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Executive Editor Stephen Flurry News Editor Ron Fraser
Managing Editor Joel Hilliker Contributing Editors Mark Jenkins, Ryan Malone, Brad MacDonald, Robert Morley, Philip Nice
Associate Editor Donna Grieves Production Assistant Michael Dattolo
Research Assistants Adar Kielczewski, Aubrey Mercado, Andrew Miiller, Richard Palmer
Proofreaders Nancy Hancock Circulation Shane Granger
International Editions Editor Wik Heerma
French, Italian Deryle Hope German Hans Schmidl Spanish Edition Editor Carlos Heyer

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The German Nightmare Has Returned!

AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II, WHEN GERMANY WAS beaten into rubble, Herbert W. Armstrong prophesied of Germany's rise to great power again. And it has already happened. What is more astounding, he even predicted *how* it would happen!

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. Armstrong predicted that America and the world would have a massive banking crisis. But the second part of that prediction was even more stunning. He believed the banking crisis would *cause* 10 kings to unite into superpower status and fulfill a major end-time Bible prophecy. And it is all being fulfilled before our eyes today.

Here is what Mr. Armstrong said July 7, 1984, in a message to his church: “[I]n London, the economic conference was on while we were there. That is the summit conference of the major powers. And I can tell you now that *I learned things while* in London that have alarmed me very greatly. And I CAN SEE NOW THE EVENT THAT IS GOING TO TRIGGER THE FORMATION OF THE REUNIFICATION IN EUROPE, the resurrection of the medieval Holy Roman Empire that we’ve been looking forward to that is prophesied to come.

“Something has been holding it back. And, a year ago, when Dr. Otto von Habsburg [of the Habsburg dynasty—past rulers of the Holy Roman Empire] was here, he had come over here to see me He couldn’t understand why they aren’t able to get this unification through sooner.

“Something is causing it to lag and to hold it up. I said to him, ‘I’ve been wondering about the same thing.’ But I believe that some event is going to happen *suddenly*, just like out of a blue sky, that is going to shock the whole world, and is going to cause the nations in Europe to realize they must unite! [They have deep divisions in the union today that are beginning to be removed.]

“Well, he said that he believes that will have to happen too. Well, now I think I can see what may be the very event that is going to trigger it, and THAT IS THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE WORLD” (emphasis mine throughout).

Here is another statement Mr. Armstrong made: “Now let me go further. The whole banking structure in the United States is a network all joined together. But not only that, one nation has to deal with other nations and imports and exports. And so they have to have a means of transferring money from one nation to another. And so the banking structure is international and interwoven.”

He also said that “the banking system has become very *complex*.” The people don’t have much understanding of what is happening, so unscrupulous leaders are free to manipulate major financial decisions to their own devious ends.

But what is even more disturbing, many of our leaders don’t understand the banking system themselves! For example, none of our U.S. government officials saw this crisis coming. Or if they did, none of them spoke out.

However, Mr. Armstrong saw the banking crisis coming 25

years ago. And how did he know that the financial crisis would probably trigger 10 European kings to profoundly unite into a world superpower? That is truly astounding!

He even predicted this European empire would be more powerful than the U.S. or Russia!

Mr. Armstrong had a profound understanding of the Bible. He also had a far-reaching knowledge of world conditions. Therefore, he could make some bold predictions based on foundational Bible prophecies.

IT IS TIME THIS WORLD WOKE UP TO WHAT IS HAPPENING IN EUROPE. The Stratfor organization does have a good insight into what is happening in the European Union. Here is what it published, March 6: “[W]hile Germany faces the same pressures and pains as many other states in dealing with the global recession, it is not in the same boat as the rest. In fact, the recession is providing *a wealth of opportunities for Berlin* to expand its influence. ...

“Put simply, the Germans face more opportunities than threats from the global recession. ...

“Berlin’s resistance toward sweeping EU economic bailout plans can be summarized in two simple and interrelated arguments. First, Germany does not want to foot the bill for Europe’s recovery. ... Second, Germany wants to *control* any economic package, making it much more comfortable with bilateral deals *reached on a case-by-case basis* rather than [with an] EU effort in which German control of the bailout would only be loosely correlated (if at all) with its economic contributions. ...

“Rather than pushing for transnational stimulus or bailouts, Germany is FORCING the European Union into a common position on financial regulation. [That means that many of the 27 nations will be forced out of the EU.] ...

“Put another way, instead of mitigating the ongoing recession, Germany is attempting to extend its own financial system, writ large, over all of Europe. ...

“Germany is also in a geographic and trade position to dominate whatever emerges from the wreckage of this recession. ... In post-recession Europe, in which the Germans have rewritten the rules of finance, THESE STATES WILL BE UTTERLY DEPENDENT UPON THE GERMANS FOR THEIR LIVELIHOOD.

“Which brings us back to the beginning: To achieve security for itself, Germany either must defeat its neighbors or become indispensable to them. NAZI GERMANY failed at the first. But with this recession, GERMANY IS ON THE VERGE OF BECOMING THE INDISPENSABLE PLAYER GEOGRAPHICALLY, FINANCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY. It may not be acquiring lebensraum [living



GERALD FLURRY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

See **GERMANY** page 31 ►

Everyone sees the economic crisis slamming America at home.

Fewer recognize dangerous forces are gathering strength abroad.

But only a handful understand just where this convergence
of troubles is leading—according to your Bible.

The Imminent End of America

BY STEPHEN FLURRY AND ROBERT MORLEY

“WE’VE GOT A LOT ON OUR PLATE,”
President Barack Obama told
60 Minutes in March.

Isn’t that the truth.

The White House is scrambling wildly to try to stimulate a mortally sick economy back to health by putting it deeper into debt. Its ad hoc efforts have driven many even faithful supporters of the new president to doubt his ability to turn the situation around. They have much cause for alarm.

But almost overlooked amid the destruction that the government’s plans are wreaking on the American dollar and the national economy are the dangers encroaching from outside the country. Realizing that America is profoundly

weakened by domestic economic problems, opportunistic predators are seizing the chance to lash out at the world's most prosperous and powerful country.

This is history in the making. Not the good kind of history. More like Nero-fiddling-while-Rome-burned history.

The kind of history we are seeing now is an empire in terminal and rapid decline. Besieged by problems within, facing enemies without, the greatest single nation in history is disintegrating like Rome and dozens of other empires before it.

The Government's "Budget"

Over the last two generations, the United States of America has gone from being the world's greatest creditor nation to its biggest debtor. During that time, Americans have been led to believe that oppressive debt is a way of life, rather than a grave danger. Borrowing money, in fact, is now universally accepted as being a miracle cure for economic hardship, rather than a debilitating cause.

This is pure fantasy.

Look at the new federal budget, introduced by President Obama in February. This massive \$3.55 trillion spending plan is so large that the projected deficit, \$1.75 trillion, is nearly as much as the entire budget President Bill Clinton submitted to Congress in the final year of his administration—which was at the peak of the dot-com boom.

Based on that simple comparison alone, one would never guess that America is currently facing its worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. *How could it be that bad when we have a budget twice the size of the one President Clinton proposed just nine years ago?* some may reason.

This is how delusional our addiction to debt has made us. The government's thinking amounts to this: Teetering on the brink of economic ruin? *No problem!* Just triple the deficit. *Problem solved.*

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said he believes the "recession" could be over by the end of this year. President Obama confidently added, "We will rebuild, we will recover, and the United States of America will emerge stronger than before." All the evidence, however, points in the other direction.

Why do so few understand that by massively increasing expenditures, we are only digging ourselves a much deeper hole than we are already in?

In his weekly radio address on February 21, President Obama said his budget was "sober in its assessments, honest in



its accounting," and that it would restore "fiscal discipline." Yet, far from signaling a new era of responsibility, as the cover page of the new budget proposal preposterously claims, the economic plan follows the same old path of President Obama's predecessors: ever expanding government, out-of-control spending and astronomical debt.

President Obama told Congress on February 24 that the "lifeblood" of our economy is the flow of credit. Accumulating debt is now seen as the lifeblood of America's economy. "The ability to get a loan," he said, "is how you finance the purchase of everything from a home to a car to a college education; how stores stock their shelves, farms buy equipment, and businesses make payroll."

Yes—and it's also how a massively bloated government continues spending way beyond its means. FoxNews.com reported on February 26 that the president's budget proposal, if approved by Congress, will increase the government's already unfathomable burden of debt by 63 percent in the next two years.

Approaching a Climax

If the "lifeblood" of America's economy is credit, the nation will need a massive transfusion. Its finances are being sucked dry.

The Wall Street bailouts threaten to completely hemorrhage government budget estimates. AIG is an insurance-company-turned-Wall-Street-casino that is now intravenously connected to government arteries. On March 2, AIG announced the *largest quarterly loss in U.S. corporate history*. Its investments caused more than \$61 billion to cease to exist—in just three short months.

Normally, when a company loses that much money, it goes bankrupt. The company is sold off and the proceeds distributed to its creditors and the other companies that were gambling and doing business with it.

Unfortunately, courtesy of the last three government bailouts of AIG, taxpayers now own 80 percent of the company. So taxpayers are on the hook to make good AIG's debts and gambles—\$12.9 billion to Goldman Sachs, \$11.9 billion to France's SocGen, \$11.8 billion to Germany's Deutsche Bank, and \$8.5 billion to Britain's Barclays, etc.

Total cost to taxpayers for this formerly AAA-rated company: an astounding \$180 billion. But the money transfers are just beginning.

Mortgage giants Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, along with automotive behemoths General Motors and Chrysler, join the swarm of financial firms that include Bank of America, Citigroup, JP Morgan Chase, Wells Fargo, State Street Corp, Bank of NY Mellon, US Bancorp, SunTrust Banks, Capital One Financial, PNC, Regions Financial, BB&T Corp, Fifth Third Bancorp, MetLife Financial, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley and American Express, all of which are also living off taxpayer blood. That is practically every major bank in the country.

The volume of taxpayer cash involved here is staggering. The Treasury has committed over \$1.4 trillion in direct liquidity for the banks. Former Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, under President Bush, began the operation with his famous \$700 billion bailout. President Obama has approved an additional \$750 billion. The Federal Reserve has committed hundreds of billions

more. And there is still no end in sight.

America's banking system is all but bankrupt—kept alive only through ever-larger doses of taxpayer wealth. And now, for the first time in America's history, even prime-time media analysts are openly questioning America's creditworthiness and ability to borrow what's needed. But it is Uncle Sam's fault. He is the one who so readily gave away the clothes off his back so the big boys on Wall Street could cover their financial nakedness. But how much can America afford to give? Who will give their own clothes to cover Uncle Sam?

Washington's debt problems are approaching a climax.

Trouble Abroad

Those who insist that America's power and influence are not in rapid decline often argue that we're in a global recession and that other nations are hurting just as much as the United States—if not more so. The truth, though, is that the U.S., being the most powerful national economy in the world, has the furthest to fall.

"[W]hile today's Russia, China, Latin America, Japan and the Middle East may be suffering setbacks, the biggest loser is understood to be Uncle Sam," Paul Kennedy wrote in a *Wall Street Journal* opinion piece (January 14).

Because America is so inwardly focused because of its financial mismanagement, and so distracted by geopolitical events elsewhere, it will be unprepared and totally shocked when it is faced with war again.

Unsurprisingly, as America desperately sells record amounts of debt in hopes of borrowing its way out of bankruptcy, its enemies are hard at work testing the mettle of the new administration, just as Vice President Joe Biden predicted while campaigning for Barack Obama last year.

The Iranian regime, for example, has tested the new president by "preemptively scorning his overtures, mocking his weakness, and assuring the world its nuclear program is nonnegotiable," William Kristol wrote (*Weekly Standard*, February 16).

Russia too has seized its opportunity to "test the mettle" of Obama. In February, Kyrgyzstan, under pressure from Moscow, told the U.S. it would no longer be allowed to use an air base that coalition forces had relied on for the Afghanistan operation.

Then there is North Korea. Having

scrapped all its agreements with South Korea, Kristol wrote, it is "preparing to test a new ballistic missile, the Taepodong-2, which is intended to eventually have a long enough range to hit U.S. territory" (ibid.).

And it's not just America's sworn enemies that are testing the new president's mettle. "With a grinning Goliath staggering about sporting a 'kick me' sign on his back, even reputed allies joined the fun," Charles Krauthammer noted. "Pakistan freed from house arrest A.Q. Khan, the notorious proliferator who sold nuclear technology to North Korea, Libya and Iran. Ten days later, Islamabad capitulated to the Taliban, turning over to its tender mercies the Swat Valley, 100 miles from the capital" (February 21).

Some may consider these to be minor tests, but they portend much more difficult challenges ahead. The president really cannot afford to focus on domestic problems to the exclusion of such pressing international concerns.

But domestic issues, as the president outlined before Congress back in February, clearly dominate the new administration's agenda. "The only way this century will be another American century," President Obama said in his February 24 speech, "is if we confront at last the price of our dependence on oil and the high cost of health

care; the schools that aren't preparing our children and the mountain of debt they stand to inherit. That is our responsibility."

In other words, in addition to "stimulating" the stagnating economy, bailing out lending institutions, and providing financial relief for homeowners, the new administration also intends to spend trillions more on alternative forms of energy, universal health care and public education.

"The only measure of my success as president, when people look back five years from now or nine years from now," President Obama told CNN on February 3, "is going to be, did I get this economy fixed?"

But the world's evils are mounting so quickly that they threaten to *overwhelm* domestic concerns!

Franklin D. Roosevelt also neglected U.S. foreign policy during the difficult years

of economic hardship in the 1930s. And the United States, as well as the rest of the world, paid dearly for this negligence. Ultimately, even though he became president during the Great Depression, his presidency is primarily measured against the backdrop of his wartime leadership in the 1940s.

Could history be repeating itself? "Is our new commander in chief fully aware how dangerous the world can get, and how fast, when America is weak or distracted?" Kristol asked (op. cit.).

If you believe your Bible, you *know* that history repeats itself.

America is in a position eerily reminiscent of the 1930s. The economic upheaval and related social problems are already being felt, both in America and around the world. And they will again lead to an international confrontation. In fact, prophecy indicates that America's financial troubles are the precursor to *another world war*.

And just as in that previous case, this war will be with Europe.

The Bible prophesies of seven resurrections, or resurgences, of the Holy Roman Empire—an empire that has repeatedly waged destructive wars of conquest. You can read this prophecy in Revelation 17:10-12: "And there are seven kings: five are fallen"—Justinian, Charlemagne, Otto the Great, Charles v and Napoleon—"and one is"—the Hitler-Mussolini axis, which was on the world scene when this prophecy first began to be understood—"and the other is not yet come"—but it is rising now—"and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast."

The *so-called Holy Roman Empire* is again rising to power. For proof, request a free copy of our booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.

And because America is so inwardly focused—particularly because of its financial mismanagement—and so distracted by geopolitical events elsewhere, it will be unprepared and totally shocked when it is faced with war again.

As bad as it has been for America over the past year, the coming year may witness the debt problems explode in Washington even as America sustains numerous strategic blows from dangerous forces abroad.

Meanwhile, with America distracted and reeling, the Holy Roman Empire grows in Europe unimpeded. ■

Gifts for the Mullahs

Iran should send America a giant thank-you card. BY JOEL HILLIKER

THE UNITED STATES IS BEYOND broke. Why, then, in March did it offer \$300 million to reconstruct the Gaza Strip? And another \$600 million to help the Palestinian Authority pay its bills? That's \$900 million of other people's money—for a cause that is profoundly flawed.

If we could follow those \$900 million as they make their way from America's printing presses into Palestinian pockets, we would likely find them, in a best-case scenario, padding Palestinian Authority bank accounts—and at worst, helping Hamas terrorists and funding Israeli deaths. As U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk said, if Hamas only lays hands on 10 percent of that \$900 million, America will become its second-biggest benefactor after Iran.

Iran's mullahs really should send Washington a giant thank-you card. This is merely the latest in a series of gifts America has given the Islamic Republic.

Misunderstanding the Enemy

Tehran is the strongest power in the region. It owns the Gaza Strip through Hamas. It controls Lebanon via Hezbollah. It is gaining a sturdy ally in its former archenemy Iraq. Even the threat it faces from Afghanistan isn't nearly as great as in 2001. In all of these arenas, the United States has either stood aside or *directly helped Iran's cause*.

And now in the White House is a president who has repeatedly voiced his desire to turn Iran into a diplomatic partner, if not an ally. The new administration has spoken seriously of opening a diplomatic office in Tehran. It hopes to prevent Iran from gaining nuclear weapons by offering economic incentives. On top of that, the new president's budget shrinks military spending to Sept. 11, 2001, levels.

At a NATO summit in March, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton proposed an international conference on Afghanistan's future. She then announced that the U.S. wanted Iran, as an important neighbor of Afghanistan, to attend.

Yes, America is *seeking Iran's help* in battling the Taliban. What makes that fact

so astonishing is this: A prime reason Tehran's participation would be so valuable is the fact that it has been *arming* the Taliban. Its Revolutionary Guard has provided both the Taliban and al Qaeda in Afghanistan with sophisticated explosives to use against U.S. troops. Iran knows all about the movements of al Qaeda through Iranian territory and into Afghanistan. It has deliberately turned up the heat in the Afghan theater in order to distract America from events in Iraq and from its own nuclear pursuits.

Rather than view these acts as proof that Iran is a dangerous enemy, however, the Obama administration views Iran as a potential partner. It wants to draw on Tehran to supply intelligence for use against the Taliban and al Qaeda. It also hopes to use Iranian territory as a supply route for American and NATO troops.

Such thinking shows a profound confusion over the nature of the enemy. Iran has become *many times* more dangerous to U.S. interests than both the Taliban and al Qaeda *combined*. And a huge reason is simply that it has benefited so greatly from just this sort of insane policy.

The U.S. is acting on the fantasy that Iran, offered just the right combination of flattering words and economic rewards, will transform itself from a terrorist-sponsoring, nuclear-war-hungry hive of extremism into a peace-loving partner in defending Western values.

In reality, to ask for Iran's help in securing Afghanistan is not unlike paying extortion money to a bully so he'll stop beating you up.



Alarmed Over Iran

Guess who is deeply alarmed at this development? Not just Israel. Also watching America's overtures toward Iran with justifiable anxiety are the *Arab states* in the region that fear Tehran's growing power. These same Arab states were actually rooting for Israel in its war against Hamas earlier this year simply because they fear Iran *more* than they hate Israel.

Saudi Arabia and other Arab states have pleaded with President Obama not to make any concessions to Iran without consulting them. Before the Afghanistan summit on March 31, they planned an Arab League summit where, Stratfor wrote, "Saudi Arabia will take the lead in trying to demonstrate a united Arab front *against an emergent Iran*" (March 5; emphasis mine).

What are they so worried about? At the top of the list: Iran's nuclear program.

The UN now admits Iran has more enriched uranium than previously thought—enough, upon further enrichment, for a nuclear bomb. Israel's top military intelligence officer said Iran can *already* produce atomic weapons. Iran has "crossed the technological threshold," Maj. Gen. Amos Yadlin said, and has the expertise and materials needed for an atomic bomb.

Meanwhile, in February, Iran successfully launched a satellite into space. Experts said this proved Iran can now project an object at least 150 miles above Earth—including an intercontinental ballistic missile with a nuclear payload.

This is the country America wants to partner with to lock down Afghanistan. The new president is beginning to shove aside existing relationships with Israel, and with Saudi Arabia and other Arab allies, to pursue a potential relationship with Iran.

Bible prophecy speaks of a "king of the south" dominating the Middle East in our day. We have shown for over 15 years that Iran is fulfilling that prophetic role, as our free booklet *The King of the South* proves.

But it is still *absolutely appalling* what a central role *the U.S.*, of all countries, has played in bringing that prophecy to fruition.

What does Iran think of the potential relationship? So far it has responded by accusing the U.S. of making the Afghanistan mess worse and demanding that it just leave. Iran's top military commander said President Obama is just as "warmongering" as President Bush was.

For all America has given Iran, one would expect a little more gratitude. ■

How to KEEP YOUR JOB in a Recession

BY ROBERT MORLEY

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION IS TERRIBLE—regardless of where you look. Four million jobs have been lost in America since last year. In Great Britain, over 2 million people are out of work. Millions more have lost jobs in Germany, France, Canada, Australia and elsewhere. But these losses pale in comparison to the 20 million jobs that China has lost since the start of the downturn. And the Great Recession is only beginning.

There has never been a more important time to beef up your job security.

But how is job security even possible in such conditions?

Let's open our Bibles to learn what God has to say about how to succeed in the workplace. Let God show you *how* to improve your likelihood of keeping your job—even as times get worse.

Does God Want You Poor?

First, know that God wants you to be happy and prosper. Somehow, many people equate Christianity with poverty. This is wrong.

The Bible is full of examples of wealthy men whom God describes as righteous. In fact, God challenges each of us to see whether, if we obey Him, He will not open up the storehouses of heaven and shower down riches upon us (Malachi 3:10). Abraham had 318 servants he was able to arm to battle the king of Assyria. Counting their wives and children, Abraham's household

would have numbered more than a thousand. Job, possibly the wealthiest man of his age, was a man so humanly perfect that even the devil couldn't find fault in him.

God does not intend His people to be poverty-stricken, dressed in rags, living in penury. Jesus Himself said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it *more abundantly*" (John 10:10). "I wish above all things," the Apostle John said, "that thou mayest prosper and be in health" (3 John 2). It is God's desire that we have happy, healthy, *abundant* lives!

But in order to have this kind of life, you *must* practice God's laws of financial success.

Work Hard

If you were to survey the world's most successful "self-made" billionaires, regardless of industry, you would find one commonality: diligent, hard work. Lots of it.

As former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher once said, "I do not know anyone who has gotten to the top without hard work. That is the recipe. It will not always get you to the top, but it will get you pretty near."

From the very beginning of human life on Earth, God purposed that man should work diligently and thus reap the benefits.

On the seventh day of creation week, God created the Sabbath by resting. But the commandment to rest on the Sabbath has another, often-overlooked side. The

Fourth Commandment (Exodus 20:9) also says, "Six days *shalt* thou labour, and *do all thy work*." That part of the command is also important to obey.

God gave this commandment to keep us in a right relationship with our Creator. He *works*. He created and now *sustains* His creation. God intends us to become like Him. By *laboring*—working and building—we learn to become creators too!

The intent of this law shows that although man is commanded to rest on the seventh day (article, page 22), he is to keep busily engaged in gainful work during the first six days of the week. God *produced* His wealth—His creation—through labor during the first six days of the week. We are to do likewise.

The Bible is also clear on *how* to work. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might," wrote King Solomon, who possessed phenomenal wealth (Ecclesiastes 9:10). Solomon said the slothful and sluggards should study the ant and how that tiny insect works hard to save up food for the winter, even though it has no taskmaster forcing it to do so (Proverbs 6:6-8). The Apostle Paul said professing Christians who will not work are worse than unbelievers (1 Timothy 5:8). A Christian ought to be a diligent, hard worker. Hard work is evidence of a true Christian!

Henry Ford, car manufacturer and industrialist, wrote in the introduction to his book *My Life and Work*: "There is no

IN THEIR OWN WORDS Advice from executives and leaders

We want passion for our business. Workers who can interpret and execute our mission, who want to build a career, not just take a temporary job.

HOWARD SCHULTZ

Executives owe it to the organization and to their fellow workers not to tolerate nonperforming individuals in important jobs. PETER DRUCKER

If you want to be successful in a particular field of endeavor, I think perseverance is one of the key qualities. GEORGE LUCAS

In business, I've discovered that my purpose is to do my best to my utmost ability every day. That's my standard. I learned early in my life that I had high standards. DONALD TRUMP

I feel sorry for the person who can't get genuinely excited about his work. Not only will he never be satisfied, but he will never achieve anything worthwhile. WALTER CHRYSLER

reason why a man who is willing to work should not be able to work and to receive the full value of his work. There is equally no reason why a man who can but will not work should not receive the full value of his services to the community. ... If he contributes nothing he should take nothing away. He [the sluggard] should have the freedom of starvation."

Mr. Ford had no patience with people able, but unwilling, to work. He paid the highest wages in the auto industry, but he would not tolerate indolence!

Contrast Ford's historic success with the state of the all-but-bankrupt U.S. auto industry today. Believe it or not, over the past years, thousands and thousands of unionized employees have been paid to sit idle and do nothing. There is no work to do, but they cannot be fired due to union rules. Is it any wonder that car companies face bankruptcy? And now that the government has bailed out General Motors and Chrysler, unionized auto workers' wages are being paid by taxpayers.

There is no way around it. Becoming a success at anything requires diligent work.

Become More Valuable

Some people are offered jobs just because of their reputation as hard workers, but most are sought because they are also *skilled* in their field. Becoming highly skilled at something obviously requires hard work, but the rewards are obvious:

"Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men" (Proverbs 22:29). The word *diligent* in this verse can also mean *skillful*.

Prepare for the best job you can. The extra hours of study or training will pay off later. A second job may be required for a time, or even night classes. Be creative. Consider all your options. "Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks [or whatever occupation you have], and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever ..." (Proverbs 27:23-24).

The Apostle Paul gives further instruction regarding making yourself a more valuable employee. Regarding *servicing* your employer, boss, foreman or supervisor, Paul says to be cooperative and zealous on the job (Colossians 3:22-23; Titus 2:9). Be alert to please your foreman or boss. Do the job *his way*. Show your willingness to go *beyond* what is required, and work extra hours if necessary to complete a job on schedule. Remember that good personal relations on the job are vital to assured employment.

Valuable employees get paid more and have greater job security. The way to receive a greater reward is to be *worth more*. So make yourself a valuable employee. Don't just plod along in your job with a ho-hum, humdrum, every-day-the-same-routine attitude. Be a fired-up go-getter! Grow! Produce! Apply yourself and *prove*

to your employer that you earnestly desire to do more, to have more responsibility, and that you have the capacity and the will to work! (Matthew 25:15-28; Mark 4:24).

By working hard and becoming more valuable, you are doing everything humanly possible to not only keep your job, but to advance and flourish.

America is heading into the worst economic times since the Great Depression. The struggle to keep your job will only intensify. But if you do your part and follow God's laws, God *will* bless you and provide for all your needs. As Christ said, "[S]eek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these [material] things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

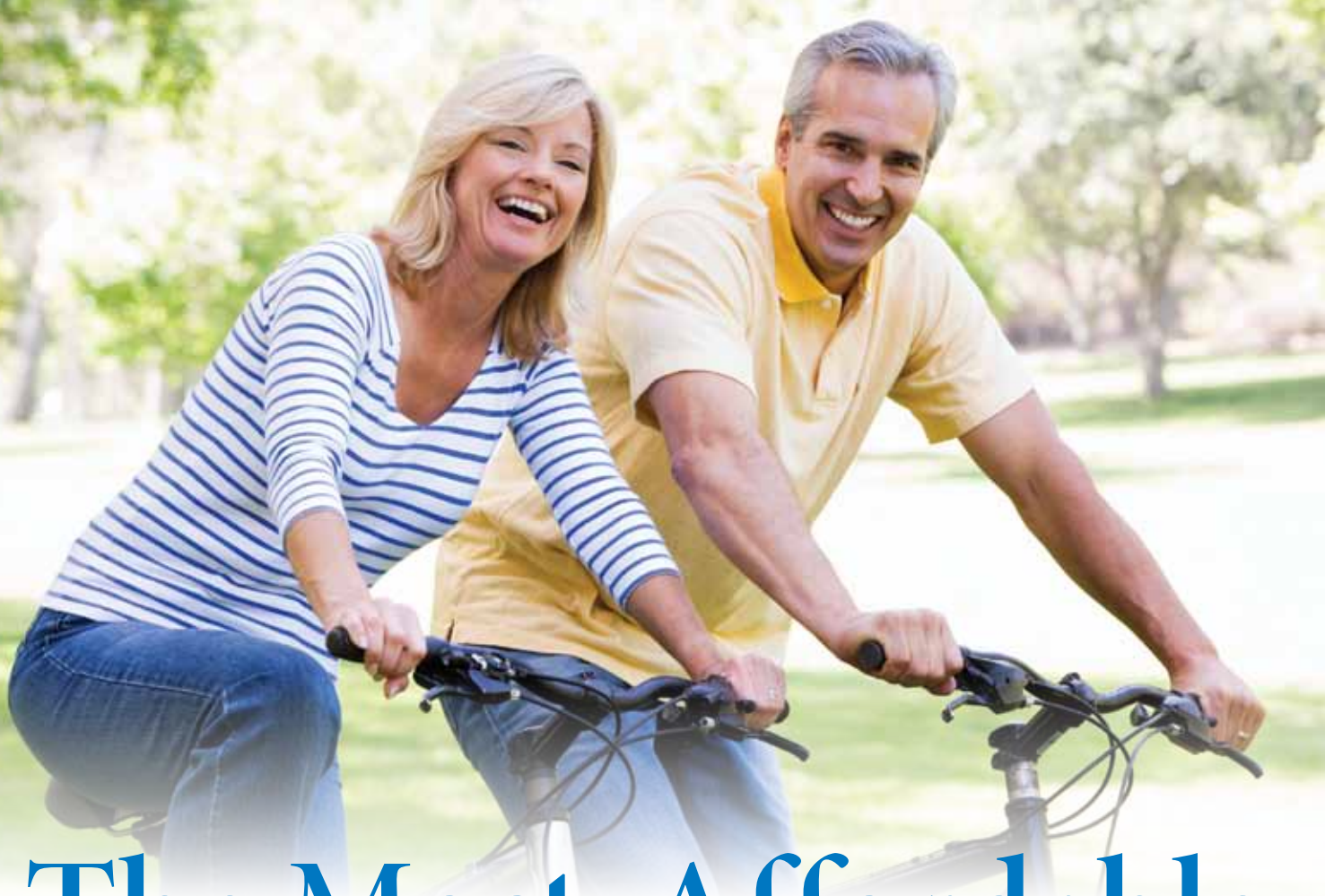
When you obey God, nothing can impede ultimate success. Even an economic cataclysm like today's Great Recession is nothing against the power of the God who wants you to *prosper*—even in a recession! ■

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The Most Affordable Health Care There Is

Everyone qualifies, but few ever bother to apply.

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

EVERY TIME I RETURN TO THE United States after an overseas trip, it's always somewhat of a shock to see how many people are struggling with their weight. Two out of every three Americans are overweight. Over half of that number are considered *obese*—meaning one third of Americans are at least 30 pounds above the ideal weight for their size. And when you consider the alarming increase of obesity among *young people*, the epidemic is sure to get worse.

In March, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released its annual report on the health status of the United States. Included in this year's report was a special feature on young adults between the ages of 18 and 29. According to the

study, the number of obese young adults in America has *tripled* since the early 1970s. Other studies have found similarly disturbing trends among children and teenagers.

With all of our scientific enlightenment and advancement, one might assume that we are at the doorstep of disease-free living where “wonder drugs” and high-tech surgeries will soon eradicate sickness and disease.

What a careless assumption that would be.

For every success story in the medical profession, where doctors discover ways to reduce the risk of one disease, there are several *new* diseases introduced in our modern civilization.

Americans spend more money on health care—*\$1.7 trillion annually*—than any other industrialized nation. But we have precious little to show for it because nearly all of this money goes toward diagnosing diseases

and/or treating illnesses *after the fact*. In other words, Western medicine deals with the *effect*, rather than the *cause*.

For example, the obesity epidemic is currently running neck and neck with tobacco as the leading *cause* of premature death in the U.S. Obesity significantly increases the risk of diabetes, high blood pressure, strokes, cancer and heart disease. Of the 2.4 million total deaths in America each year, 38 percent are victims of heart disease—a *man-made* disease that is **PREVENTABLE**.

An additional 400,000 Americans die each year as a result of tobacco-related illness—also man-made and entirely **PREVENTABLE**.

In either case, the *cause* of such illnesses—whether obesity- or tobacco-related—is **UNHEALTHY LIVING**. “Of concern for all Americans,” the CDC study noted, “is the high prevalence of people with risk factors

such as obesity and insufficient exercise, which are associated with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and hypertension. ... The percentage of adults 18 years of age and over who engaged in regular leisure-time physical activity (about one third of adults in 2005-2006) and strength training (about one fifth of adults in 2005-2006) remains low."

When you consider the lifestyle of most Americans, it leaves little doubt as to why so many people are overweight and unhealthy. Inactivity and improper eating are a deadly combination.

The Laws of Health

While most people have come to take sickness and disease for granted, God designed our physical bodies—composed of material substance from the ground—so that we might enjoy an energetic and healthful, albeit temporary, existence. That is your body's normal condition—*normal* in the sense that this is the way God intends for our physical bodies to function. He wants us to enjoy robust, invigorating LIFE!

To attain such quality living, though, we must obey certain God-ordained health laws. The most important of these is proper diet.

The human body is primarily composed of 16 elements of matter found within the soil—12 of them are alkaline-reacting mineral elements and four are acid-reacting carbohydrates. A properly balanced diet consists of *two or three times* as much of the alkaline-reacting mineral elements—primarily fruits and vegetables.

The typical American diet today, however, consists of four or five times as much *acid-reacting* carbohydrates—not the natural, **WHOLE** carbohydrates found in foods like brown rice, beans and whole-grain products, which are the **COMPLEX CARBOHYDRATES** our bodies **NEED** for good health.

Many of these whole foods are stripped of their life-building nutrients in man-made factories before they are shipped to grocery stores, as Herbert W. Armstrong wrote back in 1982: "In the interests of bigger profits, the gigantic food industry is giving us a diet of **FOODLESS** 'foods.'

"Take wheat. Wheat is almost a perfect food. It contains all 16 major food elements, in near perfectly balanced proportion. But they take that perfect grain of wheat apart, rob it of the 12 mineral elements, and turn it into white flour—containing the four carbohydrate elements" (*Plain Truth*, February 1982).

Man has taken all kinds of foods that

God made to be mildly acidic and altered them to become highly acidic substances. These refined substances that most people ignorantly call *food* are most often full of toxic, health-debilitating ingredients, unlike the acidic foods *God* created, which have many wonderful life-giving properties.

Refined sugar is another culprit. It's found in practically everything man makes: processed foods, sauces, salad dressings and so on. Author William Dufty wrote in his book *Sugar Blues*: "Vegetables, fruits, berries and nuts—these natural sources of what we now call vitamin C—had been sweets until concentrated, refined sugar was marketed. Sugar was an unnatural sweet that had been robbed of its vitamin C in the refining process, which was when 90 percent of the natural cane was removed."

A few hundred years ago, the average person in Europe would eat 3 or 4 pounds of sugar a year. Today, Americans eat well over 100 pounds of it each year. Some people consume that much just in the soda they drink. There is one cup of refined sugar in four 12-ounce cans of soda. This is why we suffer from so many sugar diseases today, like low blood sugar and diabetes.

Well ahead of his time, in October 1954, Mr. Armstrong wrote, "The human body functions according to definite laws. It needs fresh air in the lungs—not

tobacco smoke. It needs pure water, and plenty of it—not soda pop, stimulants, and man-perverted drinks. It needs a proper amount of joyous, exhilarating exercise, and walking—not riding everywhere in the car, nor taking one's exercise sitting down in the paid admission stands of a baseball park, or a football or basketball game. It needs sufficient sunshine, not the dark, dank congestion of crowded man-built cities. It needs cleanliness and proper elimination—not the almost universal constipation caused by neglect and foodless foods contaminated in man-made "food" factories. It needs relaxation, ample rest and sleep—not the nerve-shattering, excitable pleasure-seeking life—and nightlife—of today's modern whirl.

"And last, but far from least, it needs wholesome, properly prepared *natural* food—not the starchy, sugary, greasy mess of contaminated stuff we ignorantly suppose to be food today!" (*Good News*).

Is it any wonder that so many Americans suffer from obesity, sugar disease, low energy, chronic fatigue, insomnia, depression, impotence, allergies, cancer, heart disease and the like? Modern medicine has made great progress in eliminating certain *communicable* diseases. But non-communicable diseases, like those listed above, **THRIVE** in our modern age largely because of **FAULTY DIET** and *sedentary living*.

The CDC study on our nation's health laments the fact that so many Americans are without health insurance. And indeed, despite the unfathomable amount of money we spend on health care as a nation, 47 million Americans do not have health insurance.

The real tragedy, though, is that **MOST** Americans, whether they have health insurance or not, are unwilling to take matters into their own hands and greatly improve their overall health by simply eating right and exercising.

It's the most affordable health-care system there is.

In 3 John 2, the Apostle John wrote, "Beloved, I wish *above all things* that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). God's will is for us to lead a life of **QUALITY** in *every* respect—including that of physical health. This is why He has outlined definite laws of health within the pages of His inspired Word—the Holy Bible.

Start obeying these practical laws today and reap the wonderful benefits of a robust and healthy physical life! ■

7 Laws of Radiant HEALTH

Healthy food and water

Cleanliness and dress

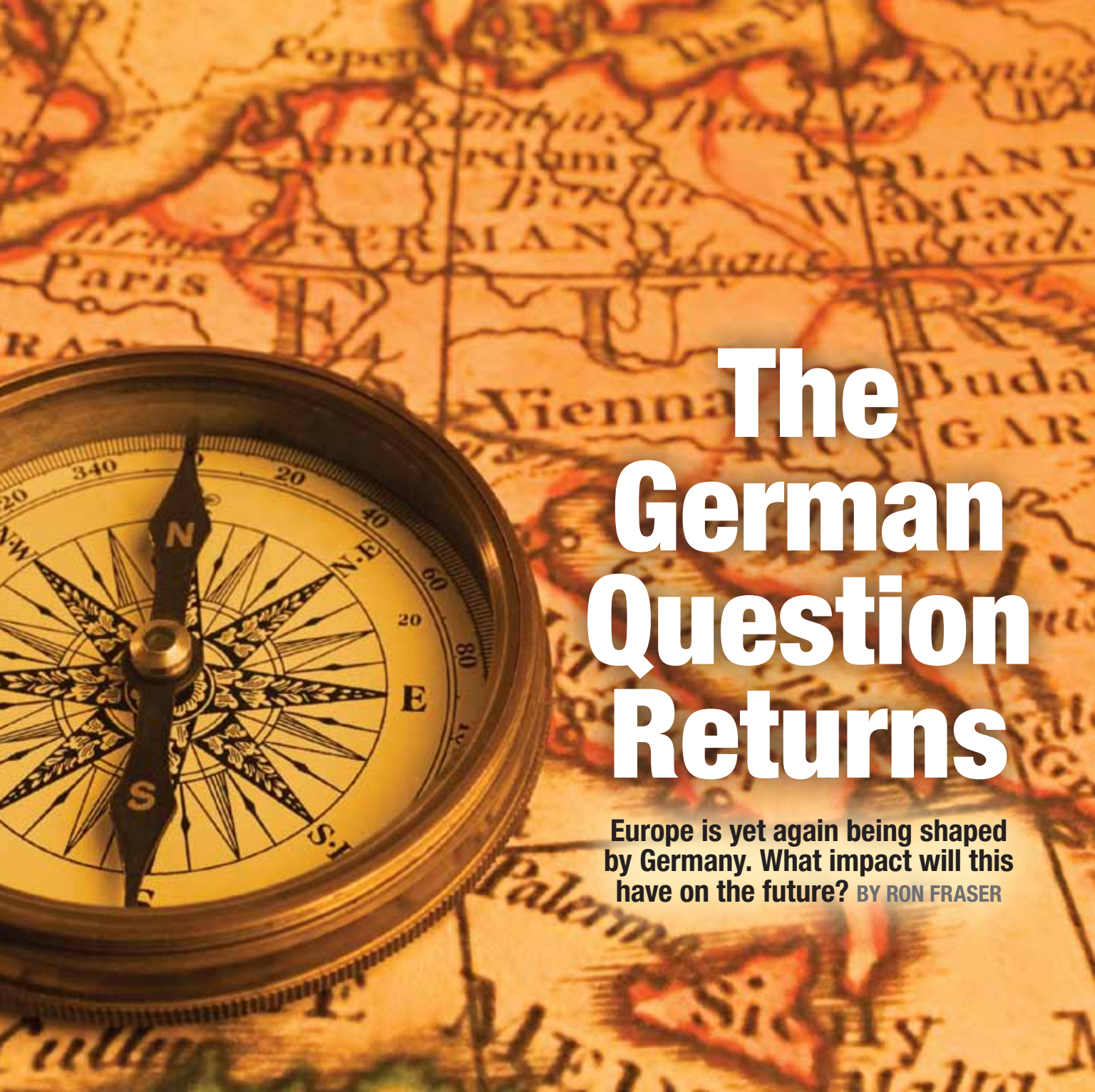
Sunshine and fresh air

Exercise

Sleep and rest

Avoid bodily injury

Positive mental attitude



The German Question Returns

Europe is yet again being shaped by Germany. What impact will this have on the future? **BY RON FRASER**

IF THERE WAS ONE PROPHECY FOR which Herbert Armstrong was known throughout his long ministry of almost 60 years, it was the reunification of Germany. He publicized that prophecy with ever-increasing detail over the years, from the time of the partition of Germany by the Allies in 1945 until his death on Jan. 16, 1986.

Herbert Armstrong died almost four years before that prophecy was fulfilled.

Yet fulfilled it was, beginning Nov. 9, 1989, with the breaching of the Berlin Wall.

This November, the 20th anniversary of that event will be celebrated in Berlin, currently enjoying its revived and remodeled status as capital of a united Germany. With that nation's rise to dominance in Europe, one burning question remains to be answered: "the German question."

What Is the "German Question"?

According to German historian Heinrich

Winkler, that question "arose on Aug. 6, 1806, when Franz II, the last emperor of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, bowed down to an ultimatum from Napoleon, laid down his crown, relieved the estates of their duties and thereby dissolved the 'Old Empire'" (*Facts About Germany*).

The question then became: Just where does Germany belong in Europe, what are its borders, and what is to be its role within Europe?

Three times since Emperor Franz relinquished the imperial crown of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, Germany has sought to answer the “German question” by warfare—the Franco-Prussian War, which ended with Germany’s seizure of Alsace Lorraine from the French in 1871; World War I, which concluded with an armistice in 1918; and World War II, which the Allied nations won in 1945.

Winkler maintains that the “German question” was finally resolved on Oct. 3, 1990. That was when East Germany—the German Democratic Republic—united with West Germany to form one unified Federal Republic of Germany. German President Richard von Weizsäcker observed at the time, “The day has come on which for the first time in history the whole of Germany takes a permanent place among Western democracies.”

Yet to those who have observed Germany’s 64-year journey from vanquished enemy of the West to seemingly upright, peace-loving democracy, there remains a “German question”: Has the imposition of a democratic system on the nation changed its heart and core, the nature of its peoples? If similar opportunities were presented to today’s Germany as those presented periodically over the past two centuries that stimulated these people to initiate war, could it happen again?

In order to answer that question, we need a grasp of history, an understanding of biblical prophecy, and the ability to relate both to current world events. That is the perspective from which we look at developments rapidly unfolding in Europe.

What we observe happening in Europe has us deeply concerned for the immediate future of its populace. Not only that, it has us deeply concerned for the immediate future of the Anglo-Saxon peoples. We perceive a repetition of history, supported by the reality of biblical prophecy in the obvious process of being fulfilled through current events on both sides of the Atlantic. Events some of us have been expectantly watching to unfold for over half a century are *suddenly* falling into place!

Five distinct elements within the “German question” are currently operating to propel Germany to the forefront as a global power: a crucial alliance; territorial boundaries; trade and finance practices; security and defense arrangements; and nuclear power. An overarching theme in each of these elements involves the progressive isolation of the United States in international affairs.



THE POWER COUPLE

If history still counts, Russia and Germany are a team to watch.

ONE | The Russo-German Alliance

ONE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIP IN PARTICULAR IS WORTH WATCHING AS IT UNFOLDS in a remarkable repetition of history—at the same time fulfilling, even more remarkably, Bible prophecy for our time. It is a relationship that remains crucial to addressing the revived “German question.”

In 1922, after World War I, 34 nations, excluding the U.S., met in Genoa, Italy, to attempt to rebuild European finance and commerce. This was the first postwar conference attended by Germany and Russia where they were accepted on equal status with the rest of the international community. A prime issue was Russia’s huge war debt.

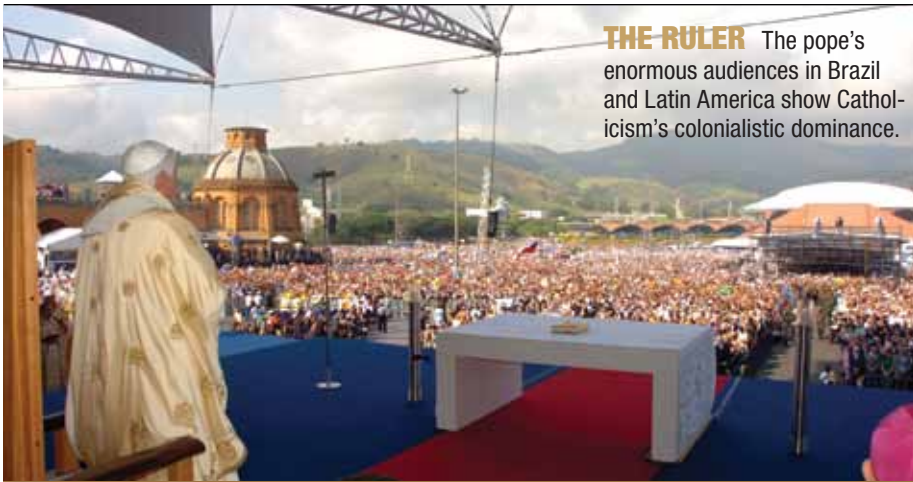
The whole agenda of the Genoa conference was subverted by Germany and Russia meeting separately, in secret, in Rapallo, Italy, to conclude their own agreement, known as the Rapallo Treaty. This involved not only the mutual cancellation of debt, but also Russia granting most-favored-nation status to Germany. This worked to Germany’s great advantage in its own plans to secretly rearm.

After the signing of the Rapallo Treaty, secret deals allowed Germany to develop and produce military hardware using Russian industry. This circumvented the Treaty of Versailles, which specifically banned Germany from rearming via its own industrial capacity. The result, 17 years later, was a fully rearmed Germany ready for war.

Then came August 1939. On the eve of Germany instigating the aggression of World War II, the process repeated. This time, the foreign ministers involved were Russia’s Vyacheslav Molotov and Germany’s Joachim von Ribbentrop. They negotiated a non-aggression agreement—the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact—that included a secret plan to divide territory after Hitler’s intended attack on Poland.

This was to have a very bitter result in Russia when Hitler turned on his eastern ally, as he always had secretly intended to do, resulting in the slaughter of multiple millions of Russians. Once again Russia survived to rue the day it had trusted in an alliance with the German nation.

Track forward to 2009. Similar to the 1920s, the leading nations met—this time conferring in a flurry of activity in Washington, Berlin, Brussels and London—to negotiate over how to stabilize the global economy. Similar to the 1930s, the world is caught in a gigantic economic and financial freefall. And once again, for the third time in less than a century, amid similar economic circumstances, Germany and Russia want to cement an alliance outside of, and separate from, any arrangements concluded between other nations.



THE RULER The pope's enormous audiences in Brazil and Latin America show Catholicism's colonialistic dominance.

TWO | Territorial Borders

WE HAVE DOCUMENTED IN DETAIL THE progressive colonization of Europe by Germany, via the institution currently termed the European Union. Today's economic crisis is suddenly placing this all in perspective.

Under the headline "A New Colonialism," the *Economist* pointed to an "extraordinary new plan" being put forward for the European Commission which "proposes that European officials and diplomats should be involved in monitoring implementation of laws, managing EU funds and supervising courts, prosecutors and investigators" in EU member nations (March 19). The plan is being put forward by Bulgaria, whose foreign minister, Ivaylo Kalfin, encourages consideration of the scheme not only for his own country but for all EU member nations. The *Economist* pointed out that ex-Soviet states often distrust the corrupt national regimes that have taken over since the Soviet Union's demise. Conditioned to state intervention by their 70 years under Communist rule, their populations would tend to more readily embrace such intervention by the EU.

All Europe is now looking to Germany for leadership in an hour of crisis. The political, economic and social disorder rippling across Europe presents Germany—Europe's leading political and economic entity—the ideal opportunity to cement a "new colonialism." Watch for it to rise to the occasion by invitation, securing its hold on Europe from the North Sea to the Mediterranean and from Ireland to the Black Sea.

Questions remain over the future of the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, squeezed between the two EU member nations of Poland and Lithuania. Kaliningrad may yet be traded off by Russia to the EU, similar to Kosovo, in any future

deals between Germany and Russia over EU-Russia territory.

Crucial to Germany consolidating its colonial empire is its border with Russia's own revived empire. Russia has already given fair warning that territory east of the Black Sea is non-negotiable—witness its recent incursion into Georgia. The contest for political influence and territorial gain continues in regions such as the Middle East and Africa. So far, Germany is carefully balancing its involvement in Iran; Russia and Germany both contribute to that nation's industrial development. Germany, under the EU umbrella, is well ahead of Russian involvement in the Palestinian peace process.

Similarly, the strength of the German economy has permitted it to gain on Russia in extending its interests in its former African colonies. Both countries will continue to compete with each other against embedded Chinese interests in Africa. Access to that continent's rich resources—as well as its strategically located seaports—provides the motive.

Latin America—a continent ruled by one religion, Roman Catholicism—will naturally fall to the German-dominated European power as it consolidates its global-power status.

However, just as in 1922 and 1939, what is most crucial to both Germany and Russia is to secure their main European continental border. Germany simply cannot afford to have its focus divided while pursuing its expansionist goals. It must secure its eastern border with Russia so it can continue marching south, west and on into the Middle East. In this respect, it appears Ukraine is the patsy being yielded to Russia, and Kosovo the fall guy being sacrificed to the German-empowered EU.

WHEN THE OLD NAZIS OF THE WORLD WAR II era went underground, embedding themselves in operative cells in Spain and Latin America, merging into the background of society from Canada to Australia, they took with them their dream of world conquest. They kept their determination to revive their beloved fatherland into an imperial Fourth Reich. We should not forget also that, after the Allies failed in their attempt to denazify Germany, many Nazi operatives returned to positions of influence within the post-war German administration, continuing to subtly inject their ideology into the minds of subsequent generations.

British political economist Rodney Atkinson has clearly exposed the parallels between the Nazis' imperialist dream, using a united Europe as the platform from which to launch their global conquest, and the progressive unfolding of that vision into a reality via the European Union (see box). Some maintain that

NAZI Europe	European Union
Europäische Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft	European Economic Community
Lebensraum	European Space
European Currency System	European Exchange Rate Mechanism
Europabank (Berlin)	European Central Bank
European Regional Principle	Committee of the Regions
Common Labor Policy	Social Chapter
Economic and Trading Agreements	Single Market
European Industrial Economy	Common Industrial Policy
Replacing capital with organized labor	European Works Council



and Finance

the system of finance and economy that underpins Europe was geared to ensure dependence of the whole continent on German economic and financial leadership. Reuters has reported, "Speculation has grown in recent weeks that stronger members of the 16-nation eurozone, like Germany, could step in at some stage to help ailing partners" (March 20). The same source confirmed that German Finance Minister Peer Steinbrück "has acknowledged that Berlin stands ready to help weaker euro members."

Just how far will such assistance reach, and more importantly, what strings will the German government attach to any such deal? A law recently rushed through parliament opens the door to action that comes just too close for comfort to Germany's 1930s nationalist socialist approach to finance and economics. *Spiegel* reported that the law, passed by the German Bundestag on March 20, "gives Chancellor Merkel the power to expropriate shareholders in the ailing real-estate lender HRE. It could become the first such expropriation in Germany since the 1930s. ... Some have ... said the law represents the breaking of a taboo in Germany given the country's experience with expropriations under the Nazis ..." (March 20).

Follow the progression: From free-trade agreements to a common market. From a common market to a common currency. From dependence on the EU's most powerful economy for capital investment to dependence on that economy and a central bank based within that same nation for economic bailout—then, finally, to expropriation of private shareholder property.

It's all too close to the old Nazi dream to be coincidence.



THE AUTHORITIES

Berlin's halls of power are setting the pace for Europe—and the world.

THE MUSCLE

Germany's military is becoming more and more independent.



FOUR | Security and Defense

GERMANY HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN ENCOURAGED by other EU nations and, in particular, by the United States, to shoulder a greater burden in the defense and security of not only Europe, but in theaters such as Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf. Almost every step of the way, Germany has appeared reluctant to oblige. Now, things are changing—and much more rapidly than most of our mass media have grasped. All of a sudden, Germany's postwar image as a reluctant debutante has been replaced by that of a new, vigorous, highly inventive, state-of-the-art emerging military power!

The ascendancy of a new American president has catalyzed certain elites in Berlin and Brussels. They view America's moment of political weakness as their opportunity for revived strength. Distracted by a massive financial and economic headache, the American administration is giving inadequate attention to foreign policy.

This presents Germany with the ideal opening to speed up negotiations with Russia to form a security and defense alliance destined ultimately not only to cut America out of its postwar role as leader of a transatlantic alliance, but also eventually to topple it from its global power perch.

At the same time, Germany is positioning itself to lead the EU to divorce itself from any dependence on the U.S. for military intelligence. Seemingly overnight, Germany has become the leader in space-age international spying.

No outside power has pressured Germany into doing this. Germany has of its own volition, under the EU umbrella, quietly developed this spying capability without much publicity. It is about to propel the German nation into the position of dominance not only in Europe, but on a world scale, in the art of gathering of military intelligence.

In World Wars I and II, the British were able to crack the codes of the enemy and

thus gather crucial intelligence on German troop movements. This strategic edge, together with the British lead in radar technology, was crucial to Anglo-Saxon victory in both world wars. However, German elites learned much from their devastating defeat in both those wars—much that has stimulated their effort to place Germany in the forefront of military intelligence.

The astute team at German-Foreign-Policy.com reported that Germany recently propelled itself into a leading global position in satellite-empowered military surveillance. "Having launched a new reconnaissance satellite-based system, the German Bundeswehr is celebrating its enhanced capacity for carrying out independent military operations. The SAR-Lupe system, which had achieved full operational capability at the end of 2008, has catapulted the German Armed Forces into a position of *world leader in radar-based reconnaissance*, according to a high-ranking officer. With this 'new instrument at its disposal' Berlin can, 'at its own political volition, gather exclusive and global data independently.' This new reconnaissance capacity has drastically reduced its 'dependence on other countries' in the field of security policy. ... The spy satellites will not only provide information to the Bundeswehr but also to the foreign intelligence service" (March 6; emphasis mine).

That development is shocking enough, considering Germany has transformed in only 20 years from being a divided nation only permitted to defend its own borders under NATO's purview to being a reunited nation that leads the world in extraterrestrial spying! But what is even more shocking is the revelation of which nation has been Germany's partner in the development of this state-of-the-art spy technology: Russia! "Moscow played a key role in supporting the development of the

satellite-based system that will foster the trend toward independence from Washington” (ibid.).

Manfred Fuchs, CEO of the lead contractor responsible for developing the SAR-Lupe project, Bremen-based OHB System AG, declared that, on the radar level, “Germany is world champion. There is no comparable system” (ibid.).

Germany’s new spy satellite system is part of a program of global reconnaissance termed GMEs, for Global Monitoring for Environment and Security, based in Berlin. This program is regarded as the flagship for the European Union’s future space projects. Commenting on the program, EU Industry Commissioner Günter Verheugen declared that it would literally transform Europe into a “space power” (ibid.).

Any Anglo-Saxon military strategist with a knowledge of history from 1871 to 1945 ought to be deeply worried about these developments! Consider the ramifications: a German leadership position in global surveillance, developed in partnership with Russia, part of a program to transmute the EU into a space power, with the intention of the entire program being used for *military* purposes!

THE BOMB

Germany’s Siemens Corp. is acquiring military nuclear capabilities.



FIVE | Nuclear Empowerment

IF THAT DEVELOPMENT SENDS SHIVERS UP the spine of the generation that remembers the events of 70 years ago, then check this out: “Through its nuclear alliance with Moscow, the German Siemens Corp. now has the perspective of participating in military nuclear projects. This is the outcome of the most recent talks held by the corporation’s leaders with the prime minister of Russia” (ibid., February 12).

Described as having happened via

“rapidly initiated cooperation,” the Siemens agreement primarily is with the “Rosatom nuclear administration, which is also in control of the military nuclear sector. Rosatom has currently drawn public attention because it is completing the Iranian Bushehr nuclear power plant, whose construction had been initiated by Siemens. The German-Russian nuclear alliance is projected to last for decades ...” (ibid.). The giant German corporation

Secret Nazi Memo: Is It Coming to Pass?

THE *Trumpet* keeps a keen eye on Germany. For nearly two decades, we have waited, watched and written about the emergence of a globally dominant, German-led bloc of European states. We have warned specifically that a spectacular global financial crisis, centered in the United States, will likely bring this event to fruition.

We are not entirely alone in this expectation.

The following is a snippet from a secret memorandum written by high-ranking German officers and distributed among an elite group of leading Germans in Bonn and other parts of the world. It is an electrifying picture of current events: “Economic difficulties will one day plunge the United States down from its present dizzy heights. Such a catastrophe can be brought about through crafty manipulations and through artificially engendered crises. Such maneuvers are routine measures which have already been employed in international power struggle and will be used again and again as long as economic rivals fight for power positions and markets in the world.

“It is quite conceivable that America, weakened by a depression, will one day seek support from a resurrected Germany. Such a prospect would open tremendous possibilities for the future power position of a bloc introducing a new order in the world.”

That was written in 1950. It can be found in T.H. Tetens’s 1953 book, *Germany Plots With the Kremlin*.

Its prescience is chilling.

Survey the current global financial crisis and the changes it is precipitating. With its economic landscape strewn with surging unemployment lines, collapsing stocks, and rotting corpses of banks, financial institutions and businesses, it’s hard to deny “economic difficulties” are

bringing America “down from its ... dizzy heights.” Similarly, piles of evidence—think Bernie Madoff, Lehman Brothers and liberal bank lending standards—testify to “crafty manipulations” as a root cause of this crisis.

What about the notion that “artificially engendered crises” precipitated by foreign forces are also partly to blame for the collapse of the American financial system?

British author and historian Sara Moore has delved into this historically significant, eerily familiar trend. Armed with facts and historical precedent, Moore detailed in the May 2008 and January/February 2009 issues of *European Journal* how Germany, employing a formula similar to what it used in the 1930s, is craftily manipulating EU economic policy in order to undermine the U.S.

One fundamental cause of the credit crisis in America, Moore suggests, was Germany’s exploitation of the euro. This interesting argument deserves close scrutiny.

When the euro first came online in January 1999, the European Central Bank (ECB)—headquartered in Frankfurt, patterned after Germany’s Bundesbank and heavily influenced by Germans—ensured interest rates remained at or around 2 percent. This was done, in part, to help stabilize and promote the growth of the German economy. By maintaining low interest rates, Moore says, the German-led ECB caused global investors to flock to higher-yielding U.S. treasuries, distorting money markets and facilitating easy credit in America.

The ECB’s policy, Moore says, helped prime American credit markets for rupture.

This became inevitable after December 2005, when the ECB, having maintained low interest rates for years, raised interest rates seven times

Siemens has long possessed part ownership of “a Russian turbine producer that produces also components for nuclear submarines and the arms industry.” If that’s not déjà vu 1922 then there’s something wrong with my sense of history!

To those who have closely watched Germany’s rapid development into a military power of global standing since the nation’s reunification barely 20 years ago, these are startling developments. Defense experts from Washington and London ought to be in a huddle to decide how to counter the future risks to their nations’ security that such initiatives portend.

Don’t hold your breath. The American president has recently insulted Britain’s prime minister and declined an invitation to speak before the European Parliament. This behavior indicates that not much of a climate exists for any real dialogue emerging between the parties on this revived “German question.” Certainly few indications exist that either London or Washington even begin to perceive the reality of the dangers inherent in Germany’s sudden propulsion to global dominance in satellite-based spy expertise and involvement in the production of nuclear weaponry.

After all, to correctly assess the risks such initiatives pose for global security, one would have to at least begin with a sense of history, something that both the current British and American socialist-inclined governments appear to possess in quite small quantities.

No, the “German question” was not answered in 1990. It was actually revived! Revived by virtue of a newly revitalized German nation impelled along a path by closeted elites still pursuing the same old Nazi vision: dominance of Europe as a platform for global hegemony!

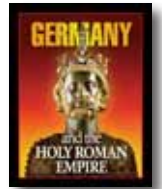
Germany has dominated Europe in trade, finance and economic strength for decades. It remains the world’s greatest single exporter of goods. Despite the aspirations of the current French president, Germany is the leading political influence in Europe, by far. Now, Germany suddenly leaps into view as the “world champion” in military intelligence and has active technical capacity for producing nuclear weapons in association with Russia! From that position, it becomes but an academic question as to how soon Germany will dominate Europe as its supreme military power.

There remains but one piece of the puzzle to be put in place so the “German question” can be resolved by a German answer. The complete, and final, resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire can only fulfill its prophesied role by the imposition of a powerful spiritual force, a universal religion that claims its right as nourisher of the roots of European civilization. For this we must continue to watch for the connection to be yet bound between Berlin and Rome.

In the words of Jesus Christ, it’s time for those who have ears to hear “what the spirit says” to “watch and pray” with greater vigor than ever!

The sudden return of the “German question” is but a gigantic sign that the return of Jesus Christ to impose the government of universal peace on this world “is near, even at the doors” (Matthew 24:33). ■

For a more complete history linked with the prophecies of Germany’s importance in the fulfillment of the events of the age, study our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.



in a row. By late 2007, with Europe offering higher, increasingly attractive interest rates, cash was flowing briskly into Europe, and less briskly into America. Together with the housing crisis, the ECB’s calculated diversion of money away from America and into Europe was at least partly responsible for the American credit crisis. According to Moore, it was when the ECB raised its interest rates for the eighth consecutive time in July 2008, that “stock markets round the world collapsed.”

The idea that Germany precipitated the current global economic crisis is intriguing. It’s an argument that grows stronger if you factor in the documented proof showing German leaders planned 60 years ago that an “artificially [German-]engendered” crisis would one day bring the U.S. economy down, and send America scrambling to Germany for assistance.

Barely a day passes without a chorus of American voices—journalists, economists, business leaders and politicians—requesting Europe, particularly Germany, to do more to rescue the Continent and the rest of the world from the economic chaos. Prominent economist Paul Krugman lamented in the March 16 *New York Times* that Europe isn’t doing nearly enough to combat the global economic downturn. Recently, President Barack Obama asked that Europe, especially Germany, lighten the burden of the global economic crisis by enacting larger stimulus packages for flailing European economies. It is not uncommon to hear world leaders talking about the need



FULFILLMENT Jean-Claude Trichet and the ECB are helping to bring the schemes of a 50-year old document to pass.

for a new world order—one, many agree, that needs to be centered in Europe.

“It is quite conceivable that America, weakened by a depression, will one day seek support from a resurrected Germany,” that secret memo said. Indeed. And truly, as this predicament intensifies, it will continue to create “tremendous possibilities” for Germany.

Watch Germany intently. We don’t know if the men who wrote that memo in 1950 are still alive today. That is inconsequential. The more important question is: Is their strategy for a German new world order still being pursued?

It is becoming harder to deny that it is!

Some will look at the global economic meltdown and the fact that it is causing both Europe and America to rely more on Germany, admit that this aligns perfectly with documented Germanic designs, and consider it a coincidence. But doesn’t Germany’s age-old penchant for global dominion, its provocative role in the two largest wars in history, the documentation that, after World War II, Nazis planned to do it again, the current explosive and uncertain world conditions, and the nightmare scenario of another holocaust, make this a subject worthy of deep investigation?

On top of that, the Holy Bible—and what the Apostle Peter termed the “more sure word of prophecy”—has much to say about Germany’s role in end-time world events that aligns perfectly with these facts. If you want proof, request your free copies of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* and *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*. **BRAD MACDONALD**

WORLDWATCH

EUROPE

THE ECONOMIC CRISIS IS taking its toll on Europe. Eastern Europe has been hit especially hard. It has borrowed \$1.7 trillion from abroad, mostly in the form of short-term debt. Of that, \$400 billion—one third of the region's gross domestic product—must be paid back or rolled over *this year*. Economists are concerned that this region's problems could spread to the whole European Union.

The financial crisis claimed its first EU victim as **Latvia's** government resigned February 20. On January 13, Latvia experienced its worst protest since the fall of the USSR. What began as a peaceful protest of around 10,000 disgruntled citizens turned violent as the main demonstration drew to a close. Many Latvians are worried about their future. Their economy shrank by 10.5 percent in 2008, and it is expected to shrink by another 12 percent this year.

The Swiss National Bank announced in March that it is actively engaged in depreciating the Swiss franc. This will make Swiss goods artificially cheaper abroad, and make imports into **Switzerland** more expensive. Yet more problems for other European countries will inevitably result.

At the same time, this crisis is drawing Europe together. **Romania** announced on February 25 that it wants to adopt the euro before its current target of 2014. A day earlier, Hungarian Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany said the EU should relax the rules on adopting the euro to allow other countries to adopt it faster.

German Finance Minister Peer Steinbrück speculated on February 18 that the more



stable countries in the euro-zone may have to bail out the smaller ones. This would mean **Germany**—what the *International Herald Tribune* called Europe's "traditional, though increasingly reluctant paymaster"—stepping in to help the weaker economies. Of course, in return for this aid, Germany would demand more power.

As economies go down, extremist parties are gaining strength. **Austria's** main far-right party, the Alliance for the Future of Austria (BZÖ), won a landslide victory in regional elections in Carinthia on March 3. After far-right governor Jörg Haider died last October, critics thought the BZÖ's control would slip; instead, the party gained an astounding 45.3 percent of the vote. The Social Democrats won only 28.6 percent. These election results show how mainstream some of the far-

right parties are becoming. When economic conditions deteriorate, voters tend to turn from mainstream parties and back more extreme ones.

In eastern Germany, **6,000 neo-Nazis descended on Dresden** on February 14 in one of the largest extremist gatherings since World War II.

At the beginning of March, NATO foreign ministers agreed to restart talks with **Russia**. NATO chief Jaap de Hoop Scheffer stated on March 5 that the NATO-Russia Council (NRC) would resume after being frozen for seven months, since Russia's invasion of **Georgia**. The NRC is the main avenue of dialogue between the two sides. "Russia is an important player, a global player," said Scheffer. "Not talking to them is not an option." Russia and Europe have too many common interests to stop talking for long.

MIDEAST

Pakistan's ISLAMIST-LEANING opposition is gaining ground. Ongoing protests, including a **March 15 riot in the capital of Punjab province**, resulted in President Asif Ali Zardari bowing to the demands of his rival, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. On March 16, the government agreed to reinstate the chief justice, whose cause Sharif had been championing, as well as other judges, and to reverse constitutional changes made by former President Pervez Musharraf. This is a significant victory for Sharif and the Islamists who support him, including Jamaat-e-Islami, an influential Islamist political party that advocates an Iranian-style religious dictatorship for Pakistan.

While seemingly a victory

U.S.

Cuba

Venezuela



for democracy, these moves will further destabilize the country. The fight against the Islamist insurgency in Pakistan will become even more difficult with the increasing popularity of Sharif and his Islamist allies—who either oppose the use of force to fight the jihadists or at least take a soft stance. This will not be a welcome development for the U.S.

Neither will the fact that the provincial government in the North-West Frontier Province in February made a deal with Taliban-affiliated Islamist terrorists whereby sharia law will be enforced in

exchange for peace. The deal undermines the Pakistani government's authority in the country, is a significant victory for the Islamists and a further setback for U.S./NATO efforts next door in **Afghanistan**.

Meanwhile, Germany is seeking the assistance of intelligence contacts in **Saudi Arabia** to help in the fight against the Afghan insurgency. **Prince Turki al-Faisal**, former chief of the Saudi intelligence service, spent several days in Berlin at the invitation of State Secretary August Henning to discuss how to "improve the security in the Pakistani

region bordering Afghanistan," according to the Interior Ministry. Prince Turki has a long history of working with German intelligence in Afghanistan—from the days of the Soviet occupation. The *Trumpet* has said for some time that Germany seeks to strengthen its involvement in Afghanistan—notwithstanding German media reports to the contrary. Prince Turki's connections in Afghanistan may once again help Germany be a bigger player in the region.

Since the conclusion of the Israeli counterstrike against the Gaza Strip in January, Hamas's popularity has increased among Palestinians. In a poll released March 9, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh had 2 percent more support among Palestinians than Fatah leader Mahmoud Abbas. Three months earlier, Abbas was 10 points ahead of Haniyeh.

The international community promised \$5.2 billion in aid to help rebuild Gaza

at an international donors conference on March 2. This money will benefit Hamas, both directly and indirectly. A large chunk is expected to go to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which systematically provides political cover for Hamas. "UNRWA openly collaborates with Hamas," wrote the *Jerusalem Post*. "Its workers double

as Hamas combatants. Its refugee camps and schools are used as Hamas training bases and missile launch sites" (February 26).

Meanwhile, Hamas is escalating its rocket attacks on **Israel**. Just six weeks after Operation

Cast Lead ended, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said the numbers of rockets hitting Israel were back to pre-war levels. The IDF said Hamas and other terror groups in



Gaza have rebuilt their missile arsenals through both Iranian and local sources. Such is the result of Israel's lack of will to win even a battle, let alone a war.

On March 8, Israel's top military intelligence officer warned that Hamas's main sponsor, **Iran**, has achieved independent nuclear capability. It has also recently emerged that Iran has accumulated enough low-enriched uranium hexafluoride for a nuclear bomb, has started running tests at its Bushehr nuclear power plant, and has test-fired a new air-to-surface missile.

ASIA

PRESIDENT DMITRI MEDVEDEV vowed on March 17 to press forward with plans to rearm and reorganize the Russian military. He believes NATO still intends to expand toward Russian borders and told his military chiefs to raise the combat readiness of their troops. He promised massive rearmament, weapons upgrades and organizational changes, in what will represent the most dramatic transformation of the Russian military since World War II. This military renaissance is bound to frighten Europe and hasten the formation of a prophesied pan-European army.

Russia struck a landmark energy deal with **China** on February 17. Transneft spokesman Igor Dyomin said that under the terms of the deal, the Chinese Development Bank will lend \$25 billion to Russian energy firms to build a pipeline connecting the Eastern Siberian-Pacific



Ocean Pipeline to China. In exchange, the Russians have pledged to supply the Chinese with 15 million tons of oil annually for the next 20 years. Russia is the second-largest oil producer in the world, while China is a relatively oil-deficient region with a booming economy. An energy partnership between these two nations would greatly benefit both parties. The only real obstacle is the lack of oil-transporting infrastructure traversing the Siberian wilderness. Once Russia gets pipelines in place, however, it will likely become one of the chief energy suppliers for East Asia.

The biggest challenge facing China is unemployment. The jobless rate stands at around 4 percent, yet analysts are predicting this figure could rise to 14 percent before the economic crisis subsides. This means the number of unemployed Chinese could rise to 170 million in the coming years. **Prime Minister Wen Jiabao** said on March 5 that if the Chinese economy does not grow by at least 8 percent this year, the country risks political destabilization and social unrest. In the midst of this economic downturn, the Chinese government is increasing military spending by 14.9 percent. China may soon



seek to avert social catastrophe and alleviate its unemployment problems through massive military conscription. The Bible foretells of a time when an Asian military alliance will amass an army of 200 million men (Revelation 9:16).

Southeast Asian government officials signed a series of trade deals on March 1 designed to integrate their nations' economies and construct an economic and political union modeled on the EU by 2015. The heads of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), meeting in **Thailand**, agreed to the Cha-Am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015). This plan looks to transform ASEAN into a single integrated market, albeit without a common currency, within the next six years.

In addition, ASEAN leaders signed a free-trade agreement with **Australia** and **New Zealand**. As Southeast Asian nations integrate economically with each other and with nations such as **China** and **Japan**, the groundwork is being laid for future political and military alliances. Resources from Australia and New Zealand will feed this growing alliance with food and raw materials. This is exactly what the Bible prophesies.

AFRICA/ LATIN AMERICA

Zimbabwe's INFLATION CAN no longer be figured without a scientific calculator: Some economists estimate inflation has reached 10 sextillion percent. Morgan Tsvangirai became prime minister on February 11 after a violent election process that yielded him only minimal power; on March 6, he was injured and his wife killed in a car accident. Tom McDonald, the U.S. ambassador to Zimbabwe from 1997 to 2001, suspects the crash was intentional because the prime minister's political rival, President Mugabe, "has a history of strange car accidents when someone lo and behold dies—it's sort of his M.O. of how they get rid of people they don't like."

Like many African countries, the little-known failed state of **Guinea-Bissau** is a brutal example of man's inhumanity to man. On March 2, President Joao Bernardo Vieira was shot and killed, just one day after his political rival—the chief of the armed forces—was killed by a rocket-propelled grenade. Guinea-Bissau was already a reliable transshipment point for cartel leaders seeking to smuggle drugs into Europe. Now it could well become the central hub for Europe's drug trade.

At the beginning of March, the U.S. Navy released official figures on efforts to prosecute pirates, and the results are discouraging. Of 238 suspected pirates investigated, about half were prosecuted. Many of those prosecuted were sent to prison in Puntland, a northeastern region of **Somalia**, where pirates generally either escape or are released when someone pays a bribe to get them out.

U.S. President Barack



the **Brown administration** continues to suffer slights from the **Obama White House**. After removing a bust of Winston Churchill from the Oval Office and forgoing a joint press conference with Prime Minister Gordon Brown during his visit to the U.S., Obama gave Brown a gift of 25 DVD movies. Coming from the executive of the most powerful nation in the world, the gift was seen as a snub. A State Department official involved in planning Brown's visit told the *Sunday Telegraph*, "There's nothing

Obama has begun the process of lifting restrictions on **Cuba**. While the initial changes do not remove the travel embargo—they are instead geared toward things like allowing Cuban-Americans to send money home and make annual visits—the direction is clear.

On February 15, **Venezuela's** President Hugo Chávez won his referendum to remove presidential term limits from the Constitution, enabling him to continue to win elections of questionable veracity for life.

It appears the drug war in **Mexico** is being won by the cartels. Violent mafias are taking over the country one town at a time. Last year, gangs killed over 500 police officers. Read "Is Mexico About to Collapse?" in the March *Trumpet* for more on the deteriorating state of the U.S.'s southern neighbor.

ANGLO-AMERICA

LATE WINTER AND EARLY Spring brought more troubling news for the American economy and the economies tied to it—meaning the whole

world. As Herbert Armstrong forecasted over 40 years ago, the **United States** has fallen from its status of economic superpower—a thought unthinkable for most just 10 years ago, and especially in 1968 when Mr. Armstrong was powerfully predicting the economy would resort to drastic and ineffective measures to stave off collapse.

In March, one month after spending more money than anyone in history with a \$787 billion spending bill, President Barack Obama signed another bill for \$410 billion more in spending. The Federal Reserve then pumped another \$1 trillion into the financial system, buying up mortgage securities and treasury bonds. However, U.S. treasury bonds could be the next bubble to burst. In the aftermath of the popped housing bubble, which the *Trumpet* anticipated in 2003, investors are pumping money into the perceived safety of the T-bill. But with high prices and low

yields, treasuries could be the next market to crash—and China knows it. On March 13, Premier Wen Jiabao said, "We have lent a huge amount of money to the U.S., so of course we are concerned about the safety of our assets." The U.S. should be too.

In other financial news, 2008's richest man in the world, **American investor Warren Buffett**, commented in March on the global financial landslide that turned into an avalanche last September. The national economy came days and perhaps hours away from destruction, he said, and since then, "It's fallen off a cliff." Buffett, 78, added that "not only has the economy slowed down a lot, people have really changed their behavior like nothing I've seen. ... When people get scared, they change their buying habits. When they quit buying as much, people lay off. We are in a very, very vicious negative feedback cycle."

In British-American news,

special about **Britain**. You're just the same as the other 190 countries in the world. You shouldn't expect special treatment." Later, the White House proved incredibly difficult to contact by Downing Street to plan the G-20 summit in London, according to the head of Britain's civil service.

HIV/AIDS infection rates in Washington, D.C., are higher than in West Africa, according to the District's HIV/AIDS Administration. The threshold for a "generalized and severe" epidemic is a 1 percent infection rate. D.C.'s rates are triple that. The 2008 epidemiology report found that over 15,000 residents are infected.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported March 18 that 40 percent of all American births in 2007 occurred out of wedlock.

The U.S. is losing even its notional status as a religious country. The recently released "American Religious Identification Survey" found that from 1990 to 2008, the number of professing Christians in the U.S. dropped 10 percent. The report also found that the number of Americans who claim no religious identity rose from 8 percent to 15 percent.



Why Churches Keep SUNDAY

BY MARK JENKINS

For thousands of years, people have gathered at sunrise on Sunday to worship. Even before the Catholic Church began, Romans would face the east and worship the rising sun. That pagan sun worship is, in fact, the origin of the name Sunday, just as the name Thursday refers to the worship of the Norse god Thor.

In Old Testament times it would have been clear to everyone that God's followers rested on the Sabbath—the seventh day of the week—and pagans who worshipped the creation observed the first day of the week in honor of the sun.

How then—and by what authority—does virtually every church keep Sunday as the sabbath today? Was the day of worship changed by Jesus Christ, who called Himself “Lord of the Sabbath” in Mark 2:28? Or perhaps by the apostles? Is there any biblical command for true Christians to worship on Sunday? And if not, where does that authority come from?

The Origins of the Two Days

The origins for both Sunday and Saturday

worship are found in the first two chapters of Genesis. On the first day of the week, the great Creator God made the sun. Thus the link with Sunday worship: Pagans have worshipped that sun rather than its Creator throughout history. Even today, religious leaders hearken back to the creation to support Sunday worship. At a mass in 2007, Pope Benedict XVI said Sunday calls to mind “the day of the dawning of creation” and is therefore “the church’s weekly feast of creation.”

In contrast, consider what happened on the seventh day of the week: “And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God *blessed the seventh*

day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made” (Genesis 2:2-3). During creation week, God did not sanctify any other day. He stopped His *physical* creation on the seventh day and created something *spiritual*: His Sabbath.

No one disputes the sanctity of Saturday as the Sabbath in the Old Testament. Almighty God gave its observance as the Fourth Commandment in Exodus 20. (And Jesus Christ often verified the eternally binding nature of the Ten Commandments—e.g. Matthew 5:17-19; 19:17-19.)

Then, as part of a special and separate covenant with Israel, God said the Sabbath would be a sign FOREVER: “It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for

ever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed” (Exodus 31:17).

The Bible itself offers no sanction for Sunday worship—more on this later—and many churches know this. We turn first to the historical record, which clearly shows when the day of observance was changed, exactly who changed it, and how it was ENFORCED.

Sunday Enforced

At the time of Christ, only pagans—specifically, the Roman Empire—worshipped on Sunday. By A.D. 230, however, Catholics were divided on which day they should observe. One early Catholic, Origen, wrote: “But what is the feast of the Sabbath except that of which the apostle speaks, ‘There remaineth, therefore, a Sabbatism,’ that is, the observance of the Sabbath by the people of God? Leaving the Jewish observances of the Sabbath, let us see how the Sabbath ought to be observed by a Christian. On the Sabbath day all worldly labors ought to be abstained from. If, therefore, you cease from all secular works, and execute nothing worldly, but give yourselves up to spiritual exercises, repairing to church, attending to sacred reading and instruction ... this is the observance of the Christian Sabbath.” At that time, this Catholic leader was referring to the seventh day of the week.

Enforced Sunday worship began with the Roman Empire, specifically Constantine. In A.D. 321, Constantine issued an edict forbidding work on “the venerable day of the sun”—Sunday. In a letter following the Nicene Council of A.D. 325, Constantine spoke of the enforcement of Sunday worship for Easter services: “At this meeting the question concerning the most holy day of Easter was discussed, and it was resolved by the united judgment of all present that this feast ought to be kept by all and in every place on one and the same day.” In other words, Easter was to be kept on Sunday, and the Jewish observance of Passover was expressly forbidden.

To those who ignored the decrees of the Nicene Council, Constantine wrote, in another letter regarding Sabbath worship, “Forasmuch, then, as it is no longer possible to bear with your pernicious errors, we give warning by this present statute that none of you henceforth presume to assemble yourselves together. We have directed, accordingly, that you be deprived of all the houses in which you are accustomed to hold your assemblies: and our care in

this respect extends so far as to forbid the holding of your superstitious and senseless meetings, not in public merely, but in any private house or place whatsoever. Let those of you, therefore, who are desirous of embracing the true and pure religion take the far better course of entering the Catholic Church ... [F]rom this day forward none of your unlawful assemblies may presume to appear in any public or private place. Let this edict be made public.”

After Constantine gave his edict, worship on any day except Sunday became illegal. Almost 40 years later, in A.D. 363, the Council of Laodicea determined, “Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath [that is, Saturday], but must work on that day, rather honoring the Lord’s

If you read the New Testament from Matthew to Revelation, you’ll read the phrase “first day of the week” eight times (and the word “Sunday” zero times), and none of these passages speak of Sunday worship.

day ... But if any shall be found to be Judaizers, let them be anathema [cursed and excommunicated] from Christ.”

At the Council of Tours in A.D. 1163, Pope Alexander III made this decree: “Whereas a damnable heresy has for some time lifted its head in the parts about Toulouse, and already spread infection through Gascony and other provinces, concealing itself like a serpent in its folds; as soon as its followers shall have been discovered, let no man afford them refuge on his estates; neither let there be any communication with them in buying and selling: so that, being deprived of the solace of human conversation, they may be compelled to return from error to wisdom.”

Historically speaking, there is no question as to who changed the day of worship. It was the Catholic Church, enforced by the Roman Empire.

What Churches Believe

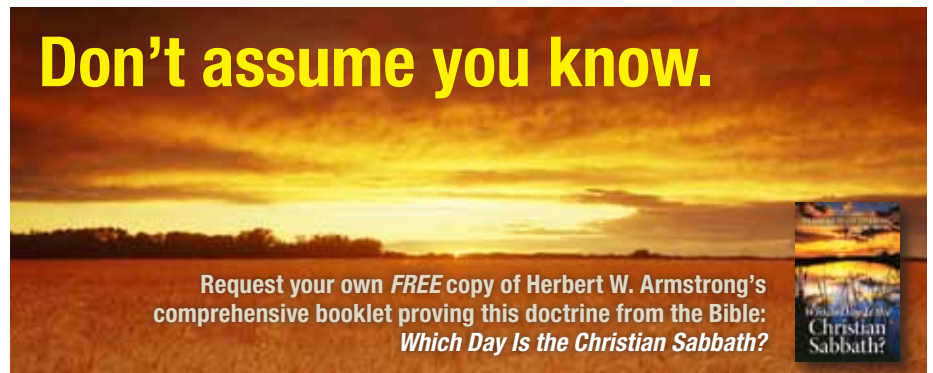
Since the Catholic Church instituted the change and is the largest organization now observing Sunday, let’s turn to its materials first for information about why it believes Sunday is sacred. The simple answer is this: *because the Catholic Church made the change.*

The *Catholic Doctrinal Catechism* states this directly: “Question: Have you any other way of proving that the church has power to institute festivals of precept? Answer: Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her, she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day, a change for

which there is no scriptural authority.” Catholics identify the changing of the day of worship as a sign of Catholic authority!

Catholics, in fact, feel the Protestants should keep the Sabbath as long as they reject the authority of Rome. The *Catholic Doctrinal Catechism* further states: “Question: When Protestants do profane work upon Saturday, or the seventh day of the week, do they follow the Scripture as their only rule of faith? Do they find this permission clearly laid down in the Sacred Volume? Answer: On the contrary, they have only the authority of tradition for this practice. In profaning Saturday, they violate one of God’s commandments, which He has never abrogated—‘Remember thou keep holy the Sabbath day.’”

Some Protestants *admit* this. Martin Luther himself wrote in *Against the Celestial Prophets*: “Indeed, if [sabbatarian See **SUNDAY** page 34 ➤



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Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?



The Gift Children Need Most

**It's one that keeps giving back
in return.** BY STEPHEN FLURRY

IT'S SUMMERTIME AND THE CHILDREN ARE OUT OF school. You've made your travel arrangements and organized the itinerary. Bags are packed. The point of departure has arrived.

But wait! Before you leave, *project forward* three months. It's early September and the children are now back in school. What is it, do you suppose, that your children will *cherish most* about their summer vacation? The answer might surprise you.

For the past two summers, I've spent three months living in Jerusalem with my wife and two children. During the day, my work hours consisted of writing, teaching and research. At night and on the weekends, as you might expect given the location, my wife and I scheduled frequent family excursions—many of them valuable learning experiences for us and the kids.

The ones that stand out in *my* mind are Yad Vashem, the Bible Lands Museum, the Garden Tomb, Tel Dan, the Sea of Galilee, Caesarea, the Temple Mount, the City of David and our hike through Petra.

For the kids, two of the more memorable highlights were family day at the beach in Netanya and more family fun at a water park in Tiberius. No surprise there.

But I was surprised by something my 6-year-old son said last year as we were preparing to leave for Jerusalem the second time.

"Dad," he asked, "when are we going on *our date*?"

"Our date?"

"Yeah, like the one we had last year in Jerusalem," he reminded me.

Of *all* the activities we had enjoyed together as a family the previous summer, our "date" was the one he asked to do again.

It consisted of falafel for two, a 40-minute bus ride to the Jerusalem mall, an arts and crafts project, a few games at the arcade, an animated film and the return trip home on bus 38.

My son surely learned more during the visit to Bible Lands Museum. His strength and endurance was tested more severely during our hike to the Monastery at Petra. But as far as memorable experiences go, for a 6-year-old boy, *five uninterrupted hours with dad ranks right at the top of the list.*

That's because children need to spend time with their parents—sometimes one-on-one time **ALONE** with Dad or Mom. For parents, time and attention are the **MOST PRECIOUS GIFTS** you can give to your children.

God First Loved Us

Over the last half-century, the amount of time parents spend interacting with children has fallen to embarrassingly low levels. A few years ago, a time-management study in Britain found that adults spent most of their time sleeping, working and watching television (July 19, 2006). Reading and spending time with children, on the other hand, were at the bottom of the to-do list. Other studies have found that the amount of time fathers devote to their children has decreased by 10 to 20 hours per week over the past two generations.

And we wonder why so many of our children are insecure, lonely, unhealthy, emotionally immature, unruly, disrespectful to their elders and rebellious toward authority.

“Most fathers and mothers—especially fathers,” Leslie Hohman wrote in a book we often cite here at Herbert W. Armstrong College, “do not devote many hours enthusiastically to their daughters and sons after the first novelty of babyhood is past. They listen to the troubles of middle childhood when they have to, and occasionally come swooping off their perches for sudden reprimands. By the time children are old enough to be really interesting as companions to the average parent, it is **TOO LATE**. The children have been forced to establish other interests,

pleasures and affection relations” (*As the Twig Is Bent*; emphasis mine throughout).

It's too easy to assume that we'll be there for them when they are older—playing catch with him in the yard, having open dialogue with her about struggles at school, enjoying a game of *Monopoly* on family night and so on. But if we don't invest quality time in their lives *when they are young*—frolicking on the floor with them at babyhood, playing tag in the yard as toddlers, reading to them before they can do it themselves, building model airplanes together, playing with blocks or Legos, flying kites, enjoying family outings together and occasionally setting aside more focused, one-on-one time with each child—we may lose them before they reach adolescence.

On the spiritual level, the Bible says God's children love Him *because HE LOVED US FIRST* (1 John 4:19). Describing His relationship with the children of Israel, Deuteronomy 32 says that God found them in a desert wilderness alone and helpless. He then delivered them from captivity, protected them from danger, instructed them in all His ways and judgments, made them ride upon the high places of the Earth and kept them as the “apple of his eye.”

It must work the same way on the *physical* level. In the eyes of his parents, a child should be made to feel like the most important person in the world, Ross Campbell explained in *How to Really Love Your Children*: “Few children feel this but oh, the difference it makes in that small one when he knows he is special. Only focused attention can give him that realization and knowledge. It is so vital in a child's development of self-esteem. And it profoundly affects a child's ability to relate to and *love others*.”

Children learn the meaning of love from parents who *first* take the time to express unselfish, outgoing concern and love for their children. This, of course, takes an abundance of time and sacrifice. And unless we are willing to invest the time and effort it takes to raise children properly,

we shouldn't have children.

Think for a moment about the memories and experiences you cherish most from your childhood. If you come from a good family background, it's probably the road trips, campouts, game nights and the occasional alone time you spent with Dad or Mom.

This summer, love your children *first* by building those same unforgettable experiences and life lessons into their upbringing. Spend time working and playing with your children. Enjoy sports and exercise as a family. Create and build things together. Open lines of communication. Talk to them. Make mealtime *family* time. Read and study more together. Plan a special evening activity at home with the family once a week. Have a 20-minute Bible study with the kids two or three nights a week. Pray together before bedtime. And every once in a while, set aside special time to spend **ALONE** with each child.

Of course, the bigger the family, the more challenging it is to fit “dates” into the schedule. But if you **MAKE** time for it, you will reap a fruitful harvest in return.

In the case of my family, on the night I went out with my son, my wife planned a special evening at home with our daughter. Later that night, when we all came back together, both children excitedly summarized the events of their evenings, both of them trying to convince the other that *theirs* was just a bit more special.

“Daddy,” my daughter asked later that night while I was tucking her in, “when are we going on *our* date?”

We had our time alone two weeks later. During the date with my daughter, while waiting for the bus, we decided to visit a bead shop nearby. For about 20 minutes, we walked around admiring the beads, chains, necklaces and bracelets—something I would have never done on my own. But it meant a lot to her. And now, in looking back on the many memorable experiences I've had with my daughter over the years, roaming the aisles of that bead shop ranks pretty high on my list too. ■

CIRCA 1938

"Watch out! Jews about."



ANTI-SEMITISM

Why You Should Be Alarmed

History shows that anti-Semitism is a measure of global tension. **BY BRAD MACDONALD**

“JEW TO THE GAS.” “JEW TO THE oven.” “Kill the Jews.”

These are standard sentiments in the streets of Tehran and Gaza City. But earlier this year, those chilling slogans, *chanted by tens of thousands*, echoed up and down the streets of London, Paris and Amsterdam.

Yes, you read that correctly.

These slogans, of course, filled Germany during World War II. By that time, Hitler's unchecked anti-Semitism had matured beyond boycotting Jewish stores, banning Jews from schools, firebombing synagogues and flogging Jews in dark alleys. By the early 1940s, the ultimate expression of hatred toward Jews had emerged: The führer was rounding up Jews

like sheep, and cramming them—shocked and naked, men, women and children—into steel chambers, then gassing them.

Consider: Tens of thousands of Europeans *today* seek the reconstruction of Nazi Germany's gas chambers and ovens. Granted, the recent Continent-wide choir was largely composed of European Muslims protesting Israel's incursion into Gaza and showing support for Hamas. Native Europeans, for the most part, were by no means condoning 1940s-style Nazi anti-Semitism.

That said, the overwhelmingly passive reaction of Europeans to the chilling calls for the mass murder of Jews—by a *minority* group, on the streets of *European cities*, suggests the presence of a latent and foreboding anti-Semitism. More worry-

ing is the fact that while European governments, state and city authorities, academics, much of the media and European populace did virtually nothing to tamp down the hate, many—both leaders and citizens—energetically *lauded* the anti-Semitic chorus. The reality is, anti-Israel sentiment—the slick cousin of anti-Semitism—was and is *embraced, encouraged and facilitated* in the European mainstream by European politicians, intellectuals and media.

Call this *1930s-style anti-Semitism*, if you will. And history shows that unless it is checked, it leads directly to Jews being gassed and tossed like worthless fodder into ovens, or what in hindsight might be called *1940s-style anti-Semitism*.

1930s-Style Anti-Semitism

Much like it is today, hatred toward Jews was politically fashionable and socially acceptable in Britain and the rest of Europe during the 1930s. Historian William Manchester noted this trend in his book *The Last Lion*.

“The martyrdom of Jews in the 1940s would strip anti-Semitism [in BRITAIN] of its respectability,” wrote Manchester, “but in the 1930s it was quite an ordinary thing to see restaurants, hotels, clubs, beaches, and residential neighborhoods barred to people with what were delicately called ‘dietary requirements.’ ... *Contempt for [Jews] was not considered bad form*. They were widely regarded as unlovable, alien, loud-mouthed, ‘flashy’ people who enriched themselves at the expense of Gentiles” (emphasis mine throughout).

During this time, the British government, high society, the intellectual class and the media—with the exception of a handful of individuals including Winston Churchill—were infected with animosity for Jews and infatuation with Nazism. Among London’s upper crust, Nazism and all it represented had a strange appeal: “Ladies wore bracelets with swastika charms; young men combed their hair slant across their foreheads” (ibid.). Even Britain’s king, Edward VIII, visited Hitler’s Germany, admired the führer, and didn’t lift a finger to curb the growing and blatant acts of anti-Semitism surging in the government and across the country.

Similar sentiment prevailed in Europe. “Poland’s national character, like Germany’s,” wrote Manchester, “was marred by a livid streak of anti-Semitism ...” In Hungary, anti-Semitic laws similar to those in Nazi Germany made the persecution of Jews routine. In France in the late ‘30s, rowdy crowds, alarmed by the prospect of war with Germany and convinced that Jewish warmongers were at the root of the problem, protested in towns and suburbs, crying “Death to the Jews, raid the Jews.”

As in Britain, a wide and surging river of anti-Semitism, flowing since early medieval times—whose primary source was Europe’s Catholic forbears—ran unchecked through the peoples, classes and governments of Europe.

In Germany, the persecution of Jews had been adopted as state policy nearly a decade before the war began. By the mid-’30s, bullying Jews was virtually a national sport. Across the country, wrote Manchester, “motion picture theaters, shops and restaurants were displaying prominent signs reading ‘*Juden unerwünscht*’ (‘Jews

not welcome’). Day-to-day existence was becoming increasingly difficult for non-Aryans. ‘*Für Juden kein Zutritt*’ (‘Jews not admitted’) placards hung outside grocery and butchers’ shops; they could not enter dairies to buy milk for their infants, or pharmacies to fill prescriptions, or hotels to find lodging. *At every turn they were taunted ...*”

Hatred of Jews was as much in vogue in America as it was in Europe. “The worst period of American anti-Semitism,” wrote history Prof. Leonard Dinnerstein, “was sandwiched between the ends of World War I and World War II” (*Anti-Semitism in Times of Crisis*). By the mid-1940s, recalls Dinnerstein, animosity toward Jews had swelled to the point where many American Jews actually feared that the anti-Semitic pogroms occurring in Nazi Germany were about to spread to America.

This global anti-Semitism came with significant consequences. Because hatred of Jews was in style and enormously pervasive, Western leaders during the 1930s were largely blind to the apocalyptic destination of the raging anti-Semitic river. In this sense, the subliminal support given by British, European and American governments and society to Hitler’s anti-Jewish ideology and policies actually made the gas-chamber-style anti-Semitism of the 1940s inevitable!

History’s warning is thunderous and undeniable: Pre-World War II trends in Britain, America and Europe show that anti-Semitism is a BAROMETER OF CRISIS!

History Is Repeating

In January, the *Brussels Journal* reported: “Far from simply being a spate of isolated incidents, as many Europeans claim, *anti-Semitic violence is becoming more commonplace in every country in Europe*. At the same time, anti-Israel demonstrations, which have *strong anti-Semitic overtones*, are being held with alarming frequency in cities across Europe” (January 17).

With the creation of the Jewish state in 1948 came a new strain of this age-old hatred: anti-Zionism, or opposition to the Jewish state. Today, anti-Semitism, often manifested as anti-Israel sentiment, is as fashionable in Britain and Europe as it was in the 1930s!

Writing in the *New Statesman* in March, Rhoda Koenig, a former New Yorker now living in London, lamented the prevalence of what she termed low-level “dinner party” anti-Semitism. Anti-Israel, anti-Jewish discussions are not only common among Britain’s elite, she said, but there’s rarely much debate or disagreement on the subject. This suggests a collective intolerance.

“The Palestinian people in Gaza are the new Warsaw ghetto,” declared British MP George Galloway earlier this year, “and those who are murdering them are the equivalent of those who murdered the Jews in Warsaw in 1943.”

“Jew-baiting is especially intense in the UK,” wrote Isi Leibler in the *Jerusalem Post*. “Prominent Jews encounter death threats. Students at Oxford University have gleefully proclaimed that in five years,

their campus ‘would be a Jew-free zone.’ A high-ranking British diplomat was arrested after publicly launching a foul-mouthed anti-Semitic tirade. The London-based Royal Court Theater is staging a viciously anti-Israeli play by Caryl Churchill that Melanie

Phillips described in the *Spectator* as reminiscent of anti-Semitic plays performed in the Middle Ages portraying Jews as demonic Christ-killers” (February 15).

Anti-Semitism is once again fashionable in Britain. No wonder anti-Semitic incidents are skyrocketing. The Community Security Trust reported that the number of attacks against Jews was more than six times higher in the four weeks after Operation Cast Lead began than in the same period last year. Jew-beatings are increasingly common, and prominent Jews have been encouraged by authorities to step up personal security as many are on hit lists. These days, in many cases, Jewish functions require a team of bodyguards to protect participants. During one demonstration in London earlier this year, participants—*many of whom were native Britons*—as well as police and onlookers, didn’t object to a man dressed as a Jewish caricature, replete with a mask of a long, crooked nose, *pretending to eat babies*.

During the 1930s, many in Britain lauded Hitler’s anti-Semitism. Today, many in Britain condone, even embrace, Islam’s hatred for Jews and the Jewish state. Britain is more infatuated with the forces

When nations coddle radical regimes and embrace their genocidal ambitions, they make catastrophic destruction inevitable!

seeking its destruction than it is loyal to friends needing its assistance! As during the 1930s, certain influences within Britain are empowering its enemy and facilitating the eventual destruction of an ally.

In Europe, the river of anti-Semitism that carved through the Continent, swelling Nazi Germany's pre-war anti-Jew ambitions, has reappeared today, and flows as briskly as ever. Though their hatred is cloaked in anti-Israel and pro-Palestinian rhetoric and gestures, many European leaders are sanctioning, *even promoting*, the persecution of Jews.

Take Harry van Bommel, for example, the native Dutch MP who earlier this year called for a new intifada against Israel. In France, young thugs were recently caught on camera marching through a supermarket shouting anti-Jew epithets and smashing food products imported from Israel. Increasingly, even business leaders and politicians are demanding boycotts against products made in Israel. This often means the boycotting of Jewish-owned stores. In Italy, Giancarlo Desiderati, spokesman for the Flaica-CUB trade union, demanded a boycott of all Jewish shops in Rome, and warned Romans, in a leaflet distributed by his outfit, that goods they purchase from Jewish-owned stores are "tainted by blood."

These are flagrant attempts—in Europe no less, the so-called modern bastion of multiculturalism and tolerance—to put Jews out of business. Exactly the same measures were occurring in Europe prior to the Holocaust.

Serge Benhaim, president of a Jewish community in Paris, described daily life for many Jews in France: "Almost every day we witness severe racially motivated incidents, and tension has only intensified after the operation in Gaza. We don't take the train after 7 p.m., we wear a skullcap only under a hat, and our youths don't wander the streets late at night anymore."

That's 1930s-style anti-Semitism!

The National Bureau of Vigilance Against Anti-Semitism in France reported that within about three weeks of the war in Gaza starting, it had received more than 100 reports of violence against Jews. Synagogues, Jewish centers and Jewish memorials are regularly firebombed and ransacked. Jews are persecuted, verbally abused and beaten. Earlier this year in Denmark, two Israelis were shot and wounded in a shopping mall. In Belgium, Jewish schools are being desecrated; Jewish community leaders are receiving death threats; and a plot to burn a Jewish family alive was foiled. During many of the



CONDEMNATION Thousands of people berate Israel for "barbarity and war crimes"—in Trafalgar Square, London.

anti-Israel demonstrations throughout Europe, Nazi imagery was resurrected; signs and chants likened Israeli soldiers to Nazi troops, the Gaza Strip was compared to Auschwitz, and the Star of David was replaced with Nazi swastikas.

It's sadly ironic. By condoning, even joining, the movement to liken Jews to Nazis, native Britons and Europeans are making Nazi-style destruction inevitable!

In some parts of Denmark, school authorities are refusing to accept Jewish students—some out of fear it might upset the Muslim students, others because they despise Israel. In Britain, Jewish schoolchildren are bullied for belonging to a people supposedly "with blood on their hands."

Let's not misunderstand: While there was a surge in anti-Jewish incidents in the wake of Israel's incursion into Gaza in January, the war was more of an **EXCUSE** or **OUTLET** for venting latent, abiding prejudice and hatred than a **ROOT CAUSE** of the current surge in anti-Semitism!

The global financial crisis has been exploited in much the same manner. In February, the Anti-Defamation League reported on a survey it had commissioned that found nearly a *third of Europeans blame Jews* for the global economic meltdown and that a large number of Europeans believe Jews have too much power in the business world. In Spain, *74 percent* of those polled said they felt it was "probably true" that Jews hold too much sway over the global financial markets. Nearly two thirds lamented that the Jews were more loyal to Israel than their home countries.

This is not new: For centuries anti-Semitism has been a valve through which mounting tensions are released! When the plague decimated Europe in the late

Middle Ages, for example, blame was pinned by many on the Jews.

Where Will It End?

The Second World War broke up the 1930s love affair with Nazism. Although Hitler's unspeakable acts finally prodded Britain and Western Europe into doing something to stop the atrocities, 60 million lives were sacrificed before World War II finally ended!

The lesson is poignant: When nations coddle radical regimes and embrace their genocidal ambitions, they make catastrophic destruction inevitable!

Today, the briskly flowing, unchecked river of anti-Semitism that cut across the planet during the 1930s has been resurrected. If we understand history, we can know that this torrent of hate and violence, when it reaches its high-water mark and finally overflows its banks, will not only engulf the Jews and the Jewish state, but will also spill over and swamp entire nations and regions.

In fact, biblical prophecy shows that it will engulf the planet!

Two prophecies in particular, one in Hosea 5, the other in Zechariah 14, indicate anti-Semitism—manifested in an intense hatred for the Jewish state and a burning desire to purge Jews from Jerusalem—will play a central role in end-time events. Thankfully, these events are prophesied to immediately precede the return of Jesus Christ to this Earth! His government will finally put a stop to *all* racial prejudice (Acts 10:34).

To study these prophecies in detail, request your free copy of *Hosea—Reaping the Whirlwind*, and *Jerusalem in Prophecy*. ■



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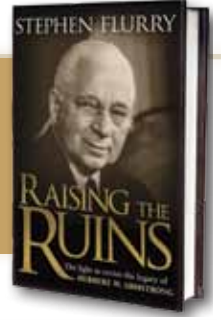
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In his book *Raising the Ruins*, available in bookstores, *Trumpet* executive editor Stephen Flurry exposes the reality of what happened to the Worldwide Church of God. Here is the 24th chapter.



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

Victory Prophesied

“I prophesy to you that, one way or the other, God will provide a way for us to mail that book again.”

— Gerald Flurry, *Trumpet*, March-April 2003

RUTH TUCKER SAYS WE DON'T BASE OUR BELIEFS ON Scripture, but it was actually the Bible that served as our guide throughout the entirety of this struggle. Our God-given commission, *grounded in Scripture*, is what prompted my father to print *Mystery of the Ages* in the first place. Then, after the WCG attacked, my father relied on *Scripture* to establish the framework for our legal strategy: OFFENSIVE WARFARE. And after every setback, he turned to *God's Word* for encouragement.

“I'm not discouraged—I'm not depressed,” my father told PCG members a few days after the Ninth Circuit ruled against us on Sept. 18, 2000. “I want to fight more than ever. I asked the lawyers to fight as if our lives depended on it, but to really fight it with a positive attitude—realizing that God is with us.”

Soon after the decision at the appellate level, our attorneys petitioned for a rehearing. We submitted a brief to all 27 judges at the Ninth Circuit, hoping one of them would move to have our case submitted before an 11-judge panel. No one responded.

“It's not over yet,” my father insisted. “We're going to win this thing in the end. We absolutely know that.”

While waiting to hear if the Supreme Court would accept our case, my dad made this amazing statement in the March-April 2001 *Trumpet*: “We are in a court battle over Herbert W. Armstrong's book *Mystery of the Ages*. The big issue is, *who owns the copyright?* ... Now there has been an injunction issued. We have had to stop printing and mailing *Mystery of the Ages* (and all of Mr. Armstrong's writings).

“We have appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. There is less than a 1 percent chance of our getting into the Supreme Court, but I believe we will. I prophesy to you that, *one way or the other*, God will provide a way for us to mail that book again.”

A few weeks after that appeared in print, on April 2, the Supreme Court declined to hear our petition without comment as to why. On the surface, things had gone from bad to worse.

Yet everything my dad kept saying assured PCG members that things would eventually take a turn for the better.

That's because, in relying on the sure word of *Bible prophecy*, he knew what the lawsuit's outcome would be *even before it ended*.

In *The Royal Book of Revelation*, published about the same time the Supreme Court decided not to hear our case, he wrote, “Should we deliver *Mystery of the Ages*? I tell you we *MUST DELIVER IT!* When the Bible talks about prophesying again, that primarily means the *same* prophecy—again. God is talking about a message that has been prophesied before. WE MUST PROPHECY AGAIN, BECAUSE WE HAVEN'T YET REACHED THE LARGEST AUDIENCE POSSIBLE WITH *MYSTERY OF THE AGES*. THE JOB IS STILL INCOMPLETE.

“God won't allow anybody to stop this message until that work is done. The injunction is only a temporary delay!”

He based his strong statements on certain prophecies in Revelation 10, where God said the “mystery of God” had to be “finished” before Christ returned (see Revelation 10:7, 11). This is why, he went on to say, the PCG has been commissioned to get *Mystery of the Ages* to the world. “But for this temporary injunction, *Mystery of the Ages* is going out again. Understanding this really puts things into a greatly reduced time frame,” he wrote.

He didn't know all the answers with respect to how God would do it—only that God would do it!

■ PROPHECY GETS MORE SPECIFIC

In the May 31, 2001, issue of the *Journal*, Bill Stough wrote, “The director of the Worldwide Church of God's legal department says that if the Philadelphia Church of God wants to publish and distribute WCG-copyrighted publications it should negotiate directly with the Worldwide Church of God.”

So far as we know, this was the WCG's first indication that they might annul their “Christian duty” doctrine. And in reading between the lines, Helge was indirectly admitting, *There are no plans to annotate or make Mr. Armstrong's works*

available in their original form, so go ahead and make us an offer. Reality had set in. They knew they had to, in some form, make Mr. Armstrong's works available to the public.

Later that year, in September 2001, we produced another book, titled *Who Is "That Prophet"?* My dad wrote on page 86, "I believe we will not lose the court case. Yes, our chances of winning are small. But that only makes greater odds for God. He is like the Supreme Court in that He only takes certain cases. But He usually takes them when you've already gone into the fiery furnace! *Mystery of the Ages* was an open door for us. God has put it on hold temporarily. BUT ISAIAH 22:22 SAYS THAT WHEN ELIAKIM OPENS A DOOR, NONE CAN SHUT IT. WE MUST HAVE FAITH IN THAT."

Whereas Revelation 10 (as expounded on in *The Royal Book of Revelation*) revealed that the message in *Mystery of the Ages* would, in fact, go out again, the prophecies discussed in *That Prophet* indicated more. Isaiah 22 says that someone in this end time would come as a type of Eliakim. Notice what verse 24 says regarding this man: "And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flacons."

Anciently, these vessels were the tools needed to perform the temple services. My dad explained that today, "These must refer to all of our books and booklets. All the glory hangs on Eliakim—ALL THE REVELATION FROM MR. ARMSTRONG"

This was the first indication we had that God wanted more for us than just the right to copy and distribute Mr. Armstrong's works. *He wanted us to own them!*

■ E-PUBLISHING—MORE REVELATION

Around this time is when Helge devised the e-publishing scheme. Initially, they wanted us to absorb the costs of the project. In November 2001, however, they told us they would move forward with the e-publishing venture, at their own cost, in order to undermine our argument that it would be futile to request a license.

That same month, we produced yet another book, *The God Family Vision*. In it, my dad wrote, "*Mystery of the Ages* DOESN'T BELONG to the Worldwide Church of God. It is the knowledge of God!"

On pages 132-135 of that book, my dad discussed how the Worldwide Church of God had sold its spiritual birthright, comparing that church to Esau. He wrote, "If you sell your birthright for all the wealth in the world today, it's still just a bowl of soup!" And that's what the WCG had been doing for a number of years—selling off valuable gifts given to Mr. Armstrong, fine furniture, youth campsites and facilities, festival sites, college campuses. They were even trying to sell their headquarters facilities in Pasadena, including the church's crown jewel—Ambassador Auditorium.

But would they also sell off Mr. Armstrong's writings? Up to that time, they had only suggested licenses—and very restrictive ones at that.

■ HABAKKUK REVEALED THE OUTCOME

As 2002 wore on, though the damages trial had yet to begin and the counterclaim was unresolved, Bible prophecy indi-

cated the lawsuit was quickly winding down. My dad wrote a lengthy article in our September-October issue of *Royal Vision*. The title speaks for itself: "Habakkuk Reveals the Outcome of Our Court Case." Regarding Habakkuk 3:2, he wrote, "THE PCG HAS NEVER NEEDED REVIVING EXCEPT IN THE COURT CASE. This is a prophecy about God reviving us. So we need to prepare for a spectacular end! Yes—WE ARE GOING TO GET MR. ARMSTRONG'S WRITINGS. ... I believe that God will have to give us Mr. Armstrong's writings. I state that in faith, and I strongly believe He will if we have the faith we need."

Once again, he based such strong statements on what was revealed in Scripture. Notice Habakkuk 1:1-2: "The burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see. O Lord, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! even cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!" There was a temple crisis in Habakkuk's day—a type of what the PCG has endured in this end time.

Verse 3 reads, "Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause me to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence are before me: and there are that raise up *strife* and *contention*." The original Hebrew words for *strife* and *contention* indicate that this is referring to a LEGAL STRUGGLE.

And notice, God's faithful people in Habakkuk's day didn't fare well in court. "Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth" (verse 4). Again, notice the legal language—*law, judgment, wrong judgment*. The Hebrew word for *judgment*, according to *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, means "a verdict (favorable or unfavorable) pronounced judicially, especially a sentence or formal decree" The *Anchor Bible* says, "[T]he juridical language of verse 4 is unmistakable ... it could be describing corruption in the courts."

Habakkuk's reference to a wrong judgment, or verdict, is especially interesting in light of our court battle. There is no mention of a right judgment to correct the wrong. It just abruptly moves into this most inspiring verse: "Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you" (verse 5). My dad wrote, "God says He will raise up a work that people will hear about but won't believe—and this is in the context of the court battle. I believe this has already been fulfilled in general, but is God also saying there will be a specific fulfillment related to the court case, a specific miracle, that will fill God's people with wonder? A miracle that will remove the *injustices* and *destruction*? Do we have the faith to believe?"

"I believe we will see something dramatic on the scene VERY SOON! I can't read these verses any other way. This is in the context of a *revival*, and a *court battle*, and God says a DOUBLE WONDER IS COMING."

Later in the article, my dad wrote, "If God reveals Habakkuk, then it follows that He is going to revive this work *soon* if we walk by faith. ... We must continue. If so, WE CANNOT LOSE. God will revive His work."

■ A GENERAL AND SPECIFIC FULFILLMENT

This specific understanding of Habakkuk in that issue of *Royal Vision* set the tone for my dad's messages at the Feast of Tabernacles in September 2002. On September 22, he com-

pared two verses in Daniel. In Daniel 8:11, it says that in this end time, Satan will *take away* the “daily”—meaning God’s truth (see verse 12). My dad explained that this was a direct reference to Mr. ARMSTRONG’S LITERATURE and how it had been cast to the ground in this end time because of the court case.

Then, in comparing that passage with Daniel 12:11, we read that God (not Satan) takes away the “daily” just before the Great Tribulation begins. Elsewhere in Scripture, this is referred to as the *famine of the word* (see Amos 8:11).

The point is this: For the daily to be taken away now (by Satan) and then again just before the Great Tribulation (by God), it *PROVED*, my dad said in September 2002, that we would somehow take the daily (in this case, represented by Mr. Armstrong’s literature) to the world again before Christ returns.

A week later, on September 28, my dad expounded on Revelation 10:11: “And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.” In *The Royal Book of Revelation* he had explained the general meaning of the verse: that we were to prophesy *again*, the way Mr. Armstrong did before he died. Yet look at this verse in all its specific detail, he told the PCG membership. “Prophesy again implies that it was stopped. Then God says ‘prophesy again.’ But we must fight our way through it and *see how God delivers us.*”

■ AND THEN—“DOUBLE WONDER”

Less than three weeks later, on October 14, the Worldwide Church of God made an offer they had not made throughout the six years of litigation and, in fact, had vowed in 1997 *never* to make. They asked if we would be interested in *BUYING* *Mystery of the Ages*. Later, they not only slashed the asking price, they tacked on the other 18 works we were seeking in our counterclaim!

Everything we had been fighting for was now ours. No one but God could have predicted such an incredible outcome for the Philadelphia Church of God. Yet given these numerous specific prophecies, that is exactly what He had done.

■ ANSWERING THE CRITICS

In the *Journal* story quoted earlier, the author asked Helge if he was aware of the prophecy Gerald Flurry made in the March-April 2001 *Trumpet*—that “one way or the other, God will provide a way for us to mail that book again.” Helge responded this way: “[Mr. Flurry] won’t want his prophecy to fail, so what he is probably really doing is pronouncing ahead of time what he is actually planning on doing. Hence his words are really nothing more than a self-fulfilling prophecy.”

Think about that for a moment. The Ninth Circuit had ruled against us eight months earlier. There had been an injunction served against us. And we had just heard that the Supreme Court chose not to hear our petition. The WCG had *WON THE LAWSUIT* over *Mystery* at the appellate level and would receive damages from us at trial! Yet Helge told the *Journal* that my father’s comment, “God will provide a way for us to mail that book again,” was a self-fulfilling prophecy?

It’s as if Helge knew, even then, that we would somehow get these works. And when we did, he wanted everyone to know that it wouldn’t be because God said so, but because of a self-fulfilling prophecy of Gerald Flurry!

But how in the world could Gerald Flurry have “planned” for the case to end up the way it did? Wasn’t it Helge who said our only “right” was to “stand before the bar of justice and have damages assessed against” us? How could my dad have known the WCG would completely reverse its course and willingly give up everything?

After settlement, Helge misrepresented the facts entirely, suggesting that we were the ones who initiated offers to settle—offers that were repeatedly “rejected.” In actuality, long before there were ever *any* negotiations, the WCG board of directors met and *decided they wanted out of this lawsuit*. They knew they were trapped. They were afraid of being exposed. And they knew that the longer they litigated, the more material we would have to expose them. This is why, on October 14, they offered to sell *Mystery of the Ages* on the condition that we drop our counterclaim.

WE *REJECTED* this initial offer, and many others to follow, just as sure as WCG rejected a number of our *counteroffers*. What’s more, even after both sides had agreed to the principal terms of settlement on Jan. 16, 2003, contractual negotiations were nearly derailed when the WCG insisted that we either give back or destroy all the documents we had accumulated in this case from the WCG.

We told them this was a *DEAL BREAKER* for us. Besides obtaining the 19 works, we believed God wanted us to write a book about the lawsuit as well, which made the discovery documents an indispensable piece of any settlement agreement.

On Feb. 27, 2003, my dad told Dennis Leap and me that he was getting his “second wind” and was prepared to go back to court if WCG insisted on that clause in the contract. We were actually prepared to *GIVE UP MR. ARMSTRONG’S WORKS* and go back to court *if the WCG insisted on retrieving all their documents*. Halting negotiations at the 11th hour, insisting we call the judge to resume litigation—as my dad did—are not the acts of one pressured to make a deal. They are not the acts of one desperately trying to bring about a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Four days after we called the whole thing off, Helge wrote to tell us that WCG had reconsidered and, “in the spirit of Christian cooperation,” had agreed to delete the paragraph requiring destruction of court documents from the contract.

In light of what Helge said in the months that led up to October 14, it makes sense that he would spin the settlement discussions the way he did. All along, he had made no secret of the fact that he felt WCG was in the driver’s seat—that PCG was in a totally indefensible position, faced with the prospect of not getting Mr. Armstrong’s literature and paying out multiple millions of dollars.

In their “ideal” position, the only way the WCG would even talk to us was if *we* approached them with an offer they couldn’t refuse. But that’s *not* how it happened. It was *the* WCG, despite their spin, that was pressured to make a deal in order to get out of this lawsuit.

My father, on the other hand, had prophesied from the start that—one way or another—we would be able to distribute Mr. Armstrong’s literature.

In the end, that’s exactly what happened. ■

room] in the strict sense, but to Germany's neighbors, BERLIN'S GAINS ARE GOING TO FEEL DISTURBINGLY CLOSE."

Stratfor is disturbed that "the Germans have rewritten the rules of finance" in such a way that "THESE STATES WILL BE UTTERLY DEPENDENT ON THE GERMANS FOR THEIR LIVELIHOOD." Nazi Germany failed to defeat Europe for its "security." But now Germany has become the "indispensable player" to the nations of the revived Holy Roman Empire—which has been the opposite of *holy* throughout history!

Germany started a war with France in 1870. It also started World Wars I and II! This nation has a terrifying history of causing wars.

Have we forgotten? Do we even remember what America and Britain declared after World War II?

"It is our inflexible purpose to destroy German militarism and Nazism and to ensure that Germany will never *again* be able to disturb the peace of the world," Winston Churchill wrote in a signed document with Franklin Roosevelt.

The world may have forgotten, but we did not. WHAT IS HAPPENING IN EUROPE NOW IS WHAT WE HAVE BEEN PROPHECYING FOR OVER 60 YEARS! Request our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*. All of our literature is free.

If the Germans were really repentant for causing so many of our past wars, they would not dare make other European nations *utterly dependent upon them for their livelihood*.

Stratfor's report gets even worse: "The solution—or mitigation—to the problem is for Germany to develop and maintain a strong economy not simply for national unification, but also to develop economic links with its immediate neighbors. IN THEORY, IF THE NEIGHBORS SEE THEIR ECONOMIC LINKS TO GERMANY AS INDISPENSABLE, THEY WILL BE MORE LIKELY TO VIEW MILITARY ISSUES FROM THE GERMAN VIEWPOINT."

How the Germans are dealing with the economic crisis is far from democratic!

If people know and understand the history of Germany, they surely must be suffering from some anxiety. Now the *military* has been added to the equation. German armies are getting ready to march once again. They are about to inflict the worst suffering ever on much of this world!

The European Union is being pared down from 27 loosely affiliated nations to 10, so that Germany and a great religion of this world can totally control it. And in this process, a strong leader is about to hijack the EU as prophesied in the 8th chapter of Daniel.

This is the greatest event coming out of the global financial crisis. Before it's over, the world will be reeling from its impact!

"Everyone is turning to Germany as THE ULTIMATE SAVIOR of the European economy," Reuters columnist Paul Taylor wrote February 25. These are extremely alarming words!

European nations fear economic collapse. Now they are looking to Germany as their financial savior. But they are going to get a lot more than a financial savior!

THIS IS THE BIGGEST NEWS EVENT IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW. But it is almost totally overlooked by the world's news media.

Germany's "change of heart" toward rescuing EU states, Taylor wrote, "reflects a shift in the balance of power in the EU that puts Germany in the driver's seat."

The European Union is being pared down from 27 loosely affiliated nations to 10, so that Germany and a great religion of this world can totally control it.

Germany's Spiegel Online stated that "Germany's apparent willingness to support its neighbors reflects a change in direction for the leadership. Until now, Germany ... has been reluctant to offer to help pay for what it sees as other countries' lack of discipline in national spending. *As a result, it is expected that extensive strings will be attached to any assistance offered*, a point made clear by president of Germany's Bundesbank, Axel Weber. Speaking to German daily *Die Welt*, he said 'targeted aid for individual member states' may be 'unavoidable' but *any such moves would have to be accompanied with 'strict demands and conditions'*" (February 27).

Those nations that can't or won't comply will be kicked out of the European Union! THE FOUNDATION OF THE 10 KINGS OF REVELATION 17 IS NOW BEING LAID.

Perhaps the biggest shocker of all is that God is putting it in these nations' minds to unite and fulfill His will (Revelation 17:17).

Why would God miraculously do such a thing? Nothing is more important for you to understand! Our literature will make it painfully clear to you.

The German Election

You need to watch the September 27 election this year in Germany. It could very well produce the political leader of the Holy Roman Empire—and through devious means. The Bible prophesies that this man will come to power with deceit and flatteries.

The collapse of the dollar has frightened Europe and especially Germany. IT HAS PROVIDED GERMANY WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE CONTROL.

The *International Herald Tribune* reported, "The global financial crisis threatens to strike Germany—and the rest of the European Union—with hurricane-like force in the next three to six months.

"AS THE WORLD'S LEADING EXPORTER [Germany is back with real power] and Europe's primary economic engine, Germany is already enduring its worst recession since 1990. And as world trade shrinks and layoffs mount, *Germany's downward spiral could further fragment the 27-nation EU* [that is, reduce the number of nations or leaders to 10]. ...

"A tectonic political shift is likely to occur with the September 27 national elections. The governing grand coalition, linking Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats with the left-of-center Social Democrats, *now seems doomed despite its 75 percent majority in the parliament*. ...

"With EU institutions in limbo, the economy under growing pressure and the entire country riveted by the September national elections, Germany seems likely to enter a phase of protracted inward focus. ...

"[It] is shaping up to be a perilous year for Europe and the world" (February 26).

Are you prepared for a perilous 2009? Our literature will show you how to be totally prepared.

It is staggering that Mr. Armstrong could make such a prediction 25 years ago. However, it is less amazing if you understand Bible prophecy. (Also request our booklet *Daniel—Unsealed at Last!*)

There is a lot of bad news in what I have just written. But there is a mind-galvanizing, hope-filled conclusion: IT IS ALL TIED DIRECTLY TO THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH!

That may sound foolish to many people. But it is clearly stated and can be proved in more than a hundred prophecies of the Holy Bible.

If you have been a reader of this magazine for some time, you know it is time to act—and act today! Time is running out! ■



RIGHT ON
Herbert W. Armstrong
warned Britain about
what is happening
now—decades ago.

BRITAIN WAS WARNED

After 36 years of European Union membership for Britain, one man's warning leaps into greater significance.

BY BRAD MACDONALD

“BRITAIN IS GOING TO LOOK back on Monday, Jan. 1, 1973, in all probability, as a most tragically historic date—a date fraught with ominous potentialities! For that date marked the United Kingdom's entry into the European Community” (Herbert W. Armstrong, *Plain Truth*, March 1973; emphasis mine throughout).

Those familiar with his writings know that's classic Mr. Armstrong: gripping, plain, sincere. But most importantly, ACCURATE and PRESCIENT!

Just ask the growing number of Britons grappling with the realization that the European Union has established a major beachhead within British society. In January, Britain marked the 36-year anniversary of its entrance into the European Community. For many, it's hard not to look back on Jan. 1, 1973, and not lament it as a “tragically historic date.” Today, the “ominous potentialities” Mr. Armstrong referred to have become *alarming realities*.

For Example ...

Last December, British media outlets lit up when the European Parliament voted to scrap the UK's opt-out clause from European Union labor market rules that cap the work week at 48 hours. Britain won the opt-out clause in 1993. Currently, 3 million British workers use Britain's opt-out, choosing *not* to restrict their work week to the EU-mandated 48 hours.

Now millions of British workers face

a potentially crippling ban on working overtime. The timing of the EU's vote to scrap Britain's right to opt out couldn't have been worse; nearly 2 million Britons are unemployed, and the country is in the throes of its worst recession in generations. Rarely has the right for families to earn extra cash by working overtime been more needed.

The suits in Brussels didn't care. When the tally of the vote was announced in the European Parliament, MEPS burst into enthusiastic applause. And although the decision is not yet final, and some British ministers and business leaders have vowed to fight to keep the opt-out clause, the outlook is grim for British workers. Said the Mail Online, “The final decision—likely to be made next spring—would be taken by a qualified-majority vote, *leaving Britain without a veto*” (Dec. 18, 2008).

This is powerful evidence of the EU's dramatic influence on British society.

The EU's regulatory infiltration of Britain these past 36 years is not unlike the way spyware infiltrates a computer. It embeds itself on your hard drive innocuously, but quickly invades and grows. It begins causing problems—easy to ignore at first but eventually causing system failure. Anguished realization ensues: *I've been hijacked!*

Fruit and vegetable wholesaler and father of three, Tim Down, had his moment of anguished realization last summer. In June, he received a visit from officials from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. After they conducted a two-hour inspection, they demanded he throw out a batch of kiwi-fruit. Why? Essentially, because they were 1 millimeter smaller than EU rules allow. Facing a fine of up to £5,000 for selling or even giving away the kiwis, Mr. Down had no choice but to toss the fruit to comply with EU standards.

Mr. Down is among the growing number of Britons coming to terms with the maddening reach of European bureaucrats into British law and society. Restaurant owners face steep fines and even closure for having ovens that do not bear a CE (Conformité Européenne) mark certifying that the equipment meets environmental and safety standards dictated by Brussels. Small-scale gardeners are forced to meet European requirements governing the sale of excess produce from a roadside stall. Millions of British vehicle owners, after 2011, will be required by EU law to drive with dipped headlights at any time of the day. The list goes on and on.

More to Come

Admittedly, some of these may seem minimal invasions of day-to-day life. But such examples are widespread, and speak to the invasive, undemocratic, even imperialist nature and goals of the lawmakers in Brussels, as well as the spirit of capitulation infecting all too many British leaders. Britain's large-scale subservience to EU laws and regulations is a result of a stealth 36-year campaign by European leaders to infiltrate British society and establish EU laws and regulations within the British operating system.

If you grasp the spirit driving Europe, these seemingly minor laws and regu-

lations are merely harbingers of much, MUCH more to come. This is *exactly* what Herbert Armstrong was warning about when he said Britain's entrance into the EC was "fraught with ominous potentialities."

Some have yet to realize the extent of

to this man being arrested in Britain for a crime that is not even on British books.

Examples of the infiltration are numerous and, as the Euroskeptic movement inside Britain builds momentum, becoming increasingly well-documented. And although many Britons are adapting to the new rules, a crisis between the EU and those skeptical, even fearful, of the goals and motives of Brussels is brewing. Additionally, the strain of the global economic crises—an issue that Britain and much of Europe have differing opinions on how best to handle—is creating conditions conducive to the divorce of Britain and Brussels.

This is exactly what Mr. Armstrong said would happen—36 years ago!



MISTAKEN IDENTITY Britain threw in its lot with Europe in 1973.

the EU's control. They will. Perhaps it might occur when a looming change to British auto law comes into effect. Currently, British motorists and independent garages operate under an arrangement known as "block exemption," which requires the auto industry and car manufacturers to provide parts and important computer codes to independent garages (auto mechanic shops)—which are generally cheaper than car dealerships—in order for them to carry out repairs.

If the EU has its way, Britain's "block exemption" arrangement will be scrapped next year, and car manufacturers will no longer be forced to provide parts and computer codes to independent mechanics. The EU's change in law could be the deathblow to as many as 20,000 independent garages in Britain and could affect as many as 20 million motorists, many of whom will be forced to have their vehicles repaired at expensive car dealerships.

Gerald Töben had his moment of anguished realization last fall. The 64-year-old teacher from Australia was tossed in jail after being arrested at Heathrow Airport by British police acting on a warrant issued by German authorities. If British police enforcing a German warrant sounds a little unorthodox, get this: Töben was arrested for "Holocaust denial," a crime in Germany, *but not in Britain*. When it signed up to the EU's European Arrest Warrant Act six years ago, Britain accepted the absurd conditions that led

He Was Right!

"Britain's entry into the European Community portends a tragic situation," concluded the 1973 *Plain Truth* article. "Britain will be faced with a dilemma." That dilemma, explained Mr. Armstrong, would revolve around the role of a fundamentally Protestant Britain in a Catholic-dominated imperialistic United States of Europe.

We are witnesses to that dilemma!

Mr. Armstrong's keynote prophecy was about the rise of a German-led European superpower. Oftentimes, he would talk or write about Britain's relationship with this soon-coming United States of Europe. "The stage is all set!" he wrote in 1956. "All that's lacking now is the strong LEADER—the coming FÜHRER! The Germans are coming back from the destruction of World War II in breathtaking manner. Germany is the economic and military heart of Europe. Probably Germany will lead and dominate the coming United States of Europe. BUT BRITAIN WILL BE NO PART OF IT!"

Herbert Armstrong warned for decades that Britain would not be a part of the coming final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. Even as British Prime Minister Edward Heath deceitfully ramrodded his country into the Economic Community in 1973, Mr. Armstrong warned that it was an experiment doomed to failure, and that the British—AS MANY ARE DOING RIGHT NOW—would look back on that day as a "tragically historic date."

The reality is undeniable. HE WAS RIGHT!

Andreas] Carlstadt were to write further about the Sabbath, Sunday would have to give way, and the Sabbath—that is to say, Saturday—must be kept holy.” In his *Larger Catchism*, Luther wrote that “to avoid the unnecessary disturbance which an innovation would occasion, it [the day of worship] should continue to be Sunday.” He simply accepted Catholic doctrine, which he knew had no scriptural authority.

Methodists, the Church of England, and Presbyterians also have documents acknowledging that there is no scriptural authority for Sunday worship.

If you read the New Testament from Matthew to Revelation, you’ll read the phrase “first day of the week” eight times (and the word “Sunday” zero times), and none of these passages speak of Sunday worship. Herbert Armstrong examined each of these passages in detail in *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?*, which we will be happy to send you upon request.

The Bible clearly shows us which day the early Christians kept. Jesus Christ kept the Sabbath (Luke 4:16). The Apostle Paul both kept the Sabbath and preached it to *Gentiles* on the Sabbath for 1½ years (Acts 18:4, 6-11).

Many point to an Easter sunrise as authority for Sunday worship. In brief, Jesus Christ only offered one sign of His Messiahship: that, like Jonah (Jonah 1:17), He would remain in the grave for three days and three nights. Ever since, mankind has been trying to squeeze three days and three nights into a barely 36-hour period between Friday evening and Sunday morning.

Like Sunday observance, the sunrise Easter service has pagan origins. You can prove that God commands us to observe Christ’s *death*, not His birth (request our free reprint article “The Resurrection Was Not on Sunday” for more information).

What then are millions of professing Christians to do? Should they, like Martin Luther, just avoid rocking the boat? Should they, along with the Vatican and millions of other professing Christians, look toward the *sun* in honor of the creation, and *work* on the day that God Himself sanctified?

What will you do? The Almighty God gave this command: “Remember the *sabbath* day, to keep it holy” (Exodus 20:8). The patriarchs, ancient Israel, Jesus Christ, the disciples, the Apostle Paul, and God’s true Church all kept it as He commanded. All worshipped the Creator of the universe instead of the work of His fingers. What will you do? ■



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

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

Dish Network ION 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 WTVY-DT 8:30, Sun

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

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

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

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

Arizona, Phoenix KPXX 5:00 am, Fri

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

Arkansas, Fayetteville KWFT 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Fort Smith KCWA 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Jonesboro KJOS 8:30 am, Sun

Arkansas, Rogers KWFT 8:30, Sun

Arkansas, Springdale KWFT 8:30 am, Sun

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

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

California, El Centro KWUB 9:30 am, Sun

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

California, Los Angeles KPXX 6:00 am, Fri

California, Monterey KMWB 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

California, Sacramento KSPX 6:00 am, Fri

California, Salinas KION 9:30 am, Sun

California, San Francisco KKPX 6:00 am, Fri

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

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

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

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

Connecticut, Hartford WHPX 6:00 am, Fri

Delaware, Dover WBD 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

Florida, Miami WPXM 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Orlando WOPX 6:00 am, Fri

Florida, Panama City WJHG-DT 9:30 am, Sun

Florida, Tallahassee WTXL 7:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

Georgia, Albany WBSK 9:30 am, Sun

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

Georgia, Brunswick WPXC 6:00 am, Fri

Georgia, Columbus WLGA 9:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Macon WBMN 9:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

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

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

Idaho, Pocatello KPIF 10:30 am, Sun

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

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

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

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

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

Indiana, Fort Wayne WPTA-DT 8:30 am, Sun

Indiana, Indianapolis WIPX 6:00 am, Fri

Indiana, Terre Haute WBI 8:30 am, Sun

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

Iowa, Cedar Rapids KPXR 5:00 am, Fri

Iowa, Des Moines KFPP 5:00 am, Fri

Iowa, Keokuk WEWB 8:30 am, Sun

Iowa, Kirksville KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

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

Iowa, Ottumwa KWOT 8:30 am, Sun

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

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

Kansas, Topeka KSNT 8:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Bowling Green WBKO 8:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Lexington WUPX 6:00 am, Fri

Louisiana, Alexandria KBCA 8:30 am, Sun

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

Louisiana, Lafayette KLWB 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, Lake Charles WBLC 8:30 am, Sun

Louisiana, New Orleans WPXL 5:00 am, Fri

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

Maine, Presque Isle WBPQ 9:30 am, Sun

Maryland, Salisbury WBD 9:30 am, Sun

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

Massachusetts, Holyoke WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

Massachusetts, Springfield WBQT 9:30 am, Sun

Michigan, Alpena WBAE 9:30 am, Sun

Michigan, Cadillac WGTU/WGTQ 9:30 am, Sun



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

Washington D.C. WDCW 8:00 am, Sun; WJAL
 12:00 pm, Sun; WPXW 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Kennewick KCWK 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Richland KCWK 9:30 am, Sun
Washington, Seattle-Tacoma KWPX 6:00 am, Fri
Washington, Seattle KVOS 8:30am, Sun
Washington, Spokane KGXP 6:00 am, Fri
**Washington, Yakima-Pasco-Richland-Kenne-
 wick** KCWK/KCWK-LP 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Beckley KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Bluefield KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Charleston WLPX 6:00 am, Fri
West Virginia, Clarksburg WVFX-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Oak Hill KVVA-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Parkersburg WBPB 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Weston WVFX-DT 9:30 am, Sun
West Virginia, Wheeling WBWO 9:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Eau Claire WQOW-DT/WXOW-DT
 8:30 am, Sun
Wisconsin, La Crosse WQOW/WXOW 8:30 am,
 Sun
Wisconsin, Milwaukee WPXE 5:00 am, Fri
Wisconsin, Rhinelander WAOW/WYOW 8:30
 am, Sun
Wisconsin, Wausau WAOW-DT/WYOW-DT 8:30
 am, Sun
Wyoming, Casper 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Cheyenne KCHW 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Riverton 10:30 am, Sun
Wyoming, Scottsbluff KCHW 10:30 am, Sun

AUSTRALIA

Australia Nationwide Network 10 5:00 am, Sat
 Adelaide, Channel 10 5:00 am, Sat
 Brisbane, Channel 10 5:00 am, Sat
 Melbourne, Channel 10 5:00 am, Sat
 Perth, Channel 10 5:00 am, Sat
 Sydney, Channel 10 5:00 am, Sat

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; The Christian Channel
 11:00 am ET, Sun.
British Columbia, Vancouver KVOS 8:30 am, Sun;
 CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
British Columbia, Victoria CHNU 5:30 pm, Sun
Ontario, Toronto WADL 10:00 am Sun; CHNU 8:30
 pm, Sun; WUTV 10:00 am, Sun
Quebec, Montreal WVNY 10:00 am, Sun

LATIN AMERICA

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

CARIBBEAN

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
Trinidad and Tobago WGN 8:00 am, Sun

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

Incredible Hope

WHAT AN INSPIRING FUTURE LIES ahead! (“Incredible Hope in a Hopeless World,” April). Hubble truly is one of the great inventions of mankind. I recently watched a small video clip on YouTube under “the universe is really big.” I review it often now to remind me of what our great Creator God has waiting for those who follow Him. Now that mankind’s system is taking its last breaths, there lies so much hope in the life that is to begin when this one ends. ...

Rohann Smith—SOUTH AFRICA



Former Superpower

I WAS LAST IN BRITAIN 40 YEARS AGO, and even then, there were disturbing signs of decline (“Want to Know What a Former Superpower Looks Like?”, April). Since 2004, the Queen has been uncrowned on coinage. Most are not worthy of their heritage and are too ignorant to be ashamed. The rot is now complete, and the next storm should finish the job.

Kipling Hedley—CANADA

I HAVE READ YOUR WONDERFUL COMMENTARIES for many years, and always followed the prophecy and writings of all the news items that keep me up on the proof of end-time prophecy. You all have been the most reliable source of the real truth of what was really taking place behind the scenes. Thank God for you all.

Vernon Moore—LEBANON, ORE.

Sex Predators

THANK YOU TO THE *TRUMPET* FOR PROVIDING such helpful articles as this one! (“Don’t Let Sex Predators Into Your Home!”, April). This information is not only good for parents and for their children, but it is also good for adults to bear in mind as well. With the world the way it is today, whether young or old, you simply can’t be too careful! Keep up the great work!

S.L.W.—UNITED STATES

The Next Zimbabwe

WHAT YOU HAVE SAID ABOUT OUR COUNTRY is true (“The Next Zimbabwe,” April). Jacob Zuma is definitely not worried about these people; he has just promised all these things to keep them voting, but when push comes to shove and the elections are over everything goes back to the

way it was. Just look at the housing situation in South Africa and one will see how false promises were made to these people. Robert Mugabe would not be in power

now if it was not for the Chinese keeping his pockets full. Have a very close look and see what is really happening in Zimbabwe, and if the average Joe in the street really knew what was happening they would be amazed. The Chinese need to keep a foothold in Africa, and especially southern Africa, so what better way to get what they want than by dangling the money under the rulers’ noses, and due to the corruption they know they will get what they want. If you dance with the devil there is always a price to pay.

Kerry Taljaard—SOUTH AFRICA

I AM A RESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICA AND have been all my life. Things may get worse and the government may be corrupt, but still we have hope in a better tomorrow. Not necessarily for me but for my unborn children and in the world that they will grow up in. Most news reports really don’t give any idea of what is going on in South Africa apart from what kind of pipe dream they want to believe. We are ultimately living in a war zone where anytime, anywhere, you can be attacked and killed, but yet we live as if nothing is wrong, just prepared for the worst I do believe if it wasn’t for you and the Philadelphia Church of God I would have been totally hopeless without any will to live in an uncaring world and corrupt, unjust country. ... I might be living in one of the most beautiful countries in the world, but sadly we cannot explore it without hesitation and anguish.

Jacque—SOUTH AFRICA

I FIND YOUR ARTICLES ON PRESENT world events to be better informed than the secular media. I am intrigued to see what all the fuss is about *Mystery of the Ages*. ...

Matthew Cook—TEXAS

Opposite Sex

AS A SINGLE, THIS ARTICLE (“Understand the Opposite Sex!”, April) has given me great understanding on how to relate to the opposite sex according to God’s design.

Stephanie—TRINIDAD

I WAS IN A WAITING ROOM TODAY AND picked up a copy of your *Trumpet* magazine and was amazed. It was the best and

most informative reading this side of the Bible. ... I just wanted you to know how much I enjoyed the information and the way it was related to the Bible and today’s world. ... Gary Underwood—GRIFFIN, GA.

Accurate Forecasting

I WAS GOING THROUGH MY STUFF RECENTLY (on the move), and I found an old *Trumpet* issue that I kept from August ’03. Andrew Locher wrote about the housing market crash here in U.S. in 2003! I was still recovering from the last recession at that time! Good call! I give credit where credit is due. ...

Yochanan Qavah

I DISCOVERED THE *TRUMPET* ABOUT A year ago. I read a copy for the first time and was amazed at how things are explained so simply and how things that were predicted are now unfolding before our very eyes. ...

Darlene Pennino—CRIPPLE CREEK, COLO.

I HAVE BEEN AN AVID *TRUMPET* READER for about four years now, and after carefully devouring the February issue, I felt compelled to write down a few words. ... A person would have to be living in a cave not to plainly see we have not only reached the edge of the abyss, but have arrogantly vaulted into it. God help us, individually, to heed His warnings, which you have faithfully and courageously delivered all these years. ...

Doug Bentley—CRESCENT CITY, CALIF.

AFTER READING BOTH *THE GOD FAMILY Vision* and *Mystery of the Ages* back to back and the *Trumpet*, I have reconsidered my own life. I thought about the many different Bible institutes I attended in the last few years and how each contradicted each other; so I gathered up all my diplomas and ripped them up and threw them where they belonged—the trash! I worked very hard and committed a lot of time to getting those pieces of paper, but I consider them worthless after reading your literature. I give much thanks to God for answering prayers of mine in which I asked of Him to clean my mind of all the different contradicting teachings and put me on a clear path, and now He has! ...

Jose Norrington—LANCASTER, CALIF.

Comments?

letters@theTrumpet.com
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The Most Dangerous Deficit

The tanking economy is exposing our lack of strong character. **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

BEING THE WINDOW-SMASHER TAKES GUTS. FEW PEOPLE have the nerve to break into an empty shop. But far more will burglarize a store that has already been breached.

Don't believe me? Remember New Orleans. After Hurricane Katrina broke the levees, thousands remained stranded without electricity or communication, enclosed by rising toxic waters. With police preoccupied with search and rescue, the first window broke. Soon the city was crawling with deputy criminals. They ransacked evacuated shops and brazenly roamed the streets lugging boxes, trash bags and shopping carts packed with stolen goods; they armed themselves with knives and guns from weapons dealers and pawn shops.

Many of these people under normal circumstances wouldn't think to do such things, but desperation drew them toward depravity. They watched others do it—they felt abandoned by the government—they became intoxicated with bitterness and a sense of entitlement—and they convinced themselves there was nothing wrong with their criminality. Thus, the city plunged into lawlessness. Within two short days, thugs and gangs held siege. Arsonists arbitrarily set buildings ablaze; snipers fired at military helicopters; crooks assaulted trucks trying to reach survivors with provisions. The chaos was so violent that beleaguered national guardsmen were given shoot-to-kill orders—against ungovernable American citizens.

Here's the take-home lesson. Trials reveal people's hearts. They show us what we are made of.

This fact is eminently worth contemplating as we witness this global economic hurricane. Fiscal irresponsibility is causing business failures, which is hammering jobs, which is decimating consumer spending, which is motivating bureaucratic recklessness, which is ravaging currency values. All of this is stirring social unrest and, in some cases, actually toppling governments (witness Iceland and Latvia).

What will this sequence of trials reveal about us? Early indicators are worrying.

In the United States, the shrinking power to consume is putting people on edge. "Recessions breed pessimism," wrote the *New York Times'* David Brooks. "That's why birthrates tend to drop and suicide rates tend to rise" (Nov. 17, 2008). Mental health experts expect increases in drug and alcohol use, depression and anxiety—not to mention criminal behavior like thievery. Police departments nationwide are already reporting increases in thefts, robberies and burglaries.

Britain's crime rates are surging, and the government blames the economy. There, police are bracing for a "summer of rage" as those losing jobs, homes and savings take to the streets in potentially violent protests. Known activists are preparing—all they need are malcontent "foot soldiers" to stir havoc.

In the U.S., cash-strapped families are suffering through a rise in domestic violence. At the same time, cash-strapped *states* are slashing social services such as aid to victims of domestic violence. Law enforcement agencies are cutting budgets—and staff.

Again, the concern is not about individuals just waiting for a chance to commit crimes. It is that *it only takes a few* who are willing to break the glass. Just look at Latvia, where, in January, 10,000 peaceful demonstrators turned into a violent mob, throwing cobblestones from the streets through the windows

of shops, offices, even the Finance Ministry, and then looting. Such demonstrations are flaring up all over Europe.

Expect similar fireworks in cities across America. Gerald Celente, who tracks global trends for corporate clients as head of the Trends Research Institute, says the next three years in America will see job marches, food riots, widespread tax rebellion and massive social disruption. As much as we might want to ignore him, Mr. Celente successfully forecasted the 1987 stock market crash, the 1991 fall of the Soviet Union, 1997's Asian currency collapse, the subprime

mortgage debacle, and last year's failure of several Wall Street giants. And he predicts that because people today have so much to lose, conditions will get worse than those of the Great Depression. "You're going to see crime levels in America that are going to rival the Third World. Welcome Mexico City," he told *Russia Today*. "You're going to start seeing people being kidnapped in this country like they do in other underdeveloped nations. So it's going to be very violent in America" (February 11).

Since Jesus Christ Himself told us that trouble in the end time would escalate into horrors worse than any in human history (read Matthew 24:21-22), it is difficult to ignore such a warning.

When severe trials hit, such as those now developing, only two things can prevent civilization from giving way to the law of the jungle. One is strong individual character. The other is strong, authoritative government.

Talking to those who personally endured the Depression makes clear that society survived then because of the first of these. People sacrificed. Families tightened. Neighbors helped one another.

This time around, Americans are tending toward the second option, hoping that reckless federal spending of non-existent money will prevent Great Depression II. The public disillusionment and social disruption when these plans fail will be a tragic spectacle.

Certainly there are many whose character will hold up in the face of depressed conditions today, at least initially. But there are also plenty of others whose character *deficit* will prevent them from enduring. They are really just a broken window away from joining the criminal set. ■



EXPECT MORE Looting such as occurred after Hurricane Katrina is likely to become more common.



HE WAS RIGHT!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG warned of a coming global economic crash for over five decades. Do you remember?

Decades ago, the *Plain Truth* magazine under its founder, the late Herbert W. Armstrong, declared that two towering events would dominate the prophetic horizon.

First was the resurrection of Germany at the helm of a European superstate that would revive the Holy Roman Empire for one final, terrifying rule over world affairs.

The second event was a great social upheaval, triggered by the collapse of the global financial and economic system.

This socioeconomic upheaval, he explained, would cause a strong and forceful leader to again arise in Germany to lead European nations to suddenly unite as a new world power larger than either the Soviet Union or the United States. That in turn, he said, could suddenly ignite nuclear World War III and lead directly to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

A look at current events shows that this stunning scenario is already significantly advanced toward its fulfillment. If it sounds far-fetched, consider these specific prophecies Mr. Armstrong made that have *already* come to pass:

- 1945—He forecast Germany's rise from ashes to become the economic and political powerhouse of Europe.

- 1954—He said Russia would give East Germany back to the Germans and relinquish Eastern European countries.
- 1960—He foretold the fall of the Berlin Wall.
- 1967—He said Europe would adopt a common currency.
- 1972—He prophesied the integration of Yugoslav states into a united Europe.

How could Mr. Armstrong get all of these events right—so far in advance? Because he based his view of current events on inerrant Bible prophecy!

Startling events prophesied for the next few years will violently affect Britain, the United States, Western Europe and the Middle East. The time to understand prophecy is now!

For documented proof of these and other stunningly accurate forecasts made by Herbert W. Armstrong, request your free copy of our special report, "He Was Right!"



Request your free copy of He Was Right today!

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