

**A DEADLY  
COVER-UP?**

Questions over Iraqi WMD

**DIVIDING JERUSALEM**

A short decade ago, Israel called the Holy City its eternal, indivisible capital. How times have changed.

**HOW TO BE RICH**

If a 15 percent raise is all you need, consider this.

JULY 2007

THE PHILADELPHIA

WWW.THETRUMPET.COM

# TRUMPET



## TWILIGHT FOR BRITAIN

The United Kingdom  
turns 300



37

**WORLD**

26 **Twilight for Britannia**

**COMMENTARY**

37 **The United States of America: A Special Place**

In a time of widespread anti-Americanism both within and without the country, we need to remember what makes the U.S. singularly great.



2

**WORLD**

**FROM THE EDITOR**

1 **Iraqi WMD: A Deadly Cover-up?**

**ASIA**

2 **The Fishing Village That Met the 21st Century**

Here is one town's story in China's explosive economy.

8 **Israel's Last Stand**

12 **One Building at a Time**

16 **How Political Correctness Protects the Bad Guys**

18 **WORLDWATCH**

**EUROPE** Galileo's Savior ■ Moves to Stem Illegal Workers ■ Partnership with U.S. Brewing ■ U.S. Speaks Softly for Israel ■ **RELIGION** Criticizing Pope Deemed "Terrorism" ■ **IRAN** Top Court Acquits Killers ■ **EGYPT** Protests Reveal Radicalization ■ Weather Disasters Making History ■ **UNITED NATIONS** Nation of Ruin to Take Key Post

30 **Russia: Triggering Europe to Unite**



8

**LIVING**

4 **How to Be Rich**

If a 15 percent raise is all you need, consider this.

13 **Taking Time to Save Our Teens**

**SOCIETY**

32 **SOCIETYWATCH**

**EDUCATION** Schools Flunk Drop-out Test ■ **FAMILY** Moms Deserve Six-Digit Salary ■ **MEDIA** Heroism "Too Positive" for BBC ■ **HEALTH** Psych Illnesses Lack Scientific Basis ■ **ABORTION** Some Babies Unworthy to Live?

**RELIGION**

**BOOK EXCERPT**

22 **The Agenda**

From the beginning, Tkachism had a secret plan to eliminate Herbert W. Armstrong's works.

**DEPARTMENTS**

34 **Key of David Television Log**

36 **Letters**

**For a free subscription in the U.S. and Canada, call 1-800-772-8577**

**COVER** Queen Elizabeth II, Terry O'Neill/ Getty Images  
**STAFF** **Publisher and Editor in Chief** Gerald Flurry  
**Executive Editor** Stephen Flurry **News Editor** Ron Fraser **Senior Editor** Dennis Leap  
**Managing Editor** Joel Hilliker **Contributing Editors** Mark Jenkins, Ryan Malone **Contributors** Brad Macdonald, Robert Morley, Timothy Oostendarp, Gary Rethford **Associate Editor** Donna Grieves  
**Production Assistant** Michael Dattolo **Research Assistants** Rachel Dattolo, Aubrey Mercado  
**Proofreader** Nancy Hancock **Circulation** Mark Saranga **International Editions Editor** Wik Heerma  
**French, Italian** Deryle Hope **German** Hans Schmidl **Spanish Edition Editor** Carlos Heyer

**THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET** (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except bimonthly August-September and November-December issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 14400 S. Bryant Ave, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices. ©2007 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A. Unless otherwise noted, scriptures are quoted from the King James Version of the Holy Bible. **U.S. Postmaster:** Send address changes to: THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083. **How your subscription has been paid:** The *Trumpet* has no subscription price—it is free. This is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Philadelphia Church of God and others. Contributions, however, are welcomed and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers.

**CONTACT US** Please notify us of any change in your address; include your old mailing label and the new address. The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited artwork, photographs or manuscripts. The editor reserves the right to use any letters, in whole or in part, as he deems in the public interest, and to edit any letter for clarity or space. **Website** [www.theTrumpet.com](http://www.theTrumpet.com) **E-mail** [letters@theTrumpet.com](mailto:letters@theTrumpet.com); subscription or literature requests [request@theTrumpet.com](mailto:request@theTrumpet.com) **Phone** U.S., Canada: 1-800-772-8577; Australia: 1-800-22-333-0; New Zealand: 0-800-500-512. Contributions, letters or requests may be sent to our office nearest you: **United States** P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083 **Canada** P.O. Box 315, Milton, ON L9T 4Y9 **Caribbean** P.O. Box 2237, Chaguanas, Trinidad, W.I. **Britain, Europe, Middle East, India, Sri Lanka** P.O. Box 9000, Daventry, NN11 1AJ, England **Africa** P.O. Box 2969, Durbanville, 7551, South Africa **Australia, Pacific Isles** P.O. Box 6626, Upper Mount Gravatt, QLD 4122, Australia **New Zealand** P.O. Box 38-424, Howick, Auckland, 1730 **Philippines** P.O. Box 1372, Q.C. Central Post Office, Quezon City, Metro Manila 1100 **Latin America** Attn: Spanish Department, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083, U.S.



FROM THE EDITOR

Gerald Flury

# IRAQI WMD: A Deadly Cover-Up?

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM SAYS THERE WERE NO WEAPONS of mass destruction in Iraq. The intelligence community in several countries has been severely criticized for getting it wrong, and the Bush administration especially has been accused of purposefully misleading the American people in order to justify the Iraq war. Few issues have caused more division in this country.

But is the *real* debate being missed?

Amid all the controversy over this subject, are the real questions being asked and answered?

Evidence shows there may be a deadly cover-up on this subject.

The whole public debate is built on the assumption that no evidence of Iraqi nuclear, biological or chemical weapons was ever found—removing the justification for the invasion of Iraq.

“Dave Gaubatz, however, says that you could not be more wrong,” Britain’s *Spectator* magazine reported April 21. “Saddam’s WMD did exist. He should know, because he found the sites where he is certain they were stored. And the reason you don’t know about this is that the American administration failed to act on his information, ‘lost’ his classified reports and is now doing everything it can to prevent disclosure of the terrible fact that, through its own incompetence, it allowed Saddam’s WMD to end up in the hands of the very terrorist states against whom it is so controversially at war.”

Before you dismiss this bold claim, consider where it came from. Dave Gaubatz is a counterterrorism specialist and Arabic linguist. He served as an agent in the U.S. Air Force’s Office of Special Investigations for 12 years and worked on assignments in several Middle Eastern countries. In 2003, he was specially selected for a position in Iraq. His assignment was to track down suspected WMD sites, in addition to pinpointing threats to U.S. forces in the area and hunting down Saddam loyalists. “Mr. Gaubatz is not some marginal figure,” wrote the *Spectator*. “He’s pretty well as near to the horse’s mouth as you can get.”

In 2003, Gaubatz found four sites in southern Iraq he is convinced held stockpiles of biological and chemical weapons—not to mention material for a nuclear program and missiles prohibited by the United Nations. What Gaubatz found was backed up by independently gained, agreeing testimony from several Iraqi sources. The four sites were massive, and great care had been taken to hide them: Three were bunkers built underneath the Euphrates river bed, with reinforced concrete walls 5 feet thick.

“There was no doubt, with so much effort having gone into hiding these constructions, that something very important was buried there,” Gaubatz said.

Iraqi informants “explained in detail why WMDs were in these areas and asked the U.S. to remove them,” he said. “Much

of this material had been buried in the concrete bunkers and in the sewage pipe system. There were also missile imprints in the area and signs of chemical activity—gas masks, decontamination kits, atropine needles. The Iraqis and my team had no doubt at all that WMDs were hidden there.” Also, the medical records of Gaubatz and his team showed that they had been exposed to high levels of radiation at these sites.

When Gaubatz reported his findings to the Iraq Study Group, he was told it lacked the manpower and equipment to break into and examine the underground sites.

The U.S. might not have had the manpower and equipment—but *Iraq and Syria did*. Gaubatz later found out from Iraqi, CIA and British intelligence that the WMD had been excavated by Iraqis and Syrians, with Russia’s help, and transferred to Syria. “The worst-

case scenario has now come about,” the *Spectator* wrote. “Saddam’s nuclear, biological and chemical material is in the hands of a rogue terrorist state—and one with close links to Iran.”

Mr. Gaubatz and several other people, including two congressmen, have tried to have the claims investigated—but the Defense Department and CIA refuse to provide information. On top of that, all 60 of the classified intelligence reports Gaubatz submitted back in 2003 went missing.

The *Spectator* explained why the issue is such a political hot potato: “The Republicans won’t touch this because it would reveal the incompetence of the Bush administration in failing to neutralize the danger of Iraqi WMD. The Democrats won’t touch it because it would show President Bush was right to invade Iraq in the first place. It is an axis of embarrassment.”

There is a lot there to be embarrassed about!

Intelligence and terrorism expert John Loftus goes further. “SADDAM’S NUCLEAR RESEARCH, SCIENTISTS AND EQUIPMENT, he says, HAVE ALL BEEN RELOCATED TO SYRIA, where U.S. satellite intelligence confirms that uranium centrifuges are now operating—IN A COUNTRY WHICH IS NOT SUPPOSED TO HAVE ANY NUCLEAR PROGRAM. THERE IS NOW A NUCLEAR AXIS, HE SAYS, BETWEEN IRAN, SYRIA AND NORTH KOREA ...” (ibid.; emphasis mine).

Loftus says, “With a little technical advice from Beijing, Syria is now enriching the uranium, Iran is making the missiles, North Korea is testing the warheads, and the White House is hiding its head in the sand.”

Of course, the media establishment is also hiding its head in the sand. Back in 2004, when Syrian-sourced WMD were found in terrorists’ hands in Jordan, some terrorist experts believed there was evidence this WMD originated in Iraq.

See **WMD** page 29 ▶

# The Fishing Village That Met the 21st Century

**China's economy is growing explosively. Here is one town's story.**

**L**ESS THAN 30 YEARS AGO, SHENZHEN was a sleepy fishing village on China's border opposite Hong Kong's New Territories. As part of south China's Guangdong Province, Shenzhen's only claim to fame was its proximity to the economic behemoth Hong Kong—that constant reminder to the Communist Chinese of capitalistic power, prestige and wealth.

When U.S. President Richard Nixon made his historic 1972 visit to China, this great nation, teeming with hundreds of millions of people, lay in the thrall of the Cultural Revolution. Education was sidelined in many areas, intelligentsia were sent to labor camps, and China was stuck in a quagmire of its own making. By the time the madness ended in 1976, the nation was an economic backwater.

In the West, during the boom years of the late 1970s and early '80s, few foresaw the massive transfer of industrial might and investment from the Western democracies to China that was about to take place. Indeed, very few predicted the rise to current power, prestige and wealth that is the story of China today.

Since the turn of the 21st century, China has, quite literally, rocketed to the forefront of world trade and become a principal engine of the new world economy.

*China Daily* reported last year that "China has moved to a position as the world's third-largest trading nation, up from sixth when it entered the WTO [World Trade Organization] in 2001, embedding the nation seemingly irrevocably in the global economic system. 'Because China's economy is more open, and China's economic size is much bigger, the world is more sensitive to what's happening in China,' said Long Yongtu, China's former WTO chief negotiator. 'I think in that way China is really changing the world'" (Dec. 10, 2006).



**POPULATION OF SHENZHEN**  
**1976 100,000**  
**Today 14-18 million**

The city of Shenzhen typifies China's massive growth in the last quarter century and the impact it is having on the global economy.

### "Shenzhen Speed"

This small-time city, which some estimated at having just over 100,000 population in 1976, was transformed after a quarter century of *3,100 percent growth*. The population is now between 14 and 18 million in an area of nearly 2,000 square kilometers—almost twice the population of Los Angeles County.

Today, Shenzhen boasts a skyline that would rival Manhattan's. The city is filled with shopping malls, luxury condominiums and broad landscaped boulevards. It includes a burgeoning ex-pat community with world-class restaurants and amenities incorporating nearby Mission Hills, the world's largest golf course, with 216 championship holes.

The staggering growth and development in this port city inspired the coining of a phrase to describe similar growth elsewhere in China: "Shenzhen speed!"

Following a mandate by late Chinese Premier Deng Xiaoping in 1980, Shenzhen was set aside as the first of four Special Economic Zones. It was to lead China, long suffering from the impact of economically suffocating communism, into the modern world with an experimental capitalist approach that was to be anchored to Chinese ways and traditions.

This special approach is known as "socialism with Chinese characteristics." Deng Xiaoping spoke of this new economic method during the opening speech at the Twelfth National Congress of the Communist Party of China in September 1982: "In carrying out our modernization program we must proceed from Chinese realities. Both in revolution and in construction we should also learn from foreign countries and draw on their experience, but mechanical application of foreign experience and copying of foreign models will get us nowhere. We have had many lessons in this respect. We must integrate the universal truth of Marxism with the concrete realities of China, blaze a path of our own and build a socialism with Chinese characteristics—that is the basic conclusion we have reached after reviewing our long history."

Chinese leaders can call it socialism, but it is more like capitalism, or better yet: It is capitalism on Red Bull, and the surge is far from over.

Travel around Shenzhen, Shanghai,

Guang Zhou, or any of the other economic "empires" within China's vast expanse, and this nation is unrecognizable from just 20 years ago. Growth, power and money have changed the landscape permanently. It has changed the people, too.

Deng's dream of an economic titan propelled forward by Chinese ideals never materialized in the way he dreamed. What has developed in its place is a capitalist system riding on the back of a socialist empire. And it is this socialist base with tight controls, including strategic price fixing when necessary, that has motored the surge forward. Few now long for the old ways of Red China.

### Western Influence

Over 500 million people now live in the cities of mainland China. These throngs, for the greater part, have readily embraced the capitalist lifestyle. The dominant fashion is no longer the Mao suit; Western clothing and designer jeans prevail. Most city dwellers carry cell phones, pushing China's cell phone use to well over 300 million units and rising by hundreds of thousands yearly.

But it is not just clothes and phones. There are the automobiles that choke infrastructure in poorer municipalities whose growth has not come up to Shenzhen speed, the Western-themed fast-food restaurants, the glitzy night clubs and more. Hundreds of skyscrapers scratch the smog-shrouded sky of Shanghai; countless building sites rife with cranes dot every city of average size and larger throughout China. The Chinese are driven by a prevailing attitude that, having been oppressed and held down for so long, they want it all now. Consumerist society has arrived.

The younger generation especially has embraced all things Western, from the once-discouraged-but-now-prevalent public displays of affection to hairstyles unknown to this nation a decade ago.

Yet, by embracing a culture not their own and an affluence unknown to their parents, this upcoming generation has nothing to look back on for grounding and support. Thus, the rapid rise of social diseases, substance addictions and AIDS has become a sign of the times in China.

In business, stories of corruption regularly make the newspapers. Although the punishment in such cases is swift and severe, it has done little to stop a prevailing undercurrent of corruption and greed. Shenzhen continues to battle a crime wave more than eight times greater than

one in much-larger Shanghai in 2004.

Speaking about the new economic way, Deng admonished his people to "keep clear heads, firmly resist corruption by decadent ideas from abroad and never permit the bourgeois way of life to spread in our country." This fatherly admonishment is largely forgotten. The bourgeois lifestyle he and his cohorts most feared and tried to hold in check for so long has exploded across urban China. Decadence is "in." Coveting is in vogue.

### Why the China Miracle

Still, for all its excess, the size, scope and staggering speed of economic growth—the China miracle—remains a sight to behold. But there is a reason behind this unprecedented rise to power and influence.

Why at this time in history are not just the Chinese but India, greater Asia and a resurgent Russia growing so quickly? Why are nations that have remained static and oppressed for hundreds of years suddenly finding themselves squarely at center stage?

How could a small city such as Shenzhen, a literal backwater a quarter century ago, explode so quickly then be duplicated with "Shenzhen speed" all over China in just a few short decades?

There is a reason why tens of thousands of factories dot this land and why the wealth of the Western world continues to flow here.

Your Bible predicts that a 200-million-man army will soon need to be outfitted, equipped and prepared to do battle at Jerusalem (Revelation 9:16). That mighty army will need weapons, clothing, transportation and means of communication. It will need fuel, food and supply lines.

China's cash-rich present is paving the way for a bloody and devastating future. And the signs are that the day of that great blood-letting is not far off. In fact, it races toward us with Shenzhen speed.

We are entering that period your Bible labels the "times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24). Soon there will be no more holding back this juggernaut of economic power. God is allowing the positioning of the nations of the Far East to do a specific job in these last days—to actually be part of a grand clash of cultures that will immediately precede the imposition of a global culture of peace under the divine rule of Jesus Christ and the saints of God.

Watch Asia. Watch China, India and Russia. Get ready! The kings of the east are preparing to soon ride west—"at Shenzhen speed"!

**I**F YOU ARE LIKE MOST people in America, Britain and Australia, you believe that if your annual income were 10 to 20 percent bigger, you would have it made.

Is it true? A little perspective is in order.

Looking at what the average person in these countries possesses, nearly everyone in human history would call it royal-scale luxury. In the richest nations in history, we have come to *expect* what most people never dreamed of.

Even Americans 50 years ago had only *one third* the wealth of Americans today. Living standards in Britain have likewise tripled in the last half century. The average American home is over 2,400 square feet, 2½ times the average 1950 home. Since 1950, Americans have consumed more resources than *everyone who ever lived before them combined*.

And yet, somehow we don't *feel* rich. Ten to 20 percent more—that's all we need.

It's a sick fact: Generally, no matter how much money we make, we feel we need more. And the more we earn, the more obsessed we grow with earning more.

Why? The median family income in the U.S. is over \$46,000, unprecedented for a nation this size. Why then, with measurements of our wealth so high and still rising, have measurements of our happiness and personal satisfaction remained so stubbornly static—even gone down?

Still sure that raise will satisfy you? Experience says it won't.

What will? Research proves that if you want a big raise in happiness and personal satisfaction, more yearly pay won't do. You'll have to seek it somewhere else.

#### Feeling Deprived

It's hard for people in prosperous nations to realize it, but money can't buy happiness. High income does not equal high fulfillment. Even if we say we know that, in most cases, deep down we just don't buy it.

Sixty-two percent of Australians think they can't afford to buy everything they really need, according to a 2002 Newspan survey. Even among the *richest*

20 percent of Australian households, almost half (46 percent) agree: They need more money to cover their needs. That's right, their *needs*.

This is a serious lack of perspective. Half of the richest people in one of the world's richest nations simply don't know what *needs* are.

Surveys show that as incomes grow, the ability to discern wants from needs shrivels. Luxuries become necessities.

trapped on the gerbil wheel of materialism is hardly a new problem. It was almost 2,000 years ago that Jesus Christ warned, "Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15, Revised Standard Version). This simple wisdom is easy to lose sight of in our consumerist culture—it is simply overwhelmed by precisely the opposite message.

# How to Rich

**If a 15 percent raise is all you need, consider this.** BY JOEL HILLIKER

A second car, a cell phone, a big-screen tv with satellite hookup, a laptop with wireless Internet—people think they just can't live without them. (Of course, thousands of years of human experience prove otherwise.)

How is it possible that the most prosperous people in history feel deprived? "If you start making \$100,000 a year, it takes \$200,000 to make you happy," explains Ed Diener, a University of Illinois psychologist. "People just start expecting more out of life."

Surely the inability to differentiate between what we *want* and what we *need* is one of the primary sources of our discontent—and one of the things we must fix if we want to be truly rich.

Though the prosperity of the general public is higher than ever, getting

That message—drummed into us in a jillion ways each day—is this: *No matter how much you have, it ain't enough.*

#### Manufacturing "Needs"

The average American spends over \$21,000 a year on consumer goods—from fast food to laptops. Consuming defines our lives. And the lubricating oil of our economic system is *advertising*. Ads help us obtain the things we need, and our economy simply wouldn't function without them.

Most of us believe we are somehow immune to advertising—but if this were true, the business would go bust. With 16 minutes per hour of prime-time television devoted to hawking wares, the average American will spend a full year of his life watching commercials. Ads assault us on

the Internet and the radio, in magazines, shops and billboards—even on school textbooks and in lunchrooms (many schools receive enormous payoffs if their students buy so much soda-pop or other goods). These ads have one goal: stated crassly, to separate us from our money.

An ad-based culture comes with some nasty side effects. Widespread as they are, ads dictate and reinforce many of the norms and beliefs of our culture.

# Be h

And to do their job, ads must create in us a yearning—convince us of needs we don't necessarily have. In many cases, this means appealing to our worst side: our vanity, greed, covetousness, lust; it means exaggerating and misrepresenting, being dishonest or deceptive. The ads tell us that spending money is actually saving money, that we can't afford to pass up this purchase, that if we wait we'll miss out. The ads tell us that we *deserve* to be pampered and spoiled, that we've *earned the right* to treat ourselves royally, and that anything less would be just plain wrong. The ads tell us that buying things will boost our satisfaction, relieve our depression, grow our circle of friends, solve our family problems, and supply us the quickest path to robust health and a future of ease. (Experience, on the other hand, tells us that

buying things usually just gets us more things—more things that need to be taken care of, more things that break.)

"Sometimes advertisers try to make us laugh or make us think, but mostly they make us feel deprived, inadequate or anxious," Clive Hamilton wrote in his book *Affluenza*. That sense of deprivation, inadequacy or anxiety is what drives us to keep buying. Essentially, it is the nagging idea that happiness is just one purchase away.

A marketing director for the *Chicago Tribune* put it this way: "*The well-being of our entire system depends on how much motivation is supplied the consumer to make him continue wanting*" (emphasis mine).

And spot ads are just the start; they are no match for hour-long programs that preach the gospel of consumerism. On ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, for example, a team of designers leads an army of workers to convert a family's house into the home of their dreams. New cars, home theaters, shopping sprees and over-the-top purchases rain upon the chosen family in fulfillment of every whispered whim. The show's warm-fuzzy message—that good families deserve the best (and I mean *the best*, including a large plasma-screen TV in every room)—packs a powerful consumerist punch. Clearly, *stuff brings happiness*. The viewer is happy for the family, but at the end of the show can't help but look around and notice how extremely *un-madeover* his or her own home is.

Children are especially susceptible to advertising's promises of instant gratification. A Stanford study found that a single 30-second TV ad can influence the brand choices of children as young as age 2. And young people represent enormous buying power: Research shows not only that purchases made by 4-to-12-year-olds exceeded \$30 billion in 2002, but also that children, thanks to the "nag factor," *directly influenced* \$330 billion worth of their parents' purchases. Knowing a gold mine when they spot one, marketers specifically aim commercials at children to get them to cajole Mom and Dad into purchases. Juliet Schor's *Born to Buy* cites an industry estimate that children influence even the *car* their parents buy in *two out of three cases*.

No doubt about it: The upcoming generations of super-consumers are ready. Our children are growing up with *unprecedented* expectations about what constitutes a tolerable standard of living.

Clearly, if we truly want to be rich, one thing we *must* do is discern and reject these lies—not just the overt falsehoods, but also the misleading implications—so routinely hurled at us. Before we spend, we need to really consider whether we're doing so out of a genuine need—even a genuine want—or out of an artificial yearning that some marketer has injected into us. Sometimes this requires being brutally honest with ourselves.

### Keeping Up With the Rockefeller

What do we really *need*? In his 1999 book *Luxury Fever*, Cornell economist Robert Frank highlighted our unhelpful tendency to measure what we "need" by what the people around us have. It's the old "keeping up with the Joneses" trap.

But who are the Joneses? Our media-glutted, celebrity-soaked culture places us in constant contact with examples of hyper-affluence far beyond what the guy next door has. We're not just trying to keep up with the Joneses—we're trying to keep up with the Rockefeller.

The Apostle Paul evidently knew what he was talking about when he wrote in 2 Corinthians 10:12 that "they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise." The simple truth is, our habit of comparing what we have with what others have is another *major source of our dissatisfaction*. As Gore Vidal once said, "Whenever a friend succeeds, a little something in me dies." Not exactly a mindset that makes one rich.

One extraordinary finding Hamilton quotes in his book is that most people would rather earn \$50,000 a year if the average was \$40,000 than earn \$70,000 if the average was \$100,000. They would take a \$20,000 *pay cut* just to remain above average! No wonder some describe runaway consumerism as *affluenza*: It's a sickness that addles the brain.

That shocking statistic shows how easy it is to allow material things to delineate our social status, to dictate our sense of self-worth—even to define *who we are*. And it's not that we need *these particular things* in order to feel good—we just need more than the other guy.

Of course, that's a sure formula for unhappiness. *Someone* will always have more than we have.

It is worth checking our life's balance sheet to see just how steep a price we are paying for such materialistic thinking. Then we can evaluate whether we are really pursuing the right kind of riches.

### The Price of Overconsumption

Plenty of evidence backs up the declaration in 1 Timothy 6:10 that “the love of money”—and the things that money can buy—is a “root of all evil.” Hyper-consumption certainly comes with a host of problems.

One problem in particular has become epidemic in wealthy Western nations: *skyrocketing personal debt*. Try explaining this to folks in the Third World.

We can shake our heads at the superstar who blows a multimillion-dollar salary and goes into the red—but the same thing is happening on a smaller scale throughout the Western world. As much as our incomes are rising, our spending is rising more. Credit is ridiculously easy to come by, and *going without* is apparently no longer an option. The “you deserve it now” message has us by the throat. Gone are the days of saving up for a big purchase; the new saving is “post-saving”—buying on credit and paying over time.

Of course, that isn’t actually saving. In fact, the big myth about credit cards is that they enable you to get more things. In truth, more things *now* means *far fewer things later*. Consider. The average household in affluent America carries \$8,400 in credit card debt. Paying that off requires cutting your spending in three separate ways: reining in your overspending, carving the \$8,400 out of your present spending, and paying the interest on the debt. Shelling out \$200 a month at 15 percent interest would tack \$3,600 of interest onto that \$8,400 and take *five long years* to pay off.

Unburying ourselves from debt like that is an enormous burden. Proverbs 22:7 accurately describes debt as a type of slavery: “The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.” Like many other aspects of super-consumerism, debt can take steep additional tolls on our lives.

Take our families, for example. To make enough money to pay for lavish lifestyles, people are working longer hours, often at more stressful jobs. Families consider two incomes a necessity. With most parents working outside the home (in the U.S., over 7 in 10 mom-aged married women), an estimated 57 percent of our children do not have full-time parental supervision. Many parents lament

having to spend more time at work than would be ideal for their families (80 percent of Australians, in another Newspan survey)—but far fewer cut back on work in order to prioritize their families over the additional earnings.

Choosing material goods over family also exacts its toll in another, subtler way. More and more couples are looking at the costs of having children and deciding they cannot afford parenthood. This, again, in the *richest societies in history*. Perhaps no trend exposes our skewed values more: We are simply unwilling to give up life’s

**Research proves that if you want a big raise in happiness and personal satisfaction, more yearly pay won’t do. You’ll have to seek it somewhere else.**

luxuries—fleeting and hollow as they are—for the sake of something as pricey as family—enduring and precious as it is.

Those couples who do have children fight materialism in other ways. Americans spend six hours a week shopping—compared to only 40 minutes a week playing with their children. With parental examples like these, then, it’s no surprise that as children grow into teenagers, consumerist influences contribute heavily to the generation gap. Polls show that parents become substantially concerned about the effect of materialism on their children through these years as the powerful lure of youth culture divides teens from their families. In addition, as more and more families fill their homes with surround sound theaters and other gadgets to plug into, socialization and communion dwindle. Family members become strangers.

These trends are also visible outside the home, as neighbors lose touch with one another and civic organizations wither for lack of participation. Hyper-consumerism creates a nation of selfish pleasure-seekers and loners.

Add up all these factors—including more stress, overwork, social isolation—and one begins to see why fatter paychecks have not brought more happiness.

“There’s evidence that people who place a high value on money, possessions, appearance and fame are more likely to be suffering from depression, anxiety and personality disorders,” says Oliver James,

author of *Affluenza* (there are a few books by this title). In fact, the U.S.—particularly in its urban, industrialized areas—has the highest rate of mental illness in the world, with Britain, Australia and Canada following close behind.

Frankly, the WAY OF GET is making us sick.

### How to Be Rich

The good news is, just diagnosing the problem can put us on the road to recovery in our own lives. We have already considered a few strategies for conquering the tendencies that produce dissatisfaction. They boil down to simply recognizing the ways that consumerism creates the illusion of fulfillment, and forgoing those pursuits in favor of something with substance.

What *has* substance? Where are the *true riches* in life? What really matters?

Clear your mind of the consumerist nonsense, and the answers quickly begin to come clear. Your family relationships. Loving your spouse. Teaching your children. Doing good for others. Making use of your talents and abilities. Seeking a relationship with God. Living a morally upright life. These are the things that fulfill us and satisfy us, the things that multiply our happiness.

This is true wealth. The degree to which we sacrifice these things in pursuit of material things, we become poorer.

If the way of GET is making us sick, the WAY OF GIVE can make us well.

Researchers into the problems associated with mega-consumption have gravitated toward these sorts of answers. What they generally do not acknowledge, but what is patently obvious, is that such solutions point toward the ancient wisdom contained in the Holy Bible.

The message of the Bible is that human beings are *incomplete*—there is a void in our lives. That void can only be filled by God’s presence. Sensing that void, people try to fill it in any number of ways—in affluent societies, most commonly with *things*. But it is impossible to fill a spiritual void with material goods. Our book *The Incredible Human Potential*, which we offer to you free upon request, explains this truth in detail and shows how God can fill that void in your own life.

Jesus Christ tells us not to accumulate treasures on Earth, which can break



down, fall apart or be stolen (Matthew 6:19). Instead, a Christian is to seek incorruptible spiritual treasures (verses 20-21).

The Apostle Paul offered this timeless wisdom: "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (see Colossians 3:1-2). He followed his own advice and remained always content, whatever his physical circumstances—rich or poor, better or worse (Philippians 4:11-12).

Here is Paul's excellent advice to the rich—and surely the average American, Briton or Australian would qualify: "As for the rich in this world, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on uncertain riches but on God who richly furnishes us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good deeds, liberal and generous, thus laying up for themselves a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life which is life indeed" (1 Timothy 6:17-19, Revised Standard Version). God *richly* furnishes us. Be *rich* in good deeds. Take hold of *life indeed*. It's clear how applying this instruction would keep us free from the traps of wealth.

When we begin to set our affections on things on this Earth, it is easy to lose this perspective. There will always be plenty of material things we lack. Combat dissatisfaction by being thankful. Cultivate an attitude of gratitude for those blessings we already possess—particularly the spiritual blessings. When we concentrate on and worry about what we don't have, we make ourselves poor. When we are grateful for and content with everything we do have, we discover how rich we truly are.

A lack of contentment is really a lack of perspective. If you are anxious about what you'll eat or drink, your perspective is off, Christ instructs us. Just be thankful you have a life to sustain with food and drink! Don't fret about clothes—be thankful you have a body to clothe! (read Matthew 6:25-34).

It goes against conventional consumerist wisdom to say so, but we must not be *afraid of depriving our children* of some things. What do our children want? Not things. Time. Time from Dad and Mom. Things can clutter their lives. When we detect in our children a feeling of entitlement, we need to scale back on some of those things. (Woe be to any of us when we start feeling entitled to what are actually luxuries.)

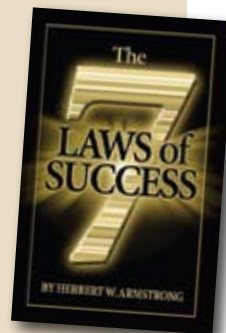
Doing so is simply following God's example as a parent. Read the 8th chap-

ter of Deuteronomy; it vividly shows how God walks the line between blessing His people and spoiling them. Just as the Israelites were about to enter the Promised Land, God had a powerful message for them—one extremely relevant in our world today. *If you remain obedient*, He told them, *I'll bless you abundantly!* Then He reminded them of how much gratitude they owed Him for bringing them to where they were. Surely they looked back on their time in the wilderness as a massive trial—but God said, *Look, I orchestrated that whole experience. I was right with you the whole time, and it was all for your spiritual benefit. Remember that. Now, as you enter*



## Go BEYOND financial success!

**There are laws that not only lead to success in the financial realm, but also lead to success, happiness and fulfillment in all aspects of life. Request this free booklet, *The Seven Laws of Success*, written by the late renowned educator Herbert W. Armstrong, to learn what they are!**



*the Promised Land, I want you to enjoy it to the full! But remember where it came from. That prosperity is not a result of your own doing! Be thankful, and don't take it for granted.*

How thoroughly up to date that speech is! God knows human nature well enough to know there is a danger of getting our minds too much onto physical things and off Him.

God has much to give; He could prosper each one of us to the heights in a minute! But He knows that instant prosperity can hurt us, and, if we let Him guide our lives, He only supplies what we can handle. Like any parent, He wants to bless us abundantly. But when He detects skewed perspective, then He thinks twice about blessing us. And sometimes He withholds blessings in order to benefit our character.

"Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die," reads a prayer recorded in Proverbs 30:7-9: "... [G]ive me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain." These few verses contain much wisdom. They provide insight into how God must reason when considering which blessings to extend to us and which to withhold.

In the end, God is primarily after our character development. Sometimes physical blessing helps us develop character. Sometimes deprivation helps us even more.

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17). Make a mental list of all the good and perfect gifts your Father has given you. God even tells us to count our trials as blessings since, if we respond to them correctly, they produce positive spiritual growth in us (e.g. verses 2-3).

What peace and joy flood into our lives when we focus on the real, the true, the incorruptible, the eternal—when we can sincerely thank our great God for all the blessings He gives us, even our trials! Greed shrinks; discontent dissolves; materialism melts away. When thankfulness moves in, it brings its companion, contentment. This balanced perspective, on top of providing all of these benefits, will probably fatten your wallet.

That is how to truly BE RICH! ■



# Israel's Last Stan


**A**DDRESSING ISRAEL'S PARLIAMENT on Jerusalem Day 10 years ago, then-Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu commented on the Jews' stunning victory in the Six Day War of 1967: "The main meaning of this... victory is that Jerusalem will *remain united* and whole under Israeli sovereignty for eternity." During that same Knesset celebration, outgoing Labor Chairman Shimon Peres, Netanyahu's political rival, said Jerusalem "must be recognized

as the *indivisible* capital of Israel. We cannot allow it to be wounded or divided again." Ehud Olmert, Jerusalem's mayor at the time, also weighed in on the importance of keeping Jerusalem united: "Only as one city, as the capital of one people, will it continue to exist, to flourish and to be built."

Many Israeli commentators believe Olmert's slogan ("Peres will divide Jerusalem") is what catapulted Ehud Barak to leadership of the Labor Party in 1997. According to Barak, Labor's position on Jerusalem would never change: "Jerusalem's

unity and Israeli sovereignty in the united Jerusalem are a cornerstone of our policy. This is how the Labor-led government acted in the past and this is how we will act in the future" (*Jerusalem Post*, Dec. 11, 1997).

Around the same time, Capitol Hill in Washington was nearly as unanimous in its support for a united Jerusalem as was the Knesset. Toward the end of 1995, the House of Representatives voted 374 to 37 in favor of moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by mid-1999. The Senate passed the measure by a vote of 93



**CHANGING TIMES**  
Orthodox Jews contemplate  
the future of the Holy City.

GALI TIBBON/AP/GETTY IMAGES

Netanyahu in 1999.

Near the end of his first year in office, in May of 2000, with popular support in Israel, Barak pulled Israeli troops out of its security zone in southern Lebanon. Still, on the issue of Jerusalem, he looked unshakable. That same month, on Jerusalem Day, Barak made this celebratory statement regarding the nation's capital: "Only those who do not understand the depth of the total emotional bond of the Jewish people to Jerusalem, only those who are completely estranged from the vision of the nation, from the poetry of that nation's life, from its faith and from the hope it has cherished for generations—only persons in that category could possibly entertain the thought that the State of Israel would actually concede even a part of Jerusalem."

On July 10, the day before Barak left for America to negotiate a peace deal with Yasser Arafat, he reminded the Knesset about the "red lines" he had been proclaiming in the lead-up to the peace talks, which included no return to 1967 borders and "a united Jerusalem under Israeli sovereignty" (*New York Times*, July 10, 2000).

But then, just days later, Barak inexplicably set out to re-divide the capital city.

Working at Camp David with President Clinton, who was in his last year of office, Barak desperately wanted a deal with Arafat before the American political landscape shifted. For his part, President Clinton was also determined to broker a peace deal between Jews and Palestinians in hopes of repairing a legacy that had been severely damaged by numerous scandals during his second term.

In a move as surprising as it was delightful to President Clinton, Barak agreed to give up most of the Arab neighborhoods in East Jerusalem and much of the Old City, even allowing the Arabs "custodianship" of the Temple Mount. This marked the first time an Israeli prime minister had ever offered to re-divide the city.

"From 1967 until 2000, the door for Israeli withdrawal from Jerusalem was largely closed," wrote former Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Dore Gold in his recent book *The Fight for Jerusalem*. But during the Camp David meetings, Clinton and Barak busted that door wide open. It was a stunning reversal of what had been a hard and fast Israeli position: a united Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

"Arafat," Gold wrote, "suddenly had over half of Jerusalem's Old City within

**d** In full-scale retreat mode since the Oslo accords in 1993, Israel now finds itself with little else to give away—except half of Jerusalem. **BY STEPHEN FLURRY**

to 5. Even though President Bill Clinton was against the move (and never followed through on it), the vote nevertheless signified overwhelming American support, not only for Jerusalem to remain united under Jewish control, but to serve as *Israel's capital*—something the international community had never recognized.

When Netanyahu spoke before Congress on July 10, 1996, he thanked the legislators for their vote to relocate the embassy. Congress gave him a standing ovation after he dismissed Palestinian claims for control

over parts of Jerusalem. Jerusalem will never be re-divided, Netanyahu assured his receptive audience: "We shall not allow a Berlin to be erected inside Jerusalem."

*How times have changed in 10 years.* Today, Jerusalem is a city united in name only.

#### **The Clinton-Barak Surrender**

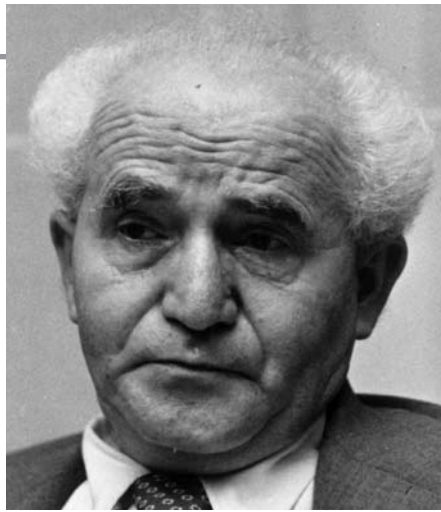
Despite Ehud Barak's assurance to the contrary, Israel's long-standing policy of a united Jerusalem serving as its capital was reversed one year after he ousted

his grasp.” Yet to Clinton and Barak—both now firm believers in the land-for-peace strategy—Arafat’s response to their overture must have come as a total shock. He wanted COMPLETE SOVEREIGNTY over the Temple Mount and East Jerusalem. According to an Arab newspaper, Arafat responded to their offer by saying, “I will not agree to any Israeli sovereign presence in Jerusalem, neither in the Armenian quarter, nor in the al-Aqsa Mosque, neither in Via Dolorosa, nor in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. They can occupy us by force, because we are weaker now, but in two years, ten years, or one hundred years, there will be someone who will liberate Jerusalem” (MEMRI, Aug. 28, 2000).

Thus, two days later, the Camp David summit ended with no deal. Making matters worse for Israel, Arafat returned home and drew up plans for another Palestinian uprising against Israel—using Ariel Sharon’s September visit to the Temple Mount as a trigger for the second intifada. If anything, Gold wrote, the peace conference appeared to have hardened Arafat’s stance. “Arafat called his new war ‘the al-Aqsa intifada,’” Gold wrote. “The name was intentionally misleading, implying the Temple Mount’s al-Aqsa Mosque was in danger. It also reflected an effort to mobilize the Palestinians and to signal to the wider Arab world the start of a *campaign to capture Jerusalem*. The [Palestinian Liberation Organization’s] Radio Palestine called on Palestinians to rush to defend the Temple Mount, while Hamas, the terrorist organization that began as the Palestinian branch of the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood, distributed leaflets to the same effect. Since that time, Israelis have suffered a never-ending wave of Palestinian sniper, rocket, and suicide bombing attacks, mostly directed at civilians” (op. cit., emphasis mine throughout).

Nevertheless, as if oblivious to reality, President Clinton and Prime Minister Barak forged ahead with another proposal for “peace” that would obligate Israel to surrender half of Jerusalem. In December of 2000, Clinton and Barak sweetened the deal for Arafat, offering Palestinians *all* the Arab neighborhoods in East Jerusalem, as well as unrestricted control over the Temple Mount—in effect *rewarding Arafat handsomely for his violent uprising*. They offered him everything he asked for at Camp David.

By that point, however, Arafat wanted *more*. So he rejected their second pro-



GETTY IMAGES (2)

**“There is no State of Israel without Jerusalem. ... If we don’t fight for Jerusalem we won’t fight for anything else.”**

DAVID BEN-GURION, Israel’s first prime minister in 1948, considered “the father of Israel.”

posal and pressed ahead with the intifada. Over the next five years, 500 suicide attacks against Israel caused more than a thousand Jewish casualties.

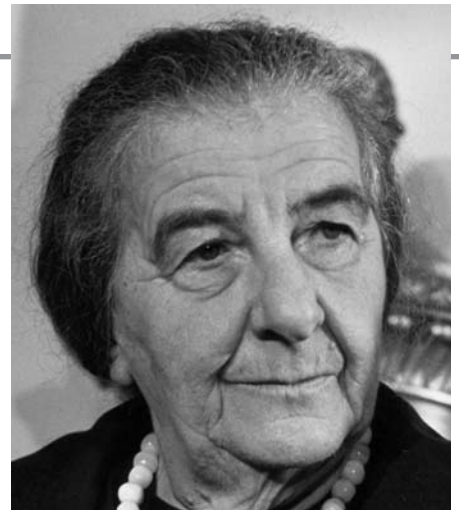
**Public Outcry**

Once Israelis caught wind of Barak’s duplicitous negotiating—and the fact that they had nearly lost half of their capital without having any say in the matter—they turned out in droves to express their disgust for his administration. In a demonstration organized in January of 2001 by Ehud Olmert, 400,000 Israelis from all over the country assembled at the Jaffa Gate entrance to the Old City. Labeled “One Jerusalem,” the event attracted the largest group of demonstrators in Israel’s history.

“I have never been so deeply moved as I am now to see all of you so pressed together here in the streets of Jerusalem, so excited and enthusiastic,” Mayor Olmert said. “This is not a political rally. This is the expression of the deep emotional link of the people of Israel to our eternal and undivided capital.”

The outcry was loud enough to get Barak booted from office. In special elections shortly thereafter, he was trounced by Ariel Sharon’s Likud after serving only two years of his six-year term.

But, in one sense, the damage of Barak’s offers to Arafat had already been done. “Barak and Clinton expected that unprecedented Israeli concessions would convince the Palestinians of the Israelis’ genuine commitment to peace,” Gold wrote. “But



**“Arab sovereignty in Jerusalem just cannot be. This city will not be divided—not half and half, not 60-40, not 75-25, nothing.”**

GOLDA MEIR, Israeli prime minister from 1969 to 1974.

instead, the *breaking of Israeli diplomatic taboos OPENED UP A PANDORA’S BOX*” (ibid.).

The real significance of the failed negotiations between Barak and Arafat in 2000 is not that Arafat refused to accept half of Jerusalem—it’s that an Israeli prime minister *actually made the offer*. Before July of 2000, that had never happened.

But with Jerusalem now on the table as a bargaining chip, Israel had revealed its hand to the Arabs. Public opinion among Jews didn’t matter to the Palestinians. All that mattered was that Israeli negotiators were now *willing* to divvy up Jerusalem.

**Olmert’s Redivision Plan**

After Barak’s sellout, any air of invincibility Israel may have had at one time all but disintegrated.

In response to the second intifada, Barak’s successor, Ariel Sharon, erected Israel’s “wall of defense”—465 miles of barriers composed of concrete walls, ditches, fencing, barbed wire and security cameras. And while the wall significantly reduced the threat of suicide bombings within Israel proper, one could also argue that the barrier itself signified a concession of the territory located on the opposite side.

In September 2005, Sharon unilaterally withdrew all Israeli forces from Gaza after 14,000 troops escorted, in some cases *forced*, about 9,000 Jewish settlers out. It was Israel’s first complete territorial withdrawal since handing over the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt in 1979. And it came without any assurances from the PLO that it would disarm the terrorist wing of



ADRIAN DENNIS/AP/GETTY IMAGES

**“The main meaning of this ... victory is that Jerusalem will remain united and whole under Israeli sovereignty for eternity.”**

**BENJAMIN NETANYAHU**, Israeli prime minister, speaking in 1997 about the Six Day War.



GALI TRIBROW/JAP/GETTY IMAGES

**“[Jerusalem] must be recognized as the indivisible capital of Israel. We cannot allow it to be wounded or divided again.”**

**SHIMON PERES**, Netanyahu's political rival at the time, in 1997.



GETTY IMAGES

**“Only as one city, as the capital of one people, will [Jerusalem] continue to exist, to flourish and to be built.”**

**EHUD OLMERT**, mayor of Jerusalem in 1997 and current Israeli prime minister.

Hamas, whose principle political position has always been the destruction of Israel.

During free elections just months after Israel left, Palestinians left little doubt about what they considered to be the main cause of Israel's retreat from Gaza: terrorism. Why else would they elect a Hamas majority into the Palestinian Legislative Council?

Meanwhile, just weeks before the Hamas victory, Israel was rocked by political upheaval when Ariel Sharon suffered a massive stroke. That cleared the way for someone else to step into the position of prime minister: Jerusalem's former mayor, Ehud Olmert. But by that point, Olmert was a mere shadow of the man he claimed to be as mayor.

Several years had passed. Pandora's box had been opened. By this time, the United Nations, the United States, the European Union, the Palestinians—even Jews—were now discussing the surrender of East Jerusalem. In December of 2005, a poll published by *Yedioth Ahronoth* found that about half of Israelis supported the idea of giving up parts of Arab East Jerusalem if it would solidify a peace deal with the Palestinians. Quite a change from the public outcry years earlier.

Just before the results from that poll were published, the Jerusalem Newswire said that Olmert had “on more than one occasion stated Israel would eventually have to relinquish the dream of an eternally united Jerusalem under Jewish sovereignty” (Dec. 13, 2005). And so, after barely one month in office, the man

who coined the phrase “Peres will divide Jerusalem,” who organized “One Jerusalem” day in 2001, who said there was a deep emotional link between Israelis and their “eternal and undivided capital,” revealed his proposal to offer portions of East Jerusalem to the Palestinians.

In early May of 2006, Kadima lawmaker Otniel Schneller told the Associated Press that Olmert's government was devising a plan for redividing Jerusalem. Of course, he insisted Olmert wasn't dividing the city—only sharing it. But this plan, like every other retreat in recent years, calls for evacuating Jews from Arab neighborhoods. “Those same neighborhoods will, in my assessment, be central to the makeup of the Palestinian capital ... al-Quds,” Schneller said, referring to the Arabic name for Jerusalem.

Together with the East Jerusalem handover, Olmert's plan calls for dismantling numerous Jewish settlements in the West Bank, hurting the livelihood of tens of thousands of Jews. The separation barrier dividing Israel from the West Bank would then be moved westward in the Jerusalem area, cutting the city in half, meaning Arab neighborhoods in East Jerusalem would no longer be isolated from their Palestinian brothers in the West Bank. Of course, it also means terrorists in the West Bank would no longer be prevented from entering Jerusalem.

The Old City, including the Temple Mount, according to Schneller, would remain under Israeli control, but would be part of a “special region with special

understandings”—which, of course, the Arabs will never accept. In any event, Olmert is ready to move forward with his plan even without further negotiations with the Palestinians. He hopes to have it in place by 2010.

“A division of Jerusalem looks realistic for the first time,” the Associated Press wrote. “The plan reflects a sea change in the thinking of most Israelis, who once considered sacrilegious the idea of abandoning any part of the holy city.

“Since Israel captured East Jerusalem from Jordan in the 1967 Mideast War, Israelis had been in broad agreement that the city could never again be divided. But after five years of intifada bloodshed, Israeli voters swept Olmert's Kadima party into office ... on a platform to separate from the Palestinians for the good of the Jewish state” (May 5, 2006).

And even after Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 turned that area into a haven for terrorist activity; even after Hezbollah launched a war last summer from the area Barak evacuated in southern Lebanon in 2000; Israeli voters are holding fast to this platform of retreat. A poll conducted by the Jerusalem Institute for Israeli Studies earlier this year showed that while 84 percent of Israeli Jews believe genuine peace with the Palestinians is not possible, 57 percent are willing to make concessions on Jerusalem in order to reach a peace agreement.

### Broken Will

Even as Israel empties its pockets at the

negotiating table, Palestinians are undoubtedly preparing to walk away, just as Arafat did in 2000. If they have learned anything from recent history, it's that they can get a **WHOLE LOT MORE in return for violence**. And how much more satisfying their conquest will ultimately be when they humiliate the Jews by forcefully taking half the city, as Bible prophecy says will happen (Zechariah 14:1-2).

But Zechariah's prophecy is about to be fulfilled only because of another prophecy that, in part, has *already* happened.

Hosea 5:13 says, "When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his *wound*, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound." That wound, as the *Trumpet* has often explained, is the Arab-Israeli peace process. One former Israeli leader described it as a "collective bargaining" process. Israel bargains—the Arabs collect.

But it's even worse than that. The Arabs are *using* the peace process to DESTROY ISRAEL. And so even as Israel pulls back, lays down its arms and keeps bargaining, the terrorists will continue

pushing for greater gains through kidnappings, rocket attacks and suicide bombings until, as Arafat said at the end of Camp David, they are finally strong enough to "liberate" Jerusalem.

But the tragically sad part of this scenario is that Jews are willing to give most of it away even now, without a fight! What a remarkable change in their thinking—even from what it was just a few years ago, when hundreds of thousands of Jews gathered at the Old City, with Ehud Olmert, of all people, to show their support for a united Jerusalem.

This year's Jerusalem Day festivities weren't nearly as festive as they were in years past, even though it happened to be Jerusalem's 40-year anniversary as a united city. Many members of the Knesset were downright angry because of how many foreign ambassadors chose to boycott the celebrations, including the American ambassador.

But as the president of the Jerusalem Foundation, Ruth Cheshin,

noted, Israeli politicians should look at themselves first. They are the ones who, year after year, attend these celebrations and give rousing speeches, and then turn their backs on their capital city. "It has been four decades that prime ministers and ministers who deal with Jerusalem affairs appear at the annual celebrations for Jerusalem and declare how much must be done for Jerusalem. These promises are empty of content and dissipate the following day," Cheshin told the *Jerusalem Post* on May 16. She made her remarks soon after a study revealed that the Jewish population in Jerusalem could be reduced to a 60 percent majority by 2020.

Cheshin concluded, "History will surely judge all those who stood at the helm of the government and did not bother to save and cultivate Jerusalem." ■

## One Building at a Time

It is said that possession is ninth tenths of the law. If that is true, Israel has already been giving away Jerusalem to the Arabs—one building at a time.

A 2006 report sponsored by the privately funded Office for Public Inquiries for East Jerusalem showed that Jerusalem's Arabs have constructed more than 20,000 illegal structures in the city in the last two decades. The illegal construction has been met with virtually no opposition from a listless Israeli government. Such impotence in the face of danger is a telling sign of Israel's lack of commitment to Jerusalem.

Caroline Glick, deputy managing editor for the *Jerusalem Post*, summarized the shocking details of the report. "The political aim of the illegal construction is made clear by its financing sources," reported Glick. "Since the establishment of the Palestinian Authority in 1994, the PA, Saudi Arabia and the EU have spent millions of dollars in

financing illegal construction in Arab neighborhoods of Jerusalem, often on state and privately owned lands" (May 14).

Great strategy and coordination has gone into planning where the illegal Arab structures should be located, as Glick pointed out: "In an effort to degrade the Jewish character of the city, for instance, Arabs have built homes on state-owned lands adjacent to the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives . . ." Illegal Arab structures have been constructed at other strategic locations throughout the city, including along major traffic arteries and near airports. Illegally built, Arab-owned homes and buildings now straddle Highways 60, 1, 4 and 443 in Jerusalem, and illegal construction has "rendered the Atarot airport insecure" (ibid.).

But the most outrageous angle of this story is the sheer impotence Israel has shown by not responding to these Palestinian incursions.



Reported Glick, "The illegal Arab construction, which has placed most neighborhoods in Jerusalem and the highway approaches to the city within rifle range of hostile gunmen, *has been met with indifference by the Israeli governing bureaucracy. . .*

"With the exception of the Netanyahu government, every Israeli government since 1993 has enabled the Arabs to undermine the state's control of Jerusalem. While paying lip service to the city's unity, by errors of commission and omission, Israel's governments have failed to defend the property rights of public and private land owners in Jerusalem. They have allowed the PA, enemy states like Saudi Arabia and the EU to openly abet illegal building projects in the city" (emphasis mine).

The Israeli government may

claim it loves Jerusalem, but the reality on the ground tells a different story. The fact that all this illegal construction, much of which potentially endangers Jewish residents, has occurred over the past 20 years with little opposition from the Israeli government reveals that most Israeli leaders have lost their love for Jerusalem.

Any politician who cherished Jewish influence over Jerusalem would surely fight fiercely to enforce the laws against illegal construction. Surely if Jewish residents of Jerusalem deeply prized Jewish sovereignty of the city, they would be pressuring their government to take action. There are segments of the Jewish population in Jerusalem that are upset, even furious about the illegal construction occurring—but, it appears, not enough to make a difference. **BRAD MACDONALD**

# Taking Time to **SAVE** Our Teens

Young people today face some daunting challenges.  
Here is how we can help them through. **BY DENNIS LEAP**

**F**OR DECADES, AN INCREASING number of news reports has shown us that our teens are in serious trouble. We need to look squarely at some of the problems they face today.

One in 10 Americans ages 12 to 17 admit to using illicit drugs, according to the 2005 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Marijuana is the main drug they use, although a rapidly growing number abuse prescription drugs, falsely believing them to be a safe way to get high. Among 18-to-25-year-olds, over 20 percent use illegal drugs. Realize that these percentages reflect numbers in the millions.

Yet, the news on drug use gets worse. The rate of illegal drug initiation for those 12 and over was an estimated 2.9 million people in 2005—amounting to nearly 8,000 new users every day. Over half were under age 18. Though it may be hard for adults to accept that baby-faced teens smoke, swallow and inhale various drugs, these well-documented facts cannot be denied.

Sexual promiscuity is also at an all-time high. Seven in 10 teens have sexual intercourse by age 19, a 2006 report from the Guttmacher Institute revealed. Even though teen pregnancy has declined since the 1990s, the rate in the U.S. is still far higher than in other developed countries.

Just under 1 in 3 young women become pregnant during their teen years—around 750,000 a year. Approximately 95 percent of teen pregnancies are unintended; most are unmarried. Teen pregnancy costs the U.S. at least \$9 billion annually.

There is even more chilling news. In 2004, suicide ranked as the third leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 24. Approximately 12 youth suicides occur every day. It is estimated that for every youth who commits suicide, as many as 200 more attempt it.

Directionless, explosive and spoiled, our youth are plagued by despair and discouragement. No longer able to cope with the problems our modern society throws at them, many teens are simply opting to destroy themselves. We are in grave danger of losing an entire generation.

Hearing disturbing facts about teens is never easy. These kinds of statistics are always gut wrenching. Yet we must not deny them or hide from the reality they lay before us. The truth is, many young people in the Western world are unprincipled, drug-addicted, promiscuous and violent. Whether we admit it openly or not, most adults know that things should be different with our youth.

From time to time even in our own families, we see teens get into serious trouble with illicit sex, drug use and

other problems. Some of our own teens are chronically unhappy. Shouldn't our beloved and wonderful children be living happier, more productive lives? Isn't it time we ask why our teens are living in continuous crisis?

## Cause for Troubled Youth

Mankind has a sad history of incompetence when dealing with its own problems. Herbert W. Armstrong often reminded *Plain Truth* readers that there is a *cause* for every *effect*. Solving any problem requires first dealing with the cause. People have always treated the effects. As a result, our problems simply get worse and worse.

What is the cause of messed-up teens? We could point the finger at many things: our failing school systems, the entertainment industry, the music industry, drug pushers, pornography, violent video games or any other modern malady. But the stark truth is that the main cause for troubled teens is troubled parents.

Too many parents are so self-absorbed and caught up in their own personal crises that they can't focus on the right rearing of teens. To save our teens, parents must take on their God-given responsibility to nurture, love, lead, teach and discipline their children.

Let's face it: We have become the gen-

eration that has abandoned our teens.

Mr. Armstrong warned about the damaging effects of parental neglect. He wrote over 20 years ago, “Family life has undergone a RADICAL REVOLUTION! Teens have sex games at home in bed while Dad and Mom are at work. Children do not eat with parents. They seldom go to movies with parents. Parents have their lives, associates and friends apart from the children. Parents never think of teaching children, being with children, maintaining a FAMILY RELATIONSHIP! Parental responsibility is totally neglected. In due time parents are going to be brought to account for this neglect of basic responsibility” (*The Missing Dimension in Sex*). Admitting responsibility for teen neglect is difficult for any parent. Yet it is the only means to an effective solution for our teen crisis.

Solomon, one of the wisest men who ever lived, wrote, “[A] child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame” (Proverbs 29:15). Is it too difficult for us to recognize that our children are growing up unsupervised? Meditate for a moment on the effects we see in the lives of our teens.

No matter the effect—illegal-drug use, promiscuous sex, violence—any bad news report about teens tells us one thing: We have left our children too much to themselves. When we become honest with ourselves, it will be easier for us to admit that our teens are paying a heavy price for our neglect.

### The Right Role

We can be certain of this one thing: God did not intend for teen life to be so tragically traumatic. The teen years should be productive years filled with mental and emotional growth and accomplishment. All teens should radiate joy and happiness.

We must also recognize that God never intended there be a generation gap between parents and teens. Yet we see that gap has become so wide and so deep that many parents and teens have become arch-enemies.

As Paul warned Timothy, our time is a perilous time in which people lack natural affection (2 Timothy 3:1-5). Clearly, there is a devil, and he has turned his wiles and vicious wrath against our families, successfully destroying the natural, loving bonds that should exist between parents and teens. Some extreme cases have ended in murder *inside families!*

Rearing teens should be a rewarding, satisfying experience that fills parents with joy. Yet so many people have come to dread the teenage years. If handled God’s way, though, during the teen years parents and children can build truly wonderful bonds that will last a lifetime.

The Bible shows us clearly how to solve problems with our teens. Of course, to solve any teen problem, both parents and teens have a role to play. Both sides must come to know and fulfill their obligations to each other.

### Instruction to Teens

Concerned about the welfare of families in his day, the Apostle Paul taught clearly what these roles must be.

Here is his instruction to our young people: “Children, *obey* your parents in the Lord: for this is right. *Honour* thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth” (Ephesians 6:1-3). Paul is clear and definite in this letter: The right role for teens is to be obedient to parents.

## Child abuse should never be tolerated. But failing to discipline our children altogether is also a deadly form of child abuse.

The meaning of the Greek word for *obey*, *hupakouo*, is very interesting—something to study and think about. According to *Strong’s Concordance*, it means “to hear under (as a subordinate), that is, to listen attentively; by implication to heed or conform to a command or authority ....” Paul uses a very strong word to describe a young person’s obedience.

Every child and teen must come to lovingly recognize his or her subordinate position to that of the parent and then be willing to obey.

How rare is this today? The majority of our youth believe themselves to be equal or superior to their parents. Not only do most refuse to accept a command to do something, they resist even the mildest suggestion.

Paul stresses here that parents have the right to command their children. The word *hupakouo* should hold meaning for parents as well. Many parents fail to command their children. Why? We have become a culture that is anti-authority.

Applying the right amount of corpo-

ral punishment at the right time requires wisdom. It is true that some parents take it too far. Child abuse should never be tolerated. But failing to discipline our children altogether is *also* a deadly form of child abuse! Parents who go to one extreme or the other are simply parents who have never grown up.

The sad truth is, many parents still live and act like teens themselves.

### Habitual Obedience

The good habit of obedience should be well established in children by age 5. But generally, teens will need continual training. An important lesson here is that teens must come to understand the wonderful benefit of having parents who *care enough to require obedience*. All teens must become and remain obedient to parents such as these. They must obey their parents as long as their parents are teaching them *lawful and moral ways*.

Jesus Christ set a perfect example of being in subjection to His parents (Luke 2:51). All teens must strive to follow His example.

The book of Proverbs, written specifically for young people, stresses obedience to those in authority more than any other subject. Every human being must study this book. Of course, no teen is required to obey a parent when he or she encourages the breaking of

God’s or man’s laws.

Paul clearly reminds teens of the all-important Fifth Commandment: “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee” (Exodus 20:12). Teens and young adults must come to deeply honor their parents. When teens deeply respect their parents, they are also deeply respecting God, who is the Father of the God Family. Any teen who disobeys and disrespects his or her parents actually disobeys and disrespects God. Giving honor to parents is very pleasing to God and will produce untold blessings.

As Paul shows, the Fifth Commandment is the first commandment with promise. God zealously guarantees a long and healthy life to children who obey and respect their parents.

Many woes and even death have come to teens as a result of the sins of disobedience and rebellion. Our newspapers are full of stories about how promiscuous sex and the use of illegal drugs have permanently damaged a multitude of young



bodies and minds. Teens must learn to obey their parents for the protection of their physical and mental health.

### A Father's Vital Role

In Ephesians 6:4, Paul gives important instruction to parents, especially fathers. In fact, Paul directly charges fathers to

approach to teen rearing can only come through education and experience.

Notice that Paul also states that fathers (and mothers too) are to “bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” This instruction is vital. God requires that we *nurture* and *admonish* our young people His way—not our own! So

welfare both financially and emotionally. Emotional support far outweighs even finances. We must recognize that a child's can-do attitude is built by a loving and supportive father. So many children are insecure because they have missed out on a father's emotional support. We must see that the word *nurture* carries a grave responsibility.

## So many parents make mistakes in child rearing because they do not look to God and the Bible for instruction.



play a very specific role in rearing children, which obviously includes teens. A separation or a divorce does not absolve a father from his responsibility.

Paul commands: “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

*Provoke not your children to wrath.* We must learn this lesson. *An attitude of love must dominate a father's commands.* Paul shows clearly that all fathers (and mothers) must be balanced in their correction. *True love gives us balance.* To be balanced requires that discipline be neither too soft nor too hard. Either of these extremes will produce anger in a teen.

Fathers: Do you realize that both extremes show your children that you don't love them? When you are too soft, a child interprets that as a lack of concern and interest. This makes children frustrated and angry. Even though a child may complain about rules and limits, those rules are exactly what he or she desires most from us. Firm but balanced limits prove that we love our children.

On the other hand, if you are too hard on a teen—too restrictive or even verbally or physically abusive—that also shows the teen that you don't love him or her.

Realize that teens, even though they have adult bodies, are still children emotionally. They need ample amounts of patience, mercy, forgiveness and love because they are learning how to live properly. Teens will make mistakes—many mistakes. All fathers must lovingly guide them through their errors, showing the correct way to live life. Being too impatient, unforgiving or hard will drive our teens away from us. If we are not cautious parents, we could become responsible for wrecking a child's life. A balanced

many parents make mistakes in child rearing because they do not look to God and the Bible for instruction.

It is prudent for all parents to come to the same humble attitude that Jeremiah displayed when he prayed, “O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. O Lord, correct me, but with judgment; not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing” (Jeremiah 10:23-24). God, the perfect parent, must teach us how to be parents. If we are not teachable, and refuse correction in child rearing, we will make many mistakes.

### Parents Are Educators

We must come to understand the word *nurture* better. The word in the Greek, *paideia*, means tutelage, education or training. It also implies disciplinary correction, which includes chastening, chastisement and moral instruction. (Study the word *admonition* on your own. It is similar to nurture but has more to do with mental understanding.) *Nurture* means that fathers are to be *educators*.

Fathers must oversee the imparting of knowledge to their children. Teachers outside of the family can and often should teach subjects like reading, writing and math—but fathers must do the majority of the spiritual and moral instruction. Of course, mothers have their part as well.

Yet, this word *nurture* demands that fathers perform their instruction in a loving and protective manner. All fathers must have a commanding presence in their teens' lives. Behind that presence, there must be ample amounts of love and support.

*Nurture* also means that fathers are directly responsible for their child's

### Take the Time

Properly nurturing a child requires time—a lot of time. All children—sons and daughters—need to spend time with Dad! Not spending the proper amount of time with children is perhaps the most significant failing for most fathers. Many child-development experts are coming to see the vital importance of fathers spending time with their children.

Judith Wallerstein, a family-counseling expert, writes, “After decades of minutely recording mother-child interactions as if they existed in a ‘daddy-less’ world, researchers have finally discovered fathers and how important they are to a child's development. . . . Children with sensitive, involved fathers surge ahead in their cognitive and social development as they explore their environment and play with other children. One important study that followed children for 25 years showed that those who were closely involved with their fathers at age 5 were more empathic as adults and were happier as husbands and parents than those who had not experienced close relationships with their own fathers. . . . And just to dispel the strange notion that fathers are more important to their sons than their daughters, a study of young women who excelled in their academic studies . . . revealed that they attributed their high ambition to their father's long-standing encouragement” (*The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce*). Please read this quote a second time.

Fathers: Your children, especially teens, need your time and undivided attention. Your teens need you involved in their lives.

So many of our young people are growing up alone. Let's not neglect our teens. Let's sacrifice our time and get involved. ■

To better grasp how to keep the Fifth Commandment, as well as the other nine, request our free booklet *The Ten Commandments*.



# How Political Correctness Protects the Bad Guys

BY MARK JENKINS

THE YOUNG CIRCUIT CITY CLERK saw jihadists screaming “God is great” in Arabic and firing guns at a Pennsylvania target range. This alarming scene appeared on a video recording that bearded Muslims had handed the clerk for him to duplicate. His reaction: “I don’t know what to do. Should I call someone, or is that being racist?” After waiting a full day, Brian Morgenstern decided to alert the authorities.

Had political correctness won out, the Fort Dix terror plot—to kill soldiers with assault rifles and grenades—might have become reality. Rather than realizing the bearded Muslims’ religion *supported* his suspicion, he actually considered their Islamic connections a reason not to report a possible terror plot.

This incident was no aberration. Politically correct thoughts and procedures often take precedence over preventing crime. Political correctness focuses on the crimes of the majority—many of which are virtually concocted out of thin air—and explains away the crimes of all types of minorities. Minority status of any type can serve as a shield for a whole host of bad behaviors.

This fact has profound consequences in societies. Law and order break down as a direct result of placing political correctness above equity and truth.

## Criminal Rights

One of the main minority groups political correctness has adopted is criminals. It is not so much that people want to support criminals—it is that they fear a police state. Self-interest groups, taking advantage of positive reforms in the law

originally designed to prevent abuses, have sought ways to favor the minority over the majority. Thus, impartiality is removed from a law intended to mete out equal justice for all.

Citizens in every country react to improper police action with extreme disgust—and rightly so. Experience teaches us that abuses do happen. When they do, this can invoke memories of “Big Brother” and the tyranny of fascism, Nazism and communism.

But political correctness goes beyond condemning outright wrongdoing. It teaches us that we should fundamentally mistrust authority and extend boundless mercy to perpetrators—especially minority perpetrators. The result is a profoundly weakened legal system and police force.

Numerous U.S. court cases contributed to this problem. *Escobedo v. Illinois* (1964) made it illegal to continue to question a suspect once he or she requested a lawyer. This ruling wasn’t necessarily unreasonable, but it could be considered the first step toward favoring criminal rights over victim rights. *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) made it illegal to question a suspect at all without first reading a verbatim script specially designed to talk the suspect out of providing any useful information. Confessions in New York County fell from 49 percent to 14 percent in just one year as a result of this ruling. Economist Richard Fowles and federal judge Paul Cassell released a study in 1998 estimating that “as many as 136,000 violent crimes and 299,000 property crimes go unsolved each year because of the Miranda procedures.” In *Brewer v. Williams* (1977), Robert Williams, after being

warned by three officers and two lawyers that he had a right not to talk, led officers to his 10-year-old victim’s body. The courts deemed all the evidence found as a result of his cooperation inadmissible.

Today, police know that criminals’ rights will often be held above victims’ rights. As a result, police must cope with procedures specially designed to prevent criminals from admitting their crimes, with evidence procedures designed to prevent officers from looking where evidence might be, and with a virtual ban on profiling the characteristics of a likely criminal during the search. The result is that police become timid.

The problem isn’t limited to the United States. In Hamilton, Ontario, on February 10 a fugitive identifying himself as Corey Rogers called to turn himself in, saying he was the city’s most wanted man. The caller gave him the option of simply walking to the station. Rogers never showed up, but he did murder two teenagers a week later. After the murders, the police finally arrested him—at the same address he had given them a week earlier.

Political correctness also suggests that it is wrong to punish a criminal at all; rehabilitation alone is the answer. Accordingly, one major target of the PC brigade is the prison system. This system undoubtedly has many shortcomings, but its opponents generally have no realistic alternatives. Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark summed up the PC view of prisons best when he argued, “Prisons are usually little more than places to keep people—warehouses of human degradation.” The result: a continuing effort to release violent

criminals from prison. Britain has just announced plans to reduce the number of people in prison. In South Africa, the transport minister said, "Those wanting more prisons are sending out a message of desperation and hopelessness. By doing that we are killing our nation."

The media continually print articles lamenting the state of prisons and the supposed shortsightedness of imprisonment. In one example, the *Sydney Morning Herald* printed an article on May 14 titled "So Many Jailed, and the Key of

Compassion Thrown Away," which called prison "expensive, discriminatory and ineffective." The *New York Times* published an article in 2000 titled "Number in Prison Grows Despite Crime Reduction."

Presumably, author Fox Butterfield would expect fewer crimes if the prisons were empty.

Since the best way to empty prisons is to release criminals, or to never convict them in the first place, that is often what happens. Judges often try to give even the most deranged criminals the shortest sentence possible. This is why we hear horrifying tales of child rapists put back on the street and murderers freed only to murder again.

The power of political correctness is especially evident in Britain, where a training manual instructed magistrates not to have prejudice against black youths who commit violent crimes but, rather, according to the *Salisbury Review*, to "think of them as quirky Lenny Henry characters"—referring to a black English comedian. The Sentencing Guidelines Council says teenage muggers should not be jailed. Those who defend themselves when criminals invade their homes, however, are regularly jailed. One woman was ordered to remove barbed wire from the roof of her house because an intruder could be injured. Dr. Ian Stephen gave the following advice at Glasgow Caledonian University: "If you attack the burglar, or react in an over-the-top manner ... you will inevitably end up on the receiving end of a prison sentence that will far outstrip that imposed on the intruder in your own home .... Direct contact should be avoided whenever possible. If unavoidable, the victim should adopt a state of active passivity ...." One must show respect for the criminal!

While actual crimes are often treated lightly, politically incorrect comments can result in jail time. Former TV presenter Robin Page gave a speech that included: "If there is a black, vegetarian, Muslim, asylum-seeking, one-legged lesbian lorry-driver present, then you may be offended at what I am going to say, as I want the same rights that you have already." He was arrested, held without counsel, and ultimately warned that he would be watched.

Contrasting with that behavior, 300 Muslims who gathered to burn a cross in front of London's U.S. Embassy in May 2005 were not prosecuted at all.

### Racial Profiling

The U.S. has a special application of political correctness as it relates to racial profiling. The idea that police might be able to more quickly locate criminals through racial or sex profiling has become abhorrent to many even though it is a statistical reality that, for example, most terrorists are Muslim males.

## Criminals are favored over victims. The thought police undermine the real police.

Columnist Walter Williams observed that when a woman is raped, searching for her attacker among only males is sex profiling; yet detectives will still restrict the search. Not so in airline security. Even though the vast majority of terrorist actions have been carried out by Muslim males, Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta has made a special effort to assure the public that "the system does not disproportionately select members of any particular minority group." This is why tax dollars go toward screening your grandmother as she goes through the security checkpoint. One family reported that their 4-year-old son was questioned at length by Transportation Security Administration and FBI officials because he had the same name as someone under a terror alert. The minutest possibilities are accounted for while the enormous probability that the next terrorist will be a male Islamist radical is ignored.

That attitude trickles down to the general population—perhaps even more so since the so-called "flying imams" sued both passengers and the airline for calling attention to their flagrantly suspicious activity on a flight late last year. The more people adopt the attitude that possible threats should be ignored if race might be

a factor, the more likely it becomes that the next Fort Dix terror plot will succeed.

### Global Terrorism

We can see a similar phenomenon on the international stage, where political correctness teaches us that one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter. Both leave equally dead victims; the difference with a freedom fighter is his shield—the impenetrable, all-powerful barrier of political correctness that renders law, morality and even common sense inoperative on contact.

Consider the reputation of a few of these freedom fighters:

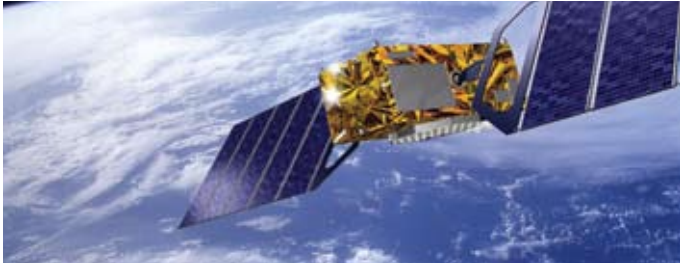
He is the greatest hero of our day: a minority warrior who stood up for the little guy against the great white oppressor, and a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. Even Vice President Dick Cheney, who once opposed Nelson Mandela's release from prison, now says, "He deserves an enormous amount of credit for the transformation of South Africa," and that Mandela is "a great man." Remember, though: Mandela achieved that "transformation" largely by engaging in "freedom fighting" activities that destroyed government property and killed those unlucky enough to be present. In his own words: "The people of South Africa, led by the ... communist party, will destroy capitalist society and build in its place socialism. ... One must ... be a revolutionary and not a reformist."

Yasser Arafat could be accurately described as an arch-terrorist, yet he also received the Nobel Peace Prize—just one year after Mandela. Perhaps most notably, he helped found the Fatah movement, whose "freedom fighting" has killed numerous Israelis. When Arafat became leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization in 1969, Fatah—the PLO's largest faction—launched 2,432 guerilla attacks on Israel in just one year. Since he too won the peace prize, consider his definition of peace as he stated it in 1980: "Peace for us means the destruction of Israel." He also commented in a speech to the United Nations in 1974: "I come bearing an olive branch in one hand, and the freedom fighter's gun in the other. Do not let the olive branch fall from my hand." He gave the speech while wearing revolutionary garb and with his peace-loving, freedom fighter's holster strapped to his side.

Betty Williams, a former member of the Irish Republican Army, is a less-famous recipient of the top peace prize.

See **POLITICAL** page 34 ▶

# YS



J. HUNTER/GETTY IMAGES

**BACK ON TRACK** Computerized image of a Galileo satellite.

## EUROPE

### Galileo's Savior

EUROPE'S STRUGGLING Galileo satellite project may have found its savior: the Continent's militaries. Modeled after the GPS system in the United States, Galileo was supposed to be up and beaming in 2008, fulfilling its purpose as a solely civilian system. Owing to funding woes, however, the due date for an operational Galileo is now 2012, and instead of just helping find package trucks, it could be guiding cruise missiles.

According to Spiegel Online, Galileo may take on a more openly militaristic face. The ground rules for the Galileo project originally stated it would be for strictly non-military use. Few experts believed Galileo's projected capabilities reflected purely commercial ambitions, but if the system is truly for civilian use only, one might assume it would be at least partially funded by civilian companies. It is not.

America's GPS already provides sufficient service to Europeans for free. So, naturally the Continent's private sector is not investing in a clone of what already exists, with no hope of a profit. Yet the EU continues to push Galileo. Why?

The *Register* explains, "Galileo only makes sense in the context of European military action and infrastructure security, independent of the

U.S." However, passing off the system as a military project in its beginning stages would have launched zero satellites. "Defining Galileo as a civilian system for Europe was the only way to convince all parties involved to agree to the project in the first place," said Spiegel Online (June 7).

Now that private investment has foundered, the European Commission has

taken control of the Galileo project. "European taxpayers will now have to provide the necessary funding. The EU Commission predicts a price tag of €10 billion between now and 2030. This is such a significant sum that tapping into defense budgets suddenly becomes an option" (*ibid.*).

Of course, the defense ministries will want a return on their money.

From drones flown by remote to troop movements to precision missile strikes, more militaries rely on satellite information today than ever before. While the U.S. allows military use of GPS for its allies, including Europe, the bottom line remains the same: GPS is owned and operated by Washington. A

functional Galileo would enable Europe to stand on its own in times of war.

Competition for independent satellite networks is heating up between the U.S., Russia, China and Europe. If Galileo doesn't become a reality soon, then Europe will fall behind in the battle for space and therefore the battle for influence. EU leaders believe that for Europe to have a major role on the world stage, the Continent needs its own satellite network for peace and war. They know the next war will be largely decided by dominating space.

Though this purpose was veiled at the project's inception, Galileo is now emerging as a war machine.

### Moves to Stem Illegal Workers

IN CONTRAST TO THE IMMIGRATION BILLS being contemplated in the U.S., European Union officials want to introduce tough new measures to fight illegal immigration.

On May 16, the European Commission proposed targeting employers of illegal workers that would involve criminal penalties ranging from fines to jail terms. EU Justice Commissioner Franco Frattini is calling for a fivefold increase in the percentage of companies inspected annually for employing illegal immigrants. Those found to have not done adequate background checks on their employees could be forced to pay, among other fines, the cost of sending an illegal immigrant home and could lose public subsidies for up to five years.

With an estimated 4 to 8 million illegal immigrants in the 27-nation bloc and another half million entering each year, European nations could be compelled to work together under the aegis of the EU—or hand more authority to the EU bureaucracy—to stem the tide.

One of the factors making illegal immigration such an urgent matter in Europe is the fact that a sizeable segment of this unknown number is Muslim. Not only are illegal immigrants hurting Europeans economically, in part by depressing wages, but Muslim immigrants especially also present severe cultural issues due to their lack of assimilation. Terrorism, segregation and ghettos

are among the problems arising from the huge influx of immigrants in recent years.

Europe is starting to awaken to the impact its increasing population of illegal immigrants is having on the Continent. Initiatives such as this one seeking to tighten up on the employment of illegal immigrants are an indication of a hardening stance against illegal immigrants. Europeans are growing fed up with the economic and cultural woes—not to mention the degradation of their own "European" values—they see such immigrants as causing.

Another implication of the EU becoming active in enforcing immigration law is the resultant further loss of control of laws at the national level. Currently, only 19 of the EU members have criminal penalties for black-market labor. While European states may welcome measures to limit illegal immigration in Europe, some, including Britain, are expected to resist a law that cedes sovereignty in the sensitive area of immigration.

Read our January 2006 article "The Ostrich, the Warriors and the Whirlwind" to see where Europe's hardening attitude to Muslim immigration will lead.



DESIREE MARTIN/AP/GETTY

**HOPEFUL** Illegal immigrants wait to disembark near Spain.

## Partnership With U.S. Brewing

THE UNITED STATES AND the European Union under Germany's presidency have signed a new transatlantic economic partnership plan.

Under Chancellor Angela Merkel, Germany has been aggressive in leading the EU to cozy up to Washington. It has been one of the top priorities for her administration, and an uncommon one in an increasingly anti-American world. Her efforts are paying off. A summit between U.S. and EU leaders in Washington on April 30 set in motion a process to reduce regulatory and trade barriers between the two economic powers.

Prior to departing for the U.S., President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso said, "This agreement will allow us to demolish existing, unnecessary barriers posed by divergent regulations ...." Regulations in almost 40 sectors, such as the automotive industry and investment services, have been put on the fast track to become aligned on both sides of the Atlantic.

The logic for transatlantic economic integration is compelling. Bilateral EU-U.S. trade accounts for 40 percent of the world's trade and, between them, the two economic powers record \$3 trillion in sales every year. Sixty percent of the world's gross domestic product comes from the combined EU and U.S. markets. It is hoped that closer economic ties between a German-led EU and the U.S. will open up a world of new opportunities for the economies of both, not to mention helping the West counter the rising giants in the East.

Among an older generation of Americans, eyebrows may go up as they see the

U.S. climbing into bed with the nation they fought against two generations ago. At the same time, some of Merkel's detractors are asking whether *America* can be relied upon as a partner, given its plummeting reputation in world public opinion.

Believe it or not, the coming together of America and Germany is an event prophesied in your Bible—as is the outcome of this illicit relationship (request a free



**SMILES** German chancellor (left) and U.S. president meet April 30 to discuss deeper transatlantic cooperation.

copy of our *Ezekiel* booklet for proof). Based on past history and these prophecies, the real question is not whether Germany can rely on America, but whether America can trust Germany.

## U.S. Speaks Softly for Israel

UNDERNEATH A DEADLY RAINFALL OF CONTINUING rocket attacks, the State of Israel is also reeling from a severe diplomatic and strategic wound—this one delivered by its greatest ally.

Since mid-May, Palestinian militants have launched hundreds of rockets into Israel from locations inside the Gaza Strip. Ending a six-month period of limited operations, the Israeli Air Force has responded by striking a number of targets inside the Gaza Strip, but it has been unable to slow the barrage. Israeli military leaders say that the only way to stop the attacks is to invade the Strip using ground forces.

With rockets still falling from a territory it ceded in a "land for peace" deal, what has Tel Aviv's most important ally been doing about it?

In a "with friends like these ..." moment, it was reported in mid-May that the U.S. State Department had *assured the Palestinian Authority* (PA) that Israel would stay out of the Gaza Strip and avoid launching any large-scale military operations there.

Even before Israel could double-check the definition of "ally" in the English dictionary, it found itself in the midst of a storm of Kassam rocket explosions, many of them targeting the town of Sderot. Although the administration of Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has not confirmed that it is under pressure from Washington, it has, as



**HIT** An Israeli woman is treated after one of many Kassam rockets was fired from Gaza, May 18.

of this writing, constrained its operations to airstrikes, raids and some infantry being sent across the border; meanwhile, rockets continue to fall on Israeli soil.

As the American foreign policy umbrella continues to shrink and its friends find less and less shelter from this rainfall of rockets, expect Israel to look for new friends.

## RELIGION

## Criticizing Pope Deemed "Terrorism"

THE VATICAN has redefined "terrorism." The label, which typically refers to the use of violence or threats of violence in order to intimidate or coerce others, has been pinned on some anti-pope comments made by an Italian comedian, according to the Vatican's official newspaper.

In a strongly worded editorial, *L'Osservatore Romano* wrote, "It's terrorism to launch attacks on the church .... It's terrorism to stoke blind and irrational rage against someone who always speaks in the name of love, love for life and love for man" (May 2).

The supposed terrorist, Andrea Rivera, spoke out against the pope's stand on a number of issues. He told his audience, "The pope says he doesn't believe in evolution. I agree, in fact the church has never evolved." He criticized the church for refusing to give a Catholic funeral for a man who campaigned for euthanasia while giving one for Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet and Spanish dictator Francisco Franco.

Rivera made these, in *L'Osservatore Romano*'s words, "vile attacks" in front of an "excitable crowd" at a televised May Day rock concert, which is held every year in front of the Saint John in Lateran basilica.

Though seemingly a small matter, the Vatican's statement gives a glimpse at the type of thing coming for those who oppose the Roman Catholic Church in the future.



IRAN

## Top Court Acquits Killers

IN A CONTROVERSIAL MOVE, the Iranian Supreme Court overturned the convictions of six murderers on the basis that their victims were deemed to be morally corrupt. This decision was the third reversal by the Supreme Court on the men since they were sentenced to death by the lower courts.

The men, members of a government-favored volunteer militia force, have been implicated in 5 of 17 murders dating back to 2002 that began after a senior cleric ruled that “Muslims could kill a morally corrupt person if the law failed to confront that person.” The *International Herald Tribune* commented on the legality of the case: “[C]harges can be dropped if the accused can prove the killing was carried out because the victim was morally corrupt. This is true even if the killer identified the victim mistakenly as corrupt. In that case, the law requires ‘blood money’ to be paid to the family. ... This year it is \$40,000 if the victim is a Muslim man, and half that for a Muslim woman or a non-Muslim” (April 19).

Enforcement of such laws from a non-governed body has caused fear among many Iranians. What’s worse, the court itself virtually ignores these atrocities—allowing individuals to take the law into their own hands.

This ruling from the highest court in Iran reveals the mindset not only of those committing the crimes, but also of the governing powers that allow it. Consider: If this is what they do to their own people, what justice awaits their enemies?



**THE EXTREME RIGHT IS MOVING CENTER** A Muslim Brotherhood parliament member protests inside the parliament in Cairo.

KHALED DESOUKI/GETTY IMAGES

EGYPT

## Protests Reveal Radicalization

DESPITE THE EGYPTIAN government cracking down on the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood—arresting over 400 members in the past six months—the Islamist group’s support has swelled, especially among the working class.

Since the Brotherhood became the largest opposition to the government back in 2005, pro-democracy (and hence pro-Brotherhood) protests among workers throughout the nation have skyrocketed. An estimated 222 sit-in strikes, work stop-

pages, hunger strikes and demonstrations occurred last year alone. More recently, new labor action has occurred nearly every day, indicating not only a growing dissatisfaction among the working class, but also a deepening sense of personal ability to compel change. This is a potent combination, considering the rapid Islamification of Egypt that is occurring.

In the largest-ever Egyptian private-sector strike earlier this year, nearly half of the 12,000-strong workforce at an Alexandria textile company protested discrimination between managers and workers concerning the allocation of shares when the company was privatized. The action was backed by a Muslim Brotherhood member of parliament who issued several statements supporting the strike.

Whether instigating or just furthering the surge

## Weather Disasters Making History

THE WEATHER CHANNEL celebrates its 25th anniversary this year with unprecedented coverage reaching into 93 million houses around the United States. If recent months are any indication, demand for coverage could still increase.

With vicious storms flooding the northeast U.S. all the way down to Kentucky, and drought-fed fires ravaging the southeast and western states, no longer do weather channels face the challenge of making mundane weather interesting. Their challenge these days is deciding which crisis to cover.

In April, a major storm system crossed the coast of the North Atlantic, dumping 9 inches of rain on areas around New Jersey and 8 inches in New York City’s Central Park. The storm proceeded to blanket much of the eastern seaboard before it headed inland and eventually swelled the Missouri River, resulting in the breaching of many levees along its banks. National Weather

GETTY IMAGES



**ALL THE RAGE** This wildfire was among 220 plaguing Florida in May.

Service meteorologist Suzanne Fortin called it “a major flood” and said it would be in the top three most devastating ever (*Register-Guard*, May 10).

Just a couple of states further south, rain would have been a blessing.

In early May, massive fires charred

the countryside in Georgia and northern Florida, burning over 330 square miles, or 212,000 acres, closing down two major highways and necessitating evacuations. At one point, over 1,200 Florida firefighters—the equivalent of about 1½ army battalions—beat back 236 individual fires.

In the west, the weather is no better. The fire season, which normally starts around the end of June in California, began in March when a fire in Orange County scorched 2,036 acres. Then in May, the Los Angeles area endured two fires—an 800-a-

in workplace discontent, the Muslim Brotherhood, in backing the cause of the people, has transformed its image from known terrorist organization to legitimate opposition to the government. And as public support for the group grows, so too does its international recognition.

Currently, the Egyptian government is outraged after four U.S. congressmen met with a politician from the outlawed Brotherhood at the end of May. This was the second time U.S. representatives had met with the Brotherhood's Mohammed Saad el-Katatni in two months, suggesting that Washington now recognizes the growing relevance of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egyptian politics.

"The United States says that it doesn't establish relations with a banned group, whether in Egypt or outside of Egypt," said Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's spokesman Suleiman Awaad.

"The U.S. says it is meeting with the Brotherhood as parliament members, but doesn't make the same distinction and refuses to talk with Hamas, who is heading the Palestinian government and is occupying the prime minister's seat" (*Washington Post*, May 27).

Considering that Hamas's roots lie in the Brotherhood, it is no wonder Cairo is upset with the latest move by its American ally. Recognizing the Muslim Brotherhood will only increase the Islamist group's legitimacy and weaken Mubarak's hold on his country. Of course, undermining an autocracy in favor of a radical Islamist theocracy is hardly a strategy that will serve America's interests.

Watch Egypt as it continues down the path toward Islamist governance. For more information on why Egypt's future will trend toward radicalism, request a free copy of our booklet *The King of the South*.

cre blaze near Pasadena and a 4,750-acre fire on Santa Catalina Island that forced 3,300 people to evacuate.

While the first wave of fires was not of unprecedented devastation in and of itself, the early onset of the fire season sets a daunting precedent for the coming year.

With drought conditions now affecting nearly half of the U.S., the potential for fire is frightening. The more extreme the drought, the greater the likelihood of an equally extreme fire. In the case of Southern California, the past year has seen the "least amount of precipitation ever recorded" (*ibid.*, May 14). Noting the situation, one fire department captain said, "If the weather is any indication, I think it is going to be a big fire year" (*California Aggie*, May 16).

California's southeastern neighbors Arizona and New Mexico are currently experiencing the "worst drought in 500 years" (*op. cit.*, May 14). The parched countryside, if ignited, could erupt into a blaze of historic proportions.

Too often, man views his relationship with nature as a battle, doing all he can to offset its attacks with precaution and pre-

emptive strikes such as early-warning systems, more flood-protection levees and forest thinning. But such measures were never meant to be necessary. Mankind, as usual, tries to treat symptoms rather than causes.

God promises throughout the Bible that obedience to Him will result in rain in due season, when and where it is needed (Leviticus 26:4; Deuteronomy 11:14; 28:12).

Our cursed weather is the result of mankind choosing the way of self-reliance. God said, through the Prophet Amos, "I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it to not rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered" (Amos 4:7). Amos, a successful agriculturalist, knew the keys to receiving rain in due season and was blessed because of it.

We too can receive those blessings—if not nationally, then on the individual level. But at the same time, realize a time of national prosperity will soon come when even the desert will blossom as a rose (Isaiah 35:1).

Until then, you may want to get your fill of the Weather Channel, for in the future there will be no need for it. But for now, it is a sure sign of the times we live in.

## Nation of Ruin to Take Key Post

THE UNITED NATIONS is again revealing its moral bankruptcy—as well as its staunch commitment to making grotesque political statements rather than trying to actually solve problems. On May 11, Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe was crowned the new chair of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

Yes, the main UN body governing international environmental policy and sustainable economic development is now headed by a nation that—under Mugabe's singularly destructive despotism—has plummeted from prosperity into ruin in a generation.

Under UN rotational rules it was Africa's turn to choose the head of the commission—and African governments chose Zimbabwe by a 26-21 margin, with three absten-



MUGABE

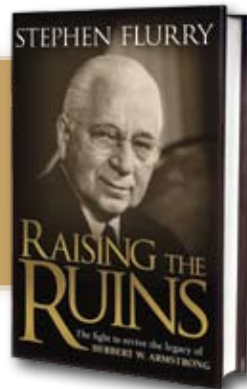
tions. The ridiculous decision demonstrated an in-your-face defiance among African nations toward Mugabe's detractors in the West.

A *Washington Times* editorial read, "Zimbabwe is a country where, two years ago, the government made refugees of approximately 1.5 million of its citizens in 'Operation Clear the Trash,' which bulldozed 'unlawful' town[s] and cities. ... This is a country whose opposition leader, Morgan Tsvangirai, is arrested repeatedly and beaten by regime forces for the 'crime' of speaking out and holding political rallies. Now, this regime's representatives are entrusted with an organization whose inspiring principles include the following: 'Human beings are at the center of concerns for sustainable development'" (May 19).

Ian Pearson, the British minister for Climate Change and the Environment, aptly said, "Zimbabwe's election will be seen as an outrage by millions of people who look to the United Nations for help to escape from poverty."

This is by no means the UN's first farcical commission appointment. In fact, it was only April 9 that the United Nations Disarmament Commission reelected, as its recording secretary, Syria—and to the senior office of vice chairman, that exemplar of disarmament, Iran.

The UN, built on a mandate of peace, is at its core manifestly corrupt and totally crippled by the evil influences of human nature. Its design as an international authority to keep peace between national governments has become a spectacular failure.



In his book *Raising the Ruins*, now available in bookstores, *Trumpet* executive editor Stephen Flurry exposes the reality of what happened to the Worldwide Church of God. Here is the tenth chapter.

S T E P H E N F L U R R Y

# The Agenda

**“One of our greatest challenges has been trying to explain these doctrinal reforms to outsiders while maintaining our credibility internally, and some groups have greatly hindered our efforts by their reporting.”**

—Joseph Tkach Jr. *Transformed by Truth*

**O**N Dec. 17, 1994, Joseph Tkach Sr. delivered a landmark sermon, bringing out into the open several far-reaching doctrinal changes that centered around a “new” (actually mainstream) understanding of the Old and New Covenants. According to his son, “[I]t once and for all convinced the skeptics within our own church that the changes were for real and that they were permanent.” Later, he wrote, “[M]any of our members didn’t believe that the changes they were seeing in the church were real. Just as evangelicals have a hard time believing that the Worldwide Church of God has moved into orthodoxy, many of our members had a hard time believing their church was moving away from its peculiar doctrinal distinctives.”

Why would *their own members* have been skeptical about the changes being “for real”? Why would they find it difficult to believe the church was moving away from its past teachings?

It’s because after making the changes, *the Tkaches* then reassured the membership that NOTHING HAD REALLY CHANGED. And when rumors would circulate that more changes were coming, the Tkaches kept saying, “We will never change that”—right up to the point of actually making the change.

The change regarding the Old and New Covenants is one such example. Throughout 1994, Tkach Sr. VEHEMENTLY DENIED rumors that the church was on the verge of doing away with its teaching on Sabbath observance, the holy days and the law.

Mr. Tkach gave a sermon in Pasadena on April 30, 1994 (a tape of which was later played in all WCG congregations), in which he denounced “rumormongers”: “They have no com-

punctions at all about exaggerating. Like I read from this list of rumors that are going around: We’re going to start keeping Christmas, and we’re changing the Passover, and we’re making changes to please the Protestants to get accreditation. . . . [W]e’re going to do away with the Sabbath, we’re going to do away with the holy days and we’re going to do away with the law.”

At the Ambassador College commencement exercises on May 20, 1994, Mr. Tkach quoted Ted Koppel, who said, “What Moses brought down from Mount Sinai were not the ten suggestions. They are commandments.” Mr. Tkach said, “Notice he used the word *are* and not *were*, because they are still in existence today, in spite of what others accuse us of saying—‘that we are doing away with the law and the commandments of God.’ Again I say, ‘garbage.’”

Later that year, on November 12, Mr. Tkach made several more strong statements in a Pasadena sermon: “Yes, we should keep the law”; “I’m not trying to minimize the importance of the law”; “I’m not trying to minimize the importance of the Sabbath.”

Three weeks later, speaking in Washington, D.C., Mr. Tkach asked, “Does this mean that we are no longer obligated to obey the law?” His answer: “God forbid!” He later said, “Christ is saying the New Testament gospel is not contrary or contradictory in any way, shape or form to the Old Testament law.”

Then, on December 17—*just two weeks later*, and after a string of denunciations against those spreading “lies” and “rumors”—Mr. Tkach *did away* with the church’s teachings on clean and unclean meats, tithing, the Sabbath, holy day observance and the law. This, according to Tkach Jr.’s book, is when skeptics in the church *finally* knew that the changes were for real.

Is it any wonder why church members might have thought such changes would never take place?



## ■ MASS EXODUS

After Mr. Tkach's "Old Covenant/New Covenant" sermon, some 20,000 people left the Worldwide Church of God. Many of them settled into the newly established United Church of God—originally headed by David Hulme. Mr. Hulme had been a headquarters insider for some time—for many years heading up the communications and public affairs department in Pasadena. In fact, during the late 1980s and early 1990s, Mr. Hulme was often the one who contacted outside organizations to inform them of the "positive" changes in the church. The church, at that time, desperately wanted to remove the "cult" label many outside groups had pinned on it. So Mr. Hulme would not have been considered an ultra-conservative by any means. Early on, he was very supportive of the church's changes—at least judging by his comments as the church's spokesman.

Yet, by 1995, *even he* concluded that the Tkaches had an agenda from the beginning. In his resignation letter to Mr. Tkach, Hulme wrote, "The fact that [Mr. Armstrong] chose you on the basis of continuity of doctrine and practice when in fact you believed very differently, in my mind casts serious doubt whether he would have appointed you if he had known your beliefs. That you differed so much from your predecessor explains why almost every doctrinal and administrative change caused me to inform you that something was very wrong. It is only in the light of your comments about Richard Plache and Al Carozzo, however, that I have put it all together. Apparently you and I were not agreed in the first place. I thought you were upholding Mr. Armstrong, but it now appears you were not. By your own admission you were simply biding your time.

"No wonder that my many protestations about radical change were never answered, and the changes proceeded as if no input had been given. And yet you continued to insist that nothing had really changed very much. Why? Prior to December 1994 did you feel it expedient to create the impression publicly that nothing had really changed in the church's view of the law? Was the time still not right?"

As we noted at the end of Chapter Six, Tkach responded by admitting there was an agenda, but that it was *Christ's* agenda. As if Jesus Christ would repeatedly try to deceive WCG members with lies and hypocrisy.

## ■ PLEASE BE HONEST

In a letter to Dennis Leap on April 20, 1990, Joseph Tkach Jr. wrote that *Mystery of the Ages* "was discontinued because we have more economical ways of providing *exactly the same message* to subscribers and members. The doctrinal message of the book *is not being changed or stopped.*"

Would Jesus Christ say the "exact same message" of the book was being disseminated four months after firing two ministers and saying the book was "riddled with error"?

Tkach Jr. wrote, "[D]on't pretend to others that you are continuing to follow Mr. Armstrong's way. Please be honest about it." How ironic that statement turned out to be. It is now clear that this accusation is precisely what *Tkachism* was doing at the time Joe Jr. wrote his letter—dishonestly giving the impression they were continuing in Mr. Armstrong's steps. Tkach Jr. wrote, "[N]one of the 'seven mysteries' explained in [*Mystery of the Ages*] has been changed or

deleted." The book was riddled with error and had too many doctrinal flaws to be reprinted or even revised, yet Tkach Jr. said that **NONE** of the seven mysteries had been changed or deleted?

Jesus Christ would not have given that false impression.

## ■ ASSIGNING SCRIPTURES TO NAMES

Seven months *before* Mr. Armstrong died, Mr. Tkach Sr. identified Mr. Armstrong as the prophesied Elijah who came in this end time to restore all things. He reconfirmed this teaching shortly *after* Mr. Armstrong died, when he listed the "18 Truths" in the church's newspaper, the *Worldwide News*.

Then, as we noted in Chapter Seven, on Feb. 9, 1988, Mr. Tkach explained the end-time Elijah prophecy much differently than anyone in the church *ever* had. He said "the church" now fulfills the role of the end-time Elijah and palmed it off on the membership as if it were something we had always known and believed.

On Jan. 3, 1989, Mr. Tkach took it a step further—saying it was "not appropriate" to assign scriptures to Mr. Armstrong as though his leadership was prophesied in the Bible. In his 1990 letter to Mr. Leap, Tkach Jr. explained what his father meant by saying it was inappropriate: "The intent was not to question whether the end-time Elijah prophecies were being fulfilled. Indeed, church literature had mentioned over a period of many years that these prophecies were being *fulfilled by the 'work.'*" Mr. Armstrong, as human leader of the church, obviously was primary in accomplishing the prophesied task. **HE DID NOT**, however, claim to be the exclusive fulfillment of the end-time Elijah office. ...

"Mr. Armstrong *illustrated* his calling and work by *comparing* it with the work of Elijah and Zerubbabel at times. Lessons can be illustrated by these comparisons. But, **SOME HAVE GONE MUCH FURTHER THAN MR. ARMSTRONG HIMSELF DID** in such labeling ....

"While we have attempted to curtail speculation about individuals fulfilling specific prophetic roles, there has been **NO FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINAL CHANGE IN THIS AREA**. It has *always been known* that both Joshua and Zerubbabel were typical primarily of Christ."

First of all, while Mr. Armstrong certainly acknowledged the indispensable role of the church in *supporting* him, he did, nevertheless, teach that his specific office and role was prophesied in Scripture, as reflected by the following passage: "Remember, God does things in dual stages. ... As John the Baptist prepared the way, in the physical wilderness of the Jordan River for the first coming of the human Jesus ... so God would use a human messenger in the spiritual wilderness of 20th-century religious confusion, to be a voice crying out the gospel of the Kingdom of God, about the spiritual Christ, coming in supreme power and glory to His spiritual temple, to actually establish that spiritual Kingdom of God. ...

"Has this happened, in your days, and has God brought you into this prophetic fulfillment as a part of it?"

"Has *anyone else* done it?"

As Mr. Armstrong explained in *Mystery of the Ages*, it works like an organized team—with the coach and the players mutually depending on one another. But there is just one leader—one apostle. And for many years, the church taught that many prophecies referred to Mr. Armstrong's office and work *directly*—and then to the church secondarily, or indi-

rectly. The Tkach administration confirmed this fact before and after Mr. Armstrong died.

Then on Feb. 9, 1988, Mr. Tkach Sr. said the “Elijah” prophecy referred to the church IN GENERAL—from the *Ephesus era in the first century until now*. He didn’t even mention Mr. Armstrong as part of the fulfillment! And then in his letter to Dennis Leap, Mr. Tkach Jr. falsely stated that the WCG had *always* taught this, saying there had been “no fundamental doctrinal change in this area.”

■ “I AM ELIJAH”

The extent of Tkachism’s deceit is plainly evident in view of the way Tkach Jr. now remembers what the church used to teach about these end-time prophecies. Now that his motive has changed from trying to sell the church members on the changes to trying to paint Mr. Armstrong with the most extreme brush strokes possible, his descriptions are TOTALLY different. In his 1997 book, Mr. Tkach Jr. says, “Herbert Armstrong used to read Malachi 4:5-6 and say that it applied to him”—not “him and the church” or “the church”—just “him.” Tkach then proceeds to quote pages 290-91 of *Mystery of the Ages*, where Mr. Armstrong refers to several end-time prophecies that he believed he fulfilled, with the support of the church.

Mr. Tkach continues, “Herbert Armstrong taught that he was the real fulfillment of this passage and that John the Baptist was merely an [sic] foreshadowing. ... After his first wife died and the idea started to play in Herbert Armstrong’s mind—as his own ego accepted the notion and certain people began to play on his ego—he began to accept that he was *personally* the Elijah” (emphasis in original). Mrs. Armstrong died in 1967! This is when these ideas supposedly started playing in his mind. How then does Mr. Tkach explain his comments from 1990—that Mr. Armstrong DID NOT “claim to be the exclusive fulfillment of the end-time Elijah office”?

Mr. Tkach told Mr. Leap in 1990 that “some have gone much further than Mr. Armstrong himself did in such labeling.” In 1997, Mr. Tkach had now swung to that very extreme. Mr. Tkach continues with this amazingly vivid recollection: “In the ’60s we would say that WCG was doing an Elijah-like work. In the ’70s we said that Herbert Armstrong himself was fulfilling the role of Elijah. ... In the last two years of his life, in several sermons, he was even more explicit when he said directly, ‘I am Elijah.’ When Ron Kelly, one of our long-time ministers, heard Mr. Armstrong say this, he confessed to me, ‘I was alarmed when I heard him say, ‘I am Elijah.’ I could handle, ‘I’m in the role of Elijah.’ But ‘I am Elijah’—what did he mean by that?”

Some five years or so after all these sermons in which Mr. Armstrong supposedly said, “I am Elijah,” Joe Jr. told Mr. Leap that Mr. Armstrong taught this: 1) these prophecies were fulfilled *by the work*; 2) he was not the exclusive fulfillment of the Elijah office; and 3) his calling could be *compared to or illustrated by* the work of Zerubbabel or Elijah. Even as late as October 1994, in another personal letter, Mr. Tkach Jr. wrote, “Mr. Armstrong taught that he was fulfilling *the role* of Elijah.”

Now, of course, Mr. Armstrong is supposed to have said, in “several sermons” no less, that “I am Elijah.” He apparently believed, in a very literal sense, that he “was *personally* the Elijah.”

In actuality, there are no sermons where Mr. Armstrong

said anything like that. What Mr. Tkach now says in his book, in an effort to make Mr. Armstrong look like a wild-eyed, cult-leading fanatic, goes much further than anything Mr. Armstrong ever believed or taught.

On the other hand, what Tkach Jr. said in 1990—all but removing Mr. Armstrong from those end-time prophecies—also misrepresents the truth of what the church once taught. What Mr. Armstrong believed is clearly explained in his co-worker letter from March 19, 1981.

The question is, why opposite explanations—*both of them false*—in 1990 and 1997? Well, in 1990, Tkach Jr. was trying to keep members from leaving the WCG. So he gave the false impression that they were only emphasizing something that *Mr. Armstrong himself taught*—which he didn’t. Since that is of little concern today and since they have aligned themselves with other evangelical groups that consider Mr. Armstrong a heretic, Tkach now makes Mr. Armstrong out to be a crackpot—one who supposedly said, “I am Elijah—*personally*.”

■ THE TRINITY DOCTRINE

On March 6, 1998, Pat Robertson interviewed Joseph Tkach Jr. and Greg Albrecht on his television program, *The 700 Club*. They talked about the WCG’s doctrinal transformation. In describing the changes that took place early on, Mr. Tkach Jr. said, “*Starting in 1989, we realized that the TRINITY WAS CORRECT* and that it’s the only logical and historically [sic] way to explain that God is one in three.”

Then, in 1990, Philip Stevens wrote an article for the *Good News* titled “Who Was Jesus’ Father?” Somehow, this statement managed to sneak by WCG editors: “The concept of a trinity is nowhere found in the Bible. ... The trinity hides from man God’s plan of salvation. The trinity doctrine maintains that the Godhead is a closed unit into which no one else can enter.”

Three months after that article appeared in the *Good News*, Michael Snyder wrote a letter to Watchman Fellowship, a cult-watching organization based in Arlington, Texas. Mr. Snyder said, “The question of God’s disclosure to humanity is still open and the church awaits further scholarly discussion in the field of dogmatics concerning this topic. The article ‘Who Was Jesus’ Father?’ from the November-December 1990 *Good News* has been declared officially null and void with respect to church doctrine.”

He later told the group, during a phone interview, “At one time the church lacked adequate scholarship and resources to fully understand how God’s disclosure to humanity had a relationship to the church activity on Earth. Now, we have reexamined it and we have come to see that it is an open question.”

Of course, these declarations were made to outside organizations that were pushing for doctrinal reform in the WCG. As far as the church membership goes, very few, if any, would have known that the *Good News* article had been declared “officially” null and void.

Around the same time, in the spring of 1991, David Hulme and Michael Snyder, his assistant, took part in discussions with the faculty at the Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. During his presentation, Mr. Hulme said he had been invited to explain the church’s position on a “number of things” and to update them on the “changes” in the WCG. He said he wanted to take them through “some of the more important changes that have occurred in the last four to five years.” When he got to the subject of the trinity, Mr. Hulme said, “Even though

the Worldwide Church of God considers *some* positions on the trinity to be heretical (for example, all forms of Arianism), it sees the Eastern, Western, Protestant, and Modernist views of the nature of God as genuine attempts to reach a deeper understanding of God's nature."

As you might imagine, with these types of comments being made to those *outside* the church, all sorts of "rumors" and "gossip" began swirling on the *inside*. *Was the WCG about to accept the trinity?* some wondered. Fortunately for members, Mr. Tkach Sr. stepped forward to set the record straight. Toward the end of the summer of 1991, he wrote an article in the church's newspaper titled "How Do You React to Change?" The article reflected much of the WCG's latest discussions with *Truths That Transform*, Watchman Fellowship and the Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Mr. Tkach clued the membership in on the church's new position on man's destiny to NOT become God. "No human being can be equal with God," Mr. Tkach explained. "Our inheritance is to be children of God, definitely the supreme pinnacle and crowning glory of God's creation, *but not literally to be God himself.*" Later, he explained, "We are, and will be, members of the Family of God. But even when we are changed, we will still be distinct from the eternal, uncreated, without beginning, supreme and sovereign God."

Just so the reader knows, Mr. Armstrong never taught that man was destined to be on God's level, insofar as rank, position or experience. He taught that we would be on God's level in the same way a newborn son is on the same level as his human father—all members of *one family*. But Mr. Tkach said it was now inappropriate to use the father-son analogy to define our relationship with God.

In drawing these distinctions between man and God, the stage was now set for closing off the Godhead to three beings in one.

At the end of his article, Mr. Tkach said, "We DO NOT BELIEVE the doctrine of the trinity." Never mind that in a personal letter to Watchman Fellowship, Michael Snyder declared a *Good News* article "null and void" because of its comments in opposition to the trinity doctrine. Nor that, according to Snyder, the subject of "God's disclosure" was now an "open question" in the church. Neither did Mr. Tkach mention that the church now taught the "full divinity of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit—the biblical foundation for all trinitarian discussions"—as Dr. Stavrinides had explained to the ministry months earlier. Nor did he draw attention to the fact that David Hulme had been involved in several discussions with trinitarians at the Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

When you say, "We do not believe the doctrine of the trinity" without qualification, doesn't that imply that the church rejects all forms and practices of the trinity? As far as unsuspecting members were concerned, putting Tkach's "We do not believe the doctrine of the trinity" statement together with the November-December 1990 *Good News* article (declared "null and void" privately, but not in a church publication), the church was teaching the very same thing it had *always* taught

about the nature of God.

One former WCG member wrote Mr. Tkach Jr. about what he perceived to be two different messages coming from the church—one to outside organizations in the evangelical world and a different one to its own members internally. Tkach Jr. had this response: "Mr. Snyder is the spokesman for the Worldwide Church of God in relation to queries asked from sources outside the church. As such, he cannot answer questions directed at him by such sources with 'in-house' terms, language, and phraseology. Dr. Ruth Tucker is a professor of the Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Mr. Snyder had to address her questions in terms she would understand so that she could comprehend his answers.

"Furthermore, it is an unfortunate fact that in the past some in the church chose to *phrase our beliefs* in ways that were not entirely correct. For example, the church has never believed in the concept of the trinity *as embraced by many other churches*. Quite frankly, those other churches cannot themselves agree on the exact nature of God. However, in our attempts to disprove their theories, we used some faulty reasoning of our own.

This did not mean that we were wrong in rejecting the trinity doctrine, it merely meant that some of the proofs we tried to use to support our beliefs were invalid."

Classic Tkachism: *While we have made some changes, there is no real change.* WCG members heard these excuses for ALMOST 10 YEARS! *We are not changing core doctrines—only rephrasing our beliefs to be more accurate technically. The reason it sounds like major changes are being made when you hear interviews with outside organizations is only because of phraseology, not because there is any real change. We must use different terms with outside observers or else they wouldn't understand.*

Eventually, of course, the church's official statements to its membership gradually caught up with what they had been telling outsiders all along. Five months after he unequivocally said that the WCG did not believe in the trinity, Mr. Tkach wrote, "The newly printed *Statement of Beliefs* of the Worldwide Church of God will be mailed to you soon. ... Let me make a few comments about one portion of the *Statement*. In the statement about God, you will notice that the final sentence reads: 'The church affirms the oneness of God and the full divinity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.' Someone may ask, 'Does this mean we now accept the doctrine of the trinity?' No, it does not. The doctrine of the trinity in the Western Church attests the union of three Persons in one Godhead, so that the three are one God as to substance, but three Persons as to individualities. We do not accept that teaching; we believe that the word Person is inaccurate when referring to the Holy Spirit."

In other words, *we have accepted the trinity, but don't misinterpret that to mean that we have accepted the trinity.*

In its August 1992 booklet *God Is ...*, the church stated, "God is one being, one entity"—"the Holy Spirit is also God"—and "the Bible does reveal three entities within the

See **AGENDA** page 29 ▶

**Mr. Armstrong left an incredibly thorough written account of what he believed and taught. But that has not stopped Joe Jr. from dramatically altering his explanation of those teachings.**

From the  
News Bureau

**RON FRASER**



# Twilight for Britannia

**T**HE YEAR 2005 MARKED THE 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar, which cemented Britain's rule over the waves for the following 150 years. It was an occasion for celebration in Britain.

This year, the Royal Navy that Admiral Nelson commanded in that decisive battle against the combined naval forces of the French and Spanish celebrates its 400th anniversary. The occasion just happens to coincide with the 300th anniversary of the Act of Union, which brought into being the United Kingdom of England, Scotland and Wales upon which was built the great British Empire.

Anniversaries give time for reflection on the past, and on the key institutions that guarantee our memorialization of crucial events in the history of both nations and empires.

## The Crown

Queen Elizabeth II is the living testimony of the singular institution that bound together the greatest empire in the history of the world, the grand British Empire. That institution is the royal throne of England, possessing a heritage that traces back to the time of good King David, king of ancient Israel.

Three female monarchs have dominated the development of the British nation through its rise to empire to its fall to second-rate-power status.

It was during the mid-16th- to early-17th-century reign of courageous Queen Elizabeth I that the term "British Empire" first became fashionable. One of her close advisers, Welshman John Dee, introduced the term in the context of the prospects for expansion of British international trade. Britain had already established overseas trading interests within the Caribbean and Western Canada during the 16th century. Under the rule of Elizabeth I, Sir Francis Drake led the battle that ended with the destruction of the Spanish Armada, freeing up the high seas from Spanish domination. Elizabeth then funded Drake's great voyages that led to the colonization of

the New World.

Victoria I became queen and empress over the vast possessions obtained by Britain during the two centuries previous to her reign. These possessions were consolidated by a combination of intercontinental British trade, the securing

**In a year of highly significant anniversaries, it seems that Britons are studiously intent on forgetting their glorious past.**

of Britain's overseas trading posts by the British Navy, the garrisoning of British troops to ensure order within the growing trading empire, and the institution of the rule of law and effective civil administration within the colonies.

After World War I, Britain reached the greatest extent of its imperial possessions. The collapse of the Ottoman Empire led to Britain acquiring Palestine and Iraq in 1918. The Treaty of Versailles handed Britain most of Germany's African colonies in 1919. Thus, immediately following the Great War, Britain ruled the greatest extent of territory of any empire in history.

In the 15 years that followed, daily events on every continent were dominated by the British Commonwealth and Empire.

## Growing Up in the Empire

During the Australian Constitutional Convention in February 1998, Attorney General Daryl Williams QC, reminiscing over those initial post-war years, declared, "I grew up happily reading the *British Empire Youth Annual*."

So did I, and so did a good portion of pre-baby boomer generation youth in the British Commonwealth and Empire during the decade following world war.

We were generally a fairly comfortable generation of youth, secure (and taught to be so) in the knowledge that we were part of one of the most blessed nations on Earth, enjoying freedoms amid a peace bought, at heroic cost, by the success of the Allies of the free English-speaking world in their con-

quest of aggressive tyranny in two great world wars.

The youth of the empire had no embarrassment at all about their British heritage in my day. In fact, we were schooled to honor and respect it. It was a natural thing for us to be comfortable

with God, king, empire, and the Ten Commandments, which most of the majority non-Catholic

population of my generation learned by rote in our sub-teen years.

In those days, we took great pride in flying the flags of both nation and empire.

As we crossed the threshold from the years of recovery from war in the 1940s into the 1950s, it seemed the sun shone every day in the great British dominion of Australia. Then on Feb. 6, 1952, it appeared that, suddenly, the whole world stood still. The king had died in his sleep. A young woman in her mid-20s, in the early years of motherhood, was thrust into the world spotlight.

The eldest daughter of King George VI, Elizabeth, ascended the ancient throne of England on June 2, 1953, to be crowned queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and of all other realms and territories of the British Commonwealth and Empire.

All over the British Commonwealth and Empire on that memorable day, guns boomed in royal salute, church bells rang and sirens tooted as the young queen took the royal oath and was anointed to shouts of "God save the queen"—a declaration that, for the subjects of the ancient British race, dated back well over 3,000 years (1 Samuel 10:24).

I still remember watching the two Vampire jets screaming in overhead to land at nearby Kingsford Smith airport in Sydney, bearing the precious film of the coronation of Elizabeth II. That film would traverse the world to be shown in cinemas in every city and major town across the empire.

A year later, on a bright summer

morning in 1954, we rose early, trekked into Sydney and assembled along Hyde Park wall to view our monarch during her first visit to Australia. Happily we waved our Union Jacks and the seven-starred flag of Australia at the beaming young queen. We all enjoyed our Camelot for a day.

The BBC commentary on the tremendous welcome the queen received following her return from that highly successful yet very arduous trip to her vast possessions in 1954 bears reading, if only to compare the mood in the nation at the time to that of today.

Under the headline “1954: Queen Returns After Lengthy Voyage,” BBC News reported: “The royal family has returned safely from their six-month tour of the Commonwealth to a rapturous welcome in London. Thousands flocked to the banks of the River Thames to see the Royal Yacht Britannia bringing the queen home. Ships’ sirens and factory hooters welcomed the queen, the duke of Edinburgh and their two children, Prince Charles and Princess Anne ...

“A huge red-and-white banner was hung from Tower Bridge bearing the words, ‘Welcome Home’ .... The banks of the Thames at Westminster were again packed with a cheering, whistling crowd as the royal family at last disembarked onto dry land ...

“The royal family continued to Buckingham Palace in three carriages, through streets lined with cheering, flag-waving people, some of whom had waited all night to see the queen and her family pass by.

“Even when the queen arrived at Buckingham Palace, no sooner had the door closed behind her than the cry began to go up: ‘We want the queen!’ Within 10 minutes, the queen and the duke of Edinburgh, with their two children, appeared on the balcony to roars of approval from the crowd.

“It was the first of four appearances, the last at nearly 2300 BST (2200 GMT). Even then, the crowd was persuaded to leave only when the lamps floodlighting the palace were switched off” (May 15, 1954).

### Changing Fortunes—Changing Mood

Back then, this smiling queen, engulfed by a wave of natural affection from her subjects, with her first two children enjoying the wonder of the cheering crowds, could hardly have foreseen on

of her daughter-in-law Princess Diana had compounded the tragedies suffered during the latter years of her reign.

Yet, with an empire of such rich and illustrious vintage as Britain has possessed, there are bound to arise some highly significant anniversaries, some great occasions on which to celebrate past glories upon which present blessings are built.

### Who Is Celebrating?

It may surprise many that 2007 is the year that Britons have the unsurpassable opportunity to celebrate 300 years as a United Kingdom, and 400 years of the naval power that once secured for them every major sea gate on the globe.

Who, after all, is really celebrating?

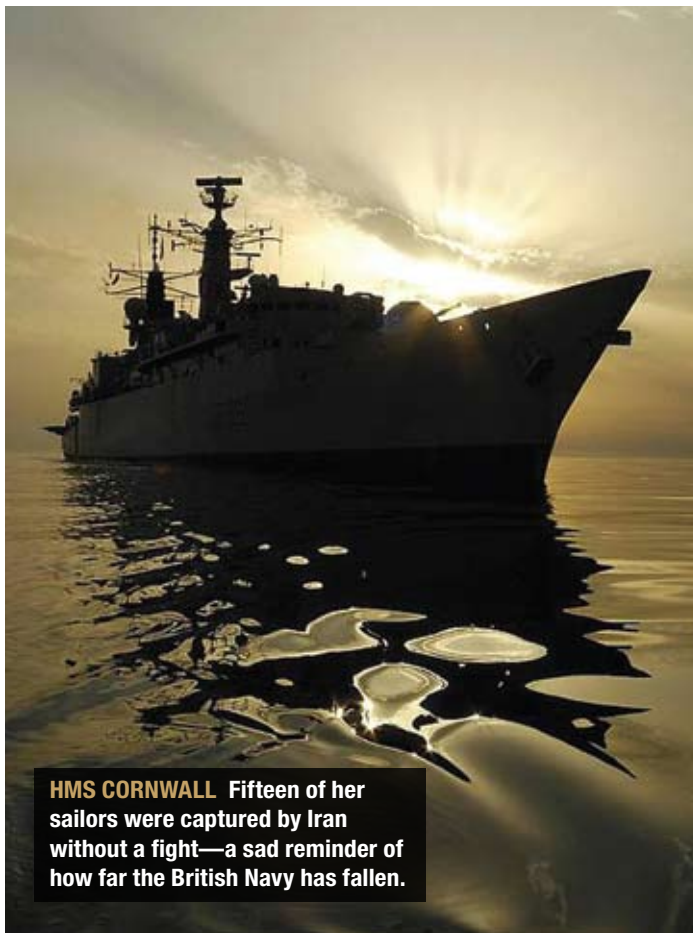
Since most post-1960s-generation Britons have been taught to be ashamed of their colonial past by the tormented revisionist historians, small wonder that these great historic events are the subject of little emphasis by both government and public at large.

Which other nation can boast of possession of the oldest continuously inhabited castle in the world? Which nation crowns

its monarch seated over an ancient rock that dates back to the time of the anointing of the patriarchs of a 3,000-year royal lineage? Which nation has remained united as a kingdom continuously for three centuries? Which nation on Earth can boast of a naval heritage lasting four centuries?

Britain has been the sole possessor of all these unique blessings. Yet in the very year of the 300th anniversary of its Kingdom, and the 400th anniversary of the navy that has provided its security from foreign incursion, the average Brit seems to stifle a yawn at the prospect of finding the energy and the motivation to respond at anywhere near even the beginnings of the level of emotion that outpoured just a little over a half century ago during the early years of Elizabeth II’s reign.

Of course, it may well be that the British simply are too embarrassed at



**HMS CORNWALL** Fifteen of her sailors were captured by Iran without a fight—a sad reminder of how far the British Navy has fallen.

the 40th anniversary of her reign declaring 1992 her *annus horribilis*.

Resident in Britain at the time, I watched images of that small, sad and seemingly lonely figure walking among the debris of St George’s Chapel at Windsor Castle following the great fire that erupted there on the 45th wedding anniversary of Queen Elizabeth and the duke of Edinburgh, Nov. 20, 1992. A little over a month later, reflecting on the failure of the marriages of her daughter Ann, and second son, Andrew, publicly announced that year, and the castle fire on her wedding anniversary, Elizabeth declared, during her annually televised Christmas speech to the Commonwealth of Nations, that of all her years, this had been her most horrible.

By the time she had reached the golden jubilee of the 50th anniversary of her reign 10 years later, another failed marriage and the tragic death

the prospect of raising any positive hoopla over a 300-year-old United Kingdom that in the very year of its tri-centennium posts headlines about the prospect of Scotland seceding from its ancient and most profitable union with England. It may be that some still hear the echo of Margaret Thatcher's words, "Never negotiate with a terrorist" ringing in their ears as the leader of the Protestant Unionists, Ian Paisly, capitulates to sit down and form a government in Northern Ireland in coalition with the political wing of the IRA terrorists, Sinn Fein.

Perhaps even more embarrassing are the announcements that have come during the fourth centennial of the British Royal Navy: that it has sunk to a size less than the navy of France for the first time since it licked Napoleon's navy under the heroic Horatio Nelson at Trafalgar—that it no longer has the capacity to sustain overseas missions under a liberal socialist government that has overseen its reduction to a force not much larger than a typical coast guard.

Yes, on second thoughts, perhaps one can understand the lack of overt patriotic outburst on these multi-centennial anniversaries of British unity and greatness, given the combination of the effects that the fifth column has had on this once-great Britain in recent decades.

### **The Sun Is Almost Set**

The days when the sun never set on the British Empire have long gone. The sun is now almost set on Britain's glorious past. Imperial decline commenced with the yielding up of the jewel in Britain's crown, the colony of India, to independent rule in 1947. As Britain reached beyond the midpoint of the 20th century, its famed industry and local government structure became fractured by a rampant communistic labor movement, its church entered rapid moral decline, its governments became politically exhausted, and in the wake of all its post-war woes, it rapidly gave away most of its vast colonial possessions.

In the 1960s, Britain's moral, industrial and political decline accelerated markedly. "England Swings," shouted the headlines as four mop-haired Liverpoolians commenced turning the nation's youth off demonstrating any attachment to their old imperial heri-

tage and tuned them in to the mantras of banal rock music, Eastern religion and mind-bending drug binges. There followed the impact of the woolly-headed revisionist historians as university campuses were taken over by liberal socialists. By the mid-1970s, the treasonous politicians of both left

## **What ought to be a year of great celebration for all British people has instead become a reflection on Britain's shame.**

and right dragged Britain into a union with Europe that destroyed its agrarian economy and has helped desolate its industrial base.

Then came the politically correct police largely wrecking the basic common sense of ancient British Common Law. This was quickly followed by the humbling capitulation of government, church and academia to the rank paganism, foreign religion and culture of peoples who, once decrying their being ruled by the British during the times of empire, now rushed to Mother England's doorstep to demand residence within her shores.

The combined effects of these phenomena have had a powerful negative impact on the British psyche.

But perhaps the most soul-destroying image of all appeared on television screens worldwide earlier in this year of celebration of national unity and naval power. The image of 15 British marines capitulating to their Iranian enemy, uttering treasonous lies about their mission, then hugging their captors, having begged and obtained their shameful release to return home only to start flogging off their stories to the highest bidder.

That both government and military would justify such wretched behavior from representatives of the queen's forces is unprecedented in the long history of the peoples that Winston Churchill was once proud to declare were "a nation and the race dwelling all around the globe that had the lion's heart."

The lion's heart has simply failed.

British leaders of the ilk of Winston Churchill—who declared, when the British were truly lion-hearted, that he had the privilege "to be called upon to give the [lion's] roar"—have

long passed from the scene.

The sun is rapidly setting amid the twilight years of Britain's now well-faded glory. The signs are there for all to see. Glory is turned into shame. The British monarchy, at its government's behest, now disposes its honors on court jesters and perverts, when once it knighted men of true honor, demonstrable bravery, and intellectual integrity.

It's a sad day for Britain when it demonstrates shame for its past glories, and defers, within its own gates, to the perverse practices of interlopers to whom it was once given responsibility to civilize within *their* own gates!

Yet this is all so prophetic!

For as the prophet declared long before God bestowed unmatched blessings on the British peoples, "The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low. He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail" (Deuteronomy 28:43-44).

What ought to be a year of great celebration for all British people has instead become a reflection on Britain's shame.

A sad day indeed—yet read on! For this shame will yet be turned into a glory far beyond anything experienced by the British peoples at the very height of empire!

The prophecies of your Bible speak of the *future* that follows the twilight of the British peoples, a future of great and unmatched *revival!*

Believe it or not, the British peoples are, yet once again, to become great colonizers.

But this time, they will do it right—and be *truly* thankful to their God for the opportunity, as they willingly subscribe to *His* government! This time, the nations will praise their benefactors and willingly *yield* to their rule!

Sound fantastic? It surely is! But it is as sure as tomorrow's rising sun, which is guaranteed by the great and Almighty God who created it!

Whether or not you are of British stock, you need the *hope* that is embedded in *that* future prophesied in your Bible. Write for your copy, gratis, of our book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, and lay a firm grasp on that hope now! ■

one Godhead.” When referring to the booklet in the *Worldwide News*, Mr. Tkach wrote, “The doctrine of the trinity did not originate in paganism, as we have traditionally thought.” But did all these statements mean the church had now accepted the trinity? *Of course not*, they continued to tell the membership.

The following year, in August 1993, Mr. Tkach wrote, “Simply put, the Bible proclaims plainly and clearly that there is one and only one God. ... When the Bible says that God is one, the word *one* does not refer to a ‘God Family,’ but to one God.” A little further in the article, Mr. Tkach wrote, “The Bible teaching is that there is one God who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.”

And yet, two weeks after that was written, Mr. Tkach reassured members, “In our practice and experience *nothing* changes. ... What we didn’t previously understand was how to put our belief down on paper in such a way it didn’t lead to biblical and theological problems.” Even as late as 1993, they were saying, “nothing changes.” *They were only trying to get it completely accurate on paper.*

Were it not for Tkach Jr.’s interview with Pat Robertson years later—where he admitted they realized the trinity was correct in 1989—it might STILL be safe to assume (within the church, of course) that the Worldwide Church of God IN NO WAY teaches the doctrine of the trinity.

### ■ THEIR GREATEST CHALLENGE

By now you can see how convoluted and contradictory Tkach Jr.’s positions are. How could the explanation of Mr. Armstrong’s teachings change so dramatically between 1992 and 1997 *when Mr. Armstrong died in 1986*? Mr. Armstrong left an incredibly thorough written account of what he believed and taught. But that has not stopped Joe Jr. from dramatically altering his explanation of those teachings—all depending on the *time period* and the *audience* he was addressing.

Notice what Mr. Tkach Jr. says in his book about the difficulty they ran into when trying to explain the many changes: “Some cult watchers, ministries, churches, and pastors can be more of a hindrance when it comes to helping individuals or aberrant groups break away from their cultic theology and practice. One of our greatest challenges

has been trying to explain these doctrinal reforms to outsiders *while maintaining our credibility internally, and some groups have greatly hindered our efforts by their reporting.*”

The reason he blames outside groups for hindering their efforts to make doctrinal changes within the church is that they reported what was actually happening! This became problematic for Tkachism because they were telling these outside groups about all the changes—even telling them that more were coming—while at the SAME TIME *telling their own members that nothing was changing! They are the ones who hurt their own credibility—by lying.*

In his book, Tkach Jr. explains how their church leaders, in the early 1990s, kept contacting evangelical groups in order to keep them apprised of the changes in the WCG: “As one thing led to another, we finally said, ‘You know, Hank Hanegraaff is a person we should talk to. We think he’d listen.’” Greg Albrecht wrote a letter to Hanegraaff on Jan. 5, 1994, and included with it an updated edition of the church’s *Statement of Beliefs*. He concluded his letter by requesting to meet with Mr. Hanegraaff. As Tkach Jr. wrote in his book, “A few days later Hank’s office called Greg to set up a meeting. From the first time we met, Hank recognized the enormity of our task [of changing the many fundamental teachings of the church] and understood that we were facing some tremendous battles. After thoroughly quizzing us about our faith and expressing satisfaction with our answers, he invited us to be guests on his radio program. *Our fellowship was not ready for that at the time.*”<sup>w</sup>

Can you believe that? Joseph Tkach Jr., Greg Albrecht and Michael Fezell had no qualms about pouring their hearts out to Hank Hanegraaff, as long as it was in private. But they weren’t about to go on the radio with their “we’ve joined mainstream Christianity” heart-to-heart. And why? Because *the membership wasn’t yet ready*. The members, remember, were skeptical—they didn’t even think the changes were for real! They heard Tkach Sr., all throughout 1994, deny that the church was about to do away with the law.

Then, on December 17, the membership finally heard the same news Tkach’s fellows told Hank Hanegraaff a year earlier—that the WCG had now joined mainstream Christianity. ■

I wrote about this in the June 2004 *Trumpet*: “[W]here is most of the media focusing? It would seem that they are focusing on finding stockpiles of WMD *only* in Iraq. ... That is a dangerously shallow view. And surely many in the media know this.

“Are some in the media withholding this Jordanian story so that their political candidate can win the U.S. election? Are they sacrificing the country’s welfare on the altar of politics? ...

“WHAT IF THE TERRORISTS HAD BEEN CAUGHT IN NEW YORK CITY OR WASHINGTON OR LOS ANGELES WITH 20 TONS OF CHEMICALS? Those 20 tons of chemicals could go a long way toward wrecking the economies of America, Britain or Israel if they were used against our nations. This is a story that goes far beyond politics or even one or two nations. IT’S A WORLD CRISIS of the greatest magnitude!

“The media has been screaming about no WMD ever since Saddam Hussein was toppled. Now we find 20 tons and they go *shamefully, shamefully* quiet! How can we even describe such a disgusting failure to seek the truth (which is supposedly why they exist)? Has most of the media totally lost sight of the bigger issues—the life-and-death issues of nations?”

Three years later, the same questions need to be asked!

In general, the media have not wanted to know Gaubatz’s story. His claims have mostly gone unreported. Last year, the *New York Times* wrote him off as a WMD fanatic.

As the *Spectator* commented, “Of course, we don’t know whether any of this is true. But given Dave Gaubatz’s testimony, shouldn’t someone be trying to find out? Or will we still be intoning ‘there were no WMDs in Iraq’ when the Islamic bomb goes off?”

For the White House, admitting there could be WMD in the hands of Syria or Iran would mean having to take action to prevent them from being used. Perhaps going along with the party line that there were no WMD in the first place is an easier alternative than the embarrassment of admitting that those WMD could now be in the hands of an enemy more unpredictable and dangerous than Saddam Hussein—IRAN.

The United States has demonstrated over and over that it lacks the will to deal with the fountainhead of terrorism. ■

# Russia: Triggering Europe to Unite

**Moscow's growing power and influence alarms Europe. How will the Continent respond?**

BY BRAD MACDONALD

**J**UST 15 YEARS AGO, RUSSIA WAS a sick bear hibernating in a dark cave. Today, the nation is emerging fitter and stronger, and is once again boldly prowling the prairie of global politics. Since the election of President Vladimir Putin in 2000, Moscow has increasingly grown more powerful and belligerent. Many nations and leaders are becoming concerned—and none more so than those in Europe.

After the last Russian parliamentary elections at the end of 2003, think tank Stratfor discussed Europe's cause for nervousness: "[T]he OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] is getting *nervous*—not so much because of Putin's election practices as the magnitude of his victory and the way he likely will put that victory to use. Putin is, first and last, a Russian nationalist, utterly pragmatic (or ruthless) in the tools he will use to strengthen the Russian state. He has greater power now than anyone in Russia since the collapse of communism. He can reshape the regime. Consequently, the OSCE and Europe are *nervous* about where Putin is taking Russia. They have every reason to be: Putin is slowly and systematically changing Russia's direction. When Russia changes di-

rection, the rest of Europe should indeed be *nervous*" (Dec. 9, 2003; emphasis mine throughout).

Since that article was written, Putin has yanked Russia from traveling its obscure gravel path and placed the nation on the center lane of the bustling highway of geopolitics. In just a few years, Putin has secured absolute governmental control over Russia's key industries, including oil, gas and the press; opposed Western interests at nearly every turn; strengthened relations with the East; patronized into submission former Soviet states; and, through all this, not only anchored Moscow at the center of global energy politics, but also placed himself and his country at the vanguard of the growing army of nations and groups that despise the West.

There's an important element to this story, however, that many are missing today. The more bellicose and dangerous Russia grows, the more we must watch Europe. Europe's reaction to Russian ambition is more important than the growing power of Russia itself.

And be assured: Europe *is* responding.

## Rising Tensions

Tension between Europe and Russia has been mounting in recent months over multiple issues. The issue sparking the most common contention is Europe's support of U.S. plans to construct an elaborate missile defense system in Eastern Europe.

In May, as discussions about establishing the state-of-the-art

defense system in Poland and the Czech Republic intensified, Russia pointedly voiced its opposition to the plans. During a visit with Portugal's prime minister on May 29, President Putin rebuked America and Europe, saying the missile shield would "turn Europe into a tinderbox" and "create new unnecessary risks for the entire system of international and European relations."

The same day, in what was clearly a timed response, Russian scientists successfully tested missiles that, according to one official, could overcome any defense system. Russia's new missiles represent a significant upgrade of the nation's aging Soviet-era systems, and include a new intercontinental ballistic missile that, in the test, successfully nailed its target 3,400 miles away.

Less than a week later, President Putin ramped up his warning to America and Europe in an interview published in Italy's *Corriere della Sera*. "If the American nuclear potential grows in European territory, *we have to give ourselves new targets in Europe*," he threatened. Be assured that Russia's aiming its weapons at European cities is certain to bring immediate reaction from Europe's leaders.

Fissures within Russian-European relations have appeared at other times in recent months also. One incident involved a row over a Soviet-era statue in the nation of Estonia. On April 27, Estonian leaders relocated a statue known as the "Bronze Soldier" from the center of the capital city of Tallinn to a remote military cemetery. Within days, President Putin attacked Estonians for "desecrat[ing] memorials to war heroes" and caused all Russian road and rail

traffic to Estonia to be blocked.

In addition, strong evidence points to Russian in-



**NOT EYE TO EYE**  
Russian President Vladimir Putin and German Chancellor Angela Merkel



volvement behind a massive massive and organized Internet attack against Estonia. For three weeks, the nation's computer systems were under constant assault. In what some called the first state-to-state cyber attack in history, Estonia had to shut down its government and much of its commerce for a period

Indignant at Putin's interference in European affairs, Europe, specifically *Germany*, marched to Estonia's defense. Speaking before the European Parliament in Brussels on May 9, Germany's European minister, Günter Gloser, warned Russia that its attack on Estonia was "an attack on the sovereignty of an EU member state" and pledged Berlin's "full support" for Tallinn. The whole episode revealed how quickly the friction between Russia and Europe can escalate.

In his May 9 speech at the European Parliament, Gloser additionally rebuked Russia for holding fast to its 2005 ban on importing meat from Poland, demanding Moscow give a date for when the boycott would end.

Russia is also proving a pain in the side of Europe in the Balkan province of Kosovo. Speaking from Azerbaijan on May 21, Russia's foreign minister, Sergey Lavrov, made clear how firmly opposed his nation is to a Western-backed plan to support Kosovo's independence from Serbia under international supervision.

As minor as any of these specific incidents may seem, each was an outburst resulting from the mounting tension between Russia and the entire continent of Europe. In administering a verbal lashing to the Estonians, for example, President Putin must have known the European Union would consider it an assault on its other 26 members also, including such heavyweights as France and Germany. That is certainly how Germany took it, accusing Putin of attacking the sovereignty of an EU member and pledge its "full support" for little Estonia.

These skirmishes must be considered against the backdrop of already heated EU-Russian relations. The issue of energy supplies remains extremely contentious between Russia and Europe. During the past two winters, Russia displayed its dominance over European energy supplies by momentarily halting the flow of natural gas and oil into different parts of Europe. Europe's leaders fear few things more than an audacious Kremlin squeezing the Continent's energy flow; thus, securing energy independence from Russia has now become one

of their most urgent goals—a venture that is also being opposed by Russia.

### "Badly Wrong"

Fed up with Moscow's belligerent and patently anti-Western gestures, many of Europe's leaders allowed their frustration to surface at an EU-Russian summit just outside the Russian city of Samara in May. Their disgruntlement, vividly captured in European newspapers, illustrates the debilitating state of EU-Russian relations.

Prior to the meeting, the *European Voice* warned that EU-Russian relations had reached the brink of a deep-freeze, stating that EU and Russian diplomats themselves "have acknowledged that there is little chance of beginning talks on boosting political and economic ties at the summit ..." (May 16).

The *International Herald Tribune* explained how the latest tensions (with Estonia, Poland and Kosovo) come amid "increasing alarm in Europe that Moscow is using its vast energy resources for political ends, flouting human rights and stamping out democracy ahead of parliamentary elections in December and a presidential vote next March" (May 14). Relations between Europe and Russia are so bad that Peter Mandelson, the EU's trade commissioner, "warned recently that the level of misunderstanding between the two was the *worst since the end of the Cold War and was in danger of going 'badly wrong'*" (ibid.).

The *Moscow Times*, in an article aptly titled "Europe Scolds a Bristling Putin," reported on the fruitlessness of the one-day conference in Samara. "No major deals were reached," the article stated. "While the two sides spoke of a willingness to cooperate, *they disagreed over almost everything ...*" (May 21).

During the long and acrimonious post-summit press conference, Putin became visibly annoyed and combative as he faced questions from German Chancellor Angela Merkel. Even European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso emerged from the summit swinging, warning Putin that "the EU is based on principles of solidarity" and that the Russian president's attack on Poland was an attack on the entire European Union.

The tone of the summit was unmistakably cold. Europe's leaders are fed up with Russia's bold antics and are showing themselves willing to confront Putin and his comrades.

Of all of Europe's leaders, the *Times* of London identified Germany's Merkel

as one of Russia's toughest critics. According to the *Times*, prior to the Samara summit Merkel took her hardest line yet in a dinner with Putin, warning him that "Russia could not pick on individual European states and expect a business-as-usual approach from the European Union" (May 18).

The quiet but distinct message emanating from Germany is clear: Russian arrogance and boldness will no longer be met with mere diplomacy.

### Uniting Against a Threat

Russia's newfound global power and influence is triggering European leaders to demand a strong leader capable of striking back. Few things unite a nation or group of nations more than a *mutual external threat*. Logic informs us that Russia's spiral toward dictatorship will trigger a fear among Europeans that will accelerate the unification of the Continent.

Bible prophecy reveals that this is precisely what we can expect to occur. Russia will be a catalyst for the formation and empowerment of a united European power!

In the coming months, relations between Russia and Europe may seem to smooth over. But don't be fooled: Russia is Europe's greatest, most time-tested enemy—and a German-led Europe is Russia's most persistent threat. Historians know that Russian-European relations are an enigma. Stalin and Hitler were smiling and shaking hands in 1939; by 1941 their soldiers were killing each other. Pleasant relations and peace agreements between Russia and Europe mean nothing. In fact, the friendlier they seem to grow, the likelier that war is imminent. Witness the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of the 1930s.

Behind the facade of cooperation, this historical reality will remain: The more geopolitical power and influence Russia gains, the more Europe's leaders and citizens alike will feel the need to unify to counter the threat mounting to their east. More specifically, Russian ambition will help Europeans realize the desperate need for a strong, robust leader to lead them against such external forces posed to their east by a leader like Vladimir Putin.

Thanks to its position at the heart of energy politics, as well as the support it receives from nations embracing it as a counterweight to Western dominance, Russia is destined to grow in power in the coming months and years. As this trend unfolds, *watch the reaction from Europe*. ■

## EDUCATION

## Schools Flunk Dropout Test

THE EDUCATION system in Britain is failing. Student dropout rates are at dangerous levels—to the point of threatening “social cohesion,” warns a leading education official.



ISTOCKPHOTO/ALON HADAD

Those with little education—like the increasing number of dropouts—are finding it tough to make it in the changing British economy. Jobs for unskilled workers are drying up, while advances in technology are not only reducing the number of available jobs, but also changing those remaining jobs to require more advanced training.

Consequently, there may well be a “huge shrinkage of this employment market,” warned the leader of the biggest head teacher’s union in Britain, Mick Brookes. “When this happens,” he said, “we will not simply have an army of the unemployed, we will have an army of the unemployable—a huge threat to social cohesion” (*Daily Mail*, May 7).

Brookes, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, called for radical changes to primary education. “We cannot allow a whole army of the nation’s youth to leave school with nothing to show for those 11 years except disaffections and resentment,” he said. “These young people, who have been denied the taste of success in their school careers, vote with their feet at the earliest opportunity.”

The London School of Economics labels the 1 million unemployed, non-student young people in Britain a “lost generation” that is proportionally twice the size of those in Germany and France.

“These are the lost children. If you compare the number who were at school three years ago and the number who are 16 now, you see them dropping off the rolls fairly dramatically,” says Chris Skidmore, a political officer of the Bow Group and co-author of the Wasted Education study (*Daily Telegraph*, May 10).

If student dropout rates continue unabated, the consequences for British society could be huge. Economically, this “lost generation” of the unemployable is already costing taxpayers billions each year in crime and social welfare program payments.

## FAMILY

## Moms Deserve Six-Digit Salary



INDEX OPEN

THE OLD ADAGE “A woman’s work is never done” isn’t quite true. Everything after her approximately 92-hour work week is free

time, according to a Salary.com survey.

Surveying over 40,000 moms who kept track of their hours, Salary.com estimated

## MEDIA

## Heroism “Too Positive” for BBC



GETTY IMAGES

**VALOR** Private Beharry was awarded the Victoria Cross.

BRITISH PVT. JOHNSON Beharry, 27, has a story so inspiring that the BBC commissioned a 90-minute documentary to tell it. It is so inspiring, in fact, that the BBC then decided, in the middle of the project, to kill it.

Beharry served with the Princess of Wales’s Royal Regiment in the Iraqi town of al-Amarah. In May 2004, he drove a Warrior-tracked armored vehicle into heavy enemy fire and rescued an ambushed foot patrol in Iraq. As Private Beharry rescued the soldiers, multiple rocket-propelled grenades damaged his 30-ton Warrior, knocking out his radio communications. He

drove through the ambush with his injured crew while leading five other Warriors to safety. He then extracted his wounded crew from the vehicle while being exposed to more enemy fire.

One month later, Private Beharry proved his valor a second time when his platoon was ambushed while driving through al-Amarah. He was driving the lead Warrior vehicle, and once again rocket-propelled grenades nailed his vehicle. The rockets incapacitated Beharry’s commander and caused injuries to several of the crew. Private Beharry himself sustained serious head injuries. Despite this, he took control of the vehicle and drove out of the ambush before he lost consciousness.

For these two acts of gallantry, Pvt. Johnson Beharry became the youngest recipient of the Victoria Cross, Britain’s highest award for valor. He was the first person to receive it since 1982 and the first living recipient since 1965.

Something about this story made the BBC so nervous that, in the middle of the project’s development, it pulled the plug on the program. What caused such anxiety? In the words of London’s *Telegraph*, the BBC “feared it would alienate members of the audience opposed to the war in Iraq” (April 7).

A source close to the project said, “The BBC ... began to have second thoughts last year as the war in Iraq deteriorated. It felt it couldn’t show anything with a degree of positivity about the conflict” (*ibid.*).

The episode provided an astonishing peek into a media culture absolutely bent on reporting only negative news about events in Iraq and feeding the public’s negative perceptions about the war.

The media have enormous potential to influence public opinion on any subject. By broadcasting only negative stories and ignoring the heroic positive ones, broadcasters are sapping the will of the public necessary for victory.

that moms work an average of 92 hours a week—that’s 40 hours base pay and 52 hours overtime—wearing 10 different hats: housekeeper, day-care center teacher, cook, computer operator, laundry machine operator, janitor, facilities manager, van driver, CEO and psychologist.

Add up all the jobs of a

stay-at-home mom, pay her the going hourly rate, and, the survey says, she’d be pulling in a handsome salary of \$138,095 a year.

The reality behind the numbers is worth contemplating.

Consider how much greater the quality of life is for the family members

whose mother dedicates herself full time to them. Most families choose instead to have the extra income the woman can bring in by working outside the home. But of course, the improved standard of living made possible by the higher income stream is offset by the hours sucked out of the home, not

devoted to the family.

It is indeed impossible to put a price on just how much a dedicated, full-time mother adds to the life of her husband and children—and consequently, to society as a whole.

ABORTION

## Some Babies Unworthy to Live?



MEDICINE’S growing ability to recognize problems in unborn babies

is turning prenatal screening into a “search-and-destroy mission,” says columnist George Will. At least 85 percent of unborn babies who are diagnosed with Down syndrome end up being aborted (*Newsweek*, January 29).

Screening for Down syndrome—which the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists guidelines now recommend for all pregnant women—enables parents to reject babies they deem unworthy to live. Indeed, because doctors are unable to treat unborn babies with Down syndrome, the testing essentially has no other purpose.

Screening for Down syndrome is no doubt only the beginning. As doctors learn more about how to detect other unwanted congenital conditions, the “search-and-destroy missions” will likely multiply.

Are these doctors really providing a service to humanity? Are there cases where abortion is the “moral” thing to do? These are questions that cannot be adequately answered without understanding the *purpose of life* as God created it. For more, request a free copy of *The Incredible Human Potential*.

HEALTH

## Psych Illnesses Lack Scientific Basis

IN TODAY’S SOCIETY, WHERE EVERY BEHAVIOR needs an excuse—and a chemical fix—the distribution of psychiatric drugs has become a multi-billion-dollar industry. However, as “miracle” drugs have failed to remedy behavioral problems in society and side effects have become more pronounced, voices of dissent are growing more widespread. Now, a leading psychiatrist has, in effect, admitted that psychiatric diagnosis has no scientific basis—which means drugs prescribed for such diagnoses also have no scientific underpinning.

The *Louisiana Weekly* reported March 19: “With increasing international concern about the large number of children labeled with so-called psychiatric disorders and prescribed mind-altering drugs, even the pioneer of psychiatry’s billing bible and ‘godfather of ADHD,’ Dr. Robert Spitzer, recently admitted that normal children are being inappropriately labeled by health care professionals.”

Spitzer was one of the main contributors to the latter editions of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (DSM) and personally defined more than a hundred mental disorders. In the rush to assign a name to a whole gamut of antisocial behaviors, however, it appears these “experts” overlooked a rather fundamental consideration. “What happened,” Spitzer told *BBC2*, “is that we made estimates of the prevalence of mental disorders totally descriptively, without considering that many of these conditions might be normal reactions which are not really disorders. That’s the problem, because we were not looking at the context in which those conditions developed” (emphasis ours).

“[P]sychiatric disorders are entirely subjective,” the *Louisiana Weekly* reported.



“[P]sychiatrists at the American Psychiatric Association literally vote on which ‘disorders’ to include in the DSM, and the disorders are removed if they are too much trouble” (op. cit.).

The diagnostic system that these psychiatrists created—without looking at the context in which various behavioral problems develop—has led to millions being diagnosed with a range of conditions such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Oppositional Defiant Disorder. “[P]sychiatrists have been using the DSM to fraudulently claim that mental disorders are the same as physical disorders, thereby justifying the prescription of powerful, psychotropic drugs, including to very young children” (ibid.). Worldwide sales of drugs to treat “mental disorders,” including stimulants, antipsychotics and antidepressants, now total more than \$80 billion each year.

Spitzer maintained that psychiatric drugs “don’t have serious side effects”—despite the fact that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has reported that such side effects can include heart attack, stroke, suicidal and homicidal behavior, diabetes, psychosis and sudden death. A study published by a doctor last September in the *Public Library of Science Medicine* journal concluded that antidepressants increase the risk of violence in both children and adults. The manufacturer of one antipsychotic drug has agreed to a \$1.2 billion settlement involving more than 25,000 individuals who claim the drug caused diabetes and other side effects.

Of course, what is being largely avoided in the debate are the *causes* of behavioral problems. A diagnosis and prescription is merely a mask to cover up fundamental problems in the way families are living.

In 2006, she commented: “I have a very hard time with this word ‘non-violence,’ because I don’t believe that I am non-violent. ... Right now, I would love to kill George Bush.” Her equally peace-loving audience responded with claps and cheers.

Political correctness protects men and women like these from ridicule or censure. In fact, the list above suggests that having a history as a terrorist greatly improves one’s chances of winning the Nobel Peace Prize!

### **Biblical Correctness**

These absurdities demonstrate the extreme degree to which the minority is shielded by political correctness. Thus, prisons are viewed as inhumane torture facilities that serve no valuable purpose instead of as a way to protect society from violent criminals and deter further crimes. Terrorists are deemed oppressed heroes with a religious cause instead of as suicide bombers bent on mass destruction. Our legal systems exchange victims’ rights for criminals’ rights and allow misguided compassion to nullify judgment.

Accordingly, when Arabs fire guns in preparation for terrorist actions in Fort Dix, an internal debate rages as to whether anything should be done. As Westerners, we ask ourselves, *Don’t they have the right to fire guns? Don’t they have the right to hold their Islamist beliefs? And, ultimately, don’t they have the right to hate the United States—even to wish to destroy it? The terrorists are, after all, an oppressed minority.*

God is filled with love and mercy, but He also exercises proper judgment—one thing political correctness will never accept. The story of the Fort Dix terror plot has a positive ending; ultimately, the clerk made the right decision. But how often do people make the wrong decision? How often do our governments and law enforcement agencies allow political correctness to triumph over our security, safety and peace?

At His return, Jesus Christ will pour out His Spirit on all flesh (Joel 2:28). That spirit of love, power and a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7) will transcend the ideological considerations of today. He will establish a pure language (Zephaniah 3:9), one with no equivalent for the term “political correctness,” that everyone will speak as society learns to love our Creator. ■



### **UNITED STATES**

**Nationwide satellite** Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun

**Direct TV DBS** WGN Chan. 307 8:00 am ET, Sun

**Dish Network** Ch. 181 6:00 am ET, Fri

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

**Nationwide cable** WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun

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

**Alabama, Dothan** WBDO 8:30, Sun

**Alabama, Montgomery** WBMY 8:30, Sun

**Alaska, Anchorage** KWBX 8:30 am, Sun

**Alaska, Fairbanks** KWFA 8:30 am, Sun

**Alaska, Juneau** KWJA 8:30 am, Sun

**Arizona** Cox Channel 7, 10:00 am

**Arizona, Yuma** KWUB 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

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

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

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

**California, Bakersfield** KWFB 9:30 am, Sun

**California, Chico** KIWB 9:30 am, Sun

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

**California, Eureka** KWBT 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

**California, Palm Springs** KCWB 9:30 am, Sun

**California, Redding** KIWB 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

**California, Santa Barbara** KWCA 9:30 am, Sun

**Colorado, Denver** KPXC 5:00 am, Fri

**Colorado, Grand Junction** KWGJ 10:30 am, Sun

**Colorado, Montrose** KWGJ 10:30 am, Sun

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

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

**Florida, Gainesville** WBFL 9:30 am, Sun

**Florida, Jacksonville** WPXC 6:00 am, Fri

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

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

**Florida, Panama City** WBPC 9:30 am, Sun

**Florida, Tallahassee-Thomasville** 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** WBAU 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

**Georgia, Savannah** WBVH 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

**Hawaii, Kauai Ho' Ike** Chan. 52 9:30 am, Tue

**Idaho, Boise** KWOB 10:30 am, Sun

**Idaho, Idaho Falls** KWIB 10:30 am, Sun

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

**Idaho, Twin Falls** KWTE 10:30 am, Sun

**Illinois, Bloomington** WBPE 8:30 am, Sun

**Illinois, Chicago** WCUI 9:30 am, Sun; WCPC 5:00 am, Fri

**Illinois, Peoria** WBPE 8:30 am, Sun

**Illinois, Rockford** WBR 8:30 am, Sun

**Indiana, Fort Wayne** WBFW 8:30 am, Sun

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

**Indiana, Lafayette** WBFY 8:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Iowa, Mason City** KWBR 8:30 am, Sun

**Iowa, Rochester** KWBR 8:30 am, Sun

**Iowa, Sioux City** KXWB 8:30 am, Sun

**Kansas, Joplin-Pittsburg** KSXF 8:30 am, Sun

**Kansas, Lincoln** KWBL 8:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

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

**Louisiana, El Dorado-Monroe** KWMB 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** WBAN 9:30 am, Sun

**Maine, Presque Isle** WBQP 9:30 am, 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** WBVC 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** WBL 9:30 am, Sun  
**Michigan, Marquette** WBMK 9:30 am, Sun  
**Michigan, Traverse City** WBVC 9:30 am, Sun  
**Minnesota, Duluth-Superior** KWBD 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** WBSP 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** WBSP 8:30 am, Sun  
**Mississippi, Laurel** WBHA 8:30 am, Sun  
**Mississippi, Meridian** WBMM 8:30 am, Sun  
**Mississippi, Tupelo** WBSP 8:30 am, Sun  
**Mississippi, West Point** WBSP 8:30 am, Sun  
**Missouri, Columbia** KJWB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Missouri, Jefferson City** KJWB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Missouri, Hannibal** WEWB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Missouri, Quincy** WEWB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Missouri, Kansas City** KPXE 5:00 am, Fri  
**Missouri, St. Joseph** WBJO 8:30 am, Sun  
**Montana, Billings** KWMB 10:30 am, Sun  
**Montana, Bozeman-Butte** KWXB 10:30 am, Sun  
**Montana, Glendive** KWZB 10:30 am, Sun  
**Montana, Great Falls** KWGF 10:30 am, Sun  
**Montana, Helena** KWHA 10:30 am, Sun  
**Montana, Missoula** KIDW 10:30 am, Sun  
**Nebraska, Hastings** KWBL 8:30 am, Sun  
**Nebraska, Kearney** KWBL 8:30 am, Sun  
**Nebraska, North Platte** KWPL 8:30 am, Sun  
**Nevada, Reno** KWVB 9:30 am, Sun  
**New Mexico** KAZQ 6:30 am, Sun; 9:00 pm, Wed  
**New York, Albany** WYPX 6:00 am, Fri  
**New York, Binghamton** WBXI 9:30 am, Sun  
**New York, Buffalo** WPXJ 6:00 am, Fri  
**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** WBWT 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** WGPX 6:00 am, Fri  
**North Carolina, Greenville** WEPX 6:00 am, Fri;  
 WGWB 9:30 am, Sun

**North Carolina, Lumber Bridge** WFPX 6:00 am, Fri  
**North Carolina, New Bern** WGWB 9:30 am, Sun  
**North Carolina, Raleigh** WRPX 6:00 am, Fri; 9:00  
 am, Sun  
**North Carolina, Washington** WGWB 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** WBFG 8:30 am, Sun  
**North Dakota, Minot** KWMK 10:30 am, Sun  
**North Dakota, Valley City** WBFG 8:30 am, Sun  
**Ohio, Cleveland** WVPX 6:00 am, Fri  
**Ohio, Cincinnati** WSTR 8:30 am, Sun  
**Ohio, Lima** WBOH 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** KWB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Oklahoma, Oklahoma City** KOPX 5:00 am, Fri  
**Oklahoma, Tulsa** KTPX 5:00 am, Fri  
**Oregon, Bend** KWBO 9:30 am, Sun  
**Oregon, Eugene** KZWB 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** WBLN 9:30 am, Sun  
**South Carolina, Florence** WFVB 9:30 am, Sun  
**South Carolina, Myrtle Beach** WFVB 9:30 am, Sun  
**South Dakota, Mitchell** KWSD 8:30 am, Sun  
**South Dakota, Rapid City** KWBH 10:30 am, Sun  
**South Dakota, Sioux Falls** KWSD 8:30 am, Sun  
**Tennessee, Jackson** WBJK 8:30 am, Sun  
**Tennessee, Knoxville** WPXK 6:00 am, Fri  
**Tennessee, Memphis** WPXX 5:00 am, Fri  
**Tennessee, Nashville** WNPX 5:00 am, Fri  
**Texas, Abilene** KWAW 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Amarillo** KDBA 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Beaumont** KWBB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Brownsville** KMHB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Corpus Christi** KWDB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Harlingen** KMHB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Houston** KPXB 5:00 am, Fri  
**Texas, Laredo** KTXW 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Longview** KWTL 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Lubbock** KWBB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Midland** KWWT 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Odessa** KWWT 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Port Arthur** KWBB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, San Angelo** KWSA 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, San Antonio** KPXL 5:00 am, Fri  
**Texas, Sherman** KSHD 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Sweetwater** KWAW 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Tyler** KWTL 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Victoria** KWVB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Weslaco** KMHB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Texas, Wichita Falls** KWB 8:30 am, Sun  
**Utah, Salt Lake City** KUPX 5:00 am, Fri  
**Virginia, Charlottesville** WBC 9:30 am, Sun  
**Virginia, Harrisonburg** WBHA 9:30 am, Sun  
**Virginia, Norfolk** WPXV 6:00 am, Fri  
**Virginia, Roanoke** WPRR 6:00 am, Fri  
**Washington D.C.** WDCW 8:00 am, Sun; WPXW  
 6:00 am, Fri  
**Washington, Kennewick** KWYP 9:30 am, Sun  
**Washington, Pasco** KWYP 9:30 am, Sun  
**Washington, Richland** KWYP 9:30 am, Sun  
**Washington, Seattle** KWFX 6:00 am, Fri; KVOS  
 8:30am, Sun  
**Washington, Spokane** KGPX 6:00 am, Fri  
**Washington, Yakima** KWYP 9:30 am, Sun

**West Virginia, Beckley** WBB 9:30 am, Sun  
**West Virginia, Bluefield** WBB 9:30 am, Sun  
**West Virginia, Charleston** WLPX 6:00 am, Fri  
**West Virginia, Clarksburg** WVWB 9:30 am, Sun  
**West Virginia, Oak Hill** WBB 9:30 am, Sun  
**West Virginia, Weston** WVWB 9:30 am, Sun  
**West Virginia, Parkersburg** WBPB 9:30 am, Sun  
**West Virginia, Wheeling** WBWO 9:30 am, Sun  
**Wisconsin, Eau Claire** WBCZ 8:30 am, Sun  
**Wisconsin, La Crosse** WBCZ 8:30 am, Sun  
**Wisconsin, Milwaukee** WPXE 5:00 am, Fri  
**Wisconsin, Rhinelander** WBWA 8:30 am, Sun  
**Wisconsin, Wausau** WBWA 8:30 am, Sun  
**Wyoming, Casper** KWWY 10:30 am, Sun  
**Wyoming, Cheyenne** KCHW 10:30 am, Sun  
**Wyoming, Riverton** KWWY 10:30 am, Sun  
**Wyoming, Scottsbluff** KCHW 10:30 am, Sun

## CANADA

**Nationwide satellite** Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am  
 ET, Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun  
**Nationwide cable** WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun; Vision  
 TV 4:30 pm ET, Sun  
**British Columbia, Vancouver** KVOS 8:30am, Sun

## LATIN AMERICA

**Regional satellite** Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET,  
 Tue/Thu  
**Colombia** WGN 7:00 am, Sun; Buenas Noticias  
 TV 47 11:00 am, Fri  
**El Salvador** WGN 6:00 am, Sun  
**Guatemala** WGN 6:00 am, Sun  
**Honduras** WGN 6:00 am, Sun  
**Mexico** WGN 7:00 am, Sun  
**Panama** WGN 7:00 am, Sun

## CARIBBEAN

**Regional satellite** Galaxy 3 Trans. 21 11:30 am ET,  
 Tue/Thu; Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun  
**Aruba** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
**Bahamas** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
**Barbados** CBC Chan. 8 10:30 am, Sun  
**Belize** WGN 7:00 am, Sun  
**Cuba** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
**Dominican Republic** WGN 8:00 am, Sun  
**Haiti** WGN 7:00 am, Sun  
**Jamaica** WGN 9:00 am, Sun  
**Puerto Rico** WGN 8:00 am, Sun

## EUROPE

**Malta** Smash TV 4:30 pm, Sat; 10:00 pm, Tue

## AFRICA

**South Africa** CSN 6:30 am, Sun

## NEW ZEALAND

**New Zealand nationwide** TV3 6:00 am, Fri

### New stations are added often.

Be sure to check this log each month to find out if your area is covered yet.

### Still no program in your area?

View or listen to the program, or download transcripts at [www.KeyofDavid.com](http://www.KeyofDavid.com).

### You can also watch the program on your iPod.

Search for and subscribe to the free *Key of David* podcast on iTunes.



**CORRECTION:** In “Israel’s Miracle Victory” (June 2007) We stated that during the Six Day War, the nation of Israel killed 25 enemy troops for every one Israeli lost. Israel actually killed 14 enemy troops for every one Israeli lost.

## Daddy’s Girl

GREAT ARTICLE! (“DADDY’S GIRL,” June). In the society we live in with much more divorce, it is even harder to stay close to your daughter. After 11 years, she wasn’t there every day as she was before. It is a tough world for children to grow up in. Even for adults, it can be difficult. I learned a lot from your article. Fathers sometimes spend more time with their sons and forget their daughter needs that same attention. I have a 12-year-old son and 19-year-old daughter. I do remember spending every day with her until she was 11 after the divorce.

Subscriber—WISCONSIN

## Kidnapping the British

I WAS INCREDULOUS WHEN I READ THE account of the Iranian pirates kidnapping Royal Marines and sailors and nothing was going to be done about it (“Without a Fight,” June). Bullets should have been flying as soon as they impeded the route of one of the British small boats. I doubt the men were even able to fire back on their own, without orders from the frigate. This isn’t Nelson’s Royal Navy is it? This incident closely resembles the embassy takeover of ’79 and the Pueblo seizure in ’68.

Dana Jackson—ARKANSAS

## Nancy Pelosi

I AGREE WITH YOU 100 PERCENT (“Uncivil War,” June). This woman [Nancy Pelosi] should not have done this. I am Independent and have mistrusted this woman for years, but I feel I should not judge her too harshly as I want Jesus to not judge me harshly. I am an old World War II veteran, female Marine, and if she had been in the Marine Corps, maybe she would have learned discipline.

Goldie Wilbur—KLAMATH FALLS, OREG.

## Sharia Law

I READ YOUR ARTICLE ABOUT SHARIA law in the schools and am saddened

(“Sharia Law for British Schools?,” May). ... In Britain also this last week, it was announced that the history of the Holocaust will no longer be taught in all of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland because it insults the Islamic population and is not true. ... We pushed God out of the classroom; we brought in all that we have today and more to come. Britain has become weak and scared. Also Canada will follow with all the requirements of false gods being allowed into our schools and colleges, without question. Hence we have nations of young people who through no fault of their own will lead our world really fast into the worst disaster. None of us need to know rocket science to see the future. ...

B.J.—CANADA

## Zimbabwe’s Bad Example

I’VE BEEN READING THE *TRUMPET* FOR three years now. We like to believe that what happened in Zimbabwe won’t happen in South Africa (“Follow Zimbabwe’s Bad Example,” May). As a white farmer’s son, I wonder what we can do. Where can we go? We don’t have a “home” country; this is our home country. And now my future is being threatened by a mass riot of civil servants. I’m writing the second-most important exam of my school career, and now we’re being threatened that if we continue they’ll burn the school. For three days there wasn’t any water in town—it’s not the first time something like that happened. The Zimbabweans warn us, but we don’t listen. Where is all this going to end? ...

Subscriber—SOUTH AFRICA

## Financial Advice

YOUR ARTICLES ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT and planning were great (“Storm-Proof Your Financial House,” April). I am a financial planner by profession, and the simple steps/rules that you outlined are the backbone of financial security. The work you do to extract these important lessons from our Bibles and put them into digestible articles is amazing. Keep it up. I love your magazine, website and literature.

Tim—CANADA

YOU SAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF BY diversifying your investments. I suspect

this is bad advice for the coming financial storm. In the classic book *Against the Gods, the Remarkable Story of Risk*, the author points out that economic diversification has only worked reasonably since the 1950s. In other times of history, it has not worked at all. Economic diversification is not a law of nature, and as with all principles, it should be wisely applied. I suggest people read several books on this topic that are presently available .... Also, asking God’s guidance on which strategy to use could have been mentioned. ...

Peter Smith—VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

## Out of Darkness

I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU SO much for providing God’s wonderful truth to a people like me in desperate need of light. For so long I’ve struggled to do things my way, only to find out in the end that it just doesn’t work. It’s like being insane—doing the same things over and over again expecting different results. I don’t want to be insane anymore. I yearn for the peace of mind that God grants by living His way. Thank you so much for providing the *Philadelphia Trumpet* to me—it’s really bringing me out of darkness and showing me how much I really need to be looking to God *much more*.

Subscriber—BRENTWOOD, N.Y.

## Herbert Armstrong

I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION I have to the *Philadelphia Trumpet*—I enjoy reading it. One thing that I really like is how there are a lot of references back to Mr. Herbert Armstrong. This is very commendable. He was a man loyal to God. I have read other publications, from [another church], and, sadly, they hardly talk about him. Thanks again for all the wisdom in the magazines. While I don’t agree with some things, there are a lot of things I can agree with because they follow the Bible. Thanks again, and keep up God’s work. ...

Peter Bezemer—AUSTRALIA

## Comments?

[letters@theTrumpet.com](mailto:letters@theTrumpet.com)

or: The Trumpet, P.O. Box 1099,  
Edmond, OK 73083

## THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## A Special Place

Understanding America's profound heritage **BY MARK JENKINS**

**O**N JULY 4, WE AMERICANS WILL PULL THE FLAGS from our closets and display them with unabashed pride outside our homes; we will gather our families for the annual barbecue and volleyball game in the nation's parks, play Frisbee with our dogs, and drink lemonade; finally, we will revel in a truly spectacular demonstration of pride in our nation and our history by shooting off about \$211 million worth of fireworks. On July 5, we will return to our national self-loathing.

Many Americans are simply losing sight of the rich tapestry of national heritage our history provides, instead buying into the garish caricature of national ineptitude transmitted by the media. It is vital that we remember that history.

Having come to this new land to gain religious freedom, the citizens of the colonies were facing unreasonable oppression from the king of England. In a moment identifiable as the genesis of the greatest national experiment ever undertaken by mankind, 56 men with towering intellect signed off on a set of ideals: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain [inalienable] rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." With those words, our ancestors metaphorically set off the first firework announcing our freedom.

More than simply stating those ideals eloquently, though, these men successfully fought to claim freedom, and the oppressors were driven off. Just a few years later, these wise men created one of the finest legal documents ever devised by man—one designed to form "a more perfect union"—one that upheld the character of its citizens: the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Founding Fathers' vision, their heroic action, and their example of character played a huge role in propelling the United States of America to its place as the greatest, most powerful single nation on Earth, one destined to extend from sea to shining sea.

As *Wall Street Journal* columnist Peggy Noonan put it: "[T]he streets are paved with more than gold—they're paved with the greatest thoughts man ever had, the greatest decisions he ever made, about how to live. We have free thought, free speech, freedom of worship. . . . Look at the great rich history, the courage and sacrifice, the house-raising, the stubbornness. The Puritans, the Indians, the City on a Hill" (March 30, 2006).

Noonan summed up the entirety of the American story in just seven words: "That God made this a special place." That is more than just another patriotic sentiment: Your Bible has

something to say about why God would make the United States of America special—something that all too few understand.

You owe it to yourself, to your family, to your loved ones to learn about the true history of this nation. Extensive documentation proves what our Founders believed—that this history extended back to biblical times. Knowing why this became the most powerful single nation in the history of the planet is inspiring. If you have not yet requested a copy of Herbert Armstrong's *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, we would be happy to send it to you at no charge. After reading it, you will understand that this nation became great not because of legal documents or the actions of the Founding Fathers, but because God Himself kept a promise to the patriarch Abraham and took a personal interest in this nation. You will know that the blessings you enjoy in the United States every day came from God Almighty.

This knowledge, though, also serves as a sobering warning. The same source that prophesied the rise of this nation also talks about its fall.

The breaking of our national pride is part of what tears the nation down (Leviticus 26:19)—and God Himself is doing the breaking because we have turned away from Him. With that pride gone, how can

we expect other nations to desire a broken American ideal? How can we expect a new group of immigrants to want to embrace American culture as their own? If we as a nation do not believe the United States is a special place, how can anyone else?

How badly an understanding of our country's heritage is needed! Not the history of 1776, but our ancestors' true history with God!

We have a national heritage as part of ancient Israel. If we did embrace that message nationally, if we did recognize God as the great Benefactor who gave us our blessings, how it would revolutionize our country! It would give us the ability to see the truth bound up in America's history; more importantly, it would reveal to us where we are crediting ourselves instead of our Creator. If everyone—patriots and self-loathing Americans alike—turned to God, He would restore the pride in our power He wants us to have.

But even if we don't nationally turn to God in gratitude for the phenomenal bounty He has bestowed on us, we can still individually turn to Him in repentance and reap even greater rewards—regardless of what country we are from.

You have the opportunity to fully understand your heritage, to learn about the one part of the legend of the United States of America that is reality from your Bible: That God Himself made this country—the United States of America—a special place. ■



ISTOCK PHOTO

# ARE YOU ASKING THE BIG QUESTIONS?



## WHO AM I? WHAT AM I? WHY AM I?

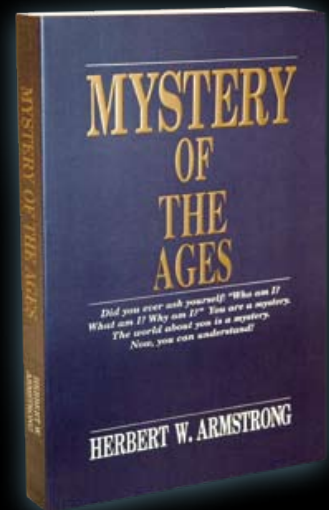
You are a mystery. The world about you is a mystery. Now, you can understand!



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

This remarkable work by Herbert W. Armstrong clarifies the most important yet most elusive knowledge ever revealed. *Mystery of the Ages* reveals the true biblical answers to seven of life's most puzzling mysteries:

1. Who and What Is God?
2. The Mystery of Angels and Evil Spirits
3. The Mystery of Man
4. The Mystery of Civilization
5. The Mystery of Israel
6. The Mystery of the Church
7. The Mystery of the Kingdom of God



Request your **FREE** copy today!

TO REQUEST MYSTERY OF THE AGES

Read it now, download a PDF or request online at [MysteryoftheAges.com](http://MysteryoftheAges.com)

In the U.S. or Canada, call **1-800-772-8577**

THE PHILADELPHIA  
**TRUMPET**

Post Office Box 3700  
Edmond, Oklahoma 73083 U.S.