

More than a third of adults could survive financially for only 11 days if they were to lose their job.

The time is now upon us that some big events are about to occur.

The United States and its allied English-speaking nations are in deep, deep trouble.

Men are variously portrayed as dolts, bullies, brutes, deadbeats, rapists, sexual predators, and wife beaters.

The Royal Bank of Canada estimates that over 300 U.S. banks will not survive the next few years. But even this estimate may be on the light side.

RUIN PAGE 5

AMERICA PAGE 7

POWER PAGE 7

MALES PAGE 10

MONEY PAGE 10

the TRUMPET WEEKLY

A DIGEST OF SIGNIFICANT WORLD NEWS FROM THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET STAFF • FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20-26, 2008

The Issue We Fear to Face



GERALD FLURRY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

BARACK OBAMA has what appears to be a beautiful family. He is eloquent in a warm and friendly way. He has many traits that would make any father proud. Mr. Obama has come a long way from his difficult childhood.

The big question that many people want to know is this: Is he qualified to lead what is called the world's number-one superpower today in the most dangerous times ever on this planet?

We never take sides in politics. But we have the responsibility to warn our nation of any serious danger.

Jeremiah Wright, Barack Obama's pastor for 20 years, has made numerous inflammatory and racist statements. Yet, Mr. Obama, who has given little explanation for his close association with Mr. Wright, continues to enjoy tremendous support among Democrats. He has now won the Democratic nomination.

This presidential election is different than any other. It is revealing a lot of racism in America. But here is *the hidden danger*: It is also inflaming more racism as it continues.

Just where is it leading?

Mr. Obama has also been friendly with William Ayers, a white American terrorist who escaped prosecution on a technicality and now teaches at the University of Chicago. What is wrong with our educational system? Our top educators routinely let men such as this terrorist teach our children! How condemning of our higher education today.

Our political system is afflicted with the same disease. Howard Dean, a white man and THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, RECENTLY SAID THAT IF YOU EVEN BRING UP THE ISSUE OF JEREMIAH WRIGHT, THEN YOU ARE A RACIST! In other words, if you even bring up Barack Obama's extremely close ties with a racist pastor for 20 years, that means you are a racist! I'm sure he must know that warped reasoning is wrong. But he still says it, even though he knows that issue is going to be brought up often in the presidential campaign. And it is going to cause more bitterness and hatred between the white and black races!

How damaging will such explosive rhetoric be to other black congregations like Jeremiah Wright's church? Or other black organizations with similar views? Are we unaware of how incendiary such comments can be?

An African-American could be elected president of the United States, and Howard Dean's loudest scream is

still about white racism. He is putting his party ahead of America, and we are going to suffer as a result of it.

Mr. Obama says he is going to bring the races together. But we are seeing actions that will do just the opposite!

The news media and many educators agree with Howard Dean's view. These elites—again, mostly white—are the biggest reason this is developing into such an explosive issue! That is dangerously wrong and helps to inflame more racism! If you are concerned about character and leadership in the presidential campaign, you had *better* bring up the Wright issue! *Character* should be the number-one issue in every political campaign. But it is hardly even discussed in our campaigns.

Imagine, the *chairman* of the Democratic Party making such an outrageous, inflammatory comment about racism. That comment is the polar opposite of the truth!

If you sit in the congregation of a hateful racist for 20 years, have him marry you and baptize your children, isn't it likely that some of that racism will infect you? In Mr. Obama's case, it is much more so since his father deserted him at the age of 2. Then his mother deserted him in his high school years. This was a young, pliable man desperately searching for a father figure, and he found one in Jeremiah Wright. How could that not adversely affect any human being?

"He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed [Hebrew, *broken*]" (Proverbs 13:20). God says we are heavily influenced by our companions. They have a powerful influence on our true success or failure. That fact should be obvious to all of us. In time, the *fruits* will be clear to everybody.

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT BARACK OBAMA EVER CHALLENGED ONE OF JEREMIAH WRIGHT'S RACIST, HATEFUL VIEWS! NOT EVEN ONE! If Mr. Obama really disagreed with Wright, how could he not speak up? Surely this is directly tied to the leadership potential of this man who would be president. Certainly this reveals some strong insights into his views about race, foreign policy and many other issues.

The race card is going to be played often for political gain! And it is going to cost America dearly. This is not a small problem. We must understand where the race issue is leading us. The end result is going to be worse than anything you imagine. Write for our free book on Ezekiel to understand God's views on this subject, and where today's racial tension is leading.

Most people are fearful of even facing the race issue. But we must, because as Jesus Christ said, only the truth can set us free (John 8:32).

MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL FACES another potential catastrophe: a shortage of water. After four years of consecutive drought, Israel's Water Authority was forced to authorize emergency plans on July 8 to combat the nation's worst water crisis in recorded history. Earlier this month, Israel's main source of fresh water, the Sea of Galilee (also known as Lake Kinneret), dropped below its bottom red line—the water level at which it is recommended to stop pumping from the water source. Israel's two other main water sources, the Coastal Aquifer and the Mountain Aquifer, are in serious trouble too. Just as the United States and Australia are facing severe weather curses, so is Israel. Read Joel Hilliker's July 2 column, "Healing Our Sick Land," for the reason why.

As Iran continues to manipulate the international community on nuclear issues to gain concessions in other areas, Iranian Vice President Reza Aghazadeh said Thursday that negotiations with world powers on Tehran's nuclear program could solve problems in Lebanon and Iraq. "If the negotiations get under way, then solutions could be found for many problems like Iraq, Lebanon or fuel prices," said Aghazadeh, who also heads Iran's Atomic Energy Organization. Aghazadeh was speaking to reporters in Vienna after his meeting with the head of the UN International Atomic Energy Agency. A day earlier, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad vowed to make no concessions in his country's nuclear drive.

And finally, entrenched hostility between India and Pakistan is easing with Islamabad seeking help from New Delhi to combat terrorism. Pakistani Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani told Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on July 24 that both countries should work together more deeply to combat "terrorism and extremism" in the region and that a stable Afghanistan was "in the safe interest of all countries of the region," Reuters reported. Gilani will meet with Singh on the sidelines of a South Asian summit in Sri Lanka next month.

THETRUMPET.COM, STEPHEN FLURRY | July 22

Again: Terrorist Bulldozes Jerusalem

JERUSALEM—THIS time, the sirens wailed on the street next to our apartment. A half mile east of here, on Jerusalem's most famous street, four cars were crushed, a bus smashed and 16 people wounded as another Palestinian bulldozed his way through West Jerusalem.

According to eye-witnesses, as Bus 13 turned onto King David Street, a Palestinian man from East Jerusalem drove a front-end loader into the back of the bus. The bus driver, believing the bump to be accidental, slowed down. The loader then overtook the bus and smashed into it again, breaking the glass in many of the



A car demolished in this week's terrorist rampage in Jerusalem.

Obama and Israel

DURING HIS visit to Israel this week, Barack Obama talked tough on Iran and pledged to maintain America's special relationship with Israel. Still, for Jews who carefully examine his policies and who know anything about his questionable personal relationships, there are still numerous reasons for skepticism regarding his candidacy.



Obama has referred to the Israeli-Palestinian divide as a "constant sore" that infects America's foreign policy and gives jihadists an "excuse" for their anti-Americanism. He sees his enthusiasm negotiating with Iran as one of his chief selling points. "Obama is the only major candidate who supports tough, direct presidential diplomacy with Iran *without preconditions*," his website proudly asserts. In a *New York Times* op-ed piece earlier this month, Obama made it clear that his first task as president of the United States would be to give the military a new mission: "ending this war."

Regarding the war against terror, Obama favors more law enforcement strategy. Last month, he said, "I have confidence that our system of justice and that our traditions of rule of law are strong enough to deal with terrorists."

Then there is Obama's lifelong circle of friends. His spiritual mentor, Jeremiah Wright, has called upon Americans to wake up "concerning the injustice and the racism under which the Palestinians have lived because of Zionism." Wright also presented Louis Farrakhan, who has referred to Judaism as a "gutter religion" and to Jews as "bloodsuckers," with a lifetime achievement award.

The *Trumpet*, of course, does not take sides in political contests. But the movement behind Barack Obama's improbable rise to power in the Democratic Party, as well as his celebrity-like status internationally—whether he becomes president or not—says a lot about where we are in Bible prophecy.

Above all, the movement behind Obama's candidacy reveals just how naive many of our people are when it comes to the greatest threat to peace in the Middle East and, to a certain degree, *the whole world*—Iranian-backed Islamic extremism. The Bible reveals that neither America nor Israel will confront this prophesied "king of the south" (Daniel 11:40). That task will be left to a Vatican-led European Union. And it will result in a spectacular clash that will then lead to a worldwide war!

windows. Several people were knocked unconscious, one bus passenger said.

After attacking the bus, the Palestinian driver then set his sights on automobiles, flipping one over and crushing another. Like the attack on Jaffa Street earlier this month, the attack ended when an Israeli shot the driver dead. The attack left one person seriously wounded and missing part of his leg. Seventeen other people were hurt, including one baby, who was badly cut by shards of glass.

The attack took place just outside the King David Hotel, where presidential hopeful Barack Obama will be arriving in a few hours. Obama, who has called for a contiguous Palestinian state free of Israeli roadblocks between the West Bank and Gaza, hasn't yet called on the Palestinian Authority to clamp down on terrorist attacks against Israel.

The *Trumpet* has been predicting the forceful division of Jerusalem for a number of years now. Today's attack is one more step in the direction of Zechariah 14:1-2 being fulfilled. For more information on what is in store for Jerusalem beyond that, how the terrorism and warfare will finally stop, and how it will finally be peaceful, read *Jerusalem in Prophecy*.

ARABIANBUSINESS.COM | July 21

Oil Exporters "To Gain More Power"

OIL PRODUCTION in non-OPEC countries will peak within the next two years, increasing the world's reliance on the cartel of oil exporting nations, according to a leading energy expert.

Fatih Birol, chief economist of the International Energy Agency, said that falling production from key regions such as the North Sea and the Gulf of Mexico would leave international oil companies such as Shell and BP sidelined, as state-run rivals such as Saudi Aramco become more powerful, the *Times* reported.

The North Sea is one of the fastest-declining energy-rich regions in the world, with output falling by an average of 7.5 percent a year since 2002.

EUROPE

THE POPE is not happy with Europe. This week he refused to meet with the European Parliament in Strasbourg, which invited the pope to speak as its principal Christian guest in its Year of Intercultural Dialogue. One member of the Catholic hierarchy spoke of "great disillusionment" with the European project. Another spoke of how the European Union "has become too secularist." Cardinal Franc Rode, prefect of the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, also criticized Europe's lax religion. Europe is "moving backwards in the area of religion because legislative bodies on the Continent are increasingly moving further away from Christian principles," he said. "Laws being passed in almost every country in Europe do not coincide with Christian principles." He went on to say that religious "superiors have a clear challenge, and at the same time an inescapable task: to root out the subtle forms of internal secularization that have become present in our surroundings." The Vatican wants

Playing Innocent Abroad

RADICAL OPTIMISM is America's contribution to the world. ... Barack Obama is certainly a true American. In the first major foreign policy speech of his campaign, delivered in Chicago last year, he vowed a comprehensive initiative to "ensure that every child, everywhere, is taught to build and not to destroy." America, he said, must promote dignity across the world, not just democracy. It must "lead the world in battling immediate evils and promoting the ultimate good."

In Berlin on Thursday, it was more of the same. Speaking before a vast throng ... he vowed to help "remake the world." He offered hope that a history-drenched European continent could "choose its own tomorrow free from the shadows of yesterday." He envisioned "a new dawn in the Middle East."

Obama's tone was serious. But he pulled out his "this is our moment" rhetoric and offered visions of a world transformed. Obama speeches almost always have the same narrative arc. Some problem threatens. The odds are against the forces of righteousness. But then people of good faith unite and walls come tumbling down. ...

When I first heard this sort of radically optimistic speech in Iowa, I have to confess my American soul was stirred. ... But now it is more than half a year on, and the post-partisanship of Iowa has given way to the post-nationalism of Berlin, and it turns out that the ... golden rhetoric impresses less, the evasion of hard choices strikes one more. ...

Much of the rest of the speech fed the illusion that we could solve our problems if only people mystically come together. We should help Israelis and Palestinians unite. We should unite to prevent genocide in Darfur. We should unite so the Iranians won't develop nukes. Or as Obama put it: "The walls between races and tribes, natives and immigrants, Christian and Muslim and Jew cannot stand. These now are the walls we must tear down." ...

Obama has benefited from a week of good images. But substantively, optimism without reality isn't eloquence. It's just Disney.

to play a larger role in governing Europe. For more information, see our article “Wanted: Savior for Europe” from August 2006.

Italy’s Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi is now above the law apparently. Berlusconi faced trial in Milan, where he was accused of paying a \$600,000 bribe to his former tax lawyer to give misleading testimony. Now his worries are over, as Italy’s senate gave final approval on Thursday for a law banning criminal investigations on the president, the prime minister, and the speakers of the Senate and Lower House. This is a shocking step toward dictatorship from a major European country.

Meanwhile, the Lisbon Treaty marches forward. Italy’s senate voted unanimously in favor of the Lisbon Treaty this week. It will probably pass through Italy’s lower house of parliament next week by a large margin. German Foreign minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier wrote about how he believes the Lisbon Treaty is essential for Europe, and must move forward. The Irish, he believes, can be persuaded. His boss, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, agrees, saying, “I am confident we will implement the Lisbon Treaty.” Europe’s inexorable march toward becoming a superstate continues.



Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi speaks after the Group of Eight (G8) summit meeting.

THETRUMPET.COM | July 23

Croatia Bans Sunday Shopping

BOWING TO the Catholic Church, the Croatian parliament has instituted legislation that forces businesses to close on Sundays. The Associated Press: “The Croatian parliament has passed a law forcing shops to close on Sundays in a concession to the Roman Catholic Church.

“The church has campaigned for years for Sundays to be devoted to family or mass in Croatia, which is almost 90 percent Roman Catholic. But Croatians have begun spending weekends in shopping malls that have flourished across the country in the past few years and remain open seven days a week.”



Croatian President Stjepan Mesic (right) meets with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican.

The Year the Youth Vote Arrives

THE CONVENTIONAL wisdom on certain subjects is so deeply rooted that no amount of evidence disturbs its hold. ... The trend started four years ago. According to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, or CIRCLE, electoral participation among 18- to 24-year-olds rose from 36 percent in 2000 to 47 percent in 2004. For the larger 18 to 29 group, participation rose from 40 percent to 49 percent.

The 2006 midterm election saw a larger increase in off-year voting among the under-30s than any other age group. Then came this year’s primaries: According to CIRCLE, the turnout rate for the under-30s nearly doubled between 2000 and 2008, from 9 percent to 17 percent. ... [O]n present trends, it’s a near certainty that young people’s overall share of the electorate will rise substantially this year.

Defying stereotypes, the young are more engaged in this campaign than are their elders. ... The increase in political interest among the young is staggering. ... Could the young make a difference in Barack Obama’s favor? Again, the answer is clearly yes. Age is one of the most powerful lines of division in this election. In Pew’s survey, the under-30s gave Obama his largest lead, 56 percent to 36 percent. He also led among voters aged 30 to 49, but ran behind among voters 65 and over. ...

Young Americans show all signs of being interested enough and upset enough to flock to the polls this year. If they do, they could be the most politically consequential generation since the cohort of the Great Depression and World War II.

“For, behold, the Lord, the LORD of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah ... The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, ... And I will give children [to be] their princes, and babes shall rule over them.”

—Isaiah 3:1-4

“The local Council of Laodicea, about A.D. 363, passed this decree: ‘Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, resting rather on Sunday. But, if any be found to be Judaizing, let them be declared anathema from Christ.’ ... [T]he penalty for disobedience was death! Fifty million or more were put to death—so says history.” —Herbert W. Armstrong, *Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?*

The law exempts stores in gas, bus and train stations, hospitals, bakeries, newsstands and flower shops.

LifeSiteNews.com reported, “The parliament of the predominantly Catholic country of Croatia is urging its citizens to reclaim Sunday as a

day for celebrating the Eucharist, for family and for rest.”

The measure was passed July 15 and goes into effect January 1. It reflects the increasingly powerful sway the Vatican holds over not only the spiritual aspects of 1 billion people’s lives, but also the politics of nations...

SPACEFLIGHT NOW | July 22

Radar Reconnaissance Spacecraft Launched

THE CAPSTONE of a fleet of German military satellites rocketed into space from Russia early Tuesday, completing a series of five launchings of spacecraft designed to scout locations around the world. The SAR-Lupe 5 satellite, a 1,700-pound craft outfitted with cloud-piercing and night-vision radar, launched aboard a Russian Kosmos 3M rocket at 0240 GMT Tuesday, according to news reports. ...

The rocket successfully released SAR-Lupe 5 into an orbit 300 miles high about a half-hour later, according to OHB-System, the satellite’s prime contractor. German ground controllers contacted the satellite about an hour after launch, confirming the craft was in good shape after arriving in orbit. “This is a very special day for OHB,” said Manfred Fuchs, CEO of OHB-System. “With the successful launch of the fifth satellite, an important development and integration program has now come to a conclusion for our team.”

Controllers will hand over command of the spacecraft to the German military in about four weeks, according to OHB-System. The spacecraft carries a large dish antenna connected to a powerful X-band radar system. The synthetic aperture radar signals can see through clouds and observe ground objects around the clock... Imagery produced by the instrument will show objects as small as three feet, according to OHB-System. The five satellites are spread among three orbital planes to provide regular global coverage, OHB-System officials said. ...

The German military, which took control of SAR-Lupe satellite operations in December, will use the system for the next ten years. Full scale operations of the constellation are slated to begin this fall. “The early and unhindered access to high-resolution satellite images is making a crucial contribution to our reconnaissance activities and thus enhances our ability to assess situations, take action and make the necessary decisions,” said Vice Admiral Wolfram Kuhn, deputy inspector general of

the German Federal Armed Forces and inspector of the Joint Support Service. ... “In terms of military policy, SAR-Lupe puts Germany eye to eye with other countries with respect to satellite-based reconnaissance capabilities,” Kuhn said.

“You need to know how far the thinking goes in this scenario. War is endemic to the past and continuing history of mankind. Consider and realize that major wars will never be controlled from this Earth’s surface again! From now on, all major wars will be controlled from space.”

—Trumpet, December 2003

11 Days From Financial Ruin

UNEMPLOYMENT COULD SOAR to 2.5m over the next two years. More than a third of adults could survive financially for only 11 days if they were to lose their job or be too ill to work, according to a survey. The finding gives a worrying insight into the lives of millions who are living on a financial tight-rope. Researchers looked at how much people spend every month and how much they have in savings. It found a massive gap between the two, which means most would be crippled by a sudden change in their circumstances. ...

It found the average weekly spend is £333.56 including essentials, such as council tax, luxuries, such as eating out, and debt repayments. But a shocking 36 percent of people have less than £500 in savings to use in an emergency. As a result, they could survive for just 11 days before their finances would implode.

On average, women would be much less well prepared to cope than men. Tanya Jackson of Yorkshire Building Society, which carried out the research, said: “In the current economic climate, this research paints an extremely alarming picture. Many people’s finances are already finely balanced due to the rising cost of living. But our research reveals that both state benefits and savings are not viable options for the majority of consumers to rely upon for any adequate length of time.”

The findings come as the likelihood of people losing their jobs is rising as bosses seek to cope with the economic downturn. Economists believe unemployment could rise from 1.6 million to 2.5 million over the next two years. On Wednesday, the Bank of England said it has found evidence of bosses starting to freeze or cut back on recruiting staff to reduce costs. Overall, the research from Yorkshire Building Society found that a typical person could survive for 52 days before hitting financial disaster. ...

They have monthly outgoings of £1,445 but savings of only £2,474, excluding any money tied up in a pension fund. Few have any insurance to protect themselves against the sudden financial shock of losing their job or becoming ill. ... One in five people said they had ‘no idea’ how they would cope if they were suddenly unable to work. Some said they would sell their home if they needed to get money quickly, but this is no longer a practical option. The number of homes which are finding a buyer has halved over the past year, with many sellers forced to wait or slash their asking price.

ASIA

THIS WEEK, Reuters reported that Russian Deputy Prime Minister Igor Sechin will visit China on July 26-27 to meet with Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan for talks on energy cooperation. China's rapidly industrializing economy desperately needs access to Russian oil and gas, while Russia, always on the lookout for new customers to increase its leverage over its European regulars, is also looking to secure its sparsely populated eastern borders.

India's ruling Congress party barely survived a no-confidence vote in parliament July 22. Had the government lost the vote, elections would have been called and the U.S.-Indian civilian nuclear deal would have been killed. However, with soaring inflation and rising commodity prices putting pressure on India's economy, the current Congress-led United Progressive Alliance coalition remains on shaky ground, and it is unclear whether the nuclear deal will ultimately be implemented.

AUSTRALIAN | July 18

China's Growth "Steady But Fast"

A DOUBLE dose of good economic news has emerged from China: "steady but fast" 10.4 percent growth in the first half of 2008, and a significant fall in inflation to 7.1 percent in June. ... [T]he latest figures indicate China's markets will remain strong for the core products it supplies, while the risk of importing inflation through Chinese manufactures remains on hold.

Gross domestic product had soared by 11.9 percent in 2007—a pace the government viewed with concern as close to overheating. ... Exports are still growing but the rate of increase was down to 21.9 percent for the first half, year on year, against 27.6 percent in the same period in 2007. ...

Sherman Chan, Moody's Sydney-based China analyst, said: "It is amazing that China is still able to maintain double-digit growth rates, while some of the major economic powers have been worrying about falling into recession. ... Despite high inflation, stock and property market downturns, bad weather, natural disasters and confusion surrounding the new national holiday calendar, consumer activity has remained surprisingly buoyant."

CHINA DAILY | July 18

U.S. Freezes Arms Sale to Taiwan

THE U.S. has frozen its arms sale to Taiwan in deference to China's demand, and the government is watching Washington's moves closely.

Responding to the U.S. move, Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao Thursday urged Washington to honor its commitments ... to not follow a long-term policy of selling arms to Taiwan, [and] instead ... gradually reduce it. ... Last month senior U.S. officials, including Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley, reportedly held up a \$11-billion arms package and the delivery of dozens of F-16 jets to Taiwan....

Israel: A Name Born in Adversity

GENESIS 32 shows that Jacob's name was changed to Israel during his journey from Haran to his native land of Canaan. Today, there's a lot Israel, not the Middle Eastern nation, but Biblical Israel—America and the British Commonwealth, could learn from *their own name*.



One night, near the end of his long and tiring trek home, Jacob became involved in a wrestling match after being suddenly seized by a strange man. Jacob hadn't been wrestling long when he began to realize that this man was God Himself (Hosea 12:3-4). Despite his weariness and the fact that he was engaged in hand-to-hand combat with God, Jacob "wrestled with him until the breaking of the day" (Genesis 32:24).

Jacob was driven by *willpower* that allowed no thought of surrender. Quitting wasn't an option, neither was negotiation or appeasement. The deeper the night grew, the harder Jacob fought. When it became obvious that Jacob wasn't going to quit, the Man dislocated Jacob's hip, a painful injury that would surely cause him to quit.

He didn't. Jacob—his arms as heavy as stone, panting, sweat pouring from his brow, hip dislocated—kept on fighting!

Dawn broke. His opponent asked to be let go. But the injured, utterly exhausted Jacob still refused to quit. "I will not let thee go," he told the man, "*except thou bless me*" (verse 26). Jacob was in a fight he couldn't possibly win, yet he was infused with a driving sense of zeal and relentless courage!

"What is your name?" the man asked. "Jacob," he gasped. NOT ANY MORE, the man told him: "Your name shall be called no more Jacob, but ISRAEL ... *And [he put] a blessing on [him] there*" (verses 28-29, Amplified Version).

God blessed Jacob on the spot. He also gave him a new name: ISRAEL which means "contender" or "soldier of God." Jacob proved himself to God that night, and although he limped away with a sore hip, Jacob left with a new name—a name testifying to his FIGHTING CHARACTER, his AMBITION, his TENACITY, his PERSEVERANCE and his UNQUENCHABLE WILLPOWER!

ISRAEL. It's strong. It's God-fearing. It's a name BORN IN ADVERSITY! It's a LESSON for Israel today!

“How could anyone fail to see that Taiwan is destined to become a part of mainland China? These 21 million people are going to be forced into the Chinese mold; and it is going to happen for one reason: because of a pitifully weak-willed America.”

—*Trumpet*, August 1998

ranging from trade to denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, especially when cross-Straits ties are improving.”

Tao Wenzhao, a senior researcher on U.S. studies with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said: “Washington will not want to continue selling arms to Taiwan at the cost of its cooperation with China on global issues

AFRICA, SOUTH AMERICA

NEWSPAPER REPORTS say that Russia intends to station nuclear bombers in Cuba. Stratfor says the plan under consideration is for a refueling base, not a nuclear base, but either way, it is a major provocation to Washington. Ever since Fidel Castro brought the world to the brink of war by allowing America’s enemy to install nuclear missiles in his island nation, Washington and Cuba have found no common ground. In response to the reports, Fidel personally issued a statement, despite no longer being the leader of Cuba: Cuba doesn’t owe the United States an explanation, and his brother Raul, the current president of Cuba, is right to maintain a dignified silence. Whatever Raul’s reasoning, he is evoking memories of the Cuban Missile Crisis. For more on Latin America’s growing opposition to the United States and where it is headed, read “Latin America Swings Left” from the August 2006 *Trumpet*.

On July 24, Zimbabwean leaders finally began talks aimed at resolving the political crisis following failed presidential elections and the subsequent illegitimate reelection of incumbent Robert Mugabe. Meanwhile, Zimbabwe’s inflation is officially at just over 2 million percent, but widely believed by economists to be much higher. The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has announced that steps are being taken to deal with this hyperinflation: “[T]he next few days will see the Reserve Bank unveiling measures that would address concerns on the current minimum cash withdrawal limits, as well as with the IT systems digit handling constraints,” said the central bank’s governor. In other words, right now their computer systems don’t even know how to deal with the new 100 billion dollar bill, which isn’t quite enough to buy a loaf of bread. Read “Kenya: The Unseen Danger in Political Violence” to understand the path that Zimbabwe is following.

ANGLO-AMERICA

TEXAS REP. Ron Paul, a dark horse contender for the Republican presidential nomination, warned the House Financial Services Committee on July 9 that America is racing toward a major economic disaster: “Time is short for making a course correction before this grand experiment in liberty goes into deep hibernation,” he said, adding that “big events” are about to occur. “... I have days, growing more frequent all the time, when I’m convinced the time is now upon us that some big events are about to occur. These fast-approaching events... will affect all of us. They will not be limited to just some areas of our country. The world economy and political system will share in the chaos about to be

Moral Relativism Is Killing Our Country

THE FAILURE to readily identify the battle between good and evil is a nagging, ongoing, dangerous pattern that shows no sign of easing up any time soon. This week on Fox News Channel, I appeared on a show and “debated” Ibrahim Hooper, a vocal and forceful representative of CAIR, the Council on American Islamic Relations. The topic? Whether or not it’s a good idea for a group of Islamic folks, represented by a man once linked by the federal government of plotting to blow up buildings and kill innocent Americans, to be allowed to plaster over a thousand subway cars in New York City with advertisements promoting Islam.

I’m not kidding you. This man, a Brooklyn imam named Siraj Wahhaj, is all over a promotional video hyping the ad campaign for the trains. ... He was named by U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White as one of 170 unindicted co-conspirators in the first bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993. ... Now, he’s a spokesman for this wacky ad campaign that would attempt to teach people stuck on subway trains in New York City all about the wonders of Islam. ... This week on the Fox News program, Mr. Hooper attempted to deliver a monologue about what a wonderful man this Siraj Wahhaj is; how those of us who object to the subway ad campaign are trying to prohibit “free speech;” and the old favorite of activists like Hooper, we’re demonstrating anti-Islamic bigotry.

It’s simply astounding that such a debate could even occur in the United States today. Picture what this country felt like in the weeks and months after 9/11. Can you imagine anyone even beginning to allow an advertising campaign promoting Islam, being endorsed and supported by a man the feds believe to be a terrorist, on New York City subways? And yet we are suffering through the stench of moral relativism. Every position must be countered. Right doesn’t necessarily mean right, wrong might not be wrong. ...

I yearn for the day when we’ll return to the foundational value that makes this country great. Right and wrong are not relative terms. There are fundamental truths. ... We just have to have the guts to know the difference between the two.

unleashed.... There are reasons to believe this coming crisis is different and bigger than the world has ever experienced.... The financial crisis, still in its early stages, is apparent to everyone: gasoline prices over \$4 a gallon; skyrocketing education and medical care costs; the collapse of the housing bubble; the bursting of the NASDAQ bubble; stock markets



U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel met on July 24 in Berlin, Germany.

plunging; unemployment rising; massive underemployment; excessive government debt; and unmanageable personal debt. Little doubt exists as to whether we'll get stagflation. The question that will soon be asked is: When will the stagflation become an inflationary depression?" Read "America's Bubble Economy" from the March/April 2000 *Trumpet* for more on the true underlying reasons for the impending economic storm.

After meeting with Chancellor Angela Merkel, U.S. presidential hopeful Barack Obama spoke in Berlin on Thursday to a crowd of 200,000, some of whom clung to lampposts, others sporting red-white-and-blue-dyed hair, and others interrupting the speech, chanting "Pres-i-dent! Pres-i-dent!" the *Times* reported. Supportive banners and placards waved in the air. Obama used the venue Berlin's Victory Column—rather than his first choice, the highly symbolic Brandenburg Gate—to extend his "We are the ones we've been waiting for" theme to Germans, saying, "People of Berlin, people of the world, this is our moment, this is our time." In spite of his anti-Iraq War stance forming the central plank of his campaign, the senator adopted a tough tone on the global war on terror, inviting Germany to play a more aggressive role in Afghanistan, committing more troops there. The *Times* reported, "The substance of the speech was somewhat thin—it was, in the end, merely an appeal to work more closely together...." However, an American president calling for a stronger Germany is a breathtaking statement, from a historic vantage point. German self-esteem has been low during the Bush administration, the *Times* wrote, but Obama's apparent "partnership of equals" would put more power in the hands of Berlin.

LOS ANGELES TIMES | July 22

California Foreclosures Up 261 Percent From '07 Levels

DATAQUICK REPORTS today that foreclosures in California soared 33 percent from the first quarter to the second quarter of 2008, and are running 261 percent ahead of year-ago levels.... "Lenders started foreclosure proceedings on a record number of California homeowners last quarter, the result of declining home values and the rampant spoilage of a batch of especially risky home loans made in late 2005 and 2006."...

DataQuick counted 121,341 "notices of default" in the second quarter, up 6.6 percent from the first quarter and up 124.9 percent from year-ago levels. The relatively small increase from quarter to quarter "may indicate that we're nearing a plateau," said DataQuick president

BUNDESREGIERUNG/STEFFEN KUGLER-POOL/GETTY IMAGES

The Breaking of Our Power

THE UNITED States and its allied English-speaking nations are in deep, *deep* trouble.

"Muslim Arabs are buying out collapsing Western banks and businesses and gaining growing international power" (*Arutz Sheva* July 18).



The *Times* of London recently reported, "The weak dollar and weak economy mean *the United States is up for sale*. Japs are conquering the car industry. Arabs just bought part of the Chrysler Building."

"The energy, financial and political woes that grip the U.S. signal *a decisive shift in world power*," the *Australian* wrote (July 5), adding that the "*new reality*" is now taking place. This transfer, away from the Anglo-American sector is "[crippling] U.S. hopes of dominating the global system and... [placing] demands on the U.S. to make fresh compromises in a world where *power is rapidly being diversified*."

The point is, the global spread of *power* that the English-speaking peoples possessed over the past two centuries, unmatched by any other peoples in history, is being diversified *away* from the Anglo-Saxon peoples.

This is one of the greatest proofs of the times in which we are living. Almighty God prophesied of Israel's demise in the latter days, "And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. And *I will break the pride of your power*" (*Leviticus 26:18-19*).

What a commentary on human nature! That God will have to break the very national power of the Israelitish peoples, the most blessed peoples on Earth, and send them once again, as He did with their ancient forebears, into abject slavery before they will be prepared to listen to their God (verses 33, 39).

Yet this very prophecy, the fulfillment of which we are living through at this very moment, is one of the greatest of signs of real hope for the perpetuation of the human race and the ultimate fulfillment of its incredible human potential! For out of that terrible national trial, there will emerge the very best of news, for God prophesies that "Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember and I will remember the land" (verse 42).

John Walsh. “We won’t know until the end of the year, but it may be that some lenders are starting to prioritize workouts with homeowners instead of grinding things through the foreclosure process.” ...

TELEGRAPH, AMBROSE EVANS-PRITCHARD | July 21

The Global Economy Is at the Point of Maximum Danger

IT FEELS like the summer of 1931. The world’s two biggest financial institutions have had a heart attack. The global currency system is breaking down. The policy doctrines that got us into this mess are bankrupt. No world leader seems able to discern the problem, let alone forge a solution.

The International Monetary Fund has abdicated into schizophrenia Its “mean-reversion” model misses the entire point of this crisis, which is that central banks have pushed debt to fatal levels by holding interest too low for a generation, and now the chickens have come home to roost. True “mean-reversion” would imply debt deflation on such a scale that would, if abrupt, threaten democracy.

The risk is that these same central banks will commit a fresh error, this time overreacting to the oil spike. The European Central Bank has raised rates, warning of a 1970s wage-price spiral. Fixated on the rear-view mirror, it is not looking through the windscreen.

The eurozone is falling into recession before the U.S. itself. ... The U.S. may soon tip into a second leg of this crisis as the fiscal package runs out and Americans lose jobs in earnest. U.S. bank credit has contracted for three months. Real U.S. wages fell at almost 10 percent (annualized) over May and June. This is a ferocious squeeze for an economy already in the grip of the property and debt crunch.

No doubt the rescue of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac—\$5.3 trillion pillars of America’s mortgage market—stinks of moral hazard. The Treasury is to buy shares: The Fed has opened its window yet wider. Risks have been socialized. Any rewards will go to capitalists. ... The Californian lender IndyMac was indeed seized after depositors panicked on the streets of Encino. The police had to restore order. This was America’s Northern Rock moment. ...

The awful reality is that Washington has its back to the wall. Fed chief Ben Bernanke thought the U.S. could always get out of trouble by monetary stimulus “à l’outrance,” and letting the dollar slide. He has learned that the world is a more complicated place.

Oil has queered the pitch. So has America’s fatal reliance on foreign debt. The Fannie/Freddie rescue, incidentally, has just lifted the U.S. national debt from German “AAA” levels to Italian “AA-” levels.

China, Russia, petro-powers and other foreign states own \$985 billion of U.S. agency debt, besides holdings of U.S. treasuries. Purchases of Fannie/Freddie debt covered a third of the U.S. current account deficit of \$700 billion over the last year. Alex Patelis from Merrill Lynch says America faces the risk of a “financing crisis” within months. Foreigners have a veto over U.S. policy. ... [W]e are now at the point of maximum danger. Britain, Japan, and the antipodes are stalling. Denmark is in recession. Germany contracted in the second quarter. May industrial output fell 6 percent in Holland and 5.5 percent in Sweden.

The coalitions in Belgium and Austria have just collapsed. Germany’s left-right team is fraying. One German banker told me that the doctrines of “left Nazism” (Otto Strasser’s group, purged by Hitler) had captured the rising Die Linke party. The Social Democrats are picking

U.S. Shows a New Willingness to Engage “Axis of Evil”

WHEN SECRETARY of State Condoleezza Rice meets her North Korean counterpart, Pak Ui Chun, in Singapore this week, it will be the first substantive high-level meeting between Washington and the North since Madeleine Albright visited Kim Jong Il during the waning months of the Clinton administration. After a weekend in which the Bush administration sent a top U.S. State Department official to a meeting in Geneva with an Iranian official, the North Korea meeting may well amount to last rites for the Axis of Evil, the group so named by President George W. Bush in his State of the Union message in 2002, saying it was “arming to threaten the peace of the world” and included Iran, North Korea and Iraq.

The Bush administration dispatched Saddam Hussein’s regime from Iraq a year or so later, but it began long ago to step down from its vow not to talk to the United States’ foes. Its recent concessions to Iran and North Korea have further muddled the message. The Bush administration sent Under Secretary of State William Burns to talk to Iranian and European officials in Geneva, despite having said it would enter such talks only if Tehran suspended its enrichment of uranium, which Iran has not done.

And now, Rice will meet with Pak to complete a phase in a denuclearization agreement less than two years after North Korea tested a nuclear weapon. ... Some foreign-policy experts said the multiplying concessions were to be expected in the waning months of any administration. The Reagan administration, for instance, began formal talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1988 during its last months in office, and President Bill Clinton sent Albright to Pyongyang in late 2000, less than three months before he left office.

But the Bush administration’s concessions are particularly noteworthy because Bush and his deputies went to great lengths to propound an intellectual and moral doctrine that eschewed talking to foes; Bush compared such outreach to appeasement just two months ago while speaking to the Israeli parliament. ...

“World leaders clearly know how weak America is. That is why so many challenge it. This trend has only intensified ... and it will get far worse.”

—*The Rising Beast*, 2006

up its themes to protect their flank.

This is the healthy part of Europe. Further south, we are not far away from civic protest. BNP Paribas has just issued a hurricane alert for Spain. ...

If we are lucky, America will start to stabilize before Asia goes down. Should our leaders mismanage affairs, almost every part of the global system will go down together. Then we are in trouble.

REAL CLEAR POLITICS | July 25

Save The Males

DECADES LATER, we've supposedly made progress in the gender wars. Feminism has flourished, many say, leading to a more enlightened, open, and liberated time. In her new book, "Save the Males," syndicated columnist Kathleen Parker argues that this is, quite simply, a bunch of bunk. We're more confused than ever when it comes to gender, she writes—and males, not females, often bear the brunt of the assault.

Ground zero, she argues, is the classroom. "Boys learn early that they belong to the 'bad' sex," Parker writes, "and their female counterparts to the 'good.'" In schools across America, she reports, boys are stifled, feminized, and drugged; curriculum content is gender-equitable to a near-absurd degree ("We've created a new generation of Americans who may be more sensitive, but they don't know much about history," she writes); and years of "dueling girl and boy crises" have morphed into a we're-all-the-same dogma, ultimately translating into Brave New World-style games of tag where "nobody is ever out."

Beyond the schoolyard, Parker writes, "males have been under siege by a culture that too often embraces the notion that men are to blame for all of life's ills." In films, music, and television, "men are variously portrayed as dolts, bullies, brutes, deadbeats, rapists, sexual predators, and wife beaters." Fictional females are often do-it-all superwomen, either embodying the "sacred feminine" of the DaVinci Code or rolling their eyes at the pot-bellied, "According to Jim" buffoons they've had the misfortune to marry or date. Real-life women, meanwhile, are busy feminizing their men, dragging them to "The Vagina Monologues," pushing them into breastfeeding classes, and sharing way, way too much information. ...

Sound silly? It is, and in certain sections, "Save the Males" will make you laugh out loud. But, as Parker argues, these things are also symbolic—and, when it comes to trends like the dramatic devaluation of fatherhood in the U.S., they're also deadly serious. "Historians aren't sure of the precise date," Parker writes, "but sometime around 1970 everyone in the United States drank acid-laced Kool-Aid, tie-dyed their brains, and decided that fathers were no longer necessary." The statistics here are scary, but not unfamiliar: America "leads the Western world in mother-only families"; 30 to 40 percent of American children "sleep in a home where their father does not"; and between 1999 and 2003, the number of babies born to unmarried mothers between the ages of 30 and 44 increased by nearly 17 percent.

The results have been well documented, Parker argues, and they're not pretty. "Growing up without a father is the most reliable predictor of poverty," she writes, as well as "drug abuse, truancy, delinquency, and sexual promiscuity." Regardless, single motherhood by choice is surging in popularity. When it comes to divorce, child custody, and family law, Parker argues, "pure and simple, the deck is stacked against men"—reducing them, in many cases, to "sperm and a wallet." ...

Parker is also right that America's females don't need to be saved ... at least not from oppressive, evil men. Judging from many of the problems outlined in the book, if women need to be saved from anyone, they need to be saved from themselves. In the meantime, it's fair to say that everyone—yes, everyone—loses.

How Safe Is Your Money?

IF YOU are uneasy about the failure of California's IndyMac Bancorp earlier this month, the second-largest in U.S. history, prepare yourself. The crisis is about to get a whole lot uglier.



It didn't take much to set off a run on Pasadena-headquartered IndyMac. Customers lined up by the hundreds and stood in line for hours to try and pull out what money was available before the doors closed. As a result, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation has its hands full. On July 11, the FDIC seized IndyMac and began covering the insured accounts. However, as some hapless savers found out, if anyone had more than \$100,000 in an account, the rest is frozen and it may take years before it is recovered—if ever.

The big shock is that the FDIC didn't see the failure coming. As of March 31, the FDIC had identified and placed 90 institutions, with assets totaling \$26.3 billion, on its "problem list." But IndyMac was not one of them. When IndyMac failed, it had assets supposedly valued at \$32 billion—more than the grand total of all the companies on FDIC watch.

By the time the FDIC is done cleaning up IndyMac, analysts suggest it may cost up to \$8 billion—and that's if the housing market doesn't keep deteriorating, which it will. Since the FDIC has just over \$52 billion in assets, IndyMac just burned approximately 15 percent of its cash. How many more banks, beyond the 90 already identified, are ready to go down that regulators have no clue about?

Nobody knows which will be the next, but there are a lot of candidates. The Royal Bank of Canada estimates that *over 300* U.S. banks will not survive the next few years. But even this estimate may be on the light side. And some of the financial institutions in question absolutely dwarf IndyMac.

For that matter, the solvency outlook for the FDIC is now being questioned. How many more banks can it afford to cover? Who will be covering people's bank deposits when the FDIC is overwhelmed? Be prepared, a lot more bank accounts may be about to disappear.