



Report:  
World  
Cup

**CRISIS IN EUROPE**  
A CLASSIC WHODUNIT

Your  
Family's  
Textbook



JULY 2010

THE PHILADELPHIA

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# TRUMPET

## One Fine Mess

America  
gets hit with  
yet another curse



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**COVER** A satellite image of the Gulf of Mexico shows the wide sweep of water polluted from a deep sea oil leak. NASA Photo

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# A Grave Danger Rises in Germany

**T**HE EUROPEAN UNION JUST ANNOUNCED A TRILLION-dollar bailout of Greece. That means that most of that burden falls on Germany, the financial powerhouse of Europe.

One television commentator said that Angela Merkel wanted a \$6 billion bailout, but President Obama pressured her to make it a \$1 trillion bailout. Also, President Sarkozy of France and other EU leaders put severe pressure on the German leader to support a large bailout.

Immediately after the Greece bailout was announced, gold prices soared to their highest level ever. *It was caused mostly by Germans buying gold.* They remember the hyperinflation in their recent history. They know that the euro is becoming a weak and unstable currency.

About 90 percent of the German people are very hostile toward the bailout. They are alarmed because they know that Germany will have to carry most of the financial burden. The people are fearful about their future.

When Germany is strong and the people are alarmed, all of us should be alarmed—especially in a crisis like this. If you understand German history, you know that the Germans are decisive when facing serious crises. History shows that they have repeatedly turned to a very strong leader to deal with a potential or real crisis.

Chancellor Merkel has not sought advice from her coalition partners. That has offended them and makes her even more alone and vulnerable. **HER POLITICAL CAREER IS NEAR ITS END!** We are about to see a strong leader rise in Germany—it is prophesied to happen. We have been proclaiming that prophecy for over 60 years. (Request our free booklets *Daniel—Unsealed at Last* and *He Was Right*. All of our literature is free.)

That strong man is undoubtedly plotting and planning even now to exploit the political turmoil. (That too is prophesied.)

Angela Merkel went from the queen of German politics to becoming close to a political outcast **IN SIX WEEKS!**

**WE NEED TO SEE HOW SUDDENLY THIS WORLD IS MOVING TOWARD A GIANT CATASTROPHE!** If these words don't wake those people who are asleep, world events will

**A STRONG GERMAN LEADER COULD BURST ON THE WORLD SCENE AS EARLY AS THIS YEAR!** He will be the decisive leader that Germans crave in a crisis. He will strike terror in nations as no leader ever has before! Our literature explains who we think he will be.



**GERALD FLURRY**  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Several financial authorities are saying that the trillion-dollar bailout of Greece is only buying *time*. But time for what? Time to fix the problem.

Now let me tell you how it will be fixed. In the next few short years, the European Union will be reduced from 27 nations to 10 kings (or rulers) of the Holy Roman Empire. We have been prophesying this for over 70 years. It will be ruled by Germany, but guided by the Vatican—the only power that can unify those 10 kings. (Request our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.)

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard wrote this for the *Telegraph* media group on May 16: “Chancellor Angela Merkel has put the best face on a deal that has so damaged her leadership. ‘If the euro falls, then Europe fails and the idea of European unity fails,’ she said. Too late, I think. *The German nation is moving on. I was struck by a piece in the Frankfurter Allgemeine proposing a new ‘hard currency’ made up of Germany, Austria, Benelux, Finland, the Czech Republic, and Poland, but without France*” (emphasis mine).

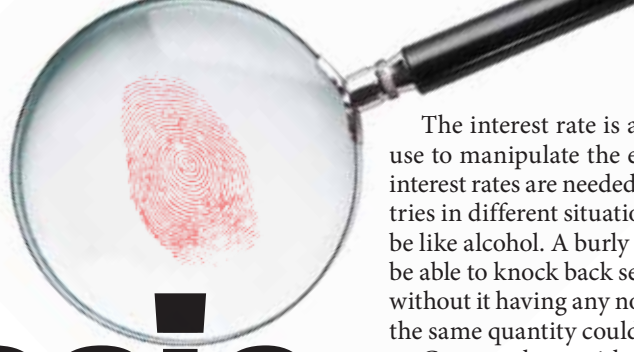
**YES, GERMANY IS MOVING FORWARD!** Already, you can see the thinking that will lead to the 10 kings! But the real power in that union will be Germany. The Germans have been planning to rule Europe and a lot more since before the end of World War II, when they realized they were going to lose. (That is

explained in our free booklet *The Rising Beast*.)

That statement is shocking to many people. But it shouldn't be. It is so well documented that a teenager can prove it. I challenge all of our readers to get and study the free booklets we are offering. Then you will know what is going to happen extremely soon in Europe and the rest of the world. ■



**Chancellor Merkel has not sought advice from her coalition partners. That has offended them and makes her even more alone and vulnerable. Her political career is near its end!**



# CRISIS IN EUROPE

# A Classic Whodunit

**What caused Greece's financial demise? Was it suicide? Accidental death? Neither. Media detectives are off the track. Something sinister is afoot. A master criminal is at work.** BY RON FRASER AND RICHARD PALMER

**I**S GREECE ABOUT TO COLLAPSE? Is the euro about to fall apart? Is this the end of the European Union? These questions seemed unthinkable a few months ago. Now they fill newspaper headlines.

Greece looks like it is about to disintegrate. On May 5, over 30,000 demonstrators overran the streets of Athens. They began their protest at the Field of Ares—named after the Greek god of war. Many were there to do battle—Molotov cocktails, gas masks and sticks their weapons of choice. “It’s not unusual in Greece for a small minority to cause trouble during a protest, but on Wednesday the rage ran deeper,” wrote *Time*. “It wasn’t just masked anarchists who charged police; men in polo shirts joined in too” (May 5).

The social unrest almost brought down Greece’s government.

And Greece is only the beginning. Within days, as news circulated that Portugal, Spain and Italy were in similar financial straits, global stock markets tanked and the euro plunged. Were it not for emergency meetings between eurozone states and other EU countries over the weekend of May 9-10—which concluded with the EU and the International Monetary Fund making \$1 trillion available to fragile eurozone countries—the European Union and the euro would have been in jeopardy of disintegrating.

The question now on everyone’s mind is, how did Europe get it so wrong?

Many commentators—especially Euroskeptical ones—point out that the project seemed bound to fail from the start. What they miss is that this is literally true. The euro project really was *bound to fail*—or at least to come close to doing so. It was *designed to do so*. This may be a crisis, *but it is a carefully planned one*.

“BERLIN HAS BEEN PLANNING FOR THIS CRISIS BEFORE IT EVEN ADOPTED THE EURO. EUROPEAN ELITES KNEW IT WOULD EVENTUALLY COME. AND THEY WILL SOON PRESENT A SOLUTION,” wrote the *Trumpet’s* editor in chief Gerald Flurry last year (February 2009).

Like a master criminal, the Euro-federalists behind the crisis have made Greece’s financial demise seem like suicide or accidental death. But really, media detectives are looking at it the wrong way. This is more than a case of reckless spending. It’s a whodunit.

### The Plot

Greece has been caught in a two-stage trap. First, by joining the euro, it was plunged into the world of low interest rates.

The interest rate is a tool governments use to manipulate the economy. Different interest rates are needed for different countries in different situations. In a way, it can be like alcohol. A burly bodybuilder might be able to knock back several pints of lager without it having any noticeable effect. But the same quantity could floor a ballerina.

Greece, along with a few other countries, just couldn’t handle the cheap credit. It was the ballerina. Actually, it’s a bit worse than that: Greece was an alcoholic ballerina—already heavily addicted to credit. Having lied about the amount of its government debt in order to get into the euro club, it was already headed for disaster. The euro just made the alcohol cheaper.

Usually, lenders would be cautious about lending to a country that seems dangerously drunk on debt already. But they kept giving cheap credit to Greece. They assumed that if anything went wrong, because Greece was in the euro, Germany would pick up the tab. Rather than having to pay more and more interest, as its position got worse, Greece was given cheap credit until lenders suddenly realized that Germany might not pay after all and hiked up their rates.

Greece is no innocent bystander in this debacle. But neither are the European central bankers. They knew that, given access to cheap credit, Greece and other similar nations would soon get inebriated. But perhaps even they were surprised by how quickly it happened.

This is when the second stage of the plot kicked in. Usually a nation with Greece’s problems would devalue its currency by printing more



money. With more money in circulation, the debts become easier to pay. This is a painful process—and the creditors get cheated—but usually it’s the least painful option available.

But because it is in the euro, Greece cannot print more money: Its currency is controlled by the European Central Bank (ECB), which is controlled by Germany. By staying in the euro, Greece is denied the



tools it needs to fix its problems, which has led to its current position, where it needs European help. And it looks like it will have to give up a lot to get it.

### The Spirit of Charlemagne

Europe's monetary endeavors have always been part of a plan to gain more political control. In discussions among European leaders, the legacy of Charlemagne comes up continually. It is one of the clearest hints of Europe's true goal. Charlemagne forged Western Europe into a single Catholic military empire. He was also famous for his common currency; he minted standardized silver coins all over his empire. Not only did his coins help spur trade, more importantly they gave Europe a sense of unity.

"[H]is portrait coinage," wrote one historian, "sent an impressive and influential message of imperial status and power throughout the Frankish world—and beyond" (Joanna Story, *Charlemagne: Empire and Society*). Indeed it did: Charlemagne's coins were deliberately modeled after Roman coinage, bearing a portrait of the emperor for the first time since the fall of Rome. They replaced more crudely made local coins that bore the name of a local ruler.

When hashing out the details of the European Monetary System (a precursor to the euro), then French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt held a summit in Aachen—the main seat of Charlemagne's

authority. In his book *The Rotten Heart of Europe*, Bernard Connolly wrote, "The symbolism was heavily underlined in both France and Germany; the two leaders paid a special visit to the throne of Charlemagne and a special service was held in the cathedral; at the end of the summit, Giscard remarked that: 'Perhaps when we discussed monetary problems, the spirit of Charlemagne brooded over us.'"

This is the spirit European leaders wish to revert to: one that used currency to unify and control a squabbling bunch of nations while it tried to increase its power abroad by forcibly converting others to Catholicism. Charlemagne spent decades murdering Saxons in an effort to force them to unify and accept Catholicism. This is the spirit of Charlemagne: a spirit that wants to resurrect the Roman Empire across Europe and will let nothing stand in its way. It is a spirit that thinks nothing of deliberately plunging a nation into economic catastrophe if necessary for the "greater good" of European unity.

### The New Roman Empire

Charlemagne saw himself not as founding a new empire, but simply reviving the much older Roman Empire. Modern Europe's movers and shakers view themselves the same way. They, like Hitler and Napoleon before them, hark back to Charlemagne, who looked back at Rome.

This succession of empires, all claiming the mantle of the Roman Empire, was precisely foretold in your Bible. Scripture

forecasts a major empire that would appear to be dead, but will be resurrected repetitiously. (For more information on this, request a free copy of our booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire* and read the third chapter.)

It is because of this understanding that the *Trumpet* has known from the start where the euro was leading. "Monetary union is but a means to an end—the fiscal means to achieving the goal of *political union*—a federation of European nation-states—in fact, a *European empire*," we wrote in May 1998—before euro nations began converting to the new currency.

Nine years later, it became clearer exactly how this could happen. In the summer of 2007, amid America's financial collapse, Bernard Connolly wrote, "[W]hatever mistakes Greenspan may have made, he just got it wrong: He didn't deliberately set up this Greek tragedy.

"In contrast, the EU quite deliberately created the most dangerous credit bubble of all: EMU [Economic Monetary Union]. And, whereas the mission of the Fed is to avoid a financial crisis, the mission of the ECB is to provoke one. The purpose of the crisis will be, as [Romano] Prodi, then Commission president, said in 2002, to allow the EU to take more power for itself. The sacrificial victims will be, in the first instance, families and firms (and banks and investors) in countries such as Ireland and Club Med. Subsequently, German savers (or British taxpayers) will bear the burden of bailouts that a newly empowered 'EU economic government' will ordain. ...



"The resulting carnage in the financial system of the whole euro area will make the present global financial crisis, serious though it is, seem almost insignificant" (Telegraph.co.uk, Aug. 20, 2007; emphasis mine throughout).

"Watch Germany," wrote Mr. Flurry as the Greek crisis began to unfold in late 2008. "Watch for Germany to be at the helm in a restructuring not only of EU member nations' economies, but of the entire European Union itself! That union will be united and then guided by the Vatican" (theTrumpet.com, Dec. 31, 2008).

And now what do we see? The entire Continent is looking to Germany to decide the future of Greece and the euro. Germany sits as Caesar, with the fallen gladiator before it. Thumbs up, and Greece is spared, thumbs down, and its economy is destroyed. Soon, it could be the euro itself squirming as it awaits Caesar's verdict.

### The Future

Already this crisis in Greece is propelling EU power to giddy heights. In order to receive the bailout it needs, Greece must implement a set of demanding terms and conditions. "[T]his is no ordinary piece of Euro-bureaucracy," wrote Anne Applebaum in the *Washington Post*. "This is the kind of thing a surrendering field marshal signs in a railway car in the forest at the end of a bloody war" (May 11).

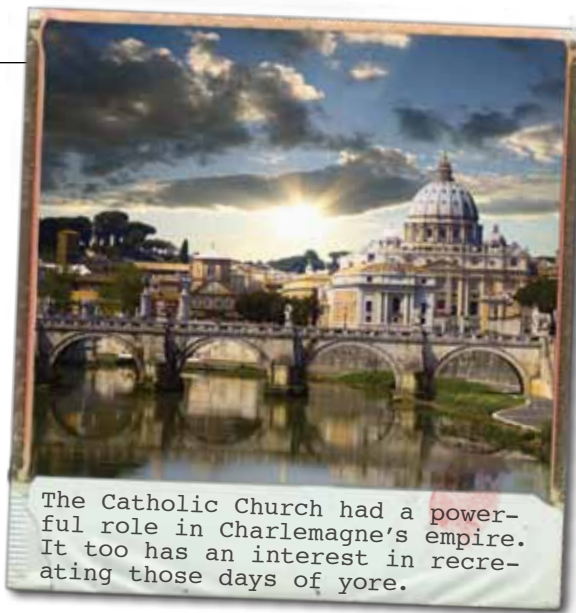
The document dictates that Greece "shall" implement several mandatory reforms. Europe is now dictating Greece's tax rates, public sector retirement ages, health care service policy, civil service pay and even small business legislation. Applebaum wrote that "the council's 'decision' does represent something new.

"Though the European Union has always required a partial surrender of sovereignty from its member states, GREECE NO LONGER HAS MUCH SOVEREIGNTY AT ALL," she continued. "I don't believe anybody, least of all the Greeks, knew that the European Union had so much power over its member states."

Did Europe reluctantly or accidentally end up with all this power over Greece? Neither: Everything is going according to plan. And if the financial crisis spreads further, as Applebaum noted, these conditions could be used as a blueprint for other countries forced to beg for help.

### "Germany ... Undisputed Master of Europe"

Not only does this financial crisis give Eu-



rope more power than it's ever had before, it also raises Germany to its highest position yet. Bankers, politicians and bureaucrats alike all look to Germany. "The heads of the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund made a joint pilgrimage to Berlin, pleading with lawmakers in the Bundestag to throw their full weight behind rescue efforts before the chain reaction spreads to Portugal and the rest of the EMU periphery," wrote the *Telegraph's* Ambrose Evans-Pritchard. "Their presence as supplicants in Berlin marks the symbolic moment when Germany appears the undisputed master of Europe" (April 28).

The *Globe and Mail* admitted that Germany is "linked to a circle of countries that have become *economic colonies* .... [T]he Greek crisis, and the mounting Portuguese and possibly Spanish and Italian crises, are, at their heart, and *in their origin, German crises*. ... Through [the] constantly repeated cycle of exports, payments, surpluses and then loans to southern Europe, *Berlin became an imperial center* ..." (May 1).

"If the aim of Helmut Kohl and Francois Mitterrand at Maastricht was to tie down a 'European Germany' with the silken chords of EMU, they failed," Evans-Pritchard also wrote. "Monetary union has delivered a 'German Europe' after all. ... What is undeniable is that Club Med and Ireland are being told to implement the same policies that crippled Europe in the early 1930s, that led ... in different ways to Hitler .... Is that a good idea?" (Telegraph.co.uk, May 2).

Germany holds all the cards—or rather, all the gold—and is in position to take even more power in the future.

As we wrote back in 2008, "[I]t is noteworthy that the German central

bank holds the second-largest reserves of gold in the world. During the first quarter of 1999, at the same time the euro was launched, Germany bought up huge reserves of gold. Enough, according to the *Economic Intelligence Review*, to back an entire currency (March 2000). In addition, when the 11 nations joined the euro, they signed over their gold reserves to the European Central Bank, in Frankfurt, Germany" (theTrumpet.com, op. cit.).

Already, European states look to Germany as the leader of Europe by virtue of its large economy alone. No one is paying much attention to gold reserves right

now. But in the end, when entire currencies start collapsing, gold will become important once again.

Germany is already the leader of Europe, and will attract more and more of the limelight as time goes on. But it will not be alone. Another institution has played a major role in shaping Europe, and it will come out on top.

### The Spirit Behind Monetary Union

Connolly describes France's early approach to the idea of the single currency as "mysticism, quasi-religiosity and something approaching Aryanism," reflecting the deeply Roman Catholic—"Holy" Roman—spirit of its elites.

Connolly states that the Catholic Church has been a willing cheerleader of European integration, writing that "the attitude of ... Catholic churches in many continental countries was influenced by a desire to see a shadow Holy Roman Empire recreated in Europe" (*The Rotten Heart of Europe*).

The Catholic Church had a powerful role in Charlemagne's empire. It too has an interest in recreating those days of yore.

To understand the spirit that drives the "Holy" Roman imperial vision of the elites in Europe, one must comprehend their deeply entrenched mindset. It is a mindset rooted in Holy Roman Empire culture that sees the 19th- and 20th-century dominance of the Anglo-Saxon nations as but an uncomfortable interruption to the thread of Holy Roman destiny.

Connolly puts it this way: "Just as the French establishment has never forgiven the Anglo-Saxon world for liberating the homeland from the Nazi occupation their incompetence and decadence had



permitted, so also the [German] Christian Democrats and Christian Socialist tradition in Europe has never forgiven the forces of nationalism and liberalism that in the 19th century seemed to have finally freed the church from the self-imposed chains of its pretensions to temporal power" (ibid.).

This is why both French President Nicolas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel have been so quick to point the finger at the Anglo-Saxons as being the cause of today's global financial crisis. This also explains the cry of the popes John Paul II and Benedict XVI for Europe to return to its traditional, historic, pre-19th-century "Holy" Roman roots!

The Vatican may seem down and out after its abuse scandals. But don't expect that to last. The Catholic Church has also been involved in the planning for the economic crisis—and as Germany uses this crisis to rise to the top, expect the church to rise with it.

Today, Europe is unquestionably dominated by Germany. Sensible journalists now acknowledge that. To the rapidly diminishing generation of those who experienced the bitter fruits of the last time that Germany dominated Europe, this is sobering news indeed.

The founder of the *Trumpet's* predecessor, the *Plain Truth*, forecast this for years. "I believe that some event is going to happen *suddenly*, just like out of a blue sky, that is going to shock the whole world, and is going to cause the nations in Europe to realize they must unite!" Herbert W. Armstrong said July 7, 1984.

"I think I can see what may be the very event that is going to trigger it, and that is the economic situation in the world," he said.

Years in advance, he said Germany would be Europe's leader, stating, "Germany inevitably [will] emerge as the *leader* of a united Europe" (*Plain Truth*, November/December 1954). He foretold this more than half a century ago! At the same time, he also forecast the Vatican's role: "It will require some *spiritual* binding force to inspire this *confidence*—to remove these *fears*—and that spiritual binding force *must* arise from inside Europe!" (ibid.).

Mr. Armstrong said that Germany would "be the *heart and core* of the *united Europe* that will revive the Roman Empire" (ibid., June 1952). We are seeing this happen right before our eyes, in Greece and across Europe. And it is no accident! ■

# Britain's Choice

## The shaky new government can't ignore it much longer. BY RON FRASER

**T**WO OF THE MOST POWERFUL NATIONS in the last two centuries are currently laboring under patently unworkable governments.

On the one hand, Germany wobbles under a coalition government that has recently lost its majority in the nation's upper house of parliament, the Bundesrat. Its chancellor faces pressure from the public and her fellow politicians due to a poor showing leading the country since Germany's last federal election in September 2009.

On the other, Britain—for so long the nation that juggled the balance of power in pre-World War I Europe, and which has been a balancer of types till recently even in the European Union—has cobbled together what appears at first sight to be a most dysfunctional coalition between the conservative Tories and center-left Liberal Democrats.

Both nations are caught in the midst of crises. Germany sits at the very center of the eurozone sovereign debt crisis. Britain faces a national debt of horrendous proportions, and teeters on the brink of being classed among the PIGS countries—Portugal, Italy, Ireland, Greece and Spain—in terms of the risk to its financial standing in the global community.

At present, Britain is part of a European Union dominated by Germany. Even its own newspapers admit that Germany is once again master of Europe.

Among the staggering challenges facing Britain's newly appointed government—not the least being its overwhelming debt—it will soon have to face up to one great, overarching political decision: Will the government continue to resist the will of the people by retaining membership of the European Union? Or will it yield to the rising tide of anti-EU sentiment and leave?

## Who Will Help Britain?

An intriguing prophecy in the book of Hosea describes an aging Britain (biblical *Ephraim*) as a multiethnic society whose national energy is sapped by the foreigners that live within its island borders: "Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned. Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth it not" (Hosea 7:8-9).

The prophecy declares that when Britain finally wakes up to its problems, it will go cap in hand to, of all peoples, its old, traditional enemy: Germany! "When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian ... yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound" (Hosea 5:13).

In this context, it is interesting to note that certain voices within the EU have already warned the British government




to not consider help from that quarter in its hour of financial need. "Officials from both euro and non-euro countries said Britain should not ask for help if it runs into trouble because it had not signed up to a €378 billion support fund," the *Telegraph* reported.

"French, Swedish and many Brussels officials have predicted that it is only a matter of time before sterling is hit by the same market turbulence that came close to destroying the euro at the weekend.

"Jean-Pierre Jouyet, a former French Europe minister and the current chairman of France's financial services authority, yesterday predicted only 'God would help' a rudderless Britain after it snubbed its eurozone neighbors.

"There is not a two-speed Europe but a three-speed Europe. You have Europe of the euro, Europe of the countries that understand the euro ... and you have the English," he said.

➤ See **BRITAIN** page 36



**BLOWOUT** In the middle of the Gulf of Mexico, the flames of a controlled burn consume a tiny fraction of the crude oil gushing up from the seafloor, where the *Deepwater Horizon* and its broken wellhead lie.

# Yet Another Curse

When will the nightmare in the Gulf stop? Why are unprecedented disasters multiplying?

BY JOEL HILLIKER AND PHILIP NICE



**F**IVE YEARS AFTER HURRICANE Katrina—promptly followed by Hurricane Rita—many Gulf Coast residents are still struggling to get back on their feet. But it's not the sky that's threatening them this time with devastating winds, widespread destruction and billions of dollars in damage. It's the sea.

"I've been through Hurricane Camille, Hurricane Frederick and Hurricane Katrina," said one Alabama realtor. "They all pale in comparison to this."

"This" is a silent, spreading, inky blackness penetrating, permeating and polluting the waters off the Gulf Coast: The world's biggest oil slick.

This is merely the latest link in a lengthening chain of curses for the United States. Its magnitude is growing by the day—and just when and how it will end, nobody knows.

### How Did It Happen?

On April 20, the giant *Deepwater Horizon* oil-drilling platform was floating in the Gulf of Mexico about 50 miles off Louisiana. Gathered on board were 126 workers and executives from BP, which leased the \$500 million rig for half a million dollars per day. They were celebrating the project's seven-year safety record.

Just a few months prior, *Deepwater Horizon* had made history, drilling a 6-mile well, the world's deepest. In more recent weeks, it had lowered its drill through one mile of seawater to the ocean floor, drilling an exploration well another two miles below the seabed into the Macondo Prospect in Mississippi Canyon 252. In spite of delays and a few glitches, the crew was finally wrapping up the final stages of sealing the well for future use.

What happened next is still being investigated. But it was a disaster.

Workers set a cement seal at the well, then reduced pressure in the drill column to set a second seal below the ocean floor. As the cement set, it produced heat, which reacted with methane and, it appears, produced a gas bubble.

Rigs often encounter slushy, crystalline, potentially dangerous pockets of methane underwater. And, in an industry that rivals the space program for pioneering technology, several fail-safes are in place to prevent the oil man's worst nightmare: a blowout.

To keep the immense pressure of undersea oil in check, well holes are blocked by piping and plugged with cement. Hydrostatic drilling "mud" fills the cavity

around the drill string and leaves the oil below nowhere to go but to stay put. Finally, the space between the well walls and piping is typically filled with cement to block the last remaining path up the shaft for surging gas. In addition to the seals, at the wellhead sits a huge steel blowout preventer. If danger is detected, the preventer can apply as much as 1 million pounds of force to a rubber gasket that seals the well. If all else fails, the backup kicks in: steel rams slice through the pipes altogether, severing the rig from the well and choking off the blowout.

However, a worker had accidentally damaged the gasket four weeks earlier. And one of the blowout preventer's two control pods was malfunctioning. It also had a weak battery and a hydraulic leak.

The slushy methane bubble began to rise, bursting seals as it went. It broke through the cement seal and the damaged rubber gasket. For some reason, the rams failed to shear the pipes. Because the drilling mud had been removed from the column, the gas bubble shot up the drill, expanding as it rose through the less-pressurized shallows toward the derrick floating above.

On the platform, crewmen saw seawater in the drill column. It rose toward them, finally shooting up hundreds of feet in the air, followed by gas, followed by oil. A cloud of gas covered the rig. Its giant engines sucked in the methane and began racing. Something exploded. The rig became engulfed in a huge, intense fireball, killing nine workers and two engineers. Under black rain, survivors fled to lifeboats and leaped from the burning deck 10 stories down into the water, which was stinking of crude oil, grease and diesel fuel—and itself on fire. The rig burned so brightly it looked like the sun on the horizon. It blazed for two days and sank.

But the disaster had just begun.

### A Growing Toxic Cloud

Dump a single quart of motor oil into the ocean, and over 2 cubic miles of seawater become toxic to wildlife, according to one engineer.

The day the derrick sank into the Gulf, the U.S. Coast Guard said 8,000 barrels of crude oil and up to 700,000 gallons of diesel fuel could be leaking from the rig into the water.

But the ominous, inky, iridescent truth began to emerge soon thereafter. The *wellhead* was also leaking. In addition to the immediate ecological carnage of a humongous, chemical-filled platform and

a mile-long drill string spewing oil and other toxic chemicals, the well itself was gushing crude into one of America's most important, profitable and ecologically sensitive bodies of water.

Unlike a wrecked tanker, which holds a known, fixed amount of oil, this is effectively a bottomless, active underwater oil volcano.

Initial estimates using data, satellite imagery and flyovers were that 5,000 barrels of oil were flowing from the prospect each day, creating an estimated 2,000-mile black storm cloud in some of the most commercially productive seas in the world.

The well's main leaseholders, BP and Transocean, and even the federal government dispatched to the growing slick a flotilla that has since grown to include more than 550 vessels, plus boom oil-collection barriers, helicopters, airplanes, remote submarines, drills, chemical dispersant, and 17,000 personnel. The cost: \$6 million per day—and rising.

These efforts are entering uncharted waters—both in trying to stop the leaks (which are far deeper underwater than any prior oil well breakdown), and in trying to contain the noxious mess.

Repeated efforts to activate the blowout preventer via robot failed. An effort to cap it with a 125-ton funnel also failed, as did other attempts. Finally, on May 16, crews successfully inserted a 4-inch siphon into *Deepwater Horizon's* broken 21-inch riser pipe, diverting about 1,000 barrels (42,000 gallons) per day to a drillship. Meanwhile, two more platforms are drilling relief wells that will eventually plug the well permanently—but will take three months to complete.

But even that thin, silver lining to the pitch-colored cloud was soon blotted out by more bad news. Scientists studying the footage of the gushing pipe and taking readings of the water found huge plumes of oil, one of which is 10 miles long, 3 miles wide and up to 300 feet thick. Although BP has denied them access to additional data, they estimated the flow was actually 5 to 16 times greater than the previous official figure. In the worse scenario, that would mean 3.4 million gallons of thick, black, poisonous, non-degradable stuff pumping into the seawater every day.

That's almost 40 gallons going into the gulf every second you read this.

"There's a shocking amount of oil in the deep water, relative to what you see in the surface water," one researcher said. "There's a tremendous amount of oil in multiple layers, three or four or five layers

# Disaster in the Gulf



deep in the water column.”

On May 4, BP admitted to Congress that its worst-case estimate for the daily flow rate is actually 2.5 million gallons—roughly the equivalent of dumping the infamous Exxon Valdez into the Gulf every four days.

## Worst-Case Scenario “Is Upon Us”

It is conceivable that the leaking riser pipe could be kinked. If that is true, the present oil flow is actually somewhat restricted. If the wounded infrastructure deteriorates further—not unlikely, considering the high-pressure, abrasive sand-filled contents being forced through the piping—the leakage could explode even worse.

“Worst-case scenarios almost never happen,” Prof. Bob Thomas, of New Orleans’ Loyola University, told the UK’s *Times*. “In this case, almost everybody I have known with technical knowledge of oil spills, people who have worked in the industry 30, 40 years, ... say this is the worst-case scenario ... it is upon us” (May 3).

The worst-case scenario is that the leak is as big as it seems; that it will take weeks to plug it; that there are already millions of gallons of oil below the surface; that it will take billions of dollars to partially contain; that fisheries will be contaminated, tourism poisoned, economies across five states spoiled, and special environments and beautiful wildlife covered in black.

And that doesn’t begin to include hundreds of millions of dollars in wasted resources, lost oil, and other financial damage to BP. Nor does it include the long line of lawyers and victims that began to line up while the rig was still burning to sue some of the world’s richest companies: 88 suits by

**As damaging as the 1989 Valdez oil spill was, it occurred on the rocky, uninhabited Alaskan coast of Prince William Sound. The Gulf of Mexico offers no such consolation. It is a hive of economic activity.**

mid-May, and rising. Litigants are eyeing almost every company involved, but the main target is BP, the fourth-largest company in the world. BP has accepted blame, but is also pointing at other companies. The company posted profits of more than \$5.5 billion in the first quarter, but one experienced Louisiana lawyer says the company might just not have enough if the leak continues. “I don’t think they have enough

money,” he said (United Press International, May 17). It could leave the former British Petroleum, owned mostly by Britons and Americans, vulnerable to a takeover.

Nor do these projected costs include the effect the accident will have on the other 90 rigs in federal Gulf waters producing almost a third of U.S. oil production (1.7 million barrels of oil per day). It doesn’t include the effect on policy for more drilling or the political fallout and witch hunt already underway. Nor does it begin to fathom the havoc that all this plus restricted energy and shipping access in the Gulf will have on an already foundering American economy. Nor does it include the greatest cost: 11 men killed.

The worst-case scenario is that this is the biggest environmental disaster in American history—many times over.

## Worse Than Katrina

As damaging as the 1989 Valdez oil spill was, it occurred on the rocky, uninhabited Alaskan coast of Prince William Sound. The Gulf of Mexico offers no such consolation. It is a hive of economic activity. The surrounding coastland, aside from being densely populated, has long stretches of marshland—which would be far more difficult to clean. The Gulf Coast cleanup and ecological recovery will be measured in years—and generations.

Tar balls have already washed ashore at South Pass on Louisiana’s marshy southern tip, a prime area for fishermen, many of whom are sitting at home unemployed. Oil has washed up around the sensitive Chandeleur Islands, where some of the Gulf’s five species of endangered sea turtles make their nests, along with a species that has started to recover: the brown pelican, state bird of Louisiana.

According to an early analysis by the Louisiana governor’s office, eight estuaries, wildlife management areas, state parks, national parks and wildlife refuges lay in the path of the spill, the closest being the Breton National Wildlife Refuge. Lou-

isiana alone has 40 percent of the coastal wetlands in the continental United States: 3.5 million acres. The Mississippi Delta is the closest shoreline to the spill, and has already been hit.

Biloxi, Mississippi; Mobile Bay, Alabama; and Pensacola, Florida, are also within 150 miles. But the mess could drift into currents that would channel it directly through the Florida Keys and even up the Atlantic coast. Trying to contain the oil completely will be impossible. “[U]npredictable currents, extreme pressure and low temperatures make such endeavors almost as difficult as a second moon landing,” reported *Der Spiegel* (May 4).

Louisiana alone has already spent billions of dollars on ongoing projects to protect and rebuild sensitive, endangered marshes, habitats and wildlife. Wildlife-related tourism contributes half a billion dollars to the economy each year. Commercial seafood harvesting brings in over \$650 million a year; recreational fishing another \$750 million and almost 8,000 jobs. Fishing has been shut down completely in many Louisiana and federal waters, and vacationers have cancelled reservations at hotels across the area. Small investors are canceling plans throughout the coast.





# Estimated Oil Spilled by May 19

**73.2**

**BP WORST CASE**  
Based on a BP executive briefing to Congress

In millions of gallons

**32.2**

**MACDONALD MINIMUM**  
Based on analysis by oceanographer Ian MacDonald

**6.0**

**NOAA ESTIMATE**

**10.8**

**EXXON VALDEZ 1989 SPILL**

Further offshore, plankton, fish larvae, shellfish, sea turtles, dolphins and even sperm whales are being harmed and killed by effects from the gushing crude and the chemical dispersants used to control it.

By the time it's all over, the devastation will dwarf that of Katrina.

## Why Is This Happening?

In looking for a deeper cause, it is crucial to see this event in the broader scope of such disasters that are hammering the United States: economic woes; rising unemployment; spiraling food prices; unfavorable weather; environmental disasters; deteriorating health; loss of industry; illegal immigration and related crime and drug problems; social and racial division; political polarization; terrorist threats; intractable wars; foreign-policy failures; weakening alliances; international isolation.

These are not isolated or unrelated problems.

They are mounting evidence of a spiritual reality the *Trumpet* has been writing about for two decades—as its parent magazine *The Plain Truth* did for five decades before that. America is being *curled by God*.

Why? God has given America and Britain unique, unprecedented blessings

of land, resources and protection. Yet we continue to deny Him and to grossly sin against His laws. Now He is simply taking those blessings away.

Could there be a more graphic illustration of this truth than this nightmare in the Gulf? The billowing cloud of oil that is costing billions in repairs, clean-up, lost jobs and economic ripple effects *should* be flowing into and *enriching* America's economy. The fluid that is wiping out life, land and sea *should* be fueling America's industry. As the nation bemoans its energy dependence on unstable and even enemy foreign states, its domestic energy production suffers this blow.

The spreading, toxic, sticky blackness presently defying all efforts to contain it is a vivid metaphor of America's prophesied future.

Freakish troubles will continue to intensify until people unite in realizing that the cause is essentially spiritual. America doesn't suffer merely from bad luck, or corporate incompetence, or weak problem-solving skills. It suffers from pride, self-reliance, greed, materialism, moral bankruptcy.

"Hear the word of the Lord, oh people of Israel, the Lord has filed a lawsuit

against you listing the following charges," wrote the Prophet Hosea: "There is no faithfulness, no kindness, no knowledge of God in your land. You swear and lie and kill and steal and commit adultery. There is violence everywhere, with one murder after another. That is *why* your land is not producing: it is filled with sadness and *all living things grow sick and die*: the animals, the birds and *even the fish begin to disappear*" (Hosea 4:1-3; *The Living Bible*).

The Bible is full of such warnings for America today—the curses we can expect to proliferate because of the people's defiance of God and reliance on themselves. These are placed into their biblical and historical context—and then brought right up to date—in Herbert Armstrong's book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* (request your free copy).

These prophecies give a warning we would all do well to remember: The frustration and despair among Gulf residents being hit with another disaster before they've recovered from the last is about to become epidemic, nationwide. It is only when we begin to address the underlying spiritual causes that we will see the trend turn—and, after intervention from God, be able to rebuild on solid ground. ■



# What's the Emir Doing in Berlin?

An Arab-German alliance is developing. BY RON FRASER

**W**HY WOULD THE LEADER OF tiny, Islamic Kuwait be visiting Germany and the Vatican?

The Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah toured Europe in late April and early May, concentrating on developing closer relations with Berlin and the Roman Catholic Church.

During his meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and German businessmen on April 28, he is reported to have discussed “a host of bilateral relations that would cement partnership between Kuwait and Berlin” (*Kuwait Times*, April 28). A Catholic official said his trip to the Vatican would enable the emir and the pope to “express their appreciation and friendship” and to strengthen the “good relations that exist between the Holy See and Kuwait.”

Amid the cacophony of more dramatic headlines, such an event is easily overlooked. But it carries intriguing prophetic significance.

## What Does Kuwait Want From Europe?

A small but relatively rich state, courtesy of its healthy oil reserves and high prices for that commodity, Kuwait nestles at a vitally strategic point at the northern extremity of the Persian Gulf.

Rescued by U.S. intervention in 1991 from being overrun by Saddam Hussein's Iraq, Kuwait has rebounded from the setback that war inflicted on its territory to weather the global economic storm comfortably. Last year it posted its 11th consecutive budget surplus. That year also saw an apparent marked improvement in relations between Kuwait and Iraq with the former appointing an ambassador to Baghdad.

However, the Kuwaiti regime recognizes that it has a need to hedge its bets when it comes to foreign policy. With the forecast drawdown of U.S. troops from Iraq,

Kuwait is obviously concerned about the prospect of having a worse headache than old Saddam on its doorstep in the form of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. The Arabic nations are deeply concerned about the possibility of Iran quickly moving to fill any power vacuum created by a peremptory withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq.

Recently Kuwait was given extra cause for concern when Iran conducted naval exercises in the Gulf, even detaining and boarding foreign ships in Gulf waters in the process. Analysts clearly saw this action as Iran sending the signal that, if it chose to do so, it could easily seal the Gulf off to shipping and send the shipment of oil via the Persian Gulf into a tailspin.

So it is that with an ongoing war in neighboring Afghanistan, instability in Iraq, threats from Iran to Kuwait's Gulf coast, plus an increasingly reluctant protector in Washington, this tiny Arabic nation is rethinking its foreign policy.

The Kuwaitis are of Arabic, Ishmaelitic stock. Together with their brother Arabian nations, they stem from the 12 princes fathered by Ishmael, son of Abraham and brother of the Israelite patriarch Isaac (Genesis 25). Thus, in predicting their foreign policy for today based on biblical prophecy, we must look to a clearly delineated forecast embedded in Scripture that names them and identifies the alliances they will form in the time we are living through today.

Believe it or not, there is such a prophecy that clearly shows the reason why the emir of Kuwait would be holding foreign-policy discussions with Germany and the Vatican! Though penned 3,000 years ago during the time of King David's reign over the kingdom of Israel, this prophecy is in the process of beginning to be fulfilled at this very moment!

## “Crafty Counsel”

In Psalm 83 we read of a time just ahead when a confederation of Middle Eastern nations will join in an alliance in an attempt to wipe the nation of Israel out! “They have taken crafty counsel against thy people .... They have said, Come and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee. The tabernacles of Edom [Turkey], and the Ishmaelites [Arabians]; of Moab [Jordan], and the Hagarenes [Syria]; Gebal [Lebanon], and Ammon [Jordan], and Amalek [Turkey]; the Philistines [Palestinians] with the inhabitants of Tyre [Lebanon]” (Psalm 83:3-7).

Yet there is one other nation—a nation that today carries far more power economically and politically than any of these Arabic nations individually or collectively can project today—with which they join in confederation against Israel in the near future in an alliance that is even now beginning to form. In verse 8, we read, “Assur also is joined with them.”

To which nation today does the Bible ascribe the name of its patriarch Assur (Asher)? None other than Germany.

Which nation do the prophecies indicate will dominate in the north of the globe, as “the king of the north” (Daniel 11), in our time? The very nation that currently holds the world to ransom as it insists on attaching certain conditions to the Greek financial bailout—Germany.

Which great spiritual power do the prophecies indicate, despite the lurid headlines swirling around it today, will be in alliance with Germany leading a great united European empire against the Anglo-Saxon and Judaic peoples, even to the point of surrounding Jerusalem with armies just prior to Christ's return? (Luke 21:20). The very spiritual power that can trace its roots back to ancient Babylon—the religion of Rome.

Kuwait going cap in hand to Rome and Berlin is a sign of the imminent formation of the Psalm 83 alliance of Middle Eastern nations that will join in confederacy against the Anglo-Saxon and Judaic peoples in an effort to “cut them off from being a nation”!

Request and read our free booklet *The King of the South* and face up to the reality toward which these events are leading. Truly, what is today developing in the Middle East and Europe is about to shake the nations! (Haggai 2:7). These events are destined to shake the very nation in which you live, right up to your own doorstep! ■



# Your Family's Most Important Textbook



Reap the rich rewards of regular family Bible study. **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

**M**Y FAMILY HAS A TRADITION that we all look forward to each week. On Saturday morning, we make coffee, warm up a couple of pastries, and give each member of the family a bit of each. Then we sit around in the living room and open our family textbook. For 30 minutes to an hour, we study and discuss.

That textbook is the Bible. And this is only the longest and most special of the several times during the week we enjoy such study.

If you are a parent with children living under your roof, then you are responsible for their spiritual education. That responsibility comes with the opportunity to instruct from Scripture.

In the book of Deuteronomy, you can see that Moses felt a similar responsibility to build the families of Israel. In this, his final instruction to God's people just before he died and they entered the Promised Land, Moses repeatedly emphasized parents' duty to pass their spiritual wisdom to their children and grandchildren.

"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7, New King James Version). The phrase "teach them

diligently" means to *repeat intensively*, to do something again and again—like sharpening a blade through repetitious grinding or friction. Surely Moses had witnessed a lot of failure among Israel's families. You can sense his urgency: *Commit these words to heart—then teach them DILIGENTLY to your children, and discuss them at every opportunity! This is how to survive as a nation!*

## If you are a parent with children living under your roof, then you are responsible for their spiritual education.

Moses did more than command family Bible studies: He emphasized the importance of *reinforcing* those biblical lessons *throughout the day*, both at home ("in your house") and away ("by the way"). He expected parents and children to be interacting often, and for the Bible to be a regular topic of discussion. He stressed the need for instructing each night before bedtime ("when you lie down"), and again each morning ("when you rise up").

Moses followed up with a very practical instruction: He advocated writing

certain scriptures and principles down and posting them in the house to help internalize them (verse 9; see also Deuteronomy 11:18-20).

Have you ever considered applying these scriptures? Have you ever *tried*—but never stuck with it?

Life can be a jungle of duties and distractions. We may agree with Moses's statements in principle but then struggle to implement them. We may make an effort but lack the consistency these scriptures demand. The mention of *diligence* and *repetition* are aimed directly at countering our natural tendency to allow this duty to slip.

### Generation to Generation

Consider the *rewards* of making family Bible instruction the *priority* God intends. Moses himself described the *rich blessings* these studies and discussions would bring, including a better relationship with God, stronger families, and longer and more abundant life for ourselves and our children and grandchildren (Deuteronomy 11:21; 4:9-10; 6:2).

All parents desire a close bond with their children. Quality family Bible study and discussion is a key to achieving that. Parent-to-child and grandparent-to-child spiritual instruction is the glue that binds generation to generation. "One generation shall praise thy works to another,

and shall declare thy mighty acts” (Psalm 145:4). This is a powerful antidote to the poisonous influences of the world that aim to tear children away from their parents.

Even more: Obedience to this command welds individual families into a single nation under God. Moses showed that it does nothing less than ensure long-lasting national stability and guarantees a future as a godly nation! Meditate on those promises in conjunction with Proverbs 22:6: “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Consider the principle, and the incredible promise, in these scriptures. If parents in Israel had diligently followed the command to teach their children, *the nation never would have departed from God’s way!*

Let’s learn from this failure and heed the urgent plea from this great God-inspired man and make sure we’re rearing our children to know and love the Bible.

#### How to Go About It

The idea of expounding on the Scriptures for your family may seem daunting. Here are a few simple points that will help you move from agreeing in principle with this biblical command to actually making it a part of your family’s regular routine.

First, *you yourself* must be excited about the Bible. Look again at the passage in Deuteronomy 6. The two verses that precede the main instruction on teaching your children read, “And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart” (verses 5-6). You have to *love God*, and *love His Word*—to be stirred and moved and excited about *your own* Bible study. If you struggle with your own studies, then you won’t be motivated to teach; naturally, your children will struggle as well.

How much do you know about the Bible? Are you accustomed to searching the Scriptures for answers to the problems you face? Are you comfortable with using Bible helps like concordances, lexicons and alternate translations? Can you read a passage and expound on it? Can you relate Bible verses to real-life situations? These are skills a true Christian must



**As you build excitement  
in your personal Bible study,  
your eagerness to pass it on to  
your children will increase.**

continually develop and refine throughout life (Luke 12:42-43; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:15-17; read also Hebrews 5:12-14).

As you build excitement in your personal Bible study, your eagerness to pass it on to your children will increase. Cultivate that enthusiasm by acting upon it.

Your aim is to build a *regular habit* of instructing your children from God’s Word and talking about the things of God. Until you are in the habit, it may feel awkward and forced—but keep at it. Over time, it will become easier for you, and your children will grow more receptive and accustomed to it. Have a set time each morning and each evening before bedtime to at least talk about God, His truth and way of life.

*At least* a few times a week, this time should include *reading straight from the Bible*. It is certainly fine to read high-quality youth Bible-based books to your children. But your main habit in family Bible study

should involve the Bible itself. You may want to go somewhat methodically through a portion of the Bible such as the Proverbs or the Gospels. It would be wise to adapt your study at times according to your family’s specific needs at that time. You may want to choose a particular theme each week and give several related studies hitting that topic from various angles—law, history, proverbs, examples, prophecy.

Try to make *God real* to your children. Talk about His qualities of character. Explain to them what He looks like, and what His throne room is like. Give them a sense of His mightiness. Get into the details of His miracles; read to them about His mighty acts.

Each specific study may only involve a single verse, or perhaps two to three related verses. Read the scripture, then rephrase it in plain terms and explain it, making it very practical. Show how the scripture links to real-life examples. Be creative in getting the concepts across. Make it fun, exciting. Be sure the children understand. Ask them questions; have them think of examples of their own; encourage them to link the principles to their own daily lives. The more *practical* and *understandable* this teaching is, the easier it will be to reinforce it in discussion during the day.

Don’t go on for too long. Depending on your children’s age and attention span, you might go for 5 to 20 minutes. Work to hold their interest and keep it a positive experience. Praise your children as they progress. Don’t discourage them about things they forget—hear praise on them for what they remember. Take advantage of the fact that they want to please you. Ensure they have the overall feeling that studying the Bible is enjoyable, and that God’s way is great!

What a positive command it is that we share our spiritual riches with our children! Deuteronomy 6:7 and related scriptures embody a *way of life*. A way pulsating with life, with robust interactions between generations. A way where God’s government is firmly in place, with God at the top and every last member of the household experiencing the joy and stability that come as a result.

Family Bible studies require diligent effort—but the blessings they produce are well worth it. ■



# “Teach Them Diligently”—Deuteronomy 6:7

God wants us to instruct our children from Scripture—but where do we start? Here are some ideas. Tailor your instruction to your own children: Some of these paragraphs may have material enough for two or three family studies. We hope these spark many of your own ideas for family Bible studies. Enjoy! *Joel Hilliker*

## LEARN ABOUT GOD

Why is God called “the Eternal”? **Exodus 3:13-15**. When God introduced Himself to Moses, He revealed His name to be “I Am That I Am.” That means God has *always existed* and *always will!* **Psalm 90:1-2**. God was here for an eternity before anything else existed.

**Verse 4**. Can you imagine a thousand years going by like one day? God definitely sees time differently than we do. **Isaiah 57:15**. God “inhabits eternity”—He isn’t bound by time. It’s hard to even imagine that, because we are physical and live only a short time. We are *all* like little children compared to the Eternal, and need to be humble before Him! **Revelation 1:8**.

How God made the Earth. **Job 38:1, 4**. God put our planet in the perfect place in the universe so we’re comfortable and safe. **Verse 5**. He made Earth the perfect size, and measured out just the right amount of things like water, rocks, air and so on—so we could live here. **Verse 6**. He anchored us perfectly so we know the sun will rise every morning and set each night, and we have four beautiful seasons each year! **Psalm 104:5-9**. God commands the huge oceans—and He makes sure they don’t drown all the land. **Psalm 33:7-9**.

Something God will never do. **Numbers 23:19**. God does not lie! When He says something, it is true. When He makes a promise, He *always* keeps it! **Titus 1:1-2**. That is why we can trust everything that is written in the Bible. **Hebrews 6:17-19**. What God says is *so sure*, it can be like an anchor in our lives, keeping us steady and giving us hope. That’s why we can base our whole lives on what God says in the Bible. **Luke 21:33**. God’s words are more dependable than the whole physical creation. *Nothing* God has said will ever fail! **Isaiah 55:10-11**.

## PROVERBS

What you should never say about yourself. **Proverbs 27:2**. It is rude to boast about your own achievements or abilities. What do you think when you hear others praising themselves? If anyone talks about you that way, let it be other people. What should you do if you find yourself praising yourself? **Proverbs 30:32**.

How to look wise. **Proverbs 17:28**. Many people think that in order to look smart, they have to talk a lot. The opposite is true. Keeping quiet helps you listen and learn. When you talk, be someone whose word can be trusted. Know what you’re talking about. **Proverbs 10:19**.

Take care of your things. **Proverbs 24:30-34**. Look at the areas you have to take care of: your bedroom, your closet, your locker or workspace—perhaps other areas of the house or yard. Are they messy, uncared-for, broken down? Or do you keep them clean, orderly and maintained? The answer reveals a lot about your character—to other people and to God. **Ecclesiastes 10:18**. Build a habit of being a good steward, or caretaker, of your property. **Proverbs 27:23-24**.

## SOUND ADVICE

How to make the most of your youth. **Ecclesiastes 12:1**. The best time to establish a relationship with God is *now*. Good habits of prayer

and study will last your whole life! Never think you are “too young” to build that friendship with your heavenly Father. **Proverbs 8:17**.

If you hear yourself whining . . . **Philippians 2:14**. “Murmurings” means grumbling or complaining. God doesn’t want us whining and moaning. He got angry with the Israelites for doing so! **Numbers 14:27-29**; **1 Corinthians 10:10**. Be content with what you have. And if you have a request, make it politely.

What comes out of your mouth? **James 3:8-12**. Do you say nice things to some people—and mean things to others? That’s not right! **Matthew 12:34-35**. What you say reveals what is in your heart. If evil things come out, it shows that there is evil in your heart that you need to get rid of. **James 3:13-16**. Do you fight and argue? That doesn’t come from God! Learn to recognize whether what you’re saying is wrong and evil, or right and good. **Verses 17-18**.

## THE LAW

How to treat older people. **Leviticus 19:32**. *Hoary head* means gray-haired people, or old people. God wants older people to receive honor from younger people. One way to do that is to stand when they enter the room. They have lived long and learned much. **Proverbs 20:29**. God considers their white hair beautiful! Treating older people with respect teaches us to treat God with respect. **Proverbs 16:31**.

Why hatred is so dangerous. **Exodus 20:13**. Obviously, we are not to murder—but this law even forbids *hating* someone. **Matthew 5:21-22**. Jesus taught that hatred is the spirit of murder; it breaks God’s law! **Leviticus 19:17**. God doesn’t care only about what we do, but also about what we *think*, and the attitudes in our heart. He wants us to learn to love people. **1 John 3:15-16**. That means going out of our way to help others, giving of our time, our things, and ourselves.

Always be thankful. **Deuteronomy 6:10-12**. The Promised Land was a wonderful, prosperous place. God warned the Israelites not to let nice physical things pull their hearts away from Him. **Deuteronomy 8:10**. We too have so many blessings! It’s important to always remember where they come from, and to thank God. **Verses 11-16**. Never take blessings for granted, and don’t take credit for them ourselves. **Verses 17-18**.

## Want more?

“Teach Them Diligently” is a regular feature in our Christian-living magazine, *Royal Vision*. Written and produced by many of the same people who bring you the *Philadelphia Trumpet* each month, *Royal Vision* includes a wide variety of practical, biblically based articles about living, understanding the Bible and prophecy.

To request a free subscription, see the back cover of this magazine.



**F**ED UP WITH WASHINGTON'S feckless attempts to secure America's southern border, Arizona lawmakers took matters into their own hands. In April, Gov. Jan Brewer signed into law an immigration bill that requires policemen, during law-enforcement action like traffic stops, to act on "reasonable suspicion" in order to verify a person's immigration status.

"We in Arizona have been more than patient waiting for Washington to act," Brewer explained. "But decades of federal inaction and misguided policy have created a dangerous and unacceptable situation."

Democrats and civil rights leaders were quick to denounce the bill, saying it would lead to widespread racial profiling.

Arizonans, meanwhile, are justifiably frustrated—and scared. Their state has been flooded with illegal aliens. In just the last three years alone, nearly 1 million aliens have been caught trying to sneak into Arizona. That amounts to about 900 per day.

Those who aren't caught roam throughout Arizona—and the rest of America.

#### Why Arizonans Support the Bill

In Arizona, the estimated number of illegal immigrants is just under a half million. Embedded among them, of course, are who knows how many violent criminals, drug traffickers and human smugglers. There must be thousands—perhaps tens of thousands—judging by the massive quantities of illegal drugs seized by federal agents. Every day, on average, law enforcement officials confiscate 1.5 tons of marijuana alone.

And in the high-stakes game of drug trafficking, it's no wonder illegal immigrants are becoming more aggressive and reckless in their behavior. Earlier this year, for example, Arizonans were outraged when a prominent rancher was murdered while patrolling his property 20 miles north of the Mexican border. Footprints at the crime scene revealed that the assailants fled to Mexico after the senseless attack.

Arizona's capital city, Phoenix, also has the dubious distinction of being the *kidnapping* capital of North America. "The city has averaged about a kidnapping a day in recent years," reported the Associated Press, "some resulting in torture and death. Victims' legs have been burned with irons, their arms have been tied to the ceiling, their fingers broken with bricks" (April 27).

Small wonder that 70 percent of Arizonans support the new immigration

#### WHOSE HATE?

Is the debate over immigration reform combating the hate—or turning it up?



# How Arizona's Immigration Bill Sparks Racial Ha

bill. Law enforcement agencies have also voiced their support for the legislation.

But not the race baiters. They see the law's passage as yet another opportunity to fan the flames of racial hatred and division.

#### A Sign of Maturity?

The mayor of Phoenix called the measure "racist and unjust." Civil rights activist Al Sharpton said the bill effectively "sanctions" racial profiling.

Attorney General Eric Holder criticized the bill as "unfortunate," saying it had "the possibility of leading to racial profiling." He also said it might be "unconstitutional" and that it could trigger some kind of federal lawsuit to stop the legislation from going forward. And yet, during a congressional hearing on May 13, when asked by Rep. Ted Poe if he had even read the legislation, the nation's top law enforcement official responded, "I have not had a chance to. I've glanced at it."

"It's 10 pages," Poe snapped back. "I'll give you my copy of it, if you would like." Poe said the government ought to be enforcing the immigration laws that are passed in order to secure the border—not *challenging them*.

The day after the attorney general admitted he hadn't read the law, Michael Posner, the assistant secretary of state, told reporters he had been quite candid with Chinese officials—*of all people*—about *America's* human rights violations. "Part of a mature relationship is that you have an open discussion where you not only raise the other guy's problems, but you raise your own, and you have a discussion about it," Posner said at the conclusion of a two-day human rights summit between the U.S. and China on May 14.

A reporter then asked if the new Arizona law came up during the human rights summit, and if so, who brought it up?

Posner responded: "*We brought it up*





**te** It's not how some people think!  
 BY STEPHEN FLURRY

early and often. It was mentioned in the first session, and as a *troubling trend in our society* and an indication that we have to deal with issues of discrimination or potential discrimination” (emphasis mine throughout).

America’s leaders brought up the Arizona law early and often to the Chinese—the same people who lock down their own borders with oppressive force and murder their own citizens for opposing Beijing’s Communist rule.

At the same press conference with Michael Posner, America’s ambassador to China, Jon Huntsman, said, “We’re talking about issues that are uncomfortable, quite frankly, but it is a *sign of maturity* that we can talk about specific cases.”

Groveling at the feet of dictators, confessing our supposed sins to the world, like the “troubling trend” in Arizona—this is now seen as a sign of maturity.

In fact, it is a shocking and shameful

Much of the backlash against the Arizona law amounts to stirring up racial discord. And as it happens, it comes at a time when hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants—an increasing number of them hardened criminals with sophisticated weaponry—are flowing across America’s porous borders every year.

sign of *immaturity*—and it is prophesied in Isaiah 3:4.

**Lighting the Fuse on a Race Bomb**

Even President Obama hastily joined in on the chorus of criticism against the Arizona law. Within hours of Governor Brewer signing the bill, Obama scolded Arizona lawmakers for their “misguided” work. He said it threatens to undermine the “basic notions of fairness that we cherish as Americans.”

Should the law be enforced, President Obama envisioned life for Hispanic Americans to be something like this: “Now suddenly if you don’t have your papers and you took your kid out to get ice cream, you’re going to be harassed—that’s something that could potentially happen.”

Besides being factually incorrect on the specifics of the legislation, the president’s racially charged reaction failed to address another, more serious concern for Americans: being murdered or kidnapped by illegal drug-runners. The president’s gut-reaction comment, Kris Kobach wrote at the *Washington Times*, was true to form. “Just as with the Cambridge, Mass., arrest fiasco last year, he rushed to the microphone without knowing the facts in order to stir up and capitalize on accusations of racial profiling” (April 28).

That’s what much of the backlash against the Arizona law amounts to: *stirring up racial discord*. And as it happens, it comes at a time when *hundreds of thousands* of illegal immigrants—an increasing number of them **HARDENED CRIMINALS** with sophisticated weaponry—are flowing across America’s porous borders every year. More than half of the illegal immigrants and drugs coming into America, by the way, travel through the Arizona-Mexico border.

Sixty-three percent of Americans nationally favor the Arizona law. But rather than do something about the mounting danger, America’s leadership is instead lighting the fuse of a much more explosive time bomb.

It’s an explosive mixture that will soon blow up in our faces.

When President Obama campaigned for office, he eloquently vowed not to use the race card and promised to bring the races together as president. Instead, the nation is becoming more divided by the day.

Two years ago, when then-Senator Obama was being lavished with praise for his efforts to heal the many race-relation breaches in America, my father warned that in the long run, it would only inflame *more* racism. “Poisonous race relations have everything to do with Bible prophecy,” he wrote on June 12, 2008. “This dangerous buildup within our society is a racist bomb that most of us will see explode in our faces!”

Regarding then-Senator Obama, my father wrote, “Many people believe that Mr. Obama is going to greatly improve race relations. But our racial problems are going to rapidly get much worse!”

Then, he added, “The race card is going to be played *often* for political gain!” So often, in fact, that even in the midst of a national emergency that has some Americans living in fear of being kidnapped, tortured or murdered by illegal aliens—and after Arizona passes a law that effectively makes it illegal to do something that has *always* been illegal—playing the race card and fanning the flames of hatred is what our leaders are concerned about most. ■

To learn more about the coming race wars in America, request our free booklet *Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet*.

# WORLDWATCH

## EUROPE

**B**elgium HAS BECOME THE first Western European country to approve a national ban on the burka, with the lower house of the Belgian Parliament unanimously passing the measure April 29. This could open the way for similar bans in other countries. While the legislation still has to be ratified by the Senate, it is not expected to be blocked there. The burka is already banned in two dozen local districts in Belgium, including the capital, Brussels. The nationwide ban will make it illegal for the Islamic burka and the niqab to be worn in public places. Meanwhile, Silvana Koch-Mehrin, the head of **Germany's** Free Democrats in the European Parliament, called for a Europe-wide ban in the wake of the Belgian vote because covering women, she said, "openly supports values that we do not share in Europe." In **Italy**, a woman was fined €500 (US\$650) for wearing a burka. The fine was imposed under a 1975 anti-terrorism law forbidding both men and women to cover their faces—apparently the first time the law was applied in this manner. Expect the backlash against Islam on the Continent to grow.

The German government is purchasing Britain's biggest train and bus firm. The \$2.44 billion deal will put 44,000 Arriva employees in multiple European countries under the control of Deutsche Bahn. It is the loss of yet another British crown jewel. Arriva is one of Europe's leading transport services, with bus and train operations in the UK, **Denmark**, Germany, the **Netherlands** and **Sweden**. Arriva also has bus networks in the **Czech Republic**, **Hungary**, Italy,



**IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT** Deutsche Bahn now owns Britain's biggest train and bus firm.

**Portugal**, **Slovakia** and **Spain**, and operates rail services in **Poland**. Over 1 billion passengers each year ride Arriva's extensive transport networks. It is rude irony that Deutsche Bahn—the successor company to Deutsche Reichsbahn, which operated the trains that ran to the World War II extermination camps—will now own British Rail, a company whose predecessors did so much to transport the war stores to those who opposed the Nazis. What the Nazis were not able to accomplish through war, Germany is now gaining through other means.

Germany's defense minister has announced plans for a structural reform of the German military that would improve the effectiveness of the country's armed forces. Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg explained on April 12 that under the new framework, the Bundeswehr would be stream-

lined, and more German soldiers would be freed up for overseas missions. This is further evidence that Germany's foreign policy is rapidly and dangerously transforming.

## MIDEAST

**O**N MAY 11, U.S. PRESIDENT Barack Obama phoned President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority to congratulate him on the start of Israeli-Palestinian proximity talks. Abbas made his long-delayed decision to enter indirect talks with **Israel** on May 8. The history of such talks makes it abundantly apparent that any new round of talks will only succeed in wounding the Jewish state further, through additional concessions without any resultant peace.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian Authority will invest in projects aimed at "Arabizing"

Jerusalem, it was decided at a meeting May 3 between PA Prime Minister Salam Fayyad and his ministerial-level government members. "The Fayyad government is authorized by the new decision to relocate government offices and important institutions to what mass media refer to as eastern Jerusalem but actually includes northern and southern areas of the capital as well," IsraelNationalNews.com reported. "The stated goal is to implant the sense among Jerusalem Arabs that the address for their issues is the PA" (May 5). The decision violates the Oslo Accord, which prohibits the PA from operating in Jerusalem. The PA government said it intends to Arabize the city, "setting facts on the ground" that would have to be taken into consideration in any future negotiations with Israel. The decision met no







condemnation from Washington saying it would derail the peace process—in contrast to the Obama administration’s denunciation of Jewish housing plans in Jerusalem announced in March.

In April, a poll in Israel showed Israelis firmly behind Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and solidly against an imposed peace agreement and the division of Jerusalem. The poll, conducted by Brain Base for Independent Media Review Analysis, revealed that Israeli Jews oppose an imposed peace by a margin of 83 to 8 percent. “The results ... pull out the rug from any possible intentions by the Obama administration to try to topple the Netanyahu government in favor of a Kadima-Labor coalition,” reported IsraelNationalNews.com (April 14). This is a further indication that the Arab-Jew impasse over Jerusalem will continue—until it reaches

the point of violence.

On May 4, **Iraq’s** two main rival Shiite coalitions agreed to merge into a single parliamentary bloc. The two Shia blocs came second and third in Iraq’s March 7 elections. While the political wrangling is not over and a prime minister has yet to be chosen, this deal gives the pro-Iranian State of Law bloc and the Iranian-backed Islamist Iraqi National Alliance a strong chance of setting up the next government, thus cementing Iranian domination of Iraq. The same day, radical anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr announced—no doubt at the direction of his sponsor, **Iran**—the revival of his Mahdi Army militia and threatened to attack American troops if they didn’t stick to their Dec. 31, 2011, deadline to leave the country.

Meanwhile, violence in Iraq has increased as al Qaeda-connected Sunnis react to



**CARNAGE** How Sunnis reacted to Iraq’s Shiite coalition.

the attempt by Iran-aligned Shiites to form a government. A series of attacks across the country on May 10 killed over 100 people and injured more than 300, in the deadliest day so far this year.

Iran’s elite military force, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, held large-scale military exercise in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz in April. Iran’s Press TV said the four-day naval, air and ground exercises were held to demonstrate the country’s defense capabilities and its determination to maintain security in the region. A high-level military delegation from **Qatar**, an American ally, was

present during the exercises. A large part of America’s strategy to contain Iran relies on the military deterrent provided by Persian Gulf countries. Those same countries’ cooperation with Iran clearly demonstrates the unreliable nature of America’s “moderate” Arab allies.

Just a week later, Iran held eight more days of military drills in the Gulf of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz to train Iranian troops and intimidate potential enemies.

The Obama administration is seeking to soften proposed sanctions against Iran. The White House is pushing Congress to provide exemptions for countries like China and

Russia in the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability and Divestment Act.

A report released April 20 by the U.S. Defense Department claims that Iran's Quds Force, the overseas operations arm of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, has stepped up its presence in Latin America, particularly **Venezuela**. The report on Iran's current and future military strategy said the Quds Force "maintains operational capabilities around the world." It "is well established in the Middle East and North Africa, and recent years [have] witnessed an increased presence in Latin America, particularly Venezuela," the report said. "If U.S. involvement in conflicts in these regions deepens, contact with the [Quds Force], directly or through extremist groups it supports, will be more frequent and consequential." Iran's ability to retaliate against U.S. interests globally is part of the leverage Tehran holds over Washington.

## ASIA

**J**APAN'S DEFENSE MINISTER announced on April 11 that 10 Chinese military vessels had sailed between **Japan's** Okinawa and Miyako islands in the preceding few days. Although **China's** increasing naval presence in international waters do not violate any international laws, analysts say they showcase China's growing naval capability and suggest that Beijing intends to prevent intervention by other naval forces. For decades, China has been engaged in territorial disputes over islands in the South China



**READY** Iranian soldiers prepare rockets for a drill near the Strait of Hormuz in May.

Sea, and its rapidly growing international status has intensified Beijing's claims in these areas. As China's increasing economic might and expanding military power feed each other, expect Beijing's global assertiveness to intensify.

On April 20, China confirmed the granting of two loans to Venezuela worth over \$20 billion, and the signing of a series of energy agreements with Caracas. In the deals, Beijing secured Venezuelan oil to feed China's thriving economy, while Caracas scored significant liquidity at a crucial time in its quest to harness energy resources. Also noteworthy is that one of the loans, worth \$10.2 billion, is denominated in Chinese yuan, and will be a test for internationalizing the Chinese currency. As global confidence in the dollar falters, China and other countries will explore alternative options for interna-

tional currencies.

**Russia's** President Dmitry Medvedev signed an agreement with his Ukrainian counterpart, Viktor Yanukovich, on April 21 extending the lease of a Russian naval base in Sevastopol for 25 years following its expiration in 2017. The deal followed a promise by Moscow to give Kiev significantly discounted prices for natural gas and other purchases. The agreement is another indica-



**ALLIED** Medvedev and Yanukovich

tion that Yanukovich is following through on his pre-election pledge to move **Ukraine** away from the pro-West stance of his predecessor Viktor Yushchenko, who had vowed to shut the Russian base down once the current deal expired.

On April 30, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin proposed merging Russia's energy giant Gazprom with Ukraine's gas monopoly, Naftogaz. The surprise offer would bring the relationship between Moscow and Kiev closer than ever. Because 80 percent of Russian gas bound for Europe passes through Ukraine, Gazprom relies heavily on Kiev's cooperation. Kiev in turn relies heavily on Russia's natural gas.

Moscow enjoyed its biggest VE Day celebrations since the fall of the USSR on May 9. After the fall of the Soviet Union, these celebrations became quieter as Russians reflected on their nation's loss of power and status. But not anymore. "This year the VE celebration fully takes back its former meaning, celebrating Russia as a real power once again," wrote Stratfor. "Over the past few years—and especially in the past few months—Russia has pushed its influence back into most of its former Soviet states through military intervention, revolution, customs unions and pro-Russian gov-



ernments” (May 7).

Not only did the crash of the Polish military plane on April 10 kill almost all of Poland’s government leaders, but it also gave Russia a bonanza of NATO secrets, according to a May 13 *Washington Times* article. Several of those flying carried computers and memory sticks containing secret NATO data. Russia may also have obtained the “ultra-secret” codes used by NATO to encrypt satellite communication. If the Russians are able to recover these codes from the wreckage, they will be able to decrypt months, if not years, of past NATO communications.

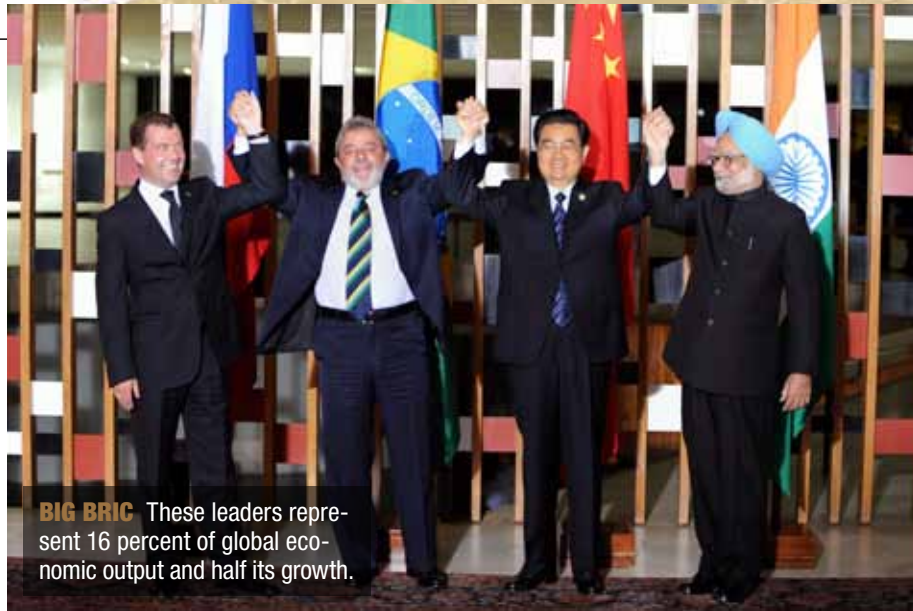
An estimated 90,000 Japanese citizens joined local politicians in the streets of Okinawa on April 25 to protest allowing the U.S. Futenma Marine Corps Airbase to remain in the Okinawa prefecture. Regardless of Tokyo’s decision on this matter, it is becoming increasingly obvious that Japan is not the reliable U.S. ally that it has appeared to be since the Second World War.

## AFRICA/ LATIN AMERICA

**A** RUSSIAN WARSHIP HUNTED down and recaptured an oil tanker taken by Somali pirates on May 6. Special forces rappelled onto the ship, killing one pirate in a 22-minute gun battle that forced the pirates to surrender. The pirates were taken by surprise. “They did not expect such resolute measures from us,” said Capt. Ildar Akhmerov. Expect the hijacking of Russian ships to become less common—unlike that of countries that take less robust action.

## ANGLO- AMERICA

**F**OR THE FIRST TIME SINCE World War II, the **United Kingdom** had a coalition government sit in Parliament May 18. New Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron sat on the front bench next to Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg, the new deputy vice president. They, along with many other members of the 650-seat chamber, are new faces in new positions after the May 6 general election. Resignations over previous months due to expense



**BIG BRIC** These leaders represent 16 percent of global economic output and half its growth.

Leaders from the BRIC countries—or the world’s top four emerging markets: **Brazil**, Russia, **India** and China—met in Brasilia in April. These four countries contain 40 percent of the world’s population, and consistently seek to have a larger say in world affairs.

Venezuela’s electricity supply is on the brink of collapse. Water levels at the Guri dam—which supplies power to 70 percent of the nation—are so low that officials may be forced to shut down a large part of the dam. A fire at a key thermoelectric plant for northwestern Venezuela on April 4 only made the situation worse.

account scandals meant that 226 of the members of Parliament present were fresh faces. As the unwieldy government works to hold itself together, it may prove vulnerable to being manhandled by other countries and the EU.

The Bank of England said on May 12 that Britain and the **United States** have some of the same fiscal problems as **Greece** when it comes to public finances. The assessment came from bank governor Mervyn King, who is regarded as among the most guarded central bankers. A week earlier, reports surfaced that the European Commission had forecast that the UK’s budget deficit would hit 12 percent of gross domestic product—the highest in the EU.

On May 3, U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates admitted that America’s crucial naval dominance is being threatened. The Navy, which relies heavily on expensive aircraft carriers and submarines, is becoming more vulnerable as potential enemies like Iran and China improve “asymmetrical” weapons such as anti-ship missiles. “Anti-access” weapons could potentially render America’s mighty, expensive carrier groups obsolete, Gates warned.

U.S. food prices are rising, with overall prices jumping

2.4 percent in March alone. As compared to one year previous, fresh and dry vegetables were up 56 percent and fresh fruits and melons up 29 percent. Eggs rose 34 percent, and beef, veal and dairy all rose by roughly 10 percent.

Two Illinois politicians request-

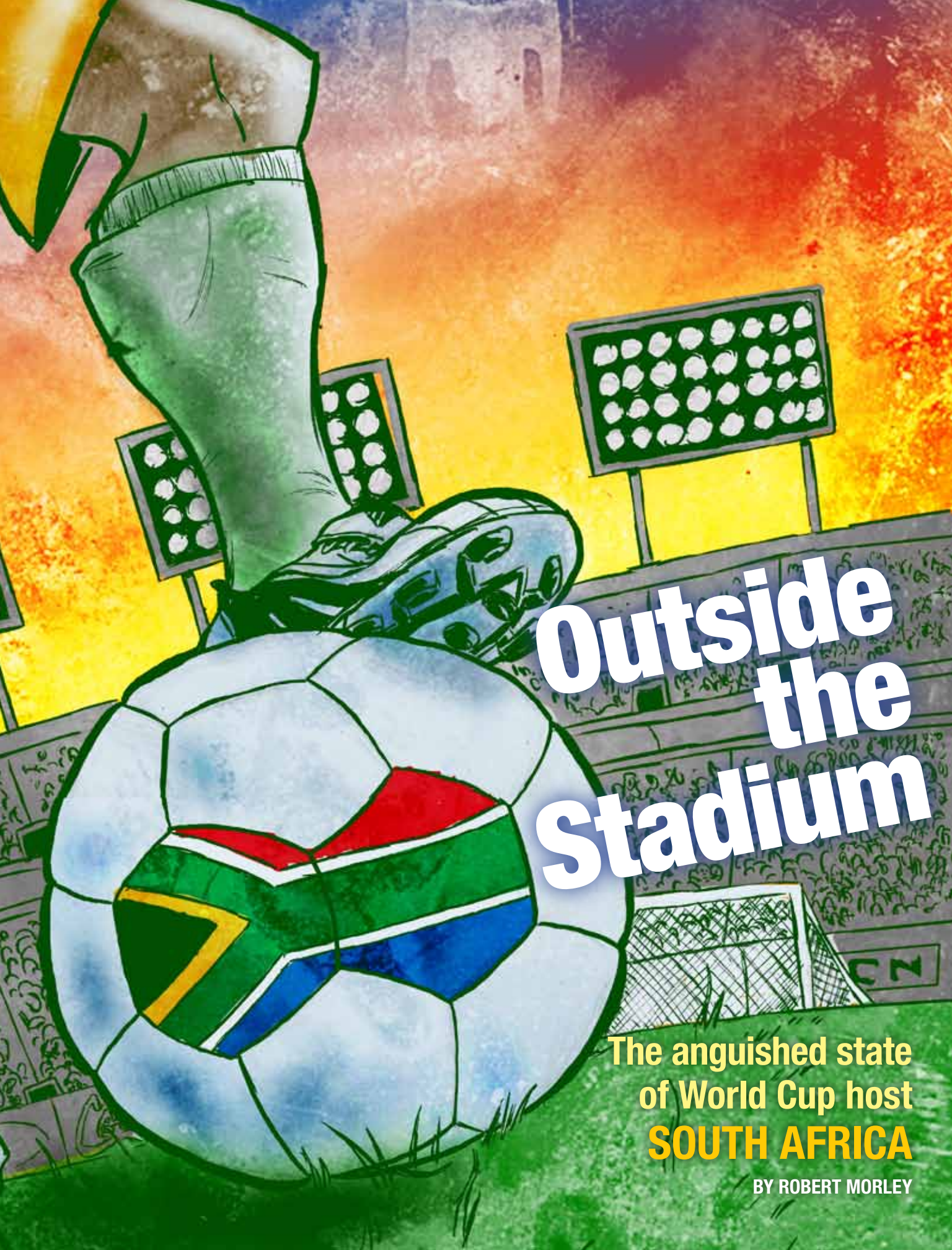
ed military intervention in Chicago in April, where the murder rate matches the number of U.S. troops who have died in Iraq and **Afghanistan**. The politicians said National Guard soldiers were needed to “stabilize” Chicago communities just as they are doing in those two conflicts.

In Britain, the Office of National Statistics reveals that the proportion of births to unmarried mothers across the nation will rise above half over the next five years. The figure rose from 37 percent in 1997 to 45 percent in 2008.

Two lesbians have obtained the first official birth certificate in Britain that leaves the father off the official record, thanks to a 2008 act of Parliament. Rather than listing the mother and father, the certificate states a “mother” and a “parent.”

England is one of Europe’s “least patriotic” countries, an April survey found. One in five English respondents said they lacked patriotism due to a broken society, although half said they had been patriotic in the past. On a questionnaire, respondents judged their overall level of patriotism to be 5.8 out of 10, the lowest of the nine nations surveyed. More than a quarter said they feared they would be called racist if they flew the English flag.





# Outside the Stadium

The anguished state  
of World Cup host  
**SOUTH AFRICA**

BY ROBERT MORLEY



**M**ORE MONEY HAS BEEN spent preparing for the games than for any other sports event in Africa's history. Over \$2.5 billion built stadiums, accommodations, base camps, training facilities, security networks, media hubs, tourist centers, manicured parks, bus lines, light rail grids and a host of other supporting infrastructure.

Money can buy a lot. But it can hide a lot too—at least temporarily.

When World Cup 2010 play begins, hundreds of millions of people will tune in from around the world to watch the games. But what will they see?

Like China during the 2008 Olympics, the picture presented to those viewing from thousands of miles away will be very different than the reality in the townships. The South African government will work very hard to present a sanitized, meticulously managed image to the world.

You will hear of a nation that, following the end of apartheid, has purged racial discrimination and segregation. South Africa, you will be told, is a nation that has overthrown the yoke of colonialism to emerge as a bastion of economic freedom for blacks, whites, Indians, Asians and all mixes. Inequalities have been removed and wealth is being redistributed to those whose land was stolen hundreds of years ago.

Since the end of apartheid, South Africa's leaders claim to have put the country on the road to both equality and prosperity. And for South Africa's ruling African National Congress (ANC), the World Cup is a chance to make sure the world believes that.

Yet, despite the hype around the games, not all is well in South Africa. The view on the street—the places the politically correct international cameras will not go—reveals a nation rife with poverty, disease and violent crime.

But above all, hidden South Africa is a nation bubbling over with racial tension—and some say secret genocide.

### The "Mfecane"

The beginnings of South Africa's simmering tension extend back more than 200 years, to a time when the nation was first being conquered—but not by white people.

Historians refer to this period in African history as the *Mfecane*. It is a word deeply associated with one of the most feared personalities in African history, if not the world. It still sends chills down the spines of those who understand its connotation. It is a Zulu expression that means "the crushing" and "the scattering."

And unfortunately, once World Cup soccer is over, it is a word that may soon be back in South Africa.

The time of "the crushing"—or "the slaughter"—was one of the bloodiest in African history. Southern Africa was engulfed in tribal war. From south of what is now Lesotho and Durban on the eastern coast of South Africa, all the way up into Zimbabwe and Mozambique, the land was being systematically depopulated.

Shaka Zulu, the Zulu king, was sweeping away all who opposed him. He introduced new weapons and new methods of warfare, including terror and scorched earth destruction, which induced mass starvation. Rival tribes either submitted or were massacred. When a clan was overrun, the young men would be conscripted into the army, the young women taken for the harems, and the rest either slaughtered or sold as slaves.

In just four years, Shaka conquered an area larger than France. At the height of his power, Shaka could field over 50,000 trained warriors, many of whom could run 40 miles before fighting a battle. Over 100,000 warriors from related tribes also answered his call.

The ferocity of Shaka's expansion set mass migrations in place as other tribes fled. This sparked even more warfare and conflict, which only weakened those who sought to oppose him.

An estimated 2 million Africans died from Shaka's crushing and scattering. Then, what Shaka started, years of drought and food shortages finished.

It was into this atmosphere of panic, migration and depopulation that the Dutch and French Voortrekkers arrived.

### "Kill the Wizards!"

One hundred and fifty years before, in 1652, the first Dutch settled in the Cape Town region. But by 1806, Britain had permanently seized the colony to keep it from falling to Napoleon. Unhappy with British rule, the Dutch and French farmers, known as Boers, began migrating east and north—right into the aftermath of the Zulu annihilation.

The Boers found something else during their migration: some of the most fertile agricultural land in the world. Because of the Zulus, much of it was unpopulated. To many of the religiously devout Boers, it was as if God had just bequeathed to them the richest agricultural inheritance possible. For a society of farmers technically under the British Empire's authority, the

vast open range and farmland seemed like the greatest of blessings.

In fact, it was an even greater blessing than they imagined. Decades later, the land was found to contain the richest gold, platinum, chromium and diamond deposits in the world. By the end of World War II, South Africa was 100 percent self-sufficient. The land not only supplied the

## The view reveals a nation rife with poverty, disease and crime.

nation's every need, but it also provided vast food and technology exports for other African nations.

The Zulus, however, saw the arrival of the Boers as a challenge to their dominance.

By 1832, after skirmishes with other tribes, the Boers came face to face with the Zulu kingdom. Three years earlier, Shaka Zulu—after committing terrible atrocities against his own people (like murdering 7,000 people who were thought not to be grief-stricken enough when his mother died, and executing all women who became pregnant during the year of mourning)—was murdered by two of his brothers, one of whom then took the throne.

The Boers offered a peace treaty to new King Dingane. In return for cattle, and for punishing another rival nation for defying the Zulus, the Boers were given permission to settle the largely depopulated areas of central and south Natal in eastern South Africa. Upon receiving payment and signing the treaty giving the Boers the land, the Zulu king threw a magnificent party for the 70 Dutch leaders who had come to his kraal. The Dutch leaders were asked to not bring any weapons.

Then, during the farewell dance by a unit of Zulu warriors, King Dingane leaped to his feet and called for silence. He then uttered three words that changed the course of history. He began shouting, "*Bambani laba Bathakathi!*"—"Kill the wizards! Kill the wizards!"

The warriors jumped onto the shocked Boers, quickly overpowering and dragging them up a hill, where they clubbed and hacked them to death—one after the other so that the awaiting victims were forced to watch. The Zulu king then dispatched his army to attack the approaching unsuspecting settler wagons. Over 500 men, women and children were spared to death that night.

Thus, with the words "Kill the wizards!" a war began that would claim the lives of thousands.

## A Broken Vow

The climax of the Zulu-Boer war came in 1838 at the Battle of Blood River. The Boers knew they would face vastly superior numbers. They knew they were marching into death. Their leaders, Pretorius and Cilliers, induced them to enter into a covenant with God.

The army of 470 men knelt in prayer and asked God to deliver the Zulu army into their hands. Should they be victorious, the Boers pledged that they and their descendants would annually dedicate the day to God's glory and to thanksgiving, just as a Sabbath is spent, forever. As one of the Boer commandos later recounted, this would ensure that "the honor of His name shall thereby be glorified, and the glory and honor of the victory shall be given Him."

On Dec. 16, 1838, those 470 Afrikaner farmer-soldiers circled their wagons and from morning to noon, fought for their lives against more than 10,000

Zulus—and triumphed. It was one of the greatest victories against overwhelming odds in military history.

Theories abound as to why the Boers gained such an astounding victory that day. Some say the Zulus attacked in waves instead of all at once. Some say there was confusion after two Zulu princes were killed. Others note that just when the Boer walls were about to be breached, the Zulus mysteriously retreated and regrouped.

But the one thing that none of the theories explain is how it was possible that during that morning of fierce fighting that left more than 3,000 Zulu warriors dead and countless thousands more wounded, *not a single Boer perished*. Not one! Further emphasizing the magnitude of the victory is the fact that 40 years later, a similar-size Zulu army wiped out a professional British army of 1,200—delivering Great Britain's worst defeat by the hands of a native force.

Thus, following the miracle at Blood River, the Boer national celebration, later known as the Day of the Covenant, was adopted. And it was kept for 156 years.

In 1994, that all changed. The Republic of South Africa ceased memorializing the Day of the Vow and instead replaced it with a new holiday.

The promise was broken.

1994 was a turning point for South Africa in other ways as well. It marked the end of apartheid, at which the world erupted in cheers. After years of sanctions and international condemnation, the white population of South Africa peacefully turned over rule of the country to the black and mixed-race majority. Nelson Mandela and the ANC took responsibility for the nation.

Sixteen years later, the world is about to come together to focus on South Africa once again. But will it look deep enough to find the truth? Has South Africa really entered the new age of justice and reconciliation that the rainbow revolution was supposed to bring? Or is it reverting to the law of the *Serengeti*—meaning there is no law?

# The Glitter Is Gone

**W**HAT Saudi Arabia is to oil, South Africa was to gold. For over a century, it was the largest gold producer in the world. At its peak, South Africa generated two thirds of the world's gold supply—more than four times as much gold as the next largest gold producer, which was all the nations in the Soviet Union combined.

Yet today, gold production in South Africa is plummeting by double digits per year. In 1994, South Africa turned out over 18 million ounces of gold—just slightly less than it had been producing for 20 years. But never again would it be so prolific: The next year, the industry went into dramatic and sustained freefall. Today, South Africa only produces around 6 million ounces annually—a level last seen during the 1920s.

Gold is critical to South Africa's economy. Not only is gold bullion an invaluable monetary component of central banks, it is the single largest source of foreign revenue in South Africa. Along with platinum, gold is the nation's most strategic export. Gold mining is also an important job sector; one quarter of the nation's mining workforce is in gold mining and processing.

Sadly, the demise of South Africa's precious metals mining industry is largely self-inflicted.

Many of South Africa's biggest mines are very old and are reaching the end of their lifespan. This accounts for part of the national production decline. Rolling power blackouts that have recently plagued state-owned energy providers have also not helped.

But there is another, more important reason for the nation's dramatic decline in gold production. International companies have become very wary of building mines there. Why? Because of racism.

Since the end of apartheid, South Africa has implemented Black Economic Empowerment (BEE)—a race-based policy that mandates companies turn over 40 percent ownership and management to black persons or black empowerment unions. To comply with law, corporations

are forced to give shares of their companies to black people and take on black executives regardless of their qualifications. BEE laws have been criticized for simply shifting economic power and wealth to allies of the government's ANC party but doing little for the average South African.

Faced with having to hire workers based on race as opposed to skill or experience—and with the prospect of having to turn over business ownership—many foreign investors have balked at committing further investment in South Africa. Why risk millions exploring for gold only to have the government mandate that you give it away?

The South African government's strong support for Zimbabwe dictator Robert Mugabe has also frightened foreign and domestic investors away. Like Mugabe, Julius Malema, confidant of President Jacob Zuma and leader of the ANC's youth league, is pushing to nationalize South Africa's mining industry and is among those pushing for a controversial new policy to hasten the "redistribution" of white-owned land in South Africa. He advocates this policy even though the same policy transformed Zimbabwe from a major food exporter into a country reliant on humanitarian aid to stave off mass starvation—and despite the fact that the present policy has already turned South Africa into a net food importer, as of 2007.

The trouble facing South Africa's white farming population looks set to intensify. The *Zimbabwe Guardian* captured the sentiment of the ruling ANC: "South Africa should learn from Zimbabwe. ... White commercial farmers in Zimbabwe did not heed the sign-o-the-times. ... That naivety has cost them their livelihoods. ... [T]here's not much they can do anymore. The current is in motion. ... If [South African white farmers] do not heed the signs; especially the calls for nationalization of farms and industries, then they have themselves to blame if that process is forcibly put in motion ..." (March 20).

It used to be said that South Africa was slowly becoming Zimbabwe. The transformation doesn't look all that slow anymore.

**ROBERT MORLEY**





## Violence Multiplies

On April 3, Eugene Terre'Blanche, the former leader of the political militia movement that violently opposed the end of apartheid, was brutally hacked to death. His chopped remains were found scattered across his bed. The murder weapons—machete and wooden club—were left next to the bloody remains. According to reports, one of the accused said that Terre'Blanche had verbally abused him for years, and when Terre'Blanche refused to pay him his wages (reported to be about \$41), he just couldn't take it anymore.

According to most press reports, the murder was just a wage dispute gone wrong. But the manner in which he was mutilated suggested otherwise.

Terre'Blanche's death came at a particularly embarrassing time for South Africa, for two reasons.

First, it was the latest in a long string of high-profile, racially motivated attacks against white farmers in South Africa. Just two weeks earlier, Nigel Ralfe was milking his cows on his farm when four men marched into the yard asking to buy milk. When he replied that he had none to sell, they shot him twice and pistol-whipped him. They then dragged him to his house, where his wife was bathing their three grandchildren. When his wife opened the door, they shot her three times point blank.

As the gang ripped apart the house, the bewildered children emerged from the bathroom to find their grandmother dying on her bed. The four men—after stealing an old pistol, a pair of binoculars and a phone—simply walked away.

More white farmers were murdered in South Africa during just 2009 than have been killed in Zimbabwe since Robert Mugabe came to power. Since the end of apartheid, over 3,000 white farmers have been murdered, according to the BBC. South Africa's News24, on the other hand, says "only" 1,600 farmers have been killed in approximately 10,000 farm attacks since 1991. Even if that figure were true, *it would still make farming in South Africa one of the most dangerous professions in the world.* White farmers are more than twice as likely to be killed as police officers, and far more likely to be killed than miners.

Since 1994, the South African murder rate has risen from 5,100 to an astounding 43,000 per year. An average of 50 people are murdered every single day.

The rape and AIDS statistics are even more disheartening. According to the Medical Research Council, the latest survey of 1,738 households found that more

than one in four South African men admitted to raping at least one woman in their lifetime. Forty-six percent of responders said they were between the ages of 15 and 19 when they committed their first rape.

Gang rape, or *jackrolling* as it is now called, is terrorizing the townships. It is a youth-cult initiation for thousands of armed gang members. Group rapes are



seen as a form of bonding between the often feral, fatherless youth.

The newest estimates indicate that a shocking *half million* women each year are raped in South Africa, although the government says only 55,000 are officially reported. One quarter of all South African women *can expect to be raped at least once* in their lifetime, says human rights group Actionaid.

South Africa now also has the largest number of recorded child rapes in the world. Adriana Stuijtt, writing for the *Digital Journal*, says this is often due to a pervasive belief within South Africa—perpetuated by traditional witch doctors—that raping a virgin child cleanses a man of HIV/AIDS.

Close to 5.5 million South Africans

reportedly now have HIV/AIDS. That is 12 percent of the population, making South Africa home to the world's greatest concentration of the disease.

Statistics like these stand in stark contrast to South Africa's chosen World Cup advertising motto: "It's Time. Celebrate Africa's Humanity." The slogan was selected because, according to South Africa's leaders, Africa's "biggest asset by far is the warmth, friendliness, humility and humanity of its people."

## Kill the Boer

The second reason to note the timing of Terre'Blanche's killing was that it came only a few days after Julius Malema—the radical and popular leader of the ANC's Youth League—whipped university students into a frenzy by repeatedly chanting "Kill the Boer, kill the Boer" in a song at a rally.

Though "Boer" is literally translated "farmer," it is used to refer to *white* farmers.

The rest of the song includes the phrases "The cowards are scared," "These dogs are raping," and "Shoot, shoot... shoot the Boer." At this rally, Malema also said that "whites are giving us problems at home. We are going to shoot them with AK47s."

Remember: Malema is a member of the current ruling South African government.

South Africa's white population is afraid. And they should be. The days of "Kill the wizards" appear to be returning.

Instead of censoring Malema for his hate speech, Jacob Zuma's ANC went to court to challenge an earlier court judgment that declared the lyrics unconstitutional and unlawful.

Imagine if any politician in America publicly sang songs calling African Americans dogs and cowards who robbed society, saying that they should be killed—and then shrugged off criticism by saying the lyrics were just part of America's heritage and didn't really mean anything.

Imagine if the president of the United States agreed. And he regularly stirred supporters by dancing and singing a song titled "Bring Me My Machine Gun." And what if the president was acting like this at a time when black Americans across the country were being hunted down and murdered because of their race?

There would be an uproar—and rightly so. Human rights activists would be up in arms and the United Nations would condemn America for using hate speech to incite racial violence. There would be lawsuits, international arrest warrants, and very likely assassination attempts. America would be the pariah of the world.

These are the very words and sentiments espoused by President Jacob Zuma and Julius Malema, South Africa's two most powerful politicians. And both are blatant and open about it. Meanwhile, the nation's white farmers are being murdered at appalling rates.

Yet the world, and the UN—that supposed bastion of anti-discrimination—say little or nothing. Why? Because South Africa is supposed to be the poster nation for anti-racism and reconciliation. After all, the world came together in unity to oust the ruling white government in South Africa. So it is a bit embarrassing to find out that the oppressed have become the oppressors. In this politically correct world, racism only works one way.

But when the racial tension eventually explodes—and explode it will—who will be blamed?

And will the world come together again, this time to stop the killing? Not likely.

### South Africa's Hope

The biblical book of Ezekiel contains many end-time prophecies that apply to the modern nations of Israel. South Africa is among those nations.

Ezekiel 7:23-27 perfectly describe South Africa today: "Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence. Wherefore I will bring

## In this politically correct world, racism only works one way.

the worst of the heathen, and they shall possess their houses . . ." The Bible prophesies that so many bloody, violent crimes will occur that they will be like links in a chain—one right after another. This passage even talks about people's homes being taken away (the ANC is following Zimbabwe's lead by seizing white-owned farms and giving them to blacks) and conflict between nationalities.

Conditions will get so bad in South Africa that eventually, in desperation, people will begin searching for their forgotten God. They will cry out for Him to save them. But God says it will be futile because He is purposefully sending the punishment. (For more proof that this passage applies to South Africa, request a free copy of our book *The United States*



**KILLER SONGS** Julius Malema is popularizing "kill the Boer," "shoot, shoot ... shoot the Boer," and similar homicidal racist lyrics.

and Britain in Prophecy.)

But there is hope for South Africa, and the whole world. Verse 27 also says that God is sending the punishment so that "they shall know that I am the Lord."

God does not want people to suffer. He loves all races and nationalities. He wants people to be truly happy. But true peace and happiness can only come from obeying His laws and commandments. God wants the people of South Africa and the rest of the world to *obey Him*. If

they would, blessings of peace and prosperity would result. A basic theme of the Bible is that obedience brings blessings and disobedience produces curses.

In fact, it was the obedience of one man that led to the multitude of blessings that South Africa once fully enjoyed.

South Africa's considerable national blessings were the direct result of promises God made to the patriarch Abraham and his descendants. Among those promises was this: "That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice" (Genesis 22:17-18).

Those divine promises extended through Abraham's grandson Jacob (whose name was later changed to Israel) and to Jacob's grandsons Ephraim and Manasseh

and their descendants: "... he [Manasseh] also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother [Ephraim] shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations" (Genesis 48:19). Beginning in the early 1800s, Manasseh quickly rose to become the greatest single nation on Earth, and Ephraim the greatest empire (company of nations) the world has ever seen.

Ephraim once comprised a mighty commonwealth and empire of nations upon which the sun never set. Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa were the areas of prime settlement and governance of Ephraim. In South Africa's case, it was settled not only by Ephraim, but also other Israelitish stock, such as Zebulun and Issachar (the Dutch), and Reuben (the French Huguenots). The United States became the inheritance of Manasseh. (This history also is proven in *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.)

For the descendants of Abraham to *continue* receiving God's blessings, however, they had to follow the laws and principles outlined in the Bible. Because of their disobedience, God has now withdrawn those blessings from all those nations—including South Africa—and replaced them with curses.

God gets very specific in describing the curses to befall Abraham's progeny because of their refusal to obey God: People will build homes, only to have them taken away. Diseases and plagues



will run rampant. The fruit of the land will be eaten up by foreign people. “The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low. ... [H]e shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail” (Deuteronomy 28:43-44). You can read about the curses prophesied to befall South Africa in Deuteronomy 28.

Deuteronomy 28:33 even specifically prophesies a *time of crushing*.

*Mfecane* is coming to South Africa again.

So great will be the fall of South Africa and its sister Israelitish nations that God says they will become a scene of great astonishment around the world!

But remember, there is a purpose and great hope in the punishment, too.

In *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, Herbert W. Armstrong stated, “The prophecies do not stop with revealing the unprecedented multiplied intensity of punishment already beginning to descend upon America and Britain. The prophecies record also the result of that intensified punishment. The result will be a corrected people. The result will be an eye-opening realization of what we have done to ourselves. The supreme punishment will teach us, at last, our lesson! The punishment will break our spirit of rebellion! It will lift us up from the cesspool of rottenness and evil into which we have sunk. It will teach us the way to glorious peace, prosperity, abundant well-being!”

And therein also is the hope for South Africa and all people the world over.

God is correcting the nations of Israel so that, upon the soon return of Jesus Christ to this Earth, there will be humbled people willing to submit to His rule—a people that can be used to usher in a new way of life and prosperity to this whole Earth.

But even though times of trouble are upon the nations of Israel today, God promises protection to certain individuals. As Mr. Armstrong declared, “[U]nderstand this: Although the nations as a whole are to be put through this unprecedented punishment, yet those individuals who yield to accept God’s correction without the punishment shall be protected from it! No one need suffer this intense tribulation!” (ibid.).

God will protect, and prosper, all those who obey Him, even as South Africans brace for the Great Tribulation—an unhappy prelude to the great joy-filled Millennium beyond. ■

# Don’t Read This Article!

**H**OW WELL DO YOU KNOW yourself? Not just your desires or interests—how well do you understand how and why you think your particular thoughts? What makes you do what you do?

Be honest. Are there ever times when you have thoughts you don’t like, or don’t understand—or, even worse, emotions you can’t explain? Do you ever feel disappointed because you keep doing things you’ve “promised” yourself you’d overcome? In your relationships, do you find yourself dealing with the same problems, making the same mistakes, time and time again?

Surely you can answer yes to at least some of these questions. Why? Because they are common to the human experience.

Even the Apostle Paul, a successful evangelist and one of the most prolific biblical writers, was well acquainted with these frustrations. He wrote, “I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate” (Romans 7:15, Revised Standard Version).

Why is this the case? Sometimes it seems as if our own minds are a big puzzle.

Take another example. The headline above is plain: DON’T READ THIS ARTICLE. Yet here you are, reading it. With each word you take in, you further violate the instruction.

What makes that which is forbidden so compelling to us? Think about it. Why do books, movies or art exhibits that arouse scandal attract bigger audiences? Why does reverse psychology work on us—where we do something only because it is the *opposite* of what is expected?

Why do we naturally resist when we are told what to do? Why is it so hard to admit when we are wrong?

Can you explain these conundrums? Again—how well do you really know yourself, the inner workings of your mind?

Most people simply live with the problem; they don’t think much about it. *Life is complicated enough without trying to unriddle yourself*, they think. Others, desperate for a solution, believe every promise of every self-help book, television psychiatrist

or psychic, and build their lives around humanly devised plans and programs.

The Bible states the problem in terminology that is shockingly explicit—so much so that most people would reject it, even though they are living proof of its truth. “*The heart [that is, the seat of intellect—the human mind] is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*” (Jeremiah 17:9).

Do you disagree? Does that seem too harsh? It takes penetrating personal honesty to recognize the rightness in Jeremiah’s statement. 1 Kings 8:38 talks about the importance of every person knowing “the plague of his own heart.” Does that ring true in your life? Do you recognize that “plague” in your mind? If you don’t admit it, you can never change it.

The fact is, *most of the problems in this world* are caused by people who are woe-fully *ignorant* about themselves! They may be doing the best they know how—they may sincerely desire to do better—but they are stuck. “There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Proverbs 16:25).

Why is the human mind so malignant? The Creator God designed it. Did He fashion into it all those deceptive intricacies? Did He make it “desperately wicked”? Most people have never even contemplated that issue.

Perhaps even more important: What can be done about it? Recognizing the problem is one thing—overcoming it is another. Are we destined to *remain* plagued by a self-deceitful and wicked heart?

You need the answers to these pressing questions.

We would like to offer you free copies of two booklets. The first, *Human Nature—What Is It?*, will explain to you *why* the human mind is the way it is. The second, *Repentance Toward God*, will show you the first steps necessary to begin to CHANGE. It will give you the universally overlooked *key* to self-mastery and lasting success. Don’t delay—contact us today! **JOEL HILLIKER**



**W**HAT IS GOD'S VIEW OF SMOKING? People addicted to cigarettes are quick to point out that the Bible says nothing about smoking. This is simply not true.

The Bible is a book of law. The laws, when obeyed, produce great happiness. Biblical laws regulate health, farming, diet, child rearing and marriage. If people would follow these laws, they would live an abundant life. Yet mankind consistently chooses to violate these laws!

It is true that nowhere in the Bible does God say, "Thou shalt not smoke." But in the Sixth Commandment, He emphatically states, "Thou shalt not murder" (Exodus 20:13, Jewish Publication Society translation). The question we need to answer is, does smoking harm people?

### Slow Suicide

The clinical facts have been fully tabulated on smoking. There is no doubt that there exists a direct relationship between smoking and lung cancer. Lung cancer does kill people. Former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop warned, "Cigarette smoking is clearly identified as the chief preventable cause of death in our society and the most important public health issue of our time." A pamphlet issued by the surgeon general's office stated that smoking "causes more illness and death than all other drugs." One of the most current U.S. surgeon general's warnings on a pack of cigarettes states: "Cigarette smoke contains carbon monoxide." Read that warning again! To inhale cigarette smoke is to inhale carbon monoxide! Nobody in a sane state of mind would purposely inhale carbon monoxide.

To put it simply, smoking is suicide.

If you smoke or use any other form of tobacco, you are doing so contrary to the serious warnings against such habits. When you smoke, you are wrecking your health. Another of the surgeon general's warnings on a pack of cigarettes states: "Quitting smoking now greatly reduces serious risks to your health."

If you smoke, then you are deliberately subjecting your body to serious physical harm. Here is a list of some of the chemicals found in unfiltered cigarette smoke besides carbon monoxide: hydroquinone, methacrolein, methyl alcohol, methylamine, nickel compounds, pyridine, dimethylamine, endrin, ethylamine, furfural, cadmium, methyl nitrite, ammonia, formaldehyde, hydrogen sulfide, DDT, and nicotine. Spilling these chemicals into a water supply system could carry heavy fines for any business. If you are a smoker,



you are seriously polluting your own body, and you will pay a heavy personal penalty.

Besides lung cancer, you could also be subjecting your body to other life-threatening diseases such as bladder cancer, emphysema, high blood pressure and hardening of the arteries, which can lead to a stroke. From God's point of view, is there really any difference between pointing a gun to your head and pulling the trigger or lighting a cigarette? No! Pulling the trigger on a gun usually brings death instantly. But smoking also brings death—slow, agonizing death. Both are suicide! Both violate the Sixth Commandment. If you smoke, the most important thing you can do for your health is to quit the poisonous habit immediately.

### It's Not All About You

Some argue, *As long as my smoking doesn't harm anyone else, it is okay to continue the habit.* But scientists have also proven that the secondary smoke produced by smok-

ers is just as lethal for the non-smoker living in a smoker's environment.

According to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, second-hand smoke contains twice as much tar and nicotine, three times as much of a certain kind of benzopyrene (a carcinogen), five times as much carbon monoxide (which robs the blood of life-giving oxygen), and 46 times as much ammonia (a potent eye and respiratory-tract irritant) as the smoke that smokers inhale directly from their cigarettes!

Many countries and many U.S. states have banned smoking in public places for this reason. Smokers not only ruin their own health but the health of others as well. Harming others is another definite violation of the Sixth Commandment.

### Just What Do You Mean ... Sin?

Smoking is also a physical sin! You need to understand why.

There are many examples in the Bible



# Is Smoking Sin?

Does the Holy Bible forbid it?  
Does it even mention it?  
Don't be too sure you know! **BY DENNIS LEAP**

where Christ showed people that their health problems were caused by sin. In one instance, people brought to Jesus a man lying on a bed. Christ healed him by *forgiving his sin*. “And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed; and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; *thy sins be forgiven thee*” (Matthew 9:2). What sins were forgiven? The sins that caused the man to have palsy—*physical sin*.

This example contains very important knowledge concerning healing. God has set in motion many physical laws—laws that regulate the functions of our bodies: our health. If we break these laws, we sin and get sick. “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4).

This is a difficult truth for most people to accept: *Healing* is the forgiveness of *physical sin*. Matthew 9 continues: “And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. And

Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house. And he arose, and departed to his house” (verses 3-7).

If healing is the forgiveness of physical sin, then we must be sure to repent of our physical sins. Christ told the man healed by the pool at Bethesda, “[S]in no more...” (John 5:14).

If we do harmful things to our bodies like eating improper foods, or even too much of the right kinds of foods (gluttony), we sin against our bodies, and a penalty is exacted. The penalty is sickness! In some cases, the penalty is only temporary—but in other cases, it can mean permanent injury or death.

Smoking and other uses of tobacco have been proven to be of definite harm

to the body. Smoking will cause permanent damage to your lungs, which God designed and created to give you life-giving oxygen. Jesus Christ was beaten with many stripes so we could be healed of sickness (Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24). How can we as Christians justify smoking and then expect Christ to heal us of the illnesses related to smoking? Smoking shows great disrespect for Christ's sacrifice. If Jesus Christ was willing to be beaten with many stripes so we can be healed, then we should do everything possible to remain in good health! To do otherwise is sin!

## What to Do With Your Body

Let's go one step further. Why did God create our bodies? Paul gives us the answer: “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy [Spirit] which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's” (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). God created our bodies to house His Holy Spirit. God created us physical human beings so that we can grow in His own character (Matthew 5:48). Is there any justification to defile God's temple with a destructive habit like smoking? Does the use of tobacco glorify God? Does smoking please God, honor God or serve God's purpose?

Paul also instructed the Corinthians, “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31). We should work hard to maintain good health so that God's Spirit can work effectively in us.

Smoking also harms the smoker because it reinforces weak character traits. In other words, smoking is also a *spiritual sin*. In the Tenth Commandment, God commands, “Thou shalt not covet ...” (Exodus 20:17). The question we need to answer here is, is smoking lust?

Regarding the use of tobacco, Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in his autobiography: “I had learned that GOD'S LAW is HIS WAY OF LIFE. It is a basic philosophy of life. The whole law is summed up in the one word LOVE. I knew that love is the opposite of lust. Lust is self-desire—pleasing the self only. Love means loving others. Its direction is not inward toward self alone, but outgoing, toward others. I knew the Bible teaches that ‘lust of the flesh’ is the way of SIN.

“So now I began to apply the principle of God's law.

“I asked myself, ‘WHY do I smoke?’ To please others—to help others—to serve or

minister to or express love toward others—or only to satisfy and gratify a desire of the flesh within my own self?

“The answer was instantaneously obvious. I had to be honest with it. My only reason for smoking was LUST OF THE FLESH, and lust of the flesh is, according to the BIBLE, sin!”

Smoking breaks the Tenth Commandment. As Mr. Armstrong wrote, a smoker can hardly claim that he smokes to please others. People smoke to satisfy the self. Smoking is a desire, a thirst for self-gratification. It is lust! Jesus Christ taught that we must uphold the spirit of the law (Matthew 5:27-28). In other words, we must be concerned just as much with what goes on in our minds as with our actions.

Spiritually speaking, our attitudes are all-important. What is the attitude of one who desires the effects of tobacco? It is one of coveting or inordinately desiring that which is damaging. The wrong desire of the mind—lusting after tobacco—is a spiritual sin—a sin against righteous character. Smoking is one of the ways of

this world. Christians are to come out of this world (Revelation 18:4; Romans 12:2).

### Yes, You Can Stop

Many people say they cannot stop smoking. That is not true! Yes, you can stop smoking!

How? You must start by recognizing that smoking is a sin that will keep you out of the Kingdom of God. Paul said, “For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God” (Ephesians 5:5). Smoking is covetousness and, as Paul states here, idolatry!

Sin no longer has power over the truly converted person (Romans 6:14). God promises to cleanse us of sin if we are willing to confess our sin. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). In other words, God has obligated Himself to cleanse us of the sin of smoking if we repent, acknowledge our sin, and call upon Him for the extra help we need. God will

help you if you humbly pray to Him for help (Psalm 103:11-14; Isaiah 55:7-9).

Stop all smoking completely. Smoking is an addiction. Trying to quit gradually only feeds the addiction. You should quit suddenly and totally! It is not easy, but it is the most successful way. Commit yourself to quitting. Throw away all cigarettes, snuff or pipe tobacco. Get rid of all those things that focus your attention on smoking, such as favorite lighters, cigarette cases or pipes. Then never buy another ounce of tobacco!

The actual physical discomfort of nicotine withdrawal usually subsides

within three to five days of your last cigarette (this differs with each person). The psychological withdrawal usually takes much longer. You may experience tension, hunger and symptoms of restlessness. These discomforts will subside. Usually the habit of smoking can be broken in 21 to 30 days.

Avoid compromising situations. Paul said, “Flee fornication” (1 Corinthians 6:18). You must apply this same principle to

smoking. Avoid situations where you previously “lit up.” Don’t let other smokers, friends, relatives or stressful situations cause you to cave in to your old habit. Remember, just one puff will make you a habitual smoker again!

Spend time with non-smokers and people who will support your efforts to remain free of cigarettes. Another way to get your mind off your smoking habit is to replace it with some other activity. Studies have shown that it is much easier to break a bad habit and stay free of returning to it if we have something to replace it with. Try getting involved in some type of exercise program like walking, cycling or swimming, depending upon your age, athletic ability and health. Getting a physical check-up is a good idea before beginning any new exercise program. This is an excellent replacement habit.

Finally, don’t become discouraged or fear failure. And if you slip up and smoke—don’t give up! You can get rid of this life-threatening habit. When you do, you will not only live a better life physically, but also spiritually! ■



**Spiritually speaking, our attitudes are all-important. What is the attitude of one who desires the effects of tobacco?**

# Well-Ton

BY RYAN MALONE

**C**OULD A SONG SUPPLY THE equivalent of a vitamin? Could a symphony provide an immunity boost?

In fact, more and more studies are revealing the positive effects of music on the brain and even on physical health.

Not that this is revolutionary news. For ages, men have exploited the physical, emotional, mental and even spiritual health properties of music. Many trace this knowledge back to Pythagoras, the musical Greek mathematician who supposedly could tame animals through his lyre playing. But this knowledge actually traces back to even earlier. Why else would the men in the court of King Saul tell Israel’s first king to soothe his deep dementia by summoning a cunning harpist?

The human mind and body are extremely receptive to the harmony of numbers that is music. These sounds provide significant health benefits—much like clean air from the atmosphere and nutritious food from the ground. They have been proven to speed the body’s natural healing process and to strengthen the cognitive and emotional components of the mind.

MSNBC.com contributor Bill Briggs explained, “Sound waves travel through the air into the ears and buzz the eardrums and bones in the middle ears. To decode the vibration, your brain transforms that mechanical energy into electrical energy, sending the signal to its cerebral cortex—a hub for thought, perception and memory. Within that control tower, the auditory cortex forwards the message on to brain centers that direct emotion, arousal, anxiety, pleasure and creativity. And there’s another stop upstairs: that electrical cue hits the hypothalamus which controls heart rate and respiration, plus your stomach and skin nerves, explaining why a melody may give you butterflies or goose bumps. Of course, all this communication happens far faster



# ed: A Whole New Meaning

than a single drum beat” (MSNBC Health, June 1, 2009).

Just as God created nutritious food, fresh air and clean water to enhance our health, He also made music with physically edifying properties.

## A Cellular Dance

In 1998, a Nobel Prize-winning discovery showed how cells in our bodies create nitric oxide in waves, releasing the gas into the body tissue around them in a process called puffing. This “puffing” can boost cell vitality and vascular flow, aid in resisting stress, strengthen the immune system, diminish depression, improve digestion and impart higher levels of energy, stamina and mental clarity. Dr. John Beaulieu found that when humans listen simply to tuning forks—not to mention certain other types of music—their cells automatically puff.

More recently, Dr. Michael Miller of the Center for Preventive Cardiology at the University of Maryland Medical Center found a similar effect of this release of nitric oxide on the heart. He said that listening to music that we consider “joyful” can

cause “endothelial tissue (a layer of cells lining the interior surface of blood vessels) to expand, thereby increasing blood flow to the heart and other vital organs” (medfasthealth.org, Aug. 31, 2009).

The American Heart Association published a study in 2009 stating that musical phrases 10 seconds or longer can cause the heart to synchronize its “inherent cardiovascular rhythm” to the beat of the music ([americanheart.mediaroom.com](http://americanheart.mediaroom.com), June 22, 2009).

Luciano Bernardi, head researcher in the study, said, “It is not only the emotion that creates the cardiovascular changes, but this study suggests that also the opposite might be possible, that cardiovascular changes may be the substrate for emotions, likely in a bi-directional way.”

The physical effects of music on the mental and emotional state is astounding.

## Back to Center

Dr. Oliver Sacks, musician and neurologist, writes about the effects of music on schizophrenic patients: “Psychiatrists speak of schizophrenic people as having ‘negative’ symp-

toms (difficulties making contact with others, lack of motivation, and, above all, flat affect) as well as ‘positive’ ones (hallucinations, delusions). While medication can damp down the positive symptoms, it *rarely has an effect on the negative ones*, which are often more disabling—and it is here ... that MUSIC THERAPY can be particularly useful and *may help open up isolated, asocial people in a humane and uncoercive way*” (*Musicophilia*, emphasis mine throughout).

Unlike medication, which can only take patients in one direction, music has the power to bring the patient back to center. Quoting music therapist Gretta Schulthorp, Sacks writes: “There are disturbed people who become calm, and silent people who give voice, frozen people who beat time.”

Sacks also discusses music’s profound effects on Parkinson patients and amnesiacs. He sums up one of his chapters: “As music seems to resist or survive the distortion of dreams or parkinsonism, or the losses of amnesia or Alzheimer’s, so it may resist the distortions of psychosis and be *able to penetrate the deepest states of melancholia or madness*, SOMETIMES WHEN NOTHING ELSE CAN.”

This was the case with King Saul.

In the first biblical record of music therapy, 1 Samuel 16:23 reads: “And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.”

At the end of his book, Dr. Sacks states that “to those who are lost in dementia,” music is not some trivial luxury of life, but “a necessity, and can have a power beyond anything else to restore them to themselves, and to others, at least for a while.” ■

With reporting by IVORY VENNIG and MARCEL VAN SOMEREN



## States: Can't Stop the Bleeding

**A**CROSS AMERICA, STATES ARE BEING forced to slash spending. Government debt woes are growing too big to camouflage, and states are getting desperate.

Hawaii has instituted a four-day school week. New Hampshire got caught trying to appropriate \$110 million from its medical malpractice insurance pool. Colorado is trying similar shenanigans. Things are so bad in Connecticut that the state tried to issue new accounting rules. If Rhode Island were a country, it would be verging on Greece.

California looks like it is trying to become Greece. In April, personal income tax month, revenues collapsed by nearly 30 percent—making previous budget predictions look comical. Somehow officials will need to find another \$3 billion this year—just to get back to the estimated \$20 billion shortfall. Where is the money going to come from?

To give you an idea of how bad California's plight is: Voters will soon get a chance to vote on whether to decriminalize marijuana usage. The proposal is being billed as a cure for the state's debt problems: The drug would be taxed like cigarettes and could potentially provide billions in state revenue.

Forty-eight out of 50 state governments are operating in the red—a sure sign something is dangerously wrong. Yet government analysts have the gall to say that America is supposedly in the midst of a recovery!

But here is why budget problems are going to get even worse.

President Barack Obama's stimulus money is beginning to run out. Stimulus funds helped plug up to 40 percent of budget shortfalls over the past two years. But the Recovery Act money will only be sufficient to cover 20 percent or less of deficits this coming fiscal year, and by 2012, it will be almost entirely gone.

And all the easy fat has been trimmed. Each cut going forward is going to be progressively more painful.

The bills are coming due. Expect more taxes—and one more cut and layoff after another—until the pain is numbing.

## America's Housing Crash Double Dip

**I**F YOU THINK home prices have hit bottom and are now headed back up for good, think again. According to Lender Processing Services, as of the end of March over 9 percent of outstanding mortgages in America are delinquent. Add in homes that are in some stage of foreclosure, and the rate for non-current mortgages rises to an astounding 12.4 percent—that is one in eight mortgages.

As bad as these numbers are, they are actually a slight improvement over February's figures. However, the improvement may prove temporary and will have little effect on falling house prices.

Meanwhile, a more immediate cause of depreciating home sale prices is intensifying.

In April, banks repossessed 92,432 properties—a new record and up 45 percent from a year earlier. These houses will soon hit the listings. And bank-owned properties typically sell for steep discounts.

According to Mike Whitney, writing for the Market Oracle, "banks have been withholding supply to keep prices artificially high" (April 18). During the banking panic in 2008 and 2009, banks did not want to foreclose on homes because it would have pushed prices lower, and that would have affected the value of banks' mortgage-backed security bonds—causing the banks more trouble at a time when many big banks were collapsing. The government also wanted to stop foreclosures for political reasons, so a moratorium on foreclosures was adopted.

That moratorium ended on March 31. "So," noted Whitney, "the dumping of backlog homes has begun."

And the house dumping could turn into an economic downpour. In the run-up to peak housing in 2007, upward of 40 percent of all job creation within the U.S. economy was related to the housing market (builders, suppliers, real-estate agents, brokers, bankers, etc.). Those jobs are now gone, and unless housing prices not only stop falling but start rising, the jobs won't be coming back.



## Looming Pension Crisis

**O**NE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST PENSION funds has issued a wake-up call for the world. Politicians have overpromised and financial planners have underdelivered. The money that many retirees are counting on for retirement just isn't there. Social disorder is on the way.

On May 18, California's Public Employees Retirement System pension fund (CalPERS) asked the state for a massive \$600 million bailout—the tiniest tip of the iceberg.

According to fund officials, the development is driven largely by huge investment losses, but also because people are living longer and retiring earlier than their models anticipated.

Last year alone, the fund lost \$55.2 billion, or a quarter of its value. According to Alan Milligan, interim chief actuary, "There's more to come" as the fund reports on more recent performance.

Although this is not much consolation, CalPERS is not alone. A study released in April by Stanford University found that public pension funds across California are underfunded by as much as a half trillion dollars—more than the state's entire yearly budget.

If accurate, California may soon be officially bankrupt. And California isn't the only state. Some estimates say states have underfunded pension funds by a collective \$3 trillion.

David Crane, an economic adviser to California's governor and former California public employee pension plan board member, said the state's pension funds have been underreporting the gap between revenue and obligations for years.

The consequences are clear: California needs a lot more money, or it must offer a lot fewer benefits and services.

California is a case study in the failure of democracy. Politicians are great at promising benefits and programs, but notoriously loath to pay for them through tax increases.

Expect the budget debacles to continue.

**The money that many retirees are counting on for retirement just isn't there. Social disorder is on the way.**





# Is Washington After Israel's Nukes?

Forget Iran—the Obama administration appears more worried about Israel's nuclear program. **BY BRAD MACDONALD**

IT APPEARS THE NEXT PHASE IN THE standoff over Iran's apocalypse-inducing nuclear weapons program is beginning to come into focus.

In the months ahead, don't be surprised if the efforts of the Obama administration to curb Iran's nuclear ambitions become *predicated* on the nuclear disarmament of the Jewish state. Why is this likely? Simple: Such a mandate is the inevitable outgrowth of the foolish yet increasingly pervasive tendency to consider as equals the nuclear ambitions of Israel and Iran.

## Iran's Lecture on Nuclear Proliferation

This false moral equivalence between the nuclear programs of Iran and the Jewish state was on display in New York in May, at the month-long Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The conference was supposed to focus on revising and updating the NPT, of which Israel has never been a signatory. But when the conference opened, it quickly became evident that UN member states had set their sights on what *Asia Times* described as a "predictable target."

That would be Israel.

In one of the first addresses of the conference, Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, the largest single coalition within the United Nations (118 of the 192 UN countries are members). According to *Asia Times*, Natalegawa noted specifically that it was *Israel's refusal* to sign the NPT that had "resulted in the continued exposure of non-nuclear-weapon states of the [Middle East] to *nuclear threats* by the only country possessing these weapons of mass destruction" (May 5).

Forget *Iran's* fearless scramble for nukes—most UN member states apparently believe the greatest nuclear threat in the Middle East comes from Israel's refusal to sign the NPT.

After Natalegawa's address, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the only head of state who personally attended the conference, took the podium. Following his requisite praises of Allah and ominous invocation for the speedy arrival of the Mahdi, Ahmadinejad waxed eloquent for 35 minutes on how the NPT can be im-

proved, and how the United States and the "Zionist regime" are the central cause of nuclear proliferation.

"Regrettably, the government of the United States has not only used nuclear weapons, *but also continues to threaten to use such weapons against other countries, including Iran,*" Ahmadinejad "righteously" lamented. That's not all, according to Iran's president. The "Zionist regime" has "stockpiled hundreds of nuclear warheads," and with support and sustenance from America, has "waged many wars in the region and continues to threaten the people and nations of the region with terror and invasion."

Seriously, can you think of the last time Israel engaged in a conflict that was not *strictly defensive*?

## A Nuclear-Free Middle East?

This moral equivalence on display at the UN came amid reports that Egypt too is preparing to step up pressure on Israel regarding its nuclear arsenal.

"Egypt is ... declaring that the threat of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

cannot be tied solely to Iran's nuclear ambitions *but must also address the region's only existing nuclear power: Israel,*" the *Christian Science Monitor* reported (May 4; emphasis mine). Speaking in New York, Egypt's ambassador to the UN stated, "We refuse the existence of any nuclear weapons in the [Middle East], whether it is in Iran or whether it is in Israel."

Think on that: These people behave as though there's no difference between Israel having nukes and Iran having nukes!

Not surprisingly, Egypt's renewed efforts to focus on Israel's nuclear weapons caught the attention of the Obama administration. Reports emerged that it has begun negotiating with Egypt over a proposal to make the Middle East—which would have to include Israel—a region free of nuclear weapons. Although it has apparently assured Israel that it's not about to *impose* a nuclear-free zone on the Middle East, clearly this White House is prepared to tackle the issue of Israel's nukes more directly than previous administrations.

"We've made a proposal to them [Egypt] that *goes beyond what the U.S. has been willing to do before,*" a senior administration official told the *Wall Street Journal* (May 1).

Clearly, this Cairo-Washington collaboration does not bode well for Israel. "As far as Israel is concerned this is very problematic," stated Dr. Eytan Gilboa, a senior researcher at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies. "The fact that the U.S. is pushing this along with Egypt could threaten our vital national security at a time when relations with the U.S. are tense and the threat from Iran is becoming more and more serious every day."

The notion that Israel's nuclear weapons destabilize the Middle East is simply absurd. Even more absurd, though, is that such a notion was openly and widely entertained at a UN conference on the NPT, which America's president has said is the "cornerstone of the world's efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons" (statement, March 5).

As Bret Stephens wrote in the *Wall Street Journal*, "Iran, in connivance with the usual Middle Eastern suspects (and their useful idiots in the West), is trying to use the NPT as a cudgel to force Israel to

disarm" (May 4).

America and the West are unlikely to begin immediately to explicitly and forcefully demand that Israel sign the NPT and start discarding its nuclear weapons. Inevitably, however, this conference and the Washington-Cairo agreement will foster a false moral equivalence between Israel's nuclear program and Iran's. The more the nuclear ambitions of Israel and Iran are discussed in the same conversation, the more ingrained and mainstream the moral equivalence will become.



**MAKING IT CLEAR**  
Mahmoud Ahmadinejad tells the UN and the world the real cause of nuclear crises.

Expect it to become widely accepted that curbing Iran's nuclear ambitions is *contingent* upon addressing the issue of Israel's nukes!

### A Big, Big Difference

American leaders' growing failure to discern between the foreign-policy objectives of nations like Israel and Iran is a sign of the moral decay besieging Washington.

It is no secret that Israel developed nuclear weapons during the heat of the Cold War as a *defensive* measure. Or that Israel has possessed nukes for roughly four decades and has never come close to exploding a single bomb—*not even during the heat of its many wars.* Or that Israel never officially discusses its nuclear cache and never parades them about.

It is no secret that Israel, for decades, has been a *stable* and *responsible* proprietor of nuclear weapons!

Yet to Mr. Obama, there appears to be little distinction between Israel's nukes and the nuclear aspirations of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad—even though Iran exists today as the number-one state sponsor of terrorism—even though Tehran bankrolls the activities of terrorist proxies in

the West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon and further afield—even though Iranian mullahs and government leaders alike boast publicly about America's annihilation and the Jewish state's demise—and even though Iran's president prays openly for the return of the Mahdi and is actively working to precipitate the planet-engulfing chaos and violence that he says will precede it.

The same week that Ahmadinejad was swooning before the UN, news broke that on his way to New York he had stopped by Zimbabwe. Apparently a deal had been struck with Robert Mugabe the previous month that will allow Iran to swap oil for uranium. President Obama ignores the fact that Tehran is developing an advanced ballistic missile program and putting satellites into space, all in preparation for the moment—which many believe is now imminent—when it can bolt a nuclear payload to a missile and fire it into Israel, or Europe, or even the United States.

Any serious effort by Washington to deal with Iran's nuclear program by pressuring Israel to reduce or transform its nuclear equation plays into Tehran's hand. It gives Tehran more time in its quest for nukes. To whatever degree Washington accepts a moral equivalence between the nuclear programs of Iran and Israel, it legitimizes this ridiculous argument as it is used by Ahmadinejad and Iran's mullahs. In the hands of the global anti-Israel media, this false moral equivalence would quickly become mainstream.

Such muddled thinking also seriously undermines the crucial U.S.-Israeli relationship. Biblical history testifies to the familial bond between Manasseh (America) and Judah (the Jewish people). (To fully understand this relationship, request your free copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.) Bible prophecy says that in the end time this brotherhood would be severed. In Zechariah 11:14, God said He would "break the brotherhood between Judah [modern-day Israel] and Israel," primarily the United States and Britain. The more the Obama administration treats Iran and Israel as equals, the more it irreparably damages America's relationship with the Jewish state.

Bible prophecy informs us that Israel—abandoned by America and unwilling to turn to God for help—will run to Assyria (Germany) for assistance. To learn how Germany will respond, and about the future of the Middle East, request our free booklet *The King of the South*. ■





# Rekindle Your First Love

Make your marriage the way it used to be!

**M**Y WIFE AND I RECENTLY ATTENDED A BEAUTIFUL wedding between two young people who faithfully promised, before God, to cleave to each other as one family for the rest of their natural lives. There is no more joyous ceremony than that, particularly if you understand that marriage and family are actually *God-plane* relationships. God ordained these institutions to help prepare us for eternal life in His *divine* Family.

That's what makes a God-centered wedding so momentous. If the two remain faithful—to God first, then to each other—it marks the beginning of an exciting journey that leads right into the Kingdom of God.

As we observed that young couple the other night, my wife and I couldn't help but reminisce about the days that led up to our own marriage vows more than 13 years ago—and the wonderful years of marriage we have enjoyed since that time.

Like those two young people we congratulated the other night, my wife and I were brought up in wonderful, God-fearing families. Marriage, we had been taught, was a career that one must *prepare* for. That meant using textbooks like *The Missing Dimension in Sex* to understand God's perspective on dating, love, marriage and sex.

A good marriage, we were also taught, doesn't happen by accident. It takes a submissive attitude toward God and hard work to make it happy and fulfilling.

## A good marriage doesn't happen by accident.

Early on, when the romance is brand new, the work it takes to build the relationship can seem so effortless and smooth-going. For me, it hardly seemed like work at all!

When the soon-to-be wife of my youth lived far away from me, our eagerly anticipated weekly, three-hour phone conversations seemed as if they were short, five-minute chats. The handwritten letters and notes we exchanged would go on and on—page after page. And when I received them, I read them again and again.

When she moved to Oklahoma, those phone calls and letters turned into long walks together, stimulating conversations, family socials, game nights, church activities and dancing. The more we dated, the more we talked, the more time we spent together, the more we *knew* how much we loved each other.

We went through marriage counseling together—studied *The Missing Dimension in Sex* together. During the engagement, we worked together to plan the wedding—create a budget, look for the venue, order the buffet, write the guest list, mail invitations, choose music and arrange the honeymoon.

All that planning—the many *years* of preparing for our marriage career—culminated in the most joyous ceremony there is: our glorious wedding day! The elegant ceremony only lasted about 15 minutes—but what an exhilarating, emotionally draining experience it was for my wife and me.

We still laugh about the lighter moment we shared amid the formal setting.

For the start of the wedding, just before the bridal party entered the hall, my wife had choreographed a moving three-minute candle-lighting ceremony. It ended with our mothers walking onstage to light two candles.

In the ceremony, after my wife and I made our vows and exchanged rings, we took the two candles, joined their flames together and lit another, larger “unity candle.” After that, we were supposed to blow out the two smaller candles—which we did. Unfortunately, the forceful blast my wife exhaled also managed to extinguish the unity candle.

The flame we meant to keep burning had quickly died out! It was the one hiccup to an otherwise flawless ceremony.

Over the past 13 years, you could say, we've had our occasional hiccups. But the flame we lit together during our courtship—and faithfully promised to stoke forever after—is still going strong. It's not always as easy and effortless as it once was. In fact, once the newness wears off, it is easy to let down in some areas.

For example, I don't *always* open the car door for my wife like I used to. But you know what? When I do, it still makes her smile. And that's the thing—all those little things that added up to a lot of love and affection still work, *if I do them*. She still loves a bouquet of fresh flowers—a thoughtful card or an unexpected chat over the phone. When I make omelets on Sabbath morning, it always reminds us of our honeymoon. We still make time for and thoroughly enjoy those long conversations. We try to plan getaways from time to time. We schedule lunch dates on the calendar. We still love to dance. And hold hands. And say *I love you* every day. We kiss every morning, before I head off to work—and again at night when I return home.

I guess you could say we're still dating. It's such an important, yet often overlooked, key to building and maintaining a great marriage.

In Revelation 2, God praised the first-century Christians for the way they began their relationship with God. “Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast *LEFT* thy *first* love” (verse 4). They grew weary in well doing. They stopped doing the things that made the relationship flourish early on in their spiritual romance. And notice—it doesn't say God *abandoned* them. *THEY LEFT GOD. They left their first love.*

In verse 5, God offers this simple solution: “Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, *and do the first works.*”

Herein lies the key to building a successful family relationship, whether it involves a newly begotten Christian and Jesus Christ or a newly married couple. *Remember all the romantic little things you repeatedly did at the very beginning of your courtship?* KEEP DOING THEM, God says.

If you do, the flame of your first love will never go out. ■



STEPHEN FLURRY

## The Vatican

GROWING UP, I WAS ALWAYS LED TO BELIEVE that the Catholic Church was “the” church and the “be all and end all” of Christianity (“Vatican a Bastion of Family Values?” May/June). Even as a teenager, there were reports, sickening and vile reports, of pedophilia within the Catholic Church and more specifically, male Catholic schools, even in Australia. It’s not a “new” problem that the Catholic Church is having to face but as perverted and disgusting as it is, it really shouldn’t surprise us that the men who preach the opposite to what God declares to be true should live that way as well.

*E.M.—AUSTRALIA*

TRUE ANALYSIS (“BEWARE! THE VATICAN Will Retaliate” May/June). Too bad Ratzinger, who calls himself Christian, took a combative stand in dealing with his church’s pedophile crimes. Acknowledging guilt and repentance is something one would rather expect instead. The Vatican does not look like a spiritual, religious establishment under his leadership—but rather like a political entity with its own selfish agenda that has nothing to do with serving God.

*Daniel—CANADA*

## Germany Is Taking Over

IF I’M NOT MISTAKEN, ISN’T GREECE practically looking to the EU/Germany for an answer to their financial troubles? (“We Were Wrong—Germany Is Taking Over,” May/June). The wealth has now been built, the power gained, and all eyes are on Greece—just as our omniscient God prophesied over 2,500 years ago.

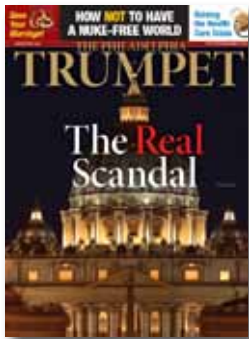
## Corrections

In the May/June 2010 article “The Real Vatican Scandal,” reference was made to Croatian leader Ante Pavelic collecting a bowl of human eyes. It appears that anecdote is a well-circulated myth that originated in a fictional book called *Kaputt*, by Curzio Malaparte. Thanks to the alert reader who called our attention to it.

The April 2010 article “The Rising Might of Germany” erroneously referred to Adolf Hitler as Adolf Schicklgruber. Schicklgruber was the surname of Hitler’s father, Alois, at birth, but he changed his last name to Hitler years before Adolf was born.

Soon the kings of the south and north will rise and eventually usher in the glorious return of Jesus Christ.

*Nathaniel Tiemann—CHICAGO, ILL.*



## Health Care Crisis

THE BURDEN IMPOSED BY THE health care bill will collapse on the American public’s collective heads very soon. With it a tidal wave of economic collapse will stalk the entire globe. The result? The kings of the north, south and east will be more than willing to step in to impose their visions of global stability. ...

*Peter Thomas—SARAWAK, MALAYSIA*

## Facts About Oil

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO THINK ABOUT the implications (“An Uncomfortable Fact About Oil,” May/June). It is not only that possibly half of the existing oil that has been created in many millions of years has been used in just a few decades, it is also that the remaining half is much, *much* more expensive to get. At the same time, the demand is still rising. This will create a huge problem: transportation, food production, plastics, heating—everything will be deeply affected. This is also something that makes me wonder about Britain—it had the North Sea oil and gas, but that is mostly gone now. What did Britain do with this wealth? Where has it gone? Why hasn’t it been invested more wisely?

*John Holmes—UNITED STATES*

ALTHOUGH WE (THE U.S.) HAVE NOT really been able to implement a good alternative energy as of yet, I noticed that your article does not mention any alternatives. It appears America is the Saudi Arabia of natural gas. I suspect that we will soon be converting to natural gas due to its abundance in the USA, the carbon footprint being much smaller than gasoline. Hopefully the U.S. can find other solutions, but your analysis of crude oil appears right on, although I did not hear about the 2014 declines. Most U.S. oil wells are older and have to be past the halfway point.

*Stephen Gookin—PARADISE, CALIF.*

## Save Your Marriage

EXCELLENT REMINDER TO ALL MARRIED couples on the divine purpose of marriage (“Save Your Marriage!” May/June). We tend to forget the way of give in the relationship with our loved ones and slip, slowly and unconsciously, into the territory

of selfishness. Never forget that your family (wife, children, parents) is your most precious asset; you should appreciate and cherish every moment you are together.

*Daniel Burtman—WOODBRIDGE, ONT.*

## When Families Disappear

THIS ALSO SOUNDS LIKE AMERICA, AND most Americans also have the “false pride” in our country that it can never fall, the false hope that all will turn out well in spite of the realities on the ground (“When Families Disappear,” May/June). Well-conceived and executed piece of writing.

*Christine—WASHINGTON*

I REMEMBER, AS I WAS GROWING UP, that my parents ... said that a family symbolized the flagship of a nation and that most of all it was in accordance with biblical principles. I took heed to their advice and made a family. Nowadays you hear parents saying things like, “Son/daughter, it doesn’t matter your sexual preference as long as you’re happy.” God is often placed aside, in some cases God does not even exist, and others yet mention the “god” within us. Now you see priests “blessing” same-sex marriages, some of them even involved in sex scandals, and people are beginning to get used to it and finding it “normal.” ... Nations will never prosper without God and families as the foundation for their future generations.

*Gabriel—BRAZIL*

## Christ Abolish Sabbath?

THANK YOU FOR THIS WONDERFUL ARTICLE (“Did Christ Abolish the Sabbath?” May/June). I believe you are right. The first New Testament Pentecost “whose date must be determined by counting,” occurred on the 50th day after Christ’s resurrection. So Jesus Christ must have been resurrected on Saturday (the weekly Sabbath) not on Sunday (the first day of the week). Otherwise Pentecost would have occurred on a Monday that first year, and every year. *Paulette El-Khoury—CANADA*

DON’T FORGET THAT IN MANY LANGUAGES the translation of the English “Saturday” is basically the equivalent of the English word “Sabbath.” Portuguese is but one of those languages.

*Cameron Madden—QLD., AUSTRALIA*

## Comments?

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 Edmond, OK 73083**



# “Harvard Taught Us How to Drink”

America’s elite universities have lost their purpose and their sense. **BY ROBERT MORLEY**

APPARENTLY, AMERICA’S BEST AND BRIGHTEST HAVE such a hard time exercising self-control that one of the nation’s top schools feels compelled to take time to teach them how not to get drunk.

Harvard student Isabel Kaplan says learning to differentiate 12 ounces of beer from 1.5 ounces of hard alcohol is just one thing Harvard tells students on their second day of school.

Harvard also ensures all freshmen understand the college’s new *alcohol amnesty program*. Students are told that “no matter what, no matter how drunk or sick we got, if we called an ambulance, were picked up by Harvard University Police, were taken to the ... infirmary ... or hospital, *we would not get in trouble*,” wrote Kaplan. “Neither would our parents be notified. This is Harvard’s amnesty policy” (Daily Beast, April 20; emphasis mine throughout).

As Kaplan recounts, one boy raised his hand and asked, “Are there any loopholes?” The answer: an emphatic “No.”

Behold the state of education in America today. You can get so drunk that you pass out on 52 out of 52 Fridays of the year, and as far as Harvard is concerned, it doesn’t really matter.

As one Harvard representative said, “We realize that we’re in a college environment and that people are going to abuse these things, and *so we’re here to basically reduce the harm*.” School officials argue that by nixing the penalties, students who get plastered will more likely seek medical attention (and their friends will also be more willing to call for help), thus reducing the risk of drinking-related deaths. Meanwhile, 30,000 students across the country are treated at hospitals for overconsumption of alcohol each year, and the number of students who seek medical attention for alcohol-related sickness at Harvard is up 43 percent since the amnesty policy kicked in.

Some colleges have now even implemented amnesty policies for drug use. At the College of William and Mary, if you go to a hospital due to a drug overdose, your academic career and standing at the college remain unchanged. Student Assembly Vice President Ryan Ruzic believes that drug amnesty makes sense for the same reason as alcohol amnesty: *student safety*.

But do alcohol and drug amnesty programs really make students safer? *No!*

Intoxicated students may be more likely to be admitted into an emergency ward and thus have less chance of choking on their own vomit, and stoners may be less likely to die trying to crawl down Alice’s rabbit hole, but an amnesty policy actually makes the rest of the student body far *less safe*.

By removing deterrents—academic probation, suspension, expulsion, etc.—Harvard has opened the door to more abuse. If you are spending \$80,000 per year or more on your education, knowing that you could lose your spot on the college rolls if you got drunk is a good reason to follow school policy.

Universities should be thinking of all the students that alco-

hol and drug prohibitions have helped—even *saved*. How many students has it prevented from becoming alcoholics or drug addicts, or from being injured because they are so intoxicated they can’t control themselves? How many accidental pregnancies has it prevented? Or needle-transmitted diseases? What about those it has saved from drunk driving? How many lives have those policies protected? Is a drunk or doped-up college student’s life more important than the lives of the other students?

Additionally, these selfish amnesty policies destroy character. The argument that students will get drunk and do drugs anyway, and that nothing can be done to stop them, is a fallacy. The reality is that nobody needs drugs and nobody needs to get drunk. Many college students go through their four years without getting so plastered they need to go to the hospital. In fact, many make it through their four years without *ever* getting drunk or taking drugs.

Here at Herbert W. Armstrong College, we try to provide an education that goes far beyond just preparing students for a career. We teach how to live a truly successful life.

Armstrong College understands the unbreakable, undeniable link between character and true success. You cannot attain true happiness and success without moral character.

For Armstrong students, that means they must comply with the college’s alcohol and drug policy. Illegal usage is not permitted, and alcohol is not allowed in student housing without the prior approval of the Dean’s Office. If a student were to become intoxicated, *there would be* academic repercussions.

Armstrong College is concerned for every one of its students—its policies are designed to protect and to foster the growth and development of the whole student body.

“At Armstrong College, the emphasis is on character building, developing a sound mind, becoming emotionally mature and socially balanced, building a well-rounded, service-oriented personality and learning to appreciate the finer things in life,” wrote dean of students Stephen Flurry in 2008. “There is no other college like Herbert W. Armstrong College—unaccredited by men and unshackled from the ever-tightening grip that is squeezing the life out of higher education: gross materialism, political correctness run amok and immoral, unregulated human behavior.”

Our college’s namesake, Herbert W. Armstrong, learned more than 60 years ago that true success is not reserved for those with superior ability, but for *individuals*—any individuals—willing to abide by a DEFINITE SET OF LAWS God set in motion that will guarantee successful *results*.

It is that set of laws that provides the foundation and standard for everything taught at Herbert W. Armstrong College.

If you want to learn more about the uniqueness of Armstrong College, request a free copy of the booklet named after our college motto: *Education With Vision*. ■



“The English are very certainly going to be targeted given the political difficulties they have. Help yourself and heaven will help you. If you don’t want to show solidarity to the eurozone, then let’s see what happens to the United Kingdom” (May 11).

Will God and heaven help Britain in its hour of need?

How could that even be remotely expected when even the level of honor bestowed on God by those who prayed for victory over Nazi Germany 70 years ago has been sacrificed on the altar of the EU in Britain’s own iconic bastion of its traditional religion?

On Sunday, May 6, a service was held in Westminster Abbey to mark the 60th anniversary of the Schumann Declaration, the founding instrument of today’s European Union, a document based on the corporatist ideal of Nazi Germany. Prayers were offered in support of all EU institutions in a manner that paid obeisance to the EU over and above that owed by the British peoples to their sovereign and any normally due acknowledgment that was once paid to its once-sovereign British institutions. The European flag was the dominant symbol of the day—displacing the once-time-honored Union Jack, with all of its wonderful symbolism of the Britons’ true national heritage.

Had it been possible, the rumble from the heroes of Britain turning in their graves at Westminster would surely have shaken the entire cathedral to its very foundations!

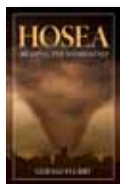
Help from God, help from heaven in Britain’s hour of need? Not until the *true* God of the British and of all mankind witnesses a great national repentance from the British peoples!

The good news is, *that day will come!* But until that day dawns, God is going to hide His face from a sin-sick, morally deficient and rebellious people who, having lost their true national identity, have trashed their incredible national potential! They are a nation that has turned its back on the very God who once had blessed it more than any single nation on Earth!

So what is God’s response? “I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early” (verse 15).

*OH!* Once-Great Britain, *PRAY* for *that* day—for time is *short!* It is *later* than you think! ■

For greater insight into the UK’s future, request a free copy of our booklet *Hosea—Reaping the Whirlwind*.



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

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**Alabama, Birmingham** WPXH 5:00 am, Fri

**Alabama, Dothan** WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun

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

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

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

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

**Arizona, Phoenix** KPXX 5:00 am, Fri

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

**Arkansas, Fayetteville** KWFT 8:30, Sun

**Arkansas, Fort Smith** KCWA 8:30, Sun

**Arkansas, Jonesboro** KJOS 8:30 am, Sun

**Arkansas, Rogers** KWFT 8:30, Sun

**Arkansas, Springdale** KWFT 8:30 am, Sun

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

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

**California, El Centro** KWUB 9:30 am, Sun

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

**California, Los Angeles** KPXX 6:00 am, Fri

**California, Monterey** KMWB 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

**California, Sacramento** KSPX 6:00 am, Fri

**California, Salinas** KION 9:30 am, Sun

**California, San Francisco** KKPX 6:00 am, Fri

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

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

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

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

**Connecticut, Hartford** WHPX 6:00 am, Fri

**Delaware, Dover** WBD 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

**Florida, Miami** WPXM 6:00 am, Fri

**Florida, Orlando** WOPX 6:00 am, Fri

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

**Florida, Tallahassee** WTXL 7:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

**Georgia, Albany** WBSK 9:30 am, Sun

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

**Georgia, Brunswick** WPXC 6:00 am, Fri

**Georgia, Columbus** WLGA 9:30 am, Sun

**Georgia, Macon** WBMN 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

**Hawaii, Kaula Ho’Ike** Chan. 52 9:30 am, Tue  
**Hawaii, Maui/Lanai/Molokai/Niihau/Akaku** Chan. 52 6:30 pm, Sun; 3:30 am, Mon

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

**Idaho, Pocatello** KPIF 10:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Indiana, Indianapolis** WIPX 6:00 am, Fri

**Indiana, Terre Haute** WBI 8:30 am, Sun

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

**Iowa, Cedar Rapids** KPXR 5:00 am, Fri

**Iowa, Des Moines** KFPX 5:00 am, Fri

**Iowa, Keokuk** WEWB 8:30 am, Sun

**Iowa, Kirksville** KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

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

**Iowa, Ottumwa** KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

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

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

**Kansas, Topeka** KSNT 8:30 am, Sun

**Kentucky, Bowling Green** WBKO 8:30 am, Sun

**Kentucky, Lexington** WUPX 6:00 am, Fri

**Louisiana, Alexandria** KBCA 8:30 am, Sun

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

**Louisiana, Lafayette** KLWB 8:30 am, Sun

**Louisiana, Lake Charles** WBLC 8:30 am, Sun

**Louisiana, New Orleans** WPXL 5:00 am, Fri

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

**Maine, Presque Isle** WBPQ 9:30 am, Sun

**Maryland, Hagerstown** WJAL 12:00 pm, Sun

**Maryland, Salisbury** WBD 9:30 am, Sun

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

**Massachusetts, Holyoke** WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

**Massachusetts, Springfield** WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

**Michigan, Alpena** WBAE 9:30 am, Sun





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

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

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

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**British Columbia, Victoria** CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun  
**Maritime Provinces** CIHF 7:30 am, Sun  
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**El Salvador** WGN 6:00 am, Sun  
**Guatemala** WGN 6:00 am, Sun  
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**Mexico** WGN 7:00 am, Sun  
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**Bahamas** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
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**Cuba** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
**Dominican Republic** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
**Haiti** WGN 7:00 am, Sun  
**Jamaica** WGN 9:00 am, Sun  
**Puerto Rico** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
**Trinidad and Tobago** WGN 8:00 am, Sun

# This child hasn't been born yet.

And—believe it or not—neither have flesh-and-blood people been “born again” yet!

Jesus said a man couldn't enter God's Kingdom until he was “born again,” or born “of the Spirit.” He also said “that which is born of the Spirit *is spirit*”—not flesh and blood! Yet millions of professing Christians believe they have already been born again—contrary to Jesus's plain teaching!

Do you understand what Jesus meant by His words? Have you proven this doctrine from the Bible?

Our free booklet explains exactly what it means to be born again, and when and how this occurs. To understand what Jesus Christ said about how and when you can be born again, request our free booklet **Just What Do You Mean ... BORN AGAIN?**



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