Fri
- Des Moines** KFPM 5:00, Fri
- Kirkville** KWOT 8:30, Sun
- Mason City** KTTC-DT 8:30, Sun
- Ottumwa** KWOT 8:30, Sun
- Sioux City** KTVI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Kansas, Topeka** KSNT 8:30, Sun
- Kentucky, Bowling Green** WBKO 8:30, Sun
- Lexington** WUPX 6:00, Fri
- Louisiana, Alexandria** KBCA 8:30, Sun
- El Dorado-Monroe** KNOE-DT 8:30, Sun
- Lafayette** KADN 7:30, Sun; KLWB 8:30, Sun
- Lake Charles** WBLC 8:30, Sun
- New Orleans** WPXL 5:00, Fri
- Maine, Bangor** WABI-DT 9:30, Sun
- Presque Isle** WBPO 9:30, Sun
- Maryland, Salisbury** WBD 9:30, Sun
- Massachusetts, Holyoke** WBOT 9:30, Sun
- Springfield** WBQT 9:30, Sun
- Michigan, Alpena** WBAE 9:30, Sun
- Cadillac** WGTU/WGTQ 9:30, Sun
- Detroit** WPXD 6:00, Fri; WADL 10:00, Sun
- Grand Rapids** WZPX 5:00, Fri
- Lansing** WLAJ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Marquette** WBKP 9:30, Sun
- Traverse City** WGTU-DT/WGTQ-DT 9:30, Sun
- Minnesota, Duluth-Superior** WDLH 8:30, Sun
- Mankato** KWYE 8:30, Sun
- Minneapolis** KPXM 5:00, Fri
- Rochester-Austin** KTTC-DC 8:30, Sun
- Sioux Fall (Mitchell)** KWSD/KSWD-DT 8:30, Sun
- Mississippi, Biloxi** WBGP 8:30, Sun
- Columbus** WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
- Greenville** WBWD 8:30, Sun
- Greenwood** WBWD 8:30, Sun
- Gulfport** WBGP 8:30, Sun

BEGINNING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, AVAILABLE ON

CBS reality

IN BRITAIN (8 A.M.) AND ACROSS EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA.

Hattiesburg WBH 8:30, Sun
Laurel WBH 8:30, Sun
Meridian WTOK-DT 8:30, Sun
Tupelo WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
West Point WCBI-DT 8:30, Sun
Missouri, Columbia KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Hannibal WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
Jefferson City KOMU-DT 8:30, Sun
Joplin-Pittsburg KSXF 8:30, Sun
Kansas City KPXE 5:00, Fri
Quincy-Keokuk WGEM-DT 8:30, Sun
St. Joseph WBJO 8:30, Sun
Montana, Billings KTVO-DT 8:30, Sun
Bozeman-Butte KBZK-DT/KXLF-DT 10:30, Sun
Glendive KWZB 10:30, Sun
Great Falls KRTV-DT 10:30, Sun
Helena KMTF-DT 10:30, Sun
Missoula KPAX-DT 10:30, Sun
Nebraska, Lincoln-Hastings KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun
Kearney KCWL-TV 8:30, Sun
North Platte KNOP 10:30, Sun; KWPL 8:30, Sun
Scottsbluff KCHW 10:30, Sun
Nevada, Reno KREN/KREN-DT 9:30, Sun
New York, Albany WYXP 6:00, Fri
Binghamton WBXI 9:30, Sun
Buffalo WPXI 6:00, Fri; WUTV 10:00, Sun
Elmira WBE 9:30, Sun
New York City TVCLT-Bilingual, 10:30 Sun
 WPXN 6:00, Fri; WZME-TV 7:00, Sun; WZME-TV 8:00, Tue-Fri
Rochester WUHF 8:30, Sun
Syracuse WSPX 6:00, Fri
Utica WBU 9:30, Sun
Watertown WWTI-DT 9:30, Sun
North Carolina, Durham WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
Fayetteville WFPX 6:00, Fri
Greensboro WGFX 6:00, Fri
Greenville WEPX 6:00, Fri; WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Lumber Bridge WFPX 6:00, Fri
New Bern WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Raleigh WRPX 6:00, Fri; 9:00 am, Sun
Washington WNCT-DT 9:30, Sun
Wilmington WBW 9:30, Sun
North Dakota, Bismarck KWMMK 10:30, Sun
Dickinson KWMMK 10:30, Sun
Fargo WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun
Minot KWMMK 10:30, Sun

Valley City WDAY-DT 8:30, Sun
Ohio, Cleveland WVPX 6:00, Fri
Cincinnati WSTR 8:30, Sun
Lima WLIO-DT 9:30, Sun
Steubenville WBWO 9:30, Sun
Zanesville WBZV 9:30, Sun
Oklahoma, Lawton KAUZ 8:30, Sun
Oklahoma City KOPX 5:00, Fri
Tulsa KTPX 5:00, Fri
Oregon, Bend KTVZ-DT 9:30, Sun
Eugene KEVU-TV 10:00, Sun; KLSF 8:30, Fri; KMTR-DT 9:30, Sun
Portland KPXG 6:00, Fri
Pennsylvania, Erie WBEP 9:30, Sun
Philadelphia WPPX 6:00, Fri
Wilkes Barre WOPX 6:00, Fri
Rhode Island, Providence WPXQ 6:00, Fri
South Carolina, Charleston WCBD-DT 9:30, Sun
Florence WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
Myrtle Beach WWMB/WWMB-DT 9:30, Sun
South Dakota, Rapid City KWBH-LP 10:30, Sun
Tennessee, Jackson WBJK 8:30, Sun
Knoxville WPKX 6:00, Fri
Memphis WPXX 5:00, Fri
Nashville WNPX 5:00, Fri
Texas, Abilene KTWS-DT 8:30, Sun
Amarillo KVII-DT/KVII/KVII-DT 8:30, Sun
Beaumont KFDM-DT 8:30, Sun
Brownsville KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Corpus Christi KRIS-DT 8:30, Sun
Dallas KDAF 7:00, Sun; TVCLT-Bilingual, 9:30 Sun
Harlingen KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Houston KPXB 5:00, Fri
Laredo KTXW 8:30, Sun
Longview KCEB 8:30, Sun
Lubbock KLCW 8:30, Sun
Midland KWWT 8:30, Sun
Odessa KWWT 8:30, Sun
Port Arthur KFDM 8:30, Sun
San Angelo KWSA 8:30, Sun
San Antonio KPXL 5:00, Fri
Sherman-Ada K TEN-DT 8:30, Sun
Tyler KCEB 8:30, Sun
Victoria KWVB 8:30, Sun
Weslaco KSFE-LP/KTIZ-LP 8:30, Sun
Wichita Falls KAUZ-DT 8:30, Sun
Utah, Salt Lake City KUPX 5:00, Fri

Vermont, Burlington WVNY 10:00, Sun
Virginia, Charlottesville WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Harrisonburg WVIR-DT 9:30, Sun
Norfolk WPXV 6:00, Fri
Roanoke WPXR 6:00, Fri
Washington D.C. WPXW 6:00, Fri
Washington, Kennewick KCWK 9:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
Pasco KEPR 6:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
Richland KCWK 9:30, Sun; KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
Seattle-Tacoma KWFX 6:00, Fri
Seattle KCPO 7:00, Sun
Spokane KGFX 6:00, Fri; KAYU 7:30, Sun
Yakima KIMA-DT2 9:30, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Bluefield KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Charleston WLPX 6:00, Fri
Clarksburg WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun
Oak Hill KVVA-DT 9:30, Sun
Parkersburg WBPB 9:30, Sun
Weston WVFX-DT 9:30, Sun
Wheeling WBWO 9:30, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WQOW-DT/ WXOW-DT 8:30, Sun
La Crosse WQOW/WXOW 8:30, Sun
Milwaukee WPXE 5:00, Fri
Rhineland WAOW/WYOW 8:30, Sun
Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30, Sun
Wyoming, Casper 10:30, Sun
Cheyenne KCHW 10:30, Sun
Riverton 10:30, Sun

Lethbridge KAYU 8:30, Sun
British Columbia, Vancouver CHEK 9:00, Sun; CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun; KCPO 7:00, Sun
Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Manitoba, Winnipeg WUHF 8:30, Sun; CIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun
Nova Scotia, Halifax WUHF 8:30, Sun
Sydney WUHF 8:30, Sun
Ontario, Ottawa CJOH 5:30, Sun
Toronto WADL 10:00 Sun; WUTV 10:00, Sun; CHNU 8:30 pm, Sun
P.E.I., Charlottetown WUHF 8:30, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WYNY 10:00, Sun
Saskatchewan, Saskatoon WUHF 8:30, Sun

CARIBBEAN Regional satellite

Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Aruba WGN 8:00, Sun
Bahamas Discovery Chan. 26, 6:30, Sun
 FOX W Chan. 216, 10:30, Sun
Belize WGN 7:00, Sun
Cuba WGN 8:00, Sun
Dominican Republic WGN 8:00, Sun
Haiti WGN 7:00, Sun
Jamaica WGN 9:00, Sun
Puerto Rico WGN 8:00, Sun
Trinidad and Tobago WGN 8:00, Sun

LATIN AMERICA Regional satellite

Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
El Salvador WGN 6:00, Sun
Guatemala WGN 6:00, Sun
Honduras WGN 6:00, Sun
Mexico TVCLT-Bilingual, 7:30 Sun; WGN 7:00, Sun
Panama WGN 7:00, Sun

AUSTRALASIA

Australia
Adelaide TV44 11:30, Sun; 10:00, Sat
Perth WTV, 11:30, Sun/Wed
New Zealand TVNZ, 5:30, Sun
Philippines TV4 9:30 PHT, Sun

BRITAIN AND EUROPE Britain, Europe, the Middle East and Africa CBS Reality 8:00 B.S.T., Sun

CANADA

Nationwide satellite
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 17 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
 Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 ET, Tue/Thu
Nationwide cable
 WGN 8:00 ET, Sun
 Discovery 6:30 ET/PT, Sun
 Vision TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun
 CHCH 11:30 ET, Sun
 Grace Television Network 11:00 ET, Sun
Alberta, Red Deer KAYU 8:30, Sun
Calgary KAYU 8:30, Sun
Edmonton KAYU 8:30, Sun
Medicine Hat KAYU 8:30, Sun

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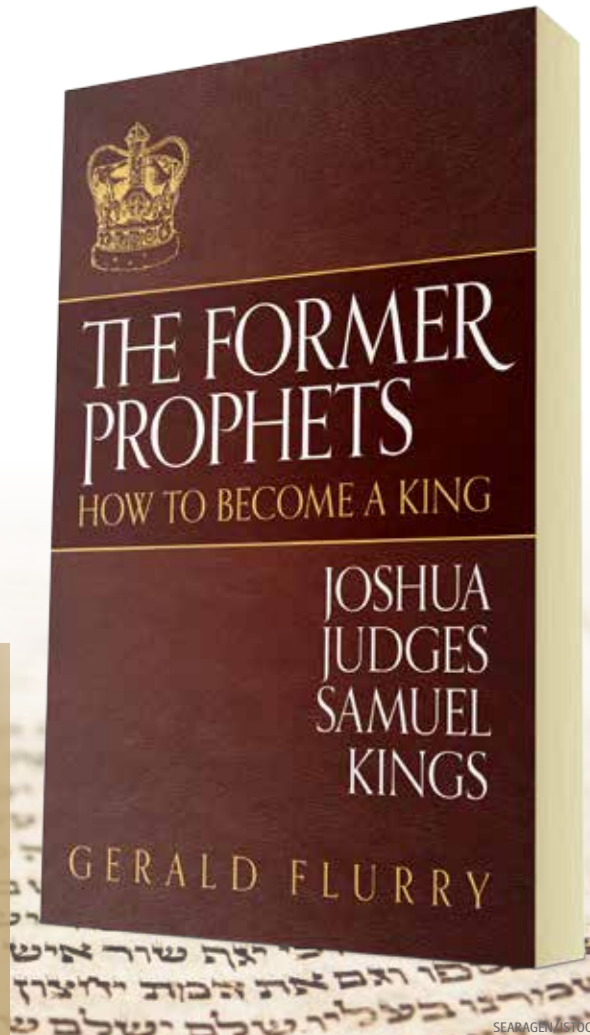
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