

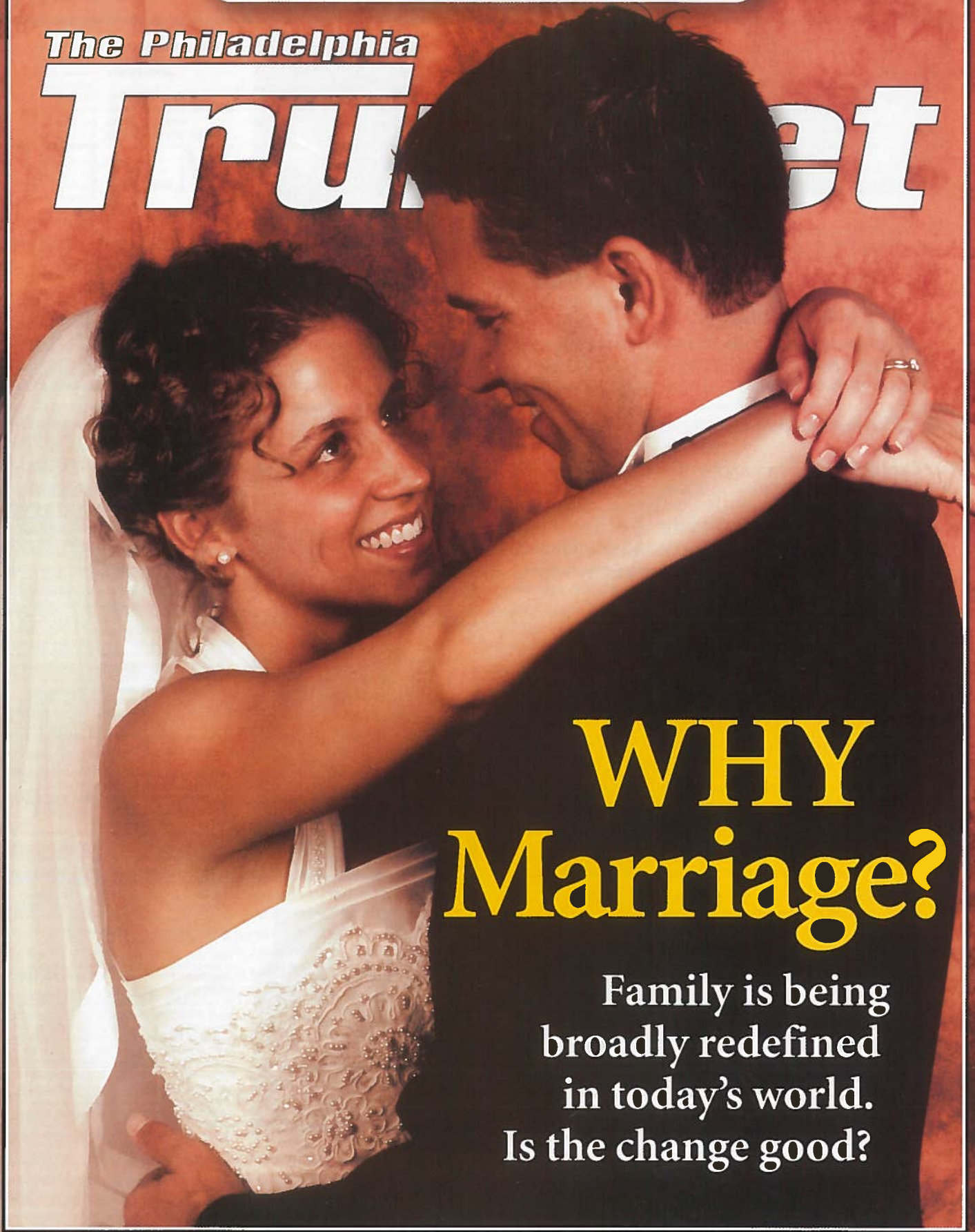
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2003

THE NEW COLONIALISM

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The Philadelphia

Trumpet



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broadly redefined
in today's world.
Is the change good?

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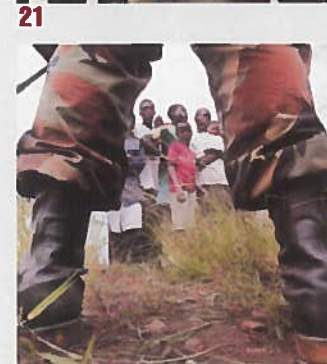
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THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except bimonthly March/April and September/October issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 1019 Waterwood Parkway, Suite F, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices. ©2003 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

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Why Marriage?

THE SUBJECT OF HOMOSEXUAL MARRIAGE HAS BECOME THE subject of much public debate. Many people are uneasy about the idea, but don't have strong reasons to support their belief. Canada has already approved the idea. It appears that America will not be far behind.

This reveals a deep confusion about marriage. Why do we marry? More than ever, this world needs to understand the true purpose behind this critical institution of family life.

That is why I am excited to be able to offer you a wonderful booklet by Herbert W. Armstrong. It is one of several works of his that we recently acquired the copyright to print. It is called *Why Marriage!—Soon Obsolete?*

Marriage is truly one of the greatest gifts God has given to humankind. When you understand the deep meaning wrapped up in this family relationship, it will dazzle your mind! This little booklet can give you that understanding, if you are open to receiving it.

Let me share with you some of what Mr. Armstrong wrote on this vital subject:

STOP AND THINK FOR A MOMENT. WHY DID GOD ORDAIN THE human relationship of marriage?

The old repressive, dualistic morality taught that the *only* purpose of sex was reproduction. But if merely reproducing their kind were the *only* purpose of sex, NO MARRIAGE WOULD BE NECESSARY! God made *animals* male and female. Animals reproduce—BUT THEY DO NOT MARRY! Marriage is not necessary to procreate.

Realize this! UNDERSTAND this truth! We can, through sex, have reproduction without marriage! Indeed, that is one of the world's greatest evils today—there is entirely too much reproduction without marriage!

Animals reproduce. But *animals do not marry!* They need little or no teaching.

Ever see a little calf born? The mother cow does not need to call an obstetrical physician or go to a hospital for the delivery of her calf. As soon as it is born, the calf will begin to stagger to its feet, while the cow just stupidly stands waiting. She does not need to teach her calf how to walk, how to take its food, how to do anything. A little wobbly and unsteady at first, the calf is up and walking in just a minute or two.

Now how long does it take a *human* infant to learn to walk? Usually a year—and often more. But the newborn calf walks almost immediately. No one teaches it. THE CALF HAS INSTINCT. And where does it start walking? It has no instruction from anyone. It starts walking for its first “dinner.” It *knows* where to go. And the mother cow just stands stupidly still while her calf sucks its milk.

And where is “Daddy”—the bull? That's hard to say. Perhaps miles away. He probably is nowhere around. And soon the calf will not even need the milk from its mother—and will be on its own.

There is no marriage—no FAMILY LIFE—no HOME LIFE.

But with humans all this is different. The purely *reproductive* process is the same in all mammals. But beyond this, *all is different!* The *only* purpose for sex in animals is reproduction. But HUMANS ARE DIFFERENT! In humans, reproduction is *not* the only purpose of sex. A second purpose is MARRIAGE—and there is yet a third purpose!

The newborn human does not get up and walk immediately to its food. The tiny baby is absolutely *helpless*. It has a few instinctive reflexes, but no instinct, in the strict sense of the word. It has MIND—but at birth there is NO KNOWLEDGE as yet in its mind. It knows virtually *nothing* at birth. It must be *taught!* It needs parents to teach it! It matures so very much more slowly than animals! Yet its potentiality is *infinitely higher!* And for this higher purpose, parental guidance and FAMILY LIFE are NECESSARY!

For God had said, “Let us make man in OUR IMAGE” (Gen. 1:26).

God made cattle “after their kind”—after the *cattle* kind. He made “every winged fowl after his kind”—after the winged fowl kind! But He made MAN *after the GOD kind!*

Now, incredible as it may sound to those who do not UNDERSTAND the revelation of God's TRUTH—and only an infinitesimal minority does—GOD is a *FAMILY!*

And in MAN, God is reproducing HIS kind! Man has the supreme potentiality of being actually born into the very divine GOD FAMILY!

A GOD-PLANE RELATIONSHIP!

So GRASP this colossal TRUTH, if you can!

Here is the greatest TRUTH you can ever know! MAN, and man *only*, of all life forms God has created, can be born into THE GOD FAMILY—the KINGDOM OF GOD!

Animals have never been given FAMILY relationship. Angels have never enjoyed FAMILY status. The family relationship is a GOD-PLANE relationship—not an angel-plane relationship. And God bestowed it on MAN! Because MAN is to be BORN into the GOD FAMILY.

Of all life forms—whether plant, animal or angel in all God's creation, *MAN ALONE* was created for MARRIAGE—for HOME and FAMILY LIFE!

Read that again! Try to comprehend it! THINK of the significance! This truth has been *hidden* from a deceived world!

◆ PERSONAL

Man is, now, composed of matter. Yet in man—and in MAN ONLY, is God's CREATION still going on! Humans, by repentance, surrender to God and acceptance of Christ, may be in mind and attitude *converted*—may receive God's Holy Spirit. Thus they are actually *begotten* as God's *children*! They may have direct communion with God, and call Him FATHER! They are brought into a FATHER-AND-SON relationship with GOD!

This is possible for no other creature—not even angels! Angels were not, never can be, begotten and BORN of God! Each angel is a separate creation. *No angel can ever become a part of the DIVINE FAMILY OR KINGDOM OF GOD!*

Notice! Of angels, God says: "For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?" (Heb. 1:5.)

Neither animal, nor angel, nor any other being, except MAN, can be literally begotten by *spiritual reproductive process*, and then actually BORN into the divine GOD FAMILY!

What a matchless, supreme, awe-inspiring, breathtaking potential!

MARITAL LOVE

It was God's PURPOSE that humans, unlike animals, angels or any other living beings, enjoy the blessings of MARRIAGE and FAMILY relationships—actual *God-plane* relationships. The marriage relationship, as explained, had to be a LOVE relationship. But human, fleshly man is not born with *spiritual love*. Man's comprehension of MIND—his expression of LOVE—is confined, naturally, to the physical level, through the senses. Unconverted man can express only *physical love*—and, in marriage, through sex. The first man, Adam, was created—and we were all born—with one "human" spirit, which imparts physical intellect to the brain. But man was made to need another spirit—the Holy Spirit of God. Yet only the few specially and individually called by God have God's Spirit—and with it the *agape* love.

Man is given a CHOICE! So he has full ability to turn physical sex love in the *wrong direction* of LUST. God equipped him with MIND. He has capability to discern—to CHOOSE—and what he sows he shall reap!

Making man a physical being, it was still God's design to make possible our greatest HAPPINESS.

Of all the truly ENJOYABLE experiences received through the five senses, perhaps the most intense and supremely gratifying—the very pinnacle of sheer exhilaration—is that received in the sex act of expressing LOVE for the one who is dearest of all people on Earth, and to whom one has been joined in blessed and holy wedlock by GOD HIMSELF!

God made us so that we may really ENJOY the taste of delicious food—the sound of beautiful music—the sight of a beautiful landscape or flower garden—the fragrance of lovely roses. The RIGHT exercise of our senses is RIGHT. God *intended* this pleasure and enjoyment. God is LOVE, and God expressed His love toward us by making these delights possible. Yet, probably the most intensely delightful of all physical joys God's love has made possible, is that of sexual LOVE between husband and wife.

It was intended to endear each to the other, bind them closer to each other.

It was GOD who created these five senses, and set them in

such dynamic action, with their various stimuli. And God beheld everything that He had made, and pronounced it VERY GOOD!

God wants us to ENJOY living! God made us so we can find true happiness, here and now—we can simply *radiate* HAPPINESS AND JOY! His LAW is the guide to the RIGHT USE of these powers which can produce joyous blessings, or terrible curses. *And He gave us the CHOICE!*

God gave us the blessed MARRIAGE relationship, and the *God-plane* FAMILY relationship!

LOVE is God's WAY. But natural man can express it only *physically*.

But if the physical *love* relationship in marriage brings joys and delights, *how much more* the *SPIRITUAL* LOVE RELATIONSHIP expressed in marriage where both husband and wife are filled also with this *second* Spirit—the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD!

So, since humans can express naturally only a human and physical love, we come to the answer of the important question *why sex?*

THE CREATOR, IN HIS WISDOM, KNEW THAT SEX WAS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE THE MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONSHIP, IN REAL LOVE!

God knew what He was doing!

GOD's answer to those unhappy early religious "fathers" in their "chaste severity" is: "WOE unto him that striveth with his Maker! ... Shall the clay say to him that fashioned it, What makest thou?" (Isa. 45:9).

And again: "Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter's clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?" (Isa. 29:16).

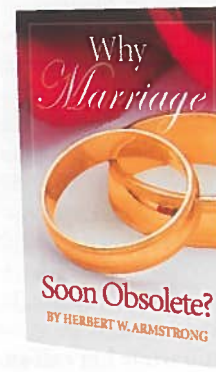
SEX was created, in God's loving wisdom, to make possible these sacred *God-plane* institutions of marriage, home and family!

Sex was created to stimulate pure romantic attraction and love between a man and a woman properly mated for marriage; to inspire them with desire to share their lives, their problems, their trials and troubles, their hopes and successes TOGETHER; to enjoy the planning and building together of a happy HOME; and to rear a happy FAMILY.

God designed SEX to produce pure, righteous, clean, holy and rich BLESSINGS! He made it to be the loving BOND which not only would inspire a properly mated couple to marry, but which would PRESERVE that marriage in love. Sex should be the energizing magnet to draw constantly closer and closer together with increasing LOVE a husband and wife—to heal over those little irritations, disturbances or misunderstandings which do occur.

Yet, this very bond which should bind the marriage tightly together is also the cord which, misused and perverted, *severs* more marriages than all other causes combined. *Misused*, it can bring nightmarish divorces, wreck homes and lives, leave children without parents, spawn juvenile delinquents!

Let's save sex for MARRIAGE. Let's turn to the WAY of all the blissful joys and blessings God made possible, and intended!



WAR Over Marriage

Why marriage? An aggressive push by entertainers, politicians, judges and priests toward homosexual marriage is provoking a fundamental redefinition of traditional family. Battle lines are being drawn. But no one should take a stand on this issue without knowing the facts!

BY JOEL HILLIKER

HOMOSEXUALITY HAS suddenly taken center stage in public discussion. Great swaths of the population of Britain, Canada, the United States and other nations have enthusiastically embraced it and pushed for broad public acceptance—not just of homosexuality, but the expansion the legal scope of marriage and family to include same-sex couples.

This amounts to a towering redefinition of the most foundational institution in society.

In Canada, it is now law. But even within those countries where homosexual marriage hasn't yet been legalized, in the minds of many this change has already happened. It is merely one more step in a complete rethinking, over several generations, of the nature of traditional marriage and family.

Are we sure this is a GOOD CHANGE?

Are the media moguls who are filling their fall television line-ups with shows promoting homosexual dating, fashion and "family" life SURE they are doing the

public a service? Are the educators and politicians who are using public money to fund an all-homosexual public high school SURE they are acting in the best interests of the people they serve? Are those judges legalizing sodomy and homosexual marriage SURE they are reading the law correctly and strengthening the civic life of their nations? Are the clergymen who are advocating the appointment of openly homosexual ministers and making public proclamations trashing the traditional view of heterosexual marriage ABSOLUTELY SURE they are interpreting the Bible correctly, and have God's blessing?

These are critical questions. Because if these individuals are WRONG, there is plenty of evidence to show they are making NATION-DESTROYING MISTAKES.

Homosexuality puts on trial several fundamental issues. Why male and female? Why do people marry? What is the purpose of marriage? What defines a family? As we will see, it even challenges our understanding of the supreme question: Why are we here? What is the purpose for humankind?

Do you know the answers to these questions? If you don't, your attitudes about homosexuality—positive or negative—are simply not based on a full understanding of the truth! Fact is, the GREAT MAJORITY are making their decisions—including those influencing law within both church and state—having been bullied by political correctness, peer pressure or societal coercion.

What about you? Have you already made up your mind? Are you sure you are right?

Tossing Out a Taboo

In May, at the annual conference of the American Psychological Association, an unusual subject was up for discussion: the removal from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders several sexually deviant behaviors called "paraphilias"—including pedophilia.

Opposition was intense, and the idea was rejected. But it was a telling illustration of just how radically general attitudes toward sex, marriage and family have been transformed in the Western world in the past two generations.



It was in 1973 that homosexuality was removed from the APA's list of disorders. At that time, homosexuality was far from being publicly acceptable. But it appears the rest of society has since caught up with the vanguard of psychologists who made it "normal" 30 years ago.

In June, Canada's Ontario Court of Appeals legalized homosexual marriage (to be followed by British Columbia a month later), and Prime

audiences could have seen then what viewers can see now."

A Pew Research Center study in July also confirmed the television execs' belief, finding that within the U.S., opposition to homosexual marriage has dropped significantly in recent years (53 percent of respondents, down from 65 percent in 1996). A CNN-USA Today poll found only 46 percent of Americans op-

Until a few generations ago, marriage and family were taken for granted as a means of rearing responsible children and producing a stable society. However, even then the deep understanding of why marriage was widely unknown.

Minister Jean Chrétien announced his government's support for the plan. That same month, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Texas law criminalizing sodomy. This was the first time in its history the Supreme Court held that people have a right to engage in sex outside lawful marriage.

These events produced a landslide of media coverage on homosexuality in the United States—most of it decidedly positive. Said a *Boston Herald* editorial, typical of the coverage, "[T]his court has somehow managed to ... come out where most Americans are today—firm in their belief that government has no business peeking into the bedrooms of consenting adults."

And on television, what started on the news programs quickly made its way into regular programming: A cable channel introduced a homosexual dating show and then a homosexual reality show that scored record ratings and was quickly picked up by broadcast network giant NBC.

"Several network and cable television executives said the Supreme Court's 6-to-3 decision in June, overruling a Texas sodomy law and legalizing gay sexual conduct, underlined what they already knew: that *the nation's attitudes toward gays and lesbians are radically changing*," reported the *New York Times* on July 29 (emphasis mine). "Thirty years ago, prime-time television series often depicted homosexuals as suicidal or psychopaths. ... If American television

posing homosexual marriage, and 48 percent supporting it.

The moves within the courts and media toward public acceptance and even celebration of homosexuality were matched elsewhere. July also saw the announcement of \$5 million of public funds to be granted to the Harvey Milk School, a New York City public high school devoted exclusively to homosexual, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students. In early August, California became the fourth state to pass a law protecting transgender people from housing and job discrimination—one which would impose penalties including fines of up to \$150,000 on landlords or employers who violate it. (The August 5 *San Francisco Chronicle* blandly explained, "Employers would still be able to use dress codes as long as workers are allowed to dress as the gender they prefer.")

"Taboos are falling so quickly that the word *taboo* itself increasingly has an archaic ring," wrote Frank Rich in the July 26 *New York Times*. He was talking about the sudden widespread acceptance of pornography, but he could have just as easily been speaking about homosexuality. "Except for the usual fire-and-brimstone sermonizers in pulpits and on the Supreme Court (one of whom, Clarence Thomas, has himself reportedly been a porn consumer), most conservatives have joined most liberals in giving up the fight against all but the scourge of child pornography."

The same backpedaling is true re-

garding homosexuality. While pedophilia is still widely considered objectionable, the typical "conservative" view has moved from outright condemnation to begrudging tolerance: the idea that perhaps homosexual couples shouldn't be able to have the same legal status as heterosexual marriages, but if they want to do it in private, that's their business.

There is a big problem with that line of reasoning.

Why Male and Female?

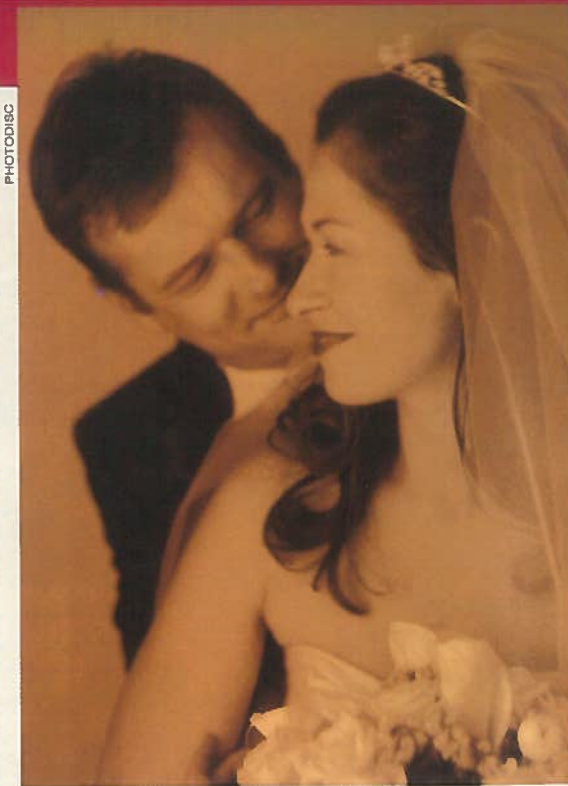
Why male and female? Have you ever thought about that? This is a conundrum that both creationists and evolutionists must wrestle with.

For the person who doesn't believe in a Creator, it requires explaining how, by natural means—not by design but by accident—humanity (and virtually all living creatures) came to exist in two distinct groups, different yet the same, mutually dependent upon the other for procreation.

But even for the creationist, the question can be equally puzzling. Why did God make male and female?

Scripture shows that in creating humankind in His own image and likeness (Gen. 1:26), God made the conscious decision to divide us into TWO GROUPS: male and female (v. 27). Why? This is an important question to contemplate. Try to push from your mind the politically correct falsehood that

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there are no differences between the two. Consider this realistically.

The fact is that the relentless drive over the past half century in particular to equalize the sexes has completely obscured and destroyed the very deep and important reasons for God's creative implementation of sex differences! Homosexuality, in effect, treats this essential component of creation as if it were mere decoration—even a mistake on God's part. At best, it trivializes and neutralizes the formation of gender.

Can you acknowledge the possibility that sex is not an accident of evolution, nor an arbitrary ornament on creation, but a *conscious, deliberate choice* with *design and intent* made by a super-intelligent Creator? Are you willing to consider the reasoning, the logic, in His decision? This God who reveals Himself in the Bible claims that His thoughts are *higher* than your thoughts (Isa. 55:8-9). Is it possible you have allowed your mind to be prejudiced against His superior thinking by simple PEER PRESSURE—the intellectual coercion of a society that is almost wholly hostile toward its Creator?

Marriage Not Understood!

Why marriage? Do you know where marriage originated?

Look at the animals and you can see that marriage is not necessary for procreation. Animals may exhibit a certain loyalty to certain other animals, but only humans have the multifaceted emotional and legal relationships associated with marriage and family.

Until a few generations ago, the concept of marriage and family was taken for granted—generally accepted as desirable—a means of rearing responsible children and producing a stable society. However, even then the deep *understanding* of WHY MARRIAGE was widely unknown.

Why? Because this is fundamentally SPIRITUAL knowledge!

Marriage is not a mere tradition. It is actually a sacred institution, originated and established by God at the creation of humankind! It was created for specific purposes and designed to function according to definite LAWS. Those laws are as absolute and inexorable as the physical laws governing the universe. If they are broken, unhappiness and dissatisfaction result.

On the other hand, even if one lacks

the spiritual understanding of the purposes of marriage, adherence to the basic spiritual laws God placed in motion produces stable, happy marriages and families. Many of the basic assumptions of yesteryear—for example, that sexual fidelity is the most basic tenet of marriage, that divorce is unacceptable, that children should honor their parents—were directly in line with those God-given laws.

The Western world in the 20th century increasingly saw every assumption regarding marriage challenged: the respective roles of husband as guide and provider, and wife as helpmeet and homemaker; the importance of abstaining from sex outside of marriage; the authority of parents over their children. As these ideas were contested, a negative cycle began. Increased rejection of the God-ordained laws governing marriage produced more bad marriages and fueled the tendency to question its fundamental nature. The result was a general, misguided dissatisfaction with marriage itself and an inevitable lack of appreciation for and understanding of this sacred institution.

In times past, the case for marriage being a stabilizing force in society was easier to make. Today, marriages that truly follow the biblical pattern are rare enough (and the general view of family has degenerated far enough) that it simply cannot be held up as a realistic model anymore. A responsi-

ble, authoritative man who leads his family in love, supported and deeply respected by an industrious woman who keeps the house, with both parents rearing their children to be happy, polite and obedient—this scenario, rather than being held up as an ideal, is considered so impossible so as to be laughable. The very concept is the subject of scorn and mockery.

Some even go further and say not only is the traditional ideal for family unrealistic, but it is harmful—a type of slavery for the wife and oppression for the children. Unhappy families, broken homes and illegitimate children are so overwhelmingly common that it is regarded as insensitive to suggest that such individuals are in any way handicapped or damaged.

Over just a few generations, society as a whole—rather than accepting the notion that it is falling short somehow, rather than striving harder to measure up to the biblical standard—simply changed the standard.

God's standards, on the other hand, DO NOT CHANGE (Mal. 3:6; Heb. 13:8; Luke 16:17; 1 John 5:3). Anyone who wants to be right with God must beware using societal norms as a personal standard.

In actuality, a godly marriage is something virtually any clear-thinking person can recognize as being ideal. Such a family is a beautiful thing to behold. The children blessed enough to grow up in such a family have a much greater chance of being productive citizens and building happy families of their own. The benefit of such families to society at large should be obvious.

Nevertheless, the virtually unanimous failure to follow the pattern God established for familial success has resulted in a redefinition of the ideals for marriage and family.

And now, we see being disputed the very idea of marriage involving one man and one woman. This reveals a DEEP lack of understanding of virtually

Increased rejection of the God-ordained laws governing marriage produced more bad marriages, and fueled the tendency to question its fundamental nature. The result was a general, misguided dissatisfaction with marriage itself and an inevitable lack of understanding of this sacred institution.

every fundamental purpose for marriage revealed in Scripture! Melanie Phillips wrote in the June 30 *Daily Mail*, "More and more people see marriage not as a sacred means of creating kinship [actually, it is much, much more than even that], but merely as a love affair with a handy set of rights attached."

Sadly, when the biblical model of sexual behavior, marriage and family has been so degraded and ravaged, when the *understanding* of marriage is gone, arguments against homosexual unions don't seem to stand up too well.

The Church's Role

Religious leaders, shamefully, have been swept up in this departure from biblical standards. Religion has traditionally provided an anchor in the middle of such moral turbulence. But today, the church has instead put up its sails, raised its rudder, and is helping to lead the wave of social change.

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Right alongside recent secular initiatives promoting homosexuality, debate among mainline Christian churches over ordaining homosexual priests and conducting same-sex marriages heated up considerably.

In May, the Church of England appointed homosexual bishop Jeffrey John, who supports the campaign for the Anglican Church to bless same-sex marriage. (The appointment created such a row among Anglicans that, finally, after six weeks, the Archbishop of Canterbury, a personal friend of Mr. John's for 30 years, asked that he resign.)

Soon after, the Episcopalian Church in New Hampshire elected Gene Robinson, its first openly homosexual bishop. The Episcopalians are also facing a decision as to whether or not to bless same-sex marriages. In June, the moderator of the Church of Scotland announced he would be "utterly untroubled" by the appointment of homosexual ministers. Three weeks later, the Uniting Church in Australia passed a resolution to accept openly homosexual ministers, with more than 75 percent of its national assembly supporting the measure.

One voting minister of the Uniting Church explained, "The Catholic Church has ordained homosexuals, the Anglican Church has ordained homosexuals, they're just not honest about it. We've struggled with this reality for many years and here we are" (*Heidelberg Leader*, Australia, July 30). Essentially, that is making societal norms the standard rather than the Bible—something Christ specifically condemned (Mark 7:9).

These religious leaders claim they get their religion from the Bible. Many are not entirely comfortable with the push toward homosexuality. But they have realized they simply do not have enough power to resist it.

Thus we have among many high-level religionists the need to somehow explain how God does not condemn homosexuality—when an unbiased

reading of Scripture plainly shows that He DOES condemn it!

Apologizing for Homosexuality

In May, a homosexual Anglican was given about US\$34,000 of public money to finish a Ph.D. at the University of Queensland "proving" that Jesus Christ was homosexual—in addition to three, possibly four, of His chosen disciples. "He said Jesus's astrological chart, clues in the Scriptures to which the churches had been blind and accurate biblical translations had all played a part in his conclusions," reported Queensland's *Courier Mail* (May 29). It quoted the man, Rollan McCleary, as explaining, "The starting point is the matter of John, who always referred to himself as Jesus's beloved disciple."

This is perhaps an extreme case, but a fair representation of the academic folderol required to sanction homosexuality while still claiming the Bible as any kind of authority.

The question is, can the Bible really be trusted to establish standards of right and wrong, or not?

Consider two scriptures in the Old Testament book of Leviticus: "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination. ... If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them" (Lev. 18:22; 20:13).

Here is how one pro-homosexual religious website explained these verses: "The book of Leviticus is a product of its culture. ... The writers were not

scientists nor historians writing from expertise, but were persons of faith—priests, writing from the unique experiences that they encountered. They were problem solvers in an era where simplistic, yet decisive, actions were necessitated by illnesses and controversies that arose within the camp of the tribe of Israel. They were cultic people who were forced to make quick and sudden decisions as need arose. For 20th-century Christians to use these formulas as criteria for ethical and moral decision making would be naive at best, heresy at worst. The priests used the tools of knowledge at their disposal, just as we are required to use the tools of knowledge available to us. Today, we can benefit from thousands of years of learning!" (www.whosoever.org).

Just like that, they erase whole sections of Scripture—going so far as to claim that it could be HERESY to follow it, or even to presume that it reflects God's thinking at all.

Homosexuality apologetics abound with statements mitigating the authority of Scripture. Every biblical statement against homosexuality is passed off as being mistranslated, or misunderstood, or no longer relevant. The Apostle Paul's strong condemnations of homosexuality (Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; 1 Tim. 1:9-10) are dismissed as being unclear, or mere statements of personal preference ("We conclude that St. Paul in the Christian Scriptures seems to have condemned some homosexual activity, but it is unclear which ones. There is no mention of loving, committed gay and lesbian relations in the Christian Scriptures"—*ibid.*; "Some Christians feel that his writings are not a useful guide for ethics and morals in the 20th century"—www.ncf.ca/ip/signs/life/gay/religion).

Of the story of Sodom and Gomorrah found in Genesis 19, these apologists explain that God didn't destroy these cities for being filled with homosexuality and sexual perversion—but because He was angry at them for being inhospitable, or violent, or oppressive and discriminatory. Of course, the Apostle Jude says it was SEXUAL SIN that inflamed God's wrath: "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal

fire" (Jude 7). But this scripture is written off with the simple explanation, "Jude disagreed with God" (ibid.).

Can the Bible be trusted, or not? Is it God's Word, or not? Why go to the trouble to "explain away" passage after passage of Scripture, if your intent is simply to believe exactly what you want to believe?

As further "proof" that homosexuality is permitted, these scholars note that Jesus Christ never personally condemned homosexuality. But they overlook His statement that we should live by EVERY WORD OF GOD (Matt. 4:4). God harshly condemns religious leaders who claim to speak for Him, but who speak their own words and lead people into immorality (Jer. 23:14-40). God does hold those who claim to be ministers more accountable than others!

Even setting aside specific biblical prohibitions against homosexuality, just a basic understanding of why God created male and female, marriage and family gives you insight into why God considers homosexuality an abomination. We have looked at this in a general way, but let's get more specific.

Why Marriage and Family?

God's decision to create male and female had several ramifications, and prompted several other, related decisions. Consider.

God created sexual attraction, to draw a man and a woman into a love relationship. He created the institution of marriage—a binding covenant relationship with proscribed, God-ordained *roles* (e.g. Gen. 2:18, 21-25; Eph. 5:29-33; 1 Tim 5:8), and gave laws confining the use of sex to that marital relationship (e.g. Exod. 20:14, 17). He intended this covenant relationship to bring *STABILITY* into our lives, to teach us faithfulness and loyalty, and to give each mate the opportunity to learn to live unselfishly with another person, different from themselves, as a harmonious team.

In addition, God created our anatomies so that this two-person relationship is what generates children. He

designed the human development process to occur slowly—much more slowly than in animals—in order to make *FAMILY LIFE* necessary: Children are completely dependent upon their parents, and parents must love, nurture, protect, educate and discipline their children. He gave laws and principles governing that parent-child relationship (e.g. Exod. 20:12).

God could have made us all alike, never established marriage, provided some other means of reproduction, had us born with fully developed bodies and minds—He could have done things any number of other ways. But He did it this way for a reason.

Why? To one who doesn't understand God's purpose for mankind, it might seem somewhat arbitrary. **WHY** male and female? **WHY** marriage? **WHY** do we reproduce through sex? **WHY** children? **WHY** family?



God intends children to grow up with the authoritative and loving influence of both a man and a woman, each fulfilling a specific role, bound and committed to one another and to the offspring they produce together.

But the answer is clear to anyone who understands the truth revealed in the Bible but not generally understood—that of the incredible *HUMAN POTENTIAL*.

The way God designed male, female, marriage and children, the family unit naturally creates a *government structure* patterned after the *GOD FAMILY PATTERN*.

God designed all of these things the way He did to prepare us for eternal life in *HIS FAMILY*!

The truth of this reality far surpasses the insipid view of an afterlife spent sitting on a cloud strumming a harp. God is about to establish a Kingdom, here on Earth, ruling all nations, with literal positions of king-priesthood to be filled by human beings transformed into spirit-born members of the God family! (Request our book *The Incredible Human Potential* for a thorough biblical explanation of this truth.)

This is why the human family is so critical in God's mind. *We need* family, as God designed it, in order to really prepare for positions in God's family! Done right, marriage is intended to teach spiritual lessons about the God family (e.g. Eph. 5:31-33). A child growing up in a godly family learns *spiritual* lessons. In other words, if a family is run the way God intended it to be run, then there are *GOD-PLANE DYNAMICS* at work—living lessons in God's government and family love!

God Condemns Homosexuality—But Why?

It is true that *not* being in such a family does not in any way disqualify someone from God's Kingdom. However, they still must learn deeply about *why* marriage and *why* family.

To take it upon ourselves to redefine what a family is, to spurn God's standard and set up our own, to presume that our ideas which are totally *contrary* to God's are in fact *SUPERIOR* in design and in the results they produce—**THIS IS**

THE HEIGHT OF BOTH ARROGANCE AND FOLLY!

London's *Daily Mail* on June 30 introduced readers to two lesbians who will parent a child that one of them conceived using

sperm purchased on an Internet site from an anonymous donor. Yes—technology has given individuals intent on creating fatherless children (not to mention those mercenary enough to profit from it) the means to do so. It appears that, soon, science will provide a way for a male couple to bring a child to term without a female.

Here is where our sophistication and ingenuity have brought us.

Whereas God gifts to the married couple the awesome, even *God-like* power to create NEW LIFE through their union, people instead choose dead unions and then look to unnatural means of generating that life. Whereas God intends life to begin with an act of love, science enables us to start it with the squeeze of a syringe. Whereas God



intends children to grow up with the authoritative and loving influence of both a man and a woman, each fulfilling a specific role, bound and committed to one another and to the offspring they produce together, people want to bring children up within whatever “family” concoction suits their self-interest.

And, cut loose from moral moorings, guided only by their own reason, they have convinced themselves the children will grow up to be just as healthy for it. They have convinced themselves that same-sex marriages will discourage promiscuity, and bring a new level of loyalty and commitment into the homosexual community—that it will be a stabilizing influence on society.

They may even have convinced themselves that God is smiling down on their efforts. But if they were honest, they would acknowledge that they simply *don't care* WHAT God says! They don't care *how* He defines a family, or why!

There is a WAR being waged over marriage and family. On one side are those trying to preserve God's design; on the other are those trying to destroy God's design!

God intends marriage to lead us into the family of God. Marriage and family have everything to do with the GOSPEL OF GOD—which is the *good*

news of the coming FAMILY OF GOD. This is why it is so important to God. “Adultery, fornication, masturbation, homosexuality are so COLOSSALLY SINFUL BECAUSE they violate, pollute, profane and destroy something so HOLY and so monumentally RIGHTEOUS in God's sight!” (Herbert W. Armstrong, *The Missing Dimension in Sex*).

The true force motivating the anti-

Whereas God gifts to the married couple the power to create new life through their union, people instead choose dead unions and then look to unnatural means of generating that life. Whereas God intends life to begin with an act of love, science enables us to start it with the squeeze of a syringe.

family front is a spirit being, revealed in Scripture, who was never offered the opportunity to be in God's family (our free book *Mystery of the Ages* explains this truth). He was never given the creative power to reproduce himself. He hates family and wants to blot it out forever! This is the Adversary—Satan the devil—who first deceived Eve into turning against God (Gen. 3:1-6) and has since deceived the whole world (Rev. 12:9). He is bent on nothing less than the destruction of humanity.

Those pushing for homosexual marriage say they are merely interested in equal rights, in individual justice. That is simply not true—whether they realize it or not!

Satan is after the complete destruction of family, and the homosexual movement will not stop making demands until this goal is achieved. Satan knows that by destroying families, he can destroy nations and can blind people to the simple, hope-filled truth of God—so he is doing everything he can to devastate that God-plane relationship! He has a passionate hatred against God's rule!

The world is on the brink of catastrophe. Poverty, hunger and disease plague our planet. Racial hostility, both within nations and across borders, is boiling. Hatred against the Anglo-American peoples is rising dramatically, while political division within those nations is tearing them apart. Biological, chemical and even nuclear weapons of mass destruction are finding their way into unpredictable hands.

Those who understand the threats, those courageous enough to keep their eyes open, are issuing increasingly grave warnings—because they realize the very *survival* of our world is at stake.

And it is in this climate of calamity that the idea of homosexual marriage is being pushed!

Staring nuclear destruction in the face, many are acting as though the

greatest hope, the most exciting truth they have ever found, is homosexual marriage! The truth is, getting wrapped up in this cause is helping them to forget about reality.

It was recently reported that AIDS has orphaned 11 million children in sub-Saharan Africa. How many of those orphans have any idea what family is about? They have no hope. Is HOMOSEXUAL MARRIAGE GOING TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS? IT WAS THE EPIDEMIC MISUSE OF SEX THAT HELPED MAKE AIDS SUCH A PROBLEM IN THE FIRST PLACE!

In the midst of the worst crisis we have ever faced, is this the best we can give the world?

Truly, we are witnessing a titanic war over marriage and family. BUT GOD IS NOT GOING TO LOSE THIS WAR!

Sodom and Gomorrah

The Apostle Jude did not disagree with God. He was inspired by the Holy Spirit to show that, among their other sins, Sodom and Gomorrah unquestionably were also destroyed for *sex sins* including homosexuality.

But, beyond that, Jude was also inspired to draw the lesson that they are “set forth for an EXAMPLE” (Jude 7). It is probably the strongest warning example in the Bible! The Apostle Peter also talked about these cities being turned “into ashes,” “making them an ENSAMPLE unto those that after should live ungodly” (II Pet. 2:6).

Why were these apostles of God talking about cities being turned to ashes? Because the example is still relevant today! This is not just an outdated Old

MORALITY

Six out of nine Supreme Court Justices concluded that the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment guaranteed the right for people to engage in sodomy, asserting that all anti-sodomy laws were unconstitutional.

Writing for the majority, Justice Kennedy stated, “[Homosexuals] are entitled to respect for their private lives. The state cannot demean their existence or control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime.” The syllabus of the case, summarizing the reasoning behind the ruling, said this: “(1) The fact a state’s governing majority has traditionally viewed a particular practice as immoral is not a sufficient reason for upholding a law prohibiting the practice, and (2) individual decisions concerning the intimacies of physical relationships, even when not intended to produce offspring, are a form of ‘liberty’ protected by due process.”

Justice O’Connor agreed with the majority’s judgment. She wrote that a state couldn’t justify a law based on morals alone; there must be some other “state interest” to defend an anti-sodomy statute, or it would be discriminatory against homosexuals. Moral disapproval, as a basis for an anti-sodomy law, is like “a bare desire to harm the group,” she wrote.

What makes that statement so absurd is that ALL criminal laws in the U.S. are based on morality!

As Justice Scalia wrote in the minority opinion, “State laws against bigamy, same-sex marriage, adult incest, prostitution, masturbation, adultery, fornication, bestiality and obscenity are likewise sustainable only in light of *Bowers*’ validation of laws based on moral choices [referring to a 1986 Supreme Court case]. Every single one of these laws is called into question by today’s decision; the Court makes no effort to cabin the scope of its decision to exclude them from its holding. . . . The impossibility of distinguishing homosexuality from other traditional ‘morals’ offenses is precisely why *Bowers* rejected the rational-basis challenge. ‘The law,’ it said, ‘is constantly based on notions of morality, and if all laws representing essentially moral choices are to be invalidated under the Due Process Clause, the courts will be very busy indeed.’”

By deciding this case with the no-



LAW AND IMMORALITY A crowd gathers in San Francisco’s Castro district to celebrate the Supreme Court decision, which homosexual activists called “historic” and “transformative.”

tion that law cannot be based on morality, the Court is demonstrating a shallow understanding about the nature and purpose for law. And as Justice Scalia implied, this type of thinking has tremendous implications.

Effects on the Constitution

The effects of the Supreme Court’s ruling are quite far-reaching. They go beyond the specific content of the ruling. The way this case was decided amounts to an attack on the U.S. Constitution.

With the *Lawrence* decision, the high court has once again proved that it is perfectly willing to form a politically desirable conclusion while making tortured interpretations of the Constitution to supposedly support its view. In this case, it ruled against anti-sodomy laws. But in 1973, in *Roe v. Wade*, the conclusion was that women have a right to abort their unborn children for any reason—and states cannot have laws prohibiting abortion.

Rather than studying that document and appropriate precedents that stem from it, THE JUSTICES DECIDE UPON A PO-

LITICALLY DESIRABLE RESULT AND THEN TRY TO JUSTIFY THEIR DECISION WITH A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT THEY CLAIM TO HAVE FOUND—A RIGHT THAT HAS SUPPOSEDLY BEEN HIDDEN FOR 200 YEARS!

Writing about the Supreme Court in his book *The Tempting of America*, former federal appellate court judge Robert Bork correctly noted that some justices believe that “judges may create new principles or destroy old ones, thus altering the principles actually to be found in the Constitution.” Judge Bork’s observation is truly alarming!

This method of ruling is known as *judicial activism*. It has an official name because the method is commonly recognized. The problem is, it isn’t the justices’ job to make rulings based on their own views. Their job is to make rulings based on the Constitution, the document on which this country was founded. If courts are allowed to circumvent the Constitution, then the document has no purpose.

Ultimately, if the high court continues on its present path, it will become a political organization with nine intellectually elite justices who dictate laws to the American people—without any accountability to voters. Instead of justices in the Supreme Court, AMERICA WILL GET LIFETIME POLITICIANS WITH DEFINITE AGENDAS—agendas that may not sit well with the public they are supposed to serve.

While the framers of the Constitution intended the nation’s laws to be created by a democratically elected

FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT

“DUE PROCESS” CLAUSE

“No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.”

legislature, today all that is needed is for one person who represents a small group to raise a test case, such as *Lawrence*, that will make it to the sympathetic high court. Then the court can legislate from the bench by making or repealing laws with their decisions. Lately the court is simply bypassing Congress and making its own laws.

As William Rees-Mogg wrote, “[T]he Supreme Court has repeatedly taken to itself decisions which were originally intended to belong to the democratic process of the individual states. It has been said that ‘the Supreme Court has raped the Constitution’” (*Times*, London, July 7).

The nation’s founders intended that the Supreme Court decide cases based on the law—the Constitution, which was based to a great extent on the Ten Commandments (request our free booklet *No Freedom Without Law*). The Supreme Court is attacking the foundation of this nation.

Attacking Marriage and Family

It is not just America’s underpinning of law that suffered from the *Lawrence* decision; the Supreme Court has also struck a blow at America’s *families*.

The legal system now considers homosexuality an official legal classification, such as race or gender, accepted under the law. How does that affect families? The dissenting justices in *Lawrence* addressed this issue.

In his dissent, Justice Scalia wrote, “Many Americans do not want persons who openly engage in homosexual conduct as partners in their business, as scoutmasters for their children, as teachers in their children’s schools, or as boarders in their home. They view this as protecting themselves and their families from a lifestyle that they believe to be immoral and destructive.”

Focusing on how the majority’s decision will affect homosexual marriage, Justice Scalia wrote, “At the end of its opinion ... the Court [majority] says that the present case ‘does not involve whether the government must give formal recognition to any relationship that homosexual persons seek to enter.’ Do not believe it.”

He is saying the decision will lead to legalized homosexual marriage. How?

The *Lawrence* decision entitles homosexuals to the same rights as heterosexual people. All 50 states presently li-

cense only heterosexual couples to be married. Since this now discriminates against homosexuals, a legally recognized classification of person, state marriage laws will eventually be challenged in court as being unconstitutional—unless of course the marriage laws change to treat all people equally. Actually, there are already cases in many state courts about the right for homosexuals to be married—and the parties are using the implications and wording of the *Lawrence* decision to back up their claims against the states.

Another harmful effect on the family is how adoption laws will be affected. Many states don’t allow homosexuals to adopt children—but that will soon have to change, since those adoption laws also discriminate against homosexuals.

The family unit in America is rapidly disintegrating. The Supreme Court is hastening its decline. This is so because the court has the power to force every state, district, county, city and town to comply with its rulings. *Homosexuals have won a major battle—courtesy of America’s high court.* As Justice Scalia put it, the court “has largely signed on to the so-called homosexual agenda.”

Such is the end result of America’s humanly devised political system. The outcome will be akin to that of ancient Israel in the time of the judges. At that time, no power was extant to define true right and wrong, no standard of righteousness was enforced, and “every man did that which was right in his own eyes” (Jud. 21:25).

Justice Is Coming

The great American political experiment has had its day. Its system of justice is weighed in the balance and found wanting. There is left only one way for Americans to see true justice.

The greatest law book in existence, the Holy Bible, foretold this crisis in the court. Speaking of the end time, the Prophet Micah declared that those in seats of judgment and authority in America (part of modern-day Israel) would be unjust: “Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and

princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity” (Mic. 3: 9).

The Scriptures prophesy that leaders in America—including the Supreme Court justices—would be pernicious. But just as the Bible prophesies of lawless leaders, it also prophesies of a supreme, lawful leader. That leader is Jesus Christ (Ps. 98:8-9).

In *No Freedom Without Law*, Gerald Flurry wrote, “Christ came the first time for a great purpose. ‘And Jesus said, FOR JUDGMENT I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see [or think they see, but are wrong] might be made blind’ (John 9:39). Christ came to this world for the purpose of judgment, or justice” (p. 13).

Mr. Flurry continued, “But the second time He comes, Christ will enforce His justice based on God’s law of love. He will rule according to what is right and wrong.” Jesus Christ will return and administer true justice with the God family in the Kingdom of God.

At that time, the King of kings will teach mankind what the family is and how the physical family is a type of the spiritual family of God. To better understand this truth, request our free book *The God Family Vision*.

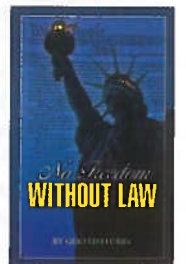
Isaiah the prophet foresaw the time when Christ would return and establish the glorious Kingdom of God. “Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this” (Isa. 9:7). Soon, Jesus Christ will return and with His family He will establish the Kingdom of God with righteous law, justice and judgment! ♦

You may find our free booklet **No Freedom Without Law** of interest. Request your free copy today.



“[A]t the end of its opinion ... the Court says that the present case ‘does not involve whether the government must give formal recognition to any relationship that homosexual persons seek to enter.’ Do not believe it.”

JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA





JOINT DECISION Canada's solicitor general, health minister and justice minister explain the new law ending criminal penalties for possession of small amounts of marijuana.

The Flaw of Tolerance

Canada is publicly accepting illicit drug use and same-sex marriages. Does a policy of tolerance curb bad behavior?

BY WIK HEERMA

CANADA ONCE ENJOYED A REPUTATION as being morally conservative, compared to its giant neighbor to the south. Now that has changed. This country is rapidly taking a lead in North America's moral decline.

In May, Canada proposed the decriminalization of the sale and consumption of small amounts of marijuana. In Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, officials are already contemplating whether they should supply hard drugs, such as heroin, to addicts in an effort to combat the crime of drug pushing, stop the rampant spread of HIV and "save" lives.

The provincial government of British Columbia approved North America's first "safe injection site" as part of "a three-year, \$1.1 million pilot program ... in [Vancouver's] drug-ridden Downtown Eastside district" (*Washington Post*, Aug. 2). This governmental approval "includes exemption from prosecution under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act"

(*ibid.*). Although junkies have to purchase their own drugs, they will be exempt from arrest inside the clinic.

"This is a user-run safe injection site," said [Meagan] Oleson, a nurse. "USERS DECIDE WHAT GOES ON HERE. My role is to supervise injections and to support them in doing that." ... The official clinic is scheduled to open in September in another storefront that will look no different from other businesses in the area" (*ibid.*; emphasis mine throughout).

In yet another initiative, Canada jumped to the forefront in the moral slide of the West when it legalized same-sex marriages in June. This too, is presented as legitimizing what is, in effect, already general practice.

With such radical changes in moral standards, we need to ask, *Where are these changes coming from, and why?*

Judge's Orders

"Canada yesterday announced that it will start selling cheap pot to ill people seeking surcease from pain, becoming the first country in the world to supply

so-called 'medical marijuana' directly to patients.

"Acting UNDER COURT PRESSURE, Health Canada—the federal ministry of health—said 1,650 baggies of marijuana are already packed and ready for sale to patients suffering from pain or nausea as the result of disease, chemotherapy used to treat cancer, AIDS, and other serious sicknesses. Marijuana also will be sold to people not expected to live more than a year" (*Boston Globe*, July 10).

The instigation for a change in law did not lie with the nation's democratically elected Parliament, or with any other legislative body, but with the JUDICIAL system.

Another judicial intervention changing traditional law occurred when the Ontario Court of Appeal ruled on June 10 that the traditional definition of marriage between man and woman was unconstitutional. British Columbia's Court of Appeal quickly joined Ontario in legalizing same-sex marriage—"ruling that gays and lesbians have an immediate right to tie the wedding knot. The three-judge panel ordered the 'reformulation of the common law definition' of marriage to declare it a union of two individuals, regardless of gender. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, bowing to pressure from the liberal-leaning top courts, pledged last month to make gay and lesbian marriage the law of the land" (*ibid.*, July 9).

It is mind-boggling how fast this moral revolution came upon the nation of Canada. Thirty years ago, Canadians were incarcerated for being homosexual. "As recently as 1994, a left-wing government in the province of Ontario introduced legislation that would have granted spousal rights to same-sex couples—and had to drop the idea when its own backbenchers mutinied. In 1995, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in *Egan v. Canada* that a homosexual man who had cohabited with another could not claim his partner's old-age pension because they were not 'spouses'" (*National Review*, July 14). In less than a decade, the resistance to homosexual unions has crumbled.

Canada's judges aren't merely testing cases against the laws of the land, but are shaping new laws and drastically changing existing ones. How can this be possible in a democratic country?

"In 1982, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau forced through a radical rewrite of the Canadian constitution

Ever since Europeans first occupied Canada's territories, this nation—the second largest on Earth in terms of landmass, with tremendous natural resources, blessed beyond measure—has been struggling to figure out who it is.

It seems as though recent events are creating an identity for Canada.

that put vast new powers into the hands of the courts. The powers were all the greater because the new constitution was for all practical purposes *unamendable*—meaning that if the courts did something, it would be virtually impossible for anybody to undo it” (ibid.).

Why is this? And why has there been so little commotion about such disturbing mis-government?

Canada's Identity Search

These acts are seen by the world at large as acts of tolerance, extending “freedoms” and “rights”—but, in truth, curses and slavery will be the result of these decisions.

Canada was founded under the slogan “peace, order and good government.” Whereas the U.S.’s settlers were spurred on by religious freedom, as well as economic opportunity, Canada attracted settlers primarily in pursuit of fur and a trade with Asia. America grew to be a nation of influence on the world scene, culturally as well as economically and politically. It quickly shaped an identity for itself. But not so for Canada.

Ever since Europeans first occupied Canada's territories, this nation—the second largest on Earth in terms of landmass, with tremendous natural resources, blessed beyond measure—has been struggling to figure out who it is. It seems as though recent events are *creating* an identity for Canada.

Toronto-based author Michael Adams wrote, “What emerges is a portrait of two nations evolving in unexpected directions: The once shy and deferential Canadians, who used to wait to be told by their betters what to do and how to think, have become more skeptical of traditional authority and more confident about their own personal decisions and informal arrangements.

Americans, by contrast, seeking a little of the ‘peace and order’ that Canadians hoped ‘good government’ would provide, seem inclined to latch on to traditional institutional practices, beliefs and norms as anchors in a national environment that is more intensely competitive, chaotic, and even violent” (*Fire and Ice: The United States, Canada and the Myth of Converging Values*).

Adams went on to say that the U.S. is moving to adopt a more conservative stance. But is this true? Or does it only seem that way because, by comparison, Canada is dashing so much more rapidly in the opposite direction?

Canada is finding its identity by expressing “tolerance” while abolishing its respect for law and order, primarily the law on which the Canadian constitution was founded—British law, which traces its roots back to the Ten Commandments.

Morality on Its Way Out

After conducting a homosexual marriage ceremony within minutes of the Vancouver court ruling, United Church minister Tim Stevenson said, “This shows that we are a country that accepts people and tolerates all kinds of people who are engaged in diversity.”

The triumph of same-sex marriage in Canada parallels the collapse of marriage in the general population. Though the number of cohabiting couples increased by 20 percent between 1995 and 2001, the number of married couples increased by just 3 percent. Research shows that cohabitating relationships last only five years on average. Yet, this ever-accelerating trend has become a generally accepted idea in Canada. Traditional marriage is on its way out—so homosexual unions are much easier to accept.

David Frum of *National Review* hit the nail on the head when he wrote, “The hard truth is that the demand for same-sex marriage is a *symptom of the crisis in marriage* much, much more than it is a *cause* of that crisis. To oppose same-sex marriages effectively, you have to believe that marriage is more than a

contract between two consenting adults, more than a claim on employers and the government for economic benefits. You have to believe that children need mothers and fathers, their own mothers and fathers. You have to believe that unmarried cohabitation is wrong, even when heterosexuals do it.

“Lose those beliefs and the case for marriage has been lost. It has been lost in Canada. It has been lost in Scandinavia, the Netherlands and France. It will be lost very soon in the United Kingdom. Will it lose in the United States? It is difficult to be very optimistic” (*National Review*, op. cit.).

Tolerating the Abomination

No, *tolerance of immorality* will not create a stable, peaceful, happy society. True freedom and happiness come from strict adherence to laws that govern inter-human relationships, not the *altering* of laws.

The once-blessed nation of Canada consists primarily of the descendants of the ancient tribe of Ephraim (for proof, request our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*). The people of Ephraim, with so many of their Israelitish brothers, have historically been rebellious and stiff-necked toward God and His ways. Prophecy shows us that Ephraim will have its blessings removed because of its tolerance of sin (Lev. 26:21, 25). Prophecy shows that the people of Canada will face captivity and slavery as just punishment for their national rebellion against God. That is where the tolerance of today is leading the nation.

We should never forget that God punishes only out of love and concern. It is correction for our good and is designed to bring about positive change. The coming Tribulation will shake people to their senses for what they have done.

But then will come deliverance. Jesus Christ will return to establish a new government, free from corrupt, liberal courts. Christ Himself will be the Judge, and the lawmakers of Canada will have to give account of their decisions.

Prophecy reveals what awaits us if we don't repent. We can choose to learn this lesson the easy way—through obedience now—or the hard way to come if we fail to repent. You cannot afford to be indifferent about what is happening in a nation like Canada! ♦



Chrétien



UNDER ATTACK Microsoft's Bill Gates may soon find his company in a legal dispute with the European Union.

◆ EUROPE

Trade war

Even as the Bush administration struggles to effect a compromise with the European Union on tariffs to protect its dying steel industry, the EU has fired another salvo in the latest round of Atlantic trade war. This time it is in the high-tech arena.

In August, the EU, having accused the U.S. software giant Microsoft with monopolizing the control of software in the personal computer market, gave the world's largest software company one last chance to answer its charges. The EU has charged that Microsoft has unfairly crushed competition in this market sector. Failure by the company to reach an accord with the EU will result in the matter being taken to court. By "court," we mean that lackey of the EU, the European Court of Justice.

The justice dispensed by this particular court is based on a premise far removed from the U.S. judicial system, which is based on the assumption that a defendant is innocent till proven guilty. The EU system is just the opposite—based on the old Roman inquisitorial system of *guilty till proven innocent*. A victory for the EU is assured within this system should the matter proceed to court.

Already the European Commission has signaled its preparedness to proceed to a court hearing should Microsoft not respond in a manner acceptable to it. The EU spokesman for competition, Tilman Luder, has declared that the Brussels headquarters of the Union has already prepared a "substantive file" on the matter such

that any decision the Commission takes will "withstand the scrutiny of the European Court of Justice" (Deutsche Welle, Aug. 8).

Luder's warning to Microsoft was dire and threatening. "It would be at the company's own peril ... to ignore this" (ibid.).

The EU is presently in a mean mood, exacerbated by the present impending economic squeeze it faces as a result of recession in Germany and reduced growth in France and Italy—three of its prime member nations, all members of the eurozone. Any penalty it attempts to slam on Microsoft may even pale the multi-billion-dollar fine imposed on the U.S. steel industry into insignificance. This Atlantic trade war is on the verge of heating up!

◆ GERMANY

Entering recession

It is now official. Even though the trend has been obvious to the most blind of pundits for some time, it now cannot be denied. Judged by all the economic indicators, Germany is now officially in recession.

This is not good news for Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, who spun a contrary story in his election

campaign last year. It was only by the good graces and popularity of his Green Party coalition partner, Joschka Fischer, that he scraped back into power.

Now the truth is not only out, but it's official. By the end of June, the German economy had produced six consecutive months of reduced growth, the technical definition of recession. The official expectation is zero growth for this year.

Belatedly and not without resistance even from within his own party ranks, Schröder has attempted a degree of economic reform. He knows that his future political career is at stake, so is prepared to mount more desperate moves than he would normally. The chancellor has proposed cuts in government spending, a revision of the tax system and deregulation of Germany's tightly controlled labor market. Industrial unrest is in prospect this winter as the full effect of these reforms starts to bite. Analysts state that it will take at least 12 months for these reforms to have a positive bearing on the German economy.

One of the main headaches Germany has faced during Schröder's administration has been endemic unemployment. The official national figure is 10 percent, but regional figures, particularly in eastern Germany, are double this rate.

With the German economy traditionally being the engine of the European Union federal economy, Germany's past three years of economic slough has held back the collective growth of the eurozone.

This magazine has constantly warned of the danger of a socially tense Germany. Historically, an economically and socially disrupted Germany has proved to be a

dangerously unpredictable Germany. It's times like these that ripen opportunities for the rise of demagogues. The last time Germany experienced national economic woes, it had fatal results for millions. It would pay to watch Germany this winter to see if a season of discontent results in preparing the ground for a repetition of history.

◆ ARGENTINA

Nazi son as president

The *Ratlines* was the name given to the underground network that linked Europe via the Vatican to a host of countries, many of them within Latin America, supplying escape routes, safe houses and new identities in new countries of residence for many Nazis following the defeat of Germany by the Allies in World War II.

Argentina figured prominently as a haven for Nazi exiles during this period. Many settled into their local Argentine communities and became "respectable" businessmen, farmers and industrialists. They spawned a second generation that melded with the local population, many becoming ostensibly loyal, well-heeled citizens of this most vibrant of economies in South America.

Then in 2001, something happened in Argentina that was destined to bring one prominent family of an old Nazi Party member to the fore.

In December of that year, Argentina experienced a run on its banks. Facing huge losses of their hard-earned savings, the population in the nation's capital of Buenos Aires began looting stores throughout the city in a great

wave of anger, a huge outcry against the economic policies of the Argentine government of then-President Fernando de la Rúa. The upshot was that the entire cabinet resigned. Argentina was in crisis. The crisis continued during the following short presidencies of presidents Puerta, Saa, Camano, Alfonsín and Menem, all following on the heels of each other in quick succession.

Then a politician of different hue suddenly arose on the scene, the son of a Nazi exile, Nestor Kirchner. At this point, things become interesting. Kirchner was elected as president of Argentina in May, unopposed by the former President Carlos Menem, who simply withdrew from the race.

It has been said by some observers of German character that the Germans crave order and are attracted to the idea of creating order out of confusion. Witness the wonder of the so-called German miracle of rapid reconstruction and recovery following World War II. Further witness the German intolerance of the chaos that they deliberately created in the Balkans and their rapid reaction in demanding the imposition of their own solution. Based on the evidence of such history, Kirchner could be just what the doctor ordered for solving Argentina's woes.

It is significant that Kirchner wasted no time in stacking the government's deck with his German relatives. A Peronist by political persuasion, he comes into the nation's chief office riding on the back of 12 years' successful administration of Argentina's oil-rich southern province of Santa Cruz. He has strong links with Europe, having secured Santa Cruz

finances from the effects of Argentina's economic woes by squirreling them away in accounts within Switzerland and Luxembourg.

Watch for Argentina's current leader to forge even stronger links with the EU in trade, commerce and banking in a bid to power the Argentine economy out of its slough back into economic leadership within Latin America. Watch also for Kirchner to forge strong links with his Fatherland.



KIRCHNER

AL BURNIA/PHOENIX

◆ BRITAIN

Blair to rig poll?

Reluctant to give the recalcitrant British an opportunity to reject entry into the eurozone by mounting a legitimate referendum, British Prime Minister Tony Blair thinks he's hit upon the ace solution to this conundrum.

It is well known that about three fourths of the British population wishes to retain Britain's beloved and sovereign means of exchange, the British pound, rather than opt for the European Union's currency of choice, the euro. Thus, it would simply be political suicide for a British leader to stake his future career on a positive outcome to any vote put to the public on Britain entering the European Monetary Exchange.

To avoid this predicament, Blair has come up with an alternative plan for getting through any future referendum on the issue. "The prime minister faced anger after it emerged that the 725,000 non-British EU citizens living in the UK could vote—even though they are

excluded from general elections. And that number may soar to as many as a million when 10 new countries ... join the EU next year ..." (*Daily Mail*, London, Aug. 5).

The great irony in all of this is that Germans who were not permitted any vote on their own country entering the eurozone could be allowed to take part in the UK referendum and contribute to swinging the vote.

This rankly dishonest approach to fixing the euro vote in Britain even has members of Tony Blair's own party up in arms.

Member of Parliament Ian Davidson heads up a group of backbenchers who have called themselves "Labor Against the Euro." The strength of feeling that the prime minister's mooted vote fixing has engendered is reflected in Mr. Davidson's declaration that, "A referendum vote in Britain which was influenced by foreign voters would be morally bankrupt."

Mr. Blair's endeavors to force Britain into the euro against the nation's will may backfire on him politically.

◆ WEATHER

Summer of death

Suffering from extreme temperatures and a drastic shortage of rain, summer 2003 was the hottest and driest on record for many European countries.

By late August it had been estimated that in France alone, 5,000 died due to the intense heat—mostly among the elderly.

While temperatures soared, so did the number of wild-

fires across Europe, destroying over 250,000 hectares of native forest. Hundreds of residents were forced to evacuate their burning homes.

In Europe's rivers, thousands of tons of fish died from water temperature change and dehydration, as river water levels dwindled.

Europe's economy has been impacted by the heat wave in numerous ways. Trade along the rivers, including the Danube, slowed as barges were forced to carry lighter loads to avoid bottoming out on the riverbed. Power plants relying on water from the rivers were shut down, causing a drastic shortage of power across the Continent. River water pumps used to supply drinking water started to pump mud.

Farm lobby groups in the European Union estimated the cost of the drought at more than \$6 billion. Harvests for some crops in Italy, France, Germany, Portugal and Austria were as much as 60 percent below normal yields.

For more than a decade, the *Trumpet* has warned that extreme weather conditions are one of the prophesied signs indicating this age is nearing its end (see Rev. 6:5-8; 8:4-12). Continue to watch as weather catastrophes increase leading up to the close of this age and the subsequent ushering in of a great era of balanced weather and environmental revival (Isa. 35:1).



BURNED OUT Trees in a forest of north-eastern Spain smolder in August.

Promiscuous Britain

BY STEPHEN M. HILL

RECENTLY PUBLISHED FIGURES CONFIRM that Britain now leads Europe in promiscuity. Health experts are calling the situation a full-blown crisis!

A 2002 report by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) shows that the United Kingdom has the second-highest rate of teenage pregnancies in the Western world, behind only the U.S. At the same time, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are on the increase. The London-based *Daily Mail* wrote, "Britain is on the brink of a public health crisis brought about by the spread of sexually transmitted diseases," adding that "the fertility of an entire generation [is] under threat ..." (June 11).

Following the recent release of a report by the Parliamentary Health Select Committee, parliamentarians called the situation "appalling," referring to the fact that "one in 10 sexually active young women in England is infected with chlamydia, syphilis rates have increased by 500 percent in the last six years and gonorrhea rates have doubled" (*Daily Post*, Liverpool, June 12). Shadow Health Secretary Liam Fox described the reality as "a ticking time bomb." Two years ago, a *Lancet* medical journal study, involving 11,000 men and women ages 16-40, reported that one in 10 adults have at one time caught a sexually transmitted infection (STI).

Present figures speak for themselves. In the last year, "Chlamydia remains the most commonly diagnosed STI, and has increased by 14 percent between 2001 and 2002. Syphilis also rose by 67 percent in males and 33 percent in females. Overall cases of gonorrhea rose by 8 percent in males and 10 percent in females" (Health Protection Agency, July 3).

Arm in arm with all of this, the rate of increase in HIV infection is alarming. In Scotland, for example, recorded HIV cases in 2002 were up 46 percent over the previous year. According

to Dr. Rak Nandwani, a consultant for the Sandyford Initiative (a Glasgow-based sexual health clinic), sexually transmitted infections in Scotland have reached epidemic proportions.

The UK sexual health service is groaning under the strain and can't keep up. Some patients have to wait up to six weeks for an appointment. Others, after treatment, become re-infected and return on numerous occasions for subsequent treatment. David Hinchliffe, chair of the Health Select Committee, said, "The whole sexual health service appears to be a shambles. ... I do not use the word crisis lightly, but ... we have a crisis in this area of policy—professionals are frankly crying out for help and they are not getting that help" (*Guardian*, June 11).

It is estimated that the cost of a nationwide screening would be about £96 million (US\$154 million) a year, which is double what the government spends on its entire sexual health strategy!

There is a CAUSE for such crises! Is Britain willing to take responsibility for its own actions?

Among conservatives there is an outcry about the very "health strategy" that has been employed in recent years. The question they raise is, How can anyone be surprised by these tragic results when the young are following examples—and receiving the type of sex education—that point them in the direction of promiscuity?

Here are just a few examples of the kind of advice that "experts" are cited as being responsible for:

"Girls in Surrey, as young as 11, were advised to stock up on contraceptives for the Millennium holiday. The advice was in a Health Authority leaflet handed out in December



OFFICIAL At the UK Mardi Gras Gay Pride March July 26, police officers are allowed to march in uniform for the first time.

1999 at a Catholic school" (*Daily Mail*, June 11). In April 2000, a Berkshire Health Authority newsletter, advertising "gay pubs" and encouraging children to participate in a homosexual beauty contest, was circulated to secondary schools. Also, a video encouraging children of 14 to experiment with sex was made available to 180 schools. In August 2000, sex-advice charity Brook gave 14-to-16-year-olds a "Good Grope Guide." "Nice girls feel sexy and nice girls make love," said the 18-page booklet. Then, in January 2001, it was revealed that morning-after pills were being dosed out by school nurses to girls as young as 11 without their parents' knowledge.

The results of this kind of advice and encouragement toward promiscuity can be seen in the lifestyles of these young girls as they grow older. It has become quite common for many, who have multiple sexual partners, to make quite a good living from the welfare the government doles out to them for each new, fatherless child.

Even the Church of England, traditionally the bastion of British moral standards, has moved with the tide, as it condones sex between single people. In a report released in July, the church, referring to "covenanted relationships," states that "any man and woman who make a lifelong commitment to each other are in such a relationship, *whether or not they are married*" (*Telegraph*, July 30; emphasis mine). On the question of homosexuality in the church, much of the clergy has come out in support of it, with the bishop of Oxford, Richard Harries, saying he wants "to

THE FRUITS OF PROMISCUITY

One in 10 Brits ages 16-40 have at one time caught a sexually transmitted infection.

Syphilis rates have increased 500 percent in the last six years, and gonorrhea rates have doubled.

see a more 'gay and lesbian friendly church' (BBC News, June 26).

Is it any wonder Britain has slipped so low into decadence, promiscuity and perversity—into the shoes of Sodom and Gomorrah?

The fact is, Britannia has lost sight of God!

An increasingly large segment of the British population no longer even believes in God and His Son Jesus Christ, as reflected in dismal church attendance figures. (Today, of the UK's nearly 60 million population, barely 1 million attend church weekly.) In 1999, the Catholic newspaper the *Tablet* and the *Daily Telegraph* commissioned a survey that revealed that only 45 percent of the 1,015 British subjects questioned believed Jesus Christ really is the Son of God—a tremendous fall from 71 percent in 1957. What is more, 14 percent didn't even know who Jesus was! Sadly, while 65 percent claimed to still believe in God, only 28 percent retained the traditional view of a "personal God"—the other 37 percent saw God as an abstract "spirit or life force."

The moral backbone of a country that once led the greatest empire this world has ever known, basing its moral realities on the Ten Commandments, has definitely fractured, splintered and crumbled.

How can the people of Britain reverse the morally depraved state of their nation if so many don't even believe in God, let alone the moral standards He has set for us?

The good news for Britain, the U.S. and the other nations that once formed part of the 12 tribes of Israel, as well as the whole world spiritually lost in religious confusion, is that soon God is about to intervene and establish right standards. GOD IS GOING TO CLEAN EPHRAIM UP! (Hos. 11:9-11). All people will worship the one true God, who has ALL the correct answers and represents the only way to true, lasting happiness.

This wonderful, prophesied future will only become a reality, however, after Britain has suffered punishment during the Tribulation for its great sins against its God (Matt. 24:21). Britain, as a nation, will repent of those sins and make a complete about turn. Eventually, the British people will be used as examples of loyal followers of Christ, to inspire others to fulfill their incredible human potential! ♦

of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death" (Rom. 8:2). *That* is true freedom—freedom from sin and death!

There is a solution for those caught in this deadly snare. We can be thankful that God forgives all sin upon repentance. David and Paul were murderers, and Mary Magdalene was demon possessed—yet upon deep repentance, they were all completely forgiven by God.

God created humankind in His own image and likeness—to be productive, noble and free—to grow in godly character through the rich experiences and responsibilities of family life—to, ultimately, gain entrance into His own family!

Homosexuality and other deviant sexual activity breaks down character, tramples on that potential, and in many ways destroys the family vision of God. But in our sophistication, that is considered good! What God esteems, men scorn—and what men exalt, God calls an abomination!

Thus, God thunders this message to our modern world: "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!" (Isa. 5:20-21).

Yes—WOE! The history of Sodom and Gomorrah is prophecy for today. We are living in the time it will be fulfilled! When you live in cities polluted like Sodom and Gomorrah, look out—they are about to be destroyed by fire!—this time, likely in the form of nuclear bombs and other modern means. These scriptural warnings are there to help us realize that it's about over!

Peter also prophesied of "scoffers, walking after their own lusts" in the last days (II Pet. 3:3). Those who reject these prophecies don't realize it, but they are fulfilling prophecy by doing so. This too is a sign of the times, just as was prophesied.

God Gives You Hope

What is your attitude toward homosexuality? Are you SURE you are right?

In the midst of the wickedness of Sodom and Gomorrah, there was a "righteous man dwelling among them" who saw what was going on, and who "vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds" (II Pet.

2:8). Lot was tormented by their evil. He wasn't complacent about it, or tolerant of it. He hated it. You can be sure he was laughed at, considered backward or out of step. But in the end, Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed—and Lot and his family were spared (v. 7).

Whether or not people believe it, destruction is coming again soon. And the only way to be spared is to be physically delivered, as Lot was. "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished" (v. 9). This is directed at us, in this end time! Even in destruction, God provides protection for the righteous. This is a source of genuine HOPE for those who follow this God.

How deep is your stance on homosexuality? This is a major issue of prophetic consequence! It is not merely a matter of personal liberty. The homosexual agenda amounts to a full-out WAR on marriage and family. How agitated does this make you?

God is a family! He created the physical family as a means to get us into His family! What is more beautiful than a strong, godly family? We must learn the beauty of family—that is where the excitement is. Once you understand God's purpose, it is clear that REAL HOPE COMES THROUGH THE FAMILY—AS GOD DESIGNED IT! What it leads into boggles the mind!

Homosexuality is *opposite* what God wants for mankind. It is the antithesis of true hope! But if you don't understand the God family, you can't understand why that is so.

Our free booklet *Why Marriage!—Soon Obsolete?* gives a stirring explanation of the true reasons for marriage and family. *The Missing Dimension in Sex* goes further into the God-ordained purposes for sex. *The Incredible Human Potential* explains in hope-filled detail the inspiring future these institutions are intended to prepare us for. YOU NEED THIS KNOWLEDGE! You need the genuine hope that comes from a deep understanding of the beautiful, inspiring vision of the God family! ♦

Request your free copy of *The Missing Dimension in Sex*, or read it online at www.theTrumpet.com.

THE
MISSING
DIMENSION
IN SEX

HERBERT W.
ARMSTRONG



PARTNERS Chinese President Hu Jintao (left) and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin shake hands after signing a joint declaration on bilateral relations in May.

A Growing Relationship

Russia and China have a mixed history of friendship and enmity. What does the future hold for these two vast nations?

BY BRAD MACDONALD

ARE RUSSIA AND CHINA FRIENDS OR foes? History reveals that they have been both. For decades, this hot-cold relationship has been on the rocks. Like an unstable marriage, these two have experienced the good times, the bad times and, more often than not, times of indifference.

After generations of turbulence, the Soviet Union and China experienced a significant friendship during the first half of the 20th century. During the mid-1950s to early '60s, this evolved into cautious indifference, and then into bitter hatred during Cold War times. Now, recent events indicate that these two have grown intimate once again.

What's going on between the Chinese dragon and the Russian bear? Where is this relationship leading? For clues as to the answers, first let's look at the history of these prominent nations.

China's Surrogate Mother

From its earliest recorded history, going back more than 4,000 years, China has been ruled by a series of dynasties based on a powerful religious

foundation. For generations, the principles and philosophies of Taoism, Confucianism and Buddhism significantly influenced successive Chinese rulers. Paradoxically though, this pervasive religious influence did not lead to lasting peace and prosperity. Rather, China's history is saturated with rampant violence, intertribal warfare and death.

Due to its geographical size, the country was seldom ruled by one government. Often two or three kingdoms would co-exist, leading to the occasional eruption of battles and wars between various kingdoms and tribes. Although China has a rich history of high culture, art and religion, its aspirations as a world power have been limited by ethnic segregation, internal discord and war. Prior to the 1900s, China had not been politically united for any extended period.

In the early 1920s, having fought against Western invasion for decades, things began to change for China. Under revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen, China accepted political guidance and support from the Communist Soviet Union, and Sun proceeded to sow the seeds of unity in China. With the assistance of the Soviet Communists,

he forged an alliance between his Nationalist Party and the fledgling Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

After Sun's death in 1925, a deep rift developed between the CCP and the Nationalist Party, resulting in civil war. During the early 1940s, the war subsided and the parties hesitantly formed a weak alliance to fight the Japanese. But by 1946, after Japan's defeat, civil war prevailed once again. After three years of guerrilla warfare, the CCP overcame the Nationalist Party and, by 1949, the Communists were in control of China.

At the vanguard of the rising Communist movement was one of the greatest mass murderers of the century: Mao Zedong. After having murdered 20 million dissenters and driven the remaining Nationalist Party members to Taiwan, Mao declared the birth of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949.

Like a surrogate mother, the Soviet Union stood by the CCP during these years of warfare, providing military and economic support to Mao and his comrades. Soon after the Communist victory and Mao's announcement, the Soviet Union blazed the way in officially recognizing the People's Republic of China. In 1950, Stalin and Mao signed a treaty of friendship, and before long, the Soviet Union was providing technical, economic and industrial support to China in its quest to develop an atomic bomb. Times were good between the two nations.

Old Friends Split

Mao was a radical thinker. Shortly after he took over the country, China's entire political, economic and social landscape was transformed. By incorporating policies and practices used by his Soviet friends, and through numerous drastic political changes, Mao quickly accomplished the heretofore unthinkable: a unified China. At the helm of this soon-to-be-great nation was the meticulously planned, all-powerful Central People's Government Council. This council, with Mao as chairman, exercised complete executive, legislative and judicial powers over the nation. By 1954, the National People's Congress had finalized China's first constitution. By the mid-to-late '50s, these political changes, together with other far-reaching economic and social changes, had thrust China into the

ALEXANDER NEMENOV/PHOTOFESTY IMAGES

spotlight as a new world player.

For the Soviets, life was not so good. After Stalin's death in 1953, the Soviet Union's political and foreign policy dynamics underwent radical change. By 1956, the Soviet Union was ailing, caught in the throes of de-Stalinization, while China continued to grow as a global power. The once-firm Sino-Soviet alliance began to fracture.

By 1960, the Soviet Union had severed all economic and military aid to China; two years later, the breach between the two countries turned into military hostility. China now began to position itself to become a significant player on the global scene. For the next decade, Russia and China continued to eye each other cautiously.

During the Nixon administration in the U.S. in the early 1970s, tension between the Soviet Union and China continued to escalate. The United States, with a focused military agenda, moved to strengthen ties with China. China, foreseeing the benefits that would come from the relationship, welcomed the U.S.'s gesture. But at the foundation of this strange Sino-American kinship was



BALANCING ACT The meeting of Mao Zedong and President Nixon in 1972 pitched China against the USSR and helped the U.S. counterbalance the Soviets during the Cold War.

not the economic, trade and military benefits it would bring—but a mutual dislike for the Soviet Union. Through this new friendship, the United States had a powerful presence in Asia that easily counterbalanced the formidable Soviet Union. China continued to hastily expand (especially technologically and militarily) without any fear of altercations with the Soviet Union.

The unlikely alliance between the U.S. and China pushed the Sino-Soviet relationship from passive tension to occasional open hostility.

In the early 1970s, the U.S. moved to strengthen ties with China; China welcomed the gesture. At the foundation of this strange kinship was not the benefits it would bring—but a mutual dislike for the Soviet Union.

After Mao's death in 1976, China's new leader, Deng Xiaoping, followed in the wake of his predecessor and continued to solidify the Sino-U.S. relationship. It was a strong, mutually beneficial relationship. America continued to have a powerful associate to offset the Soviet threat, while China, as it charged up the ladder of prosperity, having ready access to American technology and military information, also maintained a gigantic trade partner.

During this time, news analysts around the globe predicted that the Sino-Soviet relationship would never again prosper. A look at today's headlines shows they were wrong. While most news media during the 1960s, '70s and '80s were misled about the future of the Russian-Chinese relationship, there was one analyst who was not.

For five decades, Herbert W. Armstrong foretold the eventual uniting of Russia and China as part of a Eurasian superpower—even when these two countries were practically at each other's throats. Was he right? Consider the burgeoning Sino-Russian relationship as it is today.

First Steps

During the late 1990s, the world witnessed the first steps toward reconciliation between the Russian bear and the Chinese dragon. With the Russian economy in tatters following the Cold War, and in desperate need of international help—and with U.S. interest in China declining as its strategic value lessened—Russia and China once again looked to each other.

After three decades of animosity, then-Chinese President Jiang Zemin and his Russian counterpart, Boris Yeltsin, began the process of restoring the Sino-Russian alliance. Their first step was the creation of the "strategic cooperative partnership." Reversing its

former policy of seeking to contain Soviet power under the bi-polar Cold War era, China's primary motive behind this was to form an alliance competitive with the world's one and only superpower at the time—the United States.

The current Chinese president has continued this process. According to the *Russian Press Digest*, the end product of Chinese President Hu Jintao's May visit to Moscow will be "Cooperation in the trade, economic, military, technical, scientific, energy, transportation, nuclear energy, space and aviation spheres"

During this visit, Russian President Vladimir Putin and President Hu signed a joint declaration, stressing that the "development of friendship, cooperation and strategic collaboration between the two countries would remain a priority for Russia and China" (ibid.). With Russia searching for economic stability and development, and China feverishly probing for future energy resources, it is easy to see how they can mutually benefit each other.

Wracked with poor management, lack of internal investment and catastrophic corruption, and with a reputation for instability, the Russian economy continues to struggle. Periodically, reports filter into the West indicating impressive reform and economic growth, yet hundreds of thousands of Russians have no electricity, mafia monopolies continue to operate, and living standards for the masses have not improved. With its citizens having little money to spend, the Russian government is relying on foreign investment and trade to boost its economy.

In the eyes of the Russians, China is a large part of their solution. Russia currently has registered trade of \$12 billion with China annually. According to President Putin, "If commercial and economic cooperation develops at such a pace we can reach the level of \$20 billion in four to five years" (Telegraph Agency of the Soviet Union, May 27). In the first quarter of 2003, trade between the two nations increased by 30 percent. Their bilateral trade is better than it ever has been.

In contrast to Russia's poor economic condition, China has a burgeoning economy. But with a mammoth population of more than 1 billion people, the government is struggling to keep up with the energy needs of the

nation. China's solution? Tap into the colossal oil resources in Russia.

In May, Russian oil giant Yukos and China National Petroleum Corp. signed a \$150 billion agreement to ship 700 million tons of oil to China over a 25-year period. As the same time, presidents Putin and Hu discussed a 1,500-mile oil pipeline from Siberia to China. Intelligence think tank *Stratfor* called this "a major step toward the construction of a pipeline that would strongly tie Russia and China together" (May 29). The oil supply will keep the Chinese happy, while the income will keep the Russians happy.

China and Russia also recently completed a feasibility study on developing natural gas fields in Siberia.

As trade and energy ties continue to flourish between Russia and China, they will become increasingly reliant on each other.

Military

Over the past decade, China has also grown to become Russia's leading weapons purchaser.

With Chinese shipping companies now owning various global sea gates formerly possessed by Britain and the U.S., China's continual quest to conquer Taiwan, and the size of the great nation's coastline, China is working hard to expand its naval fleet. Who has agreed to deck out China with immense artillery to support this effort? *Russia*. The great bear has committed itself to a \$4 billion agreement to supply China with arms over the next four to five years. This vast assortment of weapons will include at least eight submarines, two destroyers, anti-aircraft missiles and more than 40 fighter-bombers.

China's military investment in Russia will help keep many of Russia's military-related industries alive. Dmitrii Trenin, an expert on Russian foreign policy at the Carnegie Institute in Moscow, said that "China will not present a military problem for Russia, because Chinese arms purchases ... are orientated toward other tasks—above all Taiwan and to a lesser degree toward Chinese-American relations" (*Asia Times*, May 28; emphasis mine). Obviously, China's artillery build-up is not directed at Russia.

Joint Space and Nuclear Program

Russia has always been a leading global

News watchers can only imagine the global power gained if Russia, with its history in nuclear development, and China, with its increasing wallet, agree to work together in the nuclear field. Soon they won't have to imagine.

player in nuclear research, development and production. China has not. News watchers can only imagine the global power gained if Russia, with its history in nuclear development, and China, with its increasing wallet, agree to work together in the nuclear field.

Soon they won't have to imagine. At the end of July, the seventh session of the Russian-Chinese sub-commission for nuclear issues was completed. After the conference, a Russian Atomic Energy official commented, "Russia does not have such comprehensive contacts in the nuclear area with any country as it has with China" (BBC News, July 23). Bilateral nuclear deals between the two countries are in the hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

During the July conference, the countries also discussed the construction of a thermal-emission reactor as an energy source for satellites. Also discussed were joint efforts in designing advanced computer systems as well as electrical and laser equipment.

Cooperation in nuclear and space projects is perhaps the most startling facet of the firming relationship between Russia and China. Military and nuclear development is proof that this Sino-Russian relationship is *not* for purely internal benefits. Both countries have global motives.

Where Is This Leading?

But why is this Sino-Russian relationship important? Where, if anywhere, is it leading? Most countries have bilateral relations with other countries, especially their neighbors—so why is this particular relationship significant?

The details of the partnership between Russia and China are not nearly as important as *where it is leading*. When viewed in the light of end-time

Bible prophecy, the *significance* of this Sino-Russian alliance can be understood.

Mr. Armstrong said that approximately one third of the Bible is devoted to prophecy and that most biblical prophecy referred to the times in which we now live! He also explained that the framework of prophecy is found in the books of Daniel and Revelation, and only in Revelation "do we find events of the various other prophecies correlated in order of TIME SEQUENCE" (*The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last!*). Indeed, many Christians around the world recognize that Revelation describes the events leading to the return of Christ.

Chapters 8 and 9 of Revelation are primarily dedicated to describing the terrible events of the Day of the Lord—the year immediately preceding Christ's return. Verses in these chapters reveal that Russia and China will be *directly* involved in the events of this terrible Day of the Lord period (Rev. 9:14-19). This means that when we see Russia and China drawing closer together, the Day of the Lord must also be approaching! *A significant Sino-Russian relationship is a part of the prophesied world events leading to the return of Jesus Christ!*

To further understand the immediate future for Russia and China, request our free booklet *Russia and China in Prophecy*. This book will provide you with an in-depth understanding of the prophecies relating to this mushrooming Sino-Russian relationship. As you continue to watch this relationship develop, study the *Russia and China in Prophecy* booklet as an aid to understanding these powerful end-time prophecies—and you will clearly comprehend where this alliance is leading!

World events are unfolding at lightning speed! The return of Jesus Christ is just around the corner. A firm Sino-Russian relationship is one of the signs indicating that we are almost at the end of the road of man's attempts to govern himself. Current events show that we are passing that sign now! Will you read it and respond? ◆

You may find our free booklet **Russia and China in Prophecy** of interest. Request your free copy today.

RUSSIA
AND CHINA



IN
PROPHECY

Proliferating Nonproliferation

In 1962, the Cuban missile crisis brought the U.S. and Russia within a gnat's breath of full-scale nuclear war, putting fear into the world's population. Within a year of this incident, both nations began to make efforts toward arms control.

1963 brought the Partial Test Ban Treaty and 1967 the Outer Space Treaty, with the most significant step coming in 1968 when the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) was signed. This treaty was designed to limit the spread of nuclear technology by the nations recognized as having nuclear weapons, including the U.S., the USSR, the UK, France and China. NPT signatories agreed not to develop or obtain nuclear weapons, and those possessing them agreed to work toward disarmament. Non-nuclear states also signing the treaty agreed to allow the United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency to oversee their nuclear facilities. Nuclear-capable

countries were then to share peaceful nuclear technology with other non-nuclear signatories. To date, 187 nations have joined the NPT.

The efforts of all such organizations, treaties and agreements, noble as they may be, have proven themselves a failure from inception. Notice the results of the past 40 years.

Unwanted Benefits to Rogue Nations

Some nations have deceptively used their signatures for international cover while aggressively pursuing the very technologies and weapons banned.

North Korea is a prime example. In the late 1970s and into the early '80s, tensions rose over suspicions that North Korea was developing nuclear weapons. U.S. intelligence satellites reportedly photographed the beginnings of a reprocessing facility. Shortly thereafter, in 1985, Pyongyang signed the NPT.



ROGUE Kim Jong Il, here with his top generals, holds the world on edge with his nuclear brinkmanship.

The Nonproliferation Problem

Events are demonstrating that over 40 years of efforts to halt the spread of weapons of mass destruction are failing—a problem that could result in human annihilation.

BY ANDREW HESSONG

ON MAY 31 DURING AN ADDRESS IN Poland, President George Bush announced a new and historic initiative intended to stem the ever-growing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction—the Proliferation Security Initiative, or PSI.

As U.S. Under Secretary of State John Bolton later explained, the PSI involves “partnerships of states working in concert, employing their national capabilities to develop a broad range of legal, diplomatic, economic, military and other tools to interdict threatening shipments of WMD [weapons of mass destruction] and missile-related equipment and technologies” (Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute of International Studies, July 16).

This effort is historic in that it marks the first time a group of nations has agreed to physically enforce provisions of past nonproliferation treaties.

The coalition (which currently includes the United States, Britain, Australia, France, Italy, Spain, Germany,

Poland, Japan, Portugal and the Netherlands) had its first meeting June 12 in Madrid. This meeting resulted in the Madrid Initiative, an agreement to change international law to enable ships suspected of involvement in illegal dealings to be interdicted in international waters. In their second meeting, in Brisbane, Australia, on July 9-10, the nations investigated ways, under current international laws, that member nations could intercept suspect ships and aircraft. The meeting ended with an agreement to increase cooperation through sharing intelligence and working toward direct joint action to intercept suspected ships, aircraft and vehicles. The countries also agreed to initiate a series of air- and sea-training exercises in the Pacific and Indian oceans as well as the Mediterranean Sea, possibly as soon as September.

As the world embarks upon yet another nonproliferation effort, it is fitting to ask, where have over 40 years of nonproliferation schemes brought us? Will one more plan bring the spread of WMD to a halt?

In reality, this was a grave deceit. The North Koreans simply desired to ease international tension to allow them to quietly build weapons and sophisticated missile technology without the fear of prying eyes. This chicanery finally came into the international limelight when, in 1993, after Kim Jong Il's government had been blocking United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspections for years, North Korea threatened to withdraw from the very treaty it was defying.

In the case of North Korea, U.S. and world opinion has greatly over-emphasized the risk that its nuclear weapons program poses. As one observer put it, should North Korea ever gain the capacity to fire off a nuclear weapon at the U.S., and trigger it, the world's singular superpower could fuse it "into radioactive glass"! (www.stratfor.com, Aug. 4).

But the danger of the over-reaction to the tin-pot dictator Kim Jong's saberrattling is that it has diverted attention from the *real* danger of proliferation in Asia. A nuclear Korea could simply prompt the greatest industrial and military power in Asia, *Japan*, to move from its present position of merely *developing* its missile-defense capability to a position of actually *acquiring* ballistic missiles or nuclear warheads. This would disturb the whole balance of power in the Eastern Hemisphere, and consequently the globe. So we see how the domino effect of North Korea's defiance of the NPT could lead to an *increase* in the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The same situation prevails in the Middle East, where Iran is flouting the Nonproliferation Treaty. The spokesman for Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has called upon the ruling clergy to follow the example of North Korea. "The best and reasonable solution for Iran is withdrawing from the NPT," wrote Hossain Shariatmadar in *Kayhan*, the Iranian newspaper regarded as being the voice of Khamenei (www.worldtribune.com, July 14).

Iran, like North Korea, has spent years enjoying the signatory benefits of having access to peaceful nuclear technology while, at the same time, covertly working to develop facilities to produce and process weapons-grade nuclear material. The facilities may meet the letter of international agreements, yet they could be quickly transformed for weapons production.

With certainty, we can predict the ultimate outcome of all mankind's efforts to save itself from nuclear proliferation will be failure, because the world has sought to treat only the effect of proliferation, rather than the cause.



AGREED Officials of the U.S., USSR and UK sign the nonproliferation treaty of 1968.

For years, analysts have recognized that Iran is progressing toward building a nuclear weapon. The latest publication to bring this to the public's attention was the *Los Angeles Times*, when it came out with an exposé in August asserting that Iran's commercial nuclear projects are in reality a front for a weapons program.

In the case of these so-called rogue nations, nonproliferation treaties, agreements and organizations have actually proven to *assist* proliferation.

Business as Usual

China, which has had nuclear weapons since 1964, did not sign the NPT until March of 1992. In the 24 years it remained outside the NPT and other nonproliferation treaties, China sold Pakistan weapons-grade uranium and a nuclear-weapons design. It also sold medium-range ballistic missiles to Saudi Arabia.

According to the Center for Nonproliferation Studies, "China agreed in 1991 to abide by the key parameters of the MTCR [Missile Technology Control Regime], but continued to exploit loopholes and ambiguities in its bilat-

eral commitments to the United States to export missile components and missile production technology to countries such as Pakistan and Iran. (China also exported 34 complete M-11 missiles to Pakistan in 1991-1992, its last known transfers of complete MTCR Category I-class missile systems)" (July 24).

Also during the early 1990s, U.S. intelligence agencies believed that China was providing assistance to unprotected facilities in Pakistan capable of producing materials such as plutonium or highly enriched uranium that could be used in building more nuclear weapons.

Nuclear Hedging

There remains yet another serious failure in the world's nonproliferation schemes. Ariel E. Levite terms this problem "nuclear hedging." In the Winter 2002-2003 *International Security* periodical from Harvard, he states, "Nuclear hedging refers to a national strategy of maintaining, or at least appearing to maintain, a viable option for the relatively rapid acquisition of nuclear weapons, based on an indigenous technical capacity to produce them within a relatively short time frame ranging from several weeks to a few years."

Nations known to be employing this strategy are Sweden and Japan. Japan currently possesses huge quantities of weapons-grade fissile material as well as the necessary fuel cycle capabilities to prepare it for bomb building. Levite noted that, according to an official British government report, Japan "has key bomb-making components, including plutonium and the electronic triggers, and has the expertise to go nuclear very quickly" (*ibid.*).

Japan is not only a NPT signatory, but publicly declares itself a champion of nonproliferation and disarmament. How many other nations are sitting on all the necessary components to assemble nuclear weapons and are members of the NPT?

The Real Problem

The world has been working for nonproliferation for 40 years and has 187 nations as signatories to the NPT. What is the result? Despite all nonproliferation initiatives, worldwide stockpiles of fissile material, weapons, and weapons research and expertise, are still growing, as are opportunities for proliferation. Now, with the PSI, a new

initiative is underway designed to enable more active cooperation in controlling nuclear proliferation. Will *this* bring success?

With certainty, we can predict the ultimate outcome of *all* mankind's efforts to save itself from nuclear proliferation will be FAILURE, because the world has sought to treat only the *effect* of proliferation, rather than the *cause*.

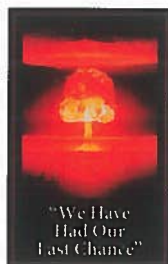
Gen. Douglas MacArthur identified the heart of the problem on September 2, 1945, in a radio address following the surrender of the Japanese. He said, "Men since the beginning of time have sought peace. Various methods through the ages have attempted to devise an international process to prevent or settle disputes between nations. From the very start workable methods were found insofar as individual citizens were concerned, but the mechanics of an instrumentality of larger international scope have NEVER BEEN SUCCESSFUL. Military alliances, balances of power, leagues of nations, all in turn failed, leaving the only path to be by way of the crucible of war. WE HAVE HAD OUR LAST CHANCE. If we do not now devise some greater and more equitable system, Armageddon will be at our door."

Then this old warrior struck at the true heart of the matter: "The problem basically is *theological* and involves a *spiritual recrudescence* and *improvement of human character* that will synchronize with our almost matchless advances in science, art, literature and all material and cultural developments of the past 2,000 years. It must be of the spirit if we are to save the flesh."

As the Bible points out, "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?" (James 4:1). Six thousand years of history have proved that mankind cannot solve the problem of WMD proliferation. It will take a change in the minds and hearts of all mankind.

For more on how this change will come about, write for our free booklet *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like?* ♦

You may find our free booklet **We Have Had Our Last Chance of interest. Request your free copy today.**



◆ LABOR

Who Will Fill the Labor Void?

Low birthrates and the need for more workers are hurting the economies of Europe and Japan. These nations dealt with this problem in the past. How will they solve it today?

BY WILLIAM GHANNAM

IN MANY EUROPEAN NATIONS, CONTINUED low birthrates have drained labor pools. At the same time, the elderly of these nations are living longer lives, burdening already swamped social and pension programs, which are kept running by the taxes paid by the dwindling work force.

Such nations cannot sustain growth in their economies with only their own dwindling citizenry to fill the increasing void in their labor markets. Efforts to maintain their present standard of living, aside from ambitions for increasing international influence, wealth and power, are overstressing their ability to sustain the pace of desired economic growth.

One obvious solution to Western Europe's dwindling labor pool is imported labor. But European Union nations prefer, instead, to tighten their immigration policies, hoping another solution can be found to fill the mounting labor void. For example, at the beginning of this year, five EU coastal nations began a coordinated effort to police their common border adjoining the Mediterranean Sea, in an effort to stem illegal immigration, primarily from Africa.

What will these nations do to fill their employment ranks? Could this problem involve you, personally, one day?

Low Birthrates Affect EU's Future

Despite government incentives, Europe's low fertility rates persist, "suggesting that the reasons go well beyond the arithmetic of salaries and schedules" (*New York Times*, Dec. 26, 2002).

In societies where couples are increasingly career-oriented, many Europeans are extending their education, finding work and marrying later in life. At the same time, divorce rates have increased. Couples that choose to have offspring want only one child. Contraception and easy abortion have made this goal very attainable.



BEAT Mothers in Japan are torn between their traditional role and the workplace—with more opting to put off having children, causing serious drops in Japan's birthrate.

If the trend were to be reversed and women began to have more children earlier in life, the population would still fall for many years to come, simply because of a lack of sufficient women of childbearing age, according to a study using data from the European Demographic Observatory (*Times*, London, March 28). Wolfgang Lutz, of the Austrian Academy of Science in Vienna, said this "negative momentum has not been experienced on a large scale in world history so far" (*ibid.*).

Joseph Chamie, chief of population statistics at the United Nations, has predicted that if the current birthrate continues and there is no immigration, *Germany will lose over half of its population by the century's end* (*Taiwan News*, Aug. 1).

In an attempt to reverse this trend, Renate Schmidt (the German minister for family affairs, senior citizens,

◆ LABOR

women and youth) and the Bertelsmann Foundation have begun a new scheme to promote larger families. "Alliance for the Family" will encourage companies to give women a variety of schedules they can work, plus offer day care for the children of these workers (Deutsche Welle, July 10).

According to the World Health Organization, at least 2.1 children per family on average must be maintained to keep populations stable (*New York Times*, op. cit.). Anything less than that would eventually lead to failing national economies, resulting in huge shifts of population.

Europe's low birthrate has been an ongoing problem since the 1980s.

Japan Faces Similar Future

On the other side of the world, Japan too is heading toward a shortage of workers as its birthrate declines. Increasingly, women are choosing careers over their traditional roles of wife and mother.

"Women in Japan feel that having children will affect their work," said Dr. Thang Leng Leng of the National University of Singapore (*Straits Times*, Jan. 26). An anthropologist at the university's Japanese Studies department, Dr. Thang said that in the 1990s, fertility rates were only 0.6 for career-minded women, while homemakers had on average 2.96 children per household.

Other reasons for small families in Japan include the expense of having children, and the desire among many men and women to put professional careers above marriage and children until they are in their mid-30s. The *Straits Times* article stated that in Japan, 15,000 fewer babies were born in 2002 compared to the previous year, with the birthrate at only 1.33. Rates have not been this small since 1945.

Just like European policy makers, Japanese officials are scrambling to find ways to encourage procreation. A plan was introduced in the 1990s to provide child support for working mothers, but failed to produce any significant results. The government has since tried to introduce other incentives. Still, with Japan's strict immigration laws, the shortage of workers continues.

The Historical Solution

This, however, is not the first time Germany and Japan have faced a labor-



GATES OF HELL The sign at the Auschwitz concentration camp entrance read "Work Makes You Free," yet behind these gates over a million were sent to their death.

shortage problem. How did these nations resolve this problem in the past?

In the years leading up to World War II, under political stress and with the desire to build empires, both Germany and Japan reverted to the old practice of slave labor. Though a practice hard to imagine in modern times, this became the answer to the problems of each nation's labor shortage during the 1930s. The number of slave laborers dramatically increased every year until war's end in 1945. At end of the war, these former slave laborers comprised many of the millions of displaced people wandering the landscape of Germany and its former occupied territories.

In Europe, the Nazis subjugated non-Germans who were considered enemies of the state, to meet their imperial aim of global conquest. In addition, hundreds of thousands of civilians were deported from the Soviet Union to serve in Nazi work camps.

Areas close to industrial sites were chosen for hundreds of slave labor camps. Around 12,000 German business firms took advantage of slave labor during World War II (BBC News, July 9, 1998). Those considered of no use to the imperial labor force were simply dispensed with (at the Auschwitz death camp alone, at least 1.5 million people were massacred at nearby gas chambers—CNN, April 19, 2001).

Volkswagen (vw)—which recently stopped production of the world's most-sold car, the vw Beetle—was one such company. The world remains

largely unaware that vw's current profitability had its genesis in World War II slave labor. Although vw admits to using 7,000 people as slave laborers, others say that estimate is extremely conservative. Belatedly—after more than 50 years—Volkswagen announced it would start a fund to give financial aid to the victims of slave labor in their factories, which produced weapons and equipment to help further the war for Germany.

During January 1945, Edward L. Deuss, an economic analyst, prepared a report that detailed the enormity of the number of people, of 14 different nationalities, held by the Nazi Third Reich in Germany as slave laborers. Deuss's total of slave laborers, including prisoners of war and political prisoners, added up to almost 6.7 million.

A more recent estimate from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website puts the total number of forced laborers in German-occupied areas at 8 million. Within the huge German corporate war-empire, consisting of private and public businesses aiding the war effort, some of the most punishing treatments were dished out during the frenzy of slave labor. Certain categories of these prisoners were literally worked to death. The Nazis had a name for this work plan: "ANNIHILATION THROUGH WORK" (www.ushmm.org).

"This harsh treatment grew out of the forced labor regimen that, since 1933, had been an integral part of the

Nazi program for CONTROLLING THOSE IT DEEMED AS POLITICAL OR RACIAL ENEMIES OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE" (ibid.; emphasis mine throughout).

Japan Mirrors Germany

A few years ago, a U.S. federal judge threw out a lawsuit brought against numerous Japanese companies, including Mitsubishi, Mitsui and Nippon Steel, which forced Allied prisoners to work as slave laborers during the Second World War. The judge sided with the Japanese government position that the U.S.-Japanese 1951 peace treaty had settled all claims. Whether the crimes had been committed or not was not the issue.

In the company camps, about 9,000 out of 25,000 prisoners died because of Japanese cruelty—a 37 percent death rate, compared to Germany's American prisoner-of-war death rate of 1 percent. "So it's outrageous that these companies, which profited from slave labor, are celebrating in their board rooms," said David Casey Jr., one of the former soldiers' lawyers (*Los Angeles Times*, Sept. 22, 2000).

Unlike many German corporations, Japanese counterparts have never apologized for their crimes.

What Will the Solution Be?

If the European Union and Japan are intent on expanding industry to support a renewed military strength, as post-9/11 trends indicate, core populations of trusted citizens are going to be needed to fill the ranks of their armed forces. Yet at the same time, it will be difficult to build such armies without hindering the required industrial expansion and economic development. Low birth-rates will compound their problem.

The question is, will old answers be used to solve new but similar labor shortage problems?

On April 19, 2001, American President George W. Bush observed Holocaust Remembrance Day at the U.S. Capitol. Speaking to members of Congress, Holocaust survivors, Allied veterans and others, he declared, "We are bound by conscience to remember what happened"

A strong warning was contained in his address. President Bush stated that the orders to murder countless millions "came not from crude and uneducated men, but from men who regarded themselves as CULTURED and WELL-

SCHOOLED, MODERN and even FORWARD-LOOKING." Further, he said their crimes show that, in today's world, evil can emerge and "blend in, amid the most civilized of surroundings."

Take a look at just one such 1940s "modern" and "forward-looking" German man, Erich Koch, Reich commissioner for the Ukraine. On March 5, 1943, during a National Socialist Party meeting in Kiev, Koch said this of Germany, its people, and the slave laborers that served them: "I will draw the very last out of this country [the Ukraine]. I did not come to spread bliss. I have come to help the Führer. The population must work, work, and work again We are a master race, which must remember that the lowliest German worker is racially and biologically a thousand times more valuable than the population here" (Chief Counsel for Prosecution of Axis Criminality, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1946).

Such thinking may seem archaic, but the scourge of anti-Semitism now gaining ground in various parts of the world, especially Europe, illustrates that such warped reasoning is not dead! (See "Death by Prejudice" in the August *Trumpet*.)

Modern-Day National Captivity?

According to Bible prophecy, the world will have to face the atrocity of forced slave labor on a massive scale once again—as humanity is plunged into another world war!

Herbert W. Armstrong warned for 57 years of the future national captivity of the modern-day nations of Israel—America, Britain and the Middle Eastern state of Israel, as described in his book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Both he, and our own editor in chief and staff writers, have pointed to a startling biblical prophecy slated to be fulfilled in the not-too-distant future. In the book of Revelation we read of the merchants of the day, during a great revival of the ancient Holy Roman Empire, once again trading in "slaves, and souls of men" (Rev. 18:13).

Regarding the future of the peoples of America and Britain, Mr. Arm-

theTrumpet.com

For a biblical explanation of the coming captivity, see "The End of the Free World" under Editor's Choice.

strong said this: "Every prophecy in the Bible showing where our people (Israel) will be, at the Second Coming of Christ, and the coming great exodus back to the Holy Land, pictures them in captivity and slavery ONCE AGAIN" (*Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?*).

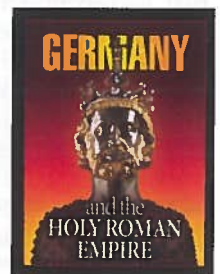
"It's time to AWAKE to the immensity, and the stark SERIOUSNESS of this!" warned Mr. Armstrong. "If you rely on the majority of sinning PEOPLE, you will suffer their penalties with them!" (ibid.). Only those who positively respond to God's end-time warning message, and turn to God in repentance and obedience, will be protected from the coming enslavement.

It will be the European Union, led by Germany, that will ignite the spark of another world war and be the imperial power God uses to bring the conquered nations of Israel into captivity for the last time before the return of Jesus Christ (Deut. 28:49-50). Sadly, this is the only event that will bring those nations to a collective repentance of their rebellion against their God.

Watch to see how the sure prophecies of God will come to pass. Historically, both Germany and Japan have used slave labor to fuel their wartime efforts. Will the need for labor to support the prophesied future military aggression once more lead to slave labor—this time for the nations of end-time Israel?

Connect the dots between history, current trends and prophecy, and the prospect of slave labor becomes very real. ♦

You may find our free booklet **Germany and the Holy Roman Empire of Interest**. Request your free copy today.



♦ CORRECTIONS

The timeline on page 6 of the July *Trumpet* stated that Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a student opposed to Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank. This is the public stance; however, there is much evidence to the contrary.

In the map on page 18 of the July *Trumpet*, the river labeled "Rhine" ending in the Mediterranean Sea should be "Rhone." The Rhine and Rhone are connected by canals.



A STAND FOR PEACE
A U.S. Marine, one of many dispatched to Liberia, guards Monrovia's port as locals look on.

The New Colonialism

Peacekeepers are being invited into nations once colonized by the West. Can they solve problems the colonialists couldn't?

BY MARK JENKINS

THE IDEA OF PEACEKEEPING IS A RELATIVELY new one. For the few hundred years prior to World War II, any military safeguarding of another nation would generally have been provided under the umbrella of colonialism.

As the 20th century progressed, the very notion of colonialism became reviled. The efforts to throw off the colonial yoke were substantial, and, in large part, successful. The countries that demanded independence received it.

But now, some of these countries are inviting the colonizers back in.

One striking example is in Liberia. When, after weeks of receiving pleas from the Liberians and from the United Nations, the U.S. finally sent a team of Pentagon officials to Liberia to assess the situation, "As soon as they arrived they were mobbed, not in anger but in joy, by tens of thousands of exuberant Liberians everywhere they went. ... [T]he Liberians—at least for now—actually want a sizeable U.S. presence to drive out President Charles Taylor, establish law and order, stability and security, and then stay to protect them" (United Press International, July 10).

Another notable instance of this phenomenon is in Sierra Leone, where British forces have been keeping the peace since 2000 at the invitation of their former colony.

At the same time, the Solomon Islands, also a former British protectorate, has invited Australia to lead a peacekeeping force on its ground. On July 21, the *Guardian* said, "[W]hat is happening in the Solomon Islands looks strikingly like a return to the bad old days of colonialism."

Add to this the return of the Belgians to the Congo, the Germans once again patrolling off the Horn of Africa, and French aid being welcomed by its former colonial interests in northern Africa.

Even when African nations attempt to copy the "peacekeeping" initiatives of the Western democracies, it seems they are doomed to failure and turn to the UN, EU or their old colonial masters to bail them out.

Few countries, given the choice, would ask to be colonized again. The modern idea of peacekeeping, however, has many parallels with the colonialist governments of old. Modern peacekeeping movements offer security, structure and the prospect of material wealth—similar resources to those offered by the former colonial "oppressors."

Of course, many may feel that these actions aren't colonialist in nature, but simply a last-ditch effort to rescue these countries from desperate situations. But the *Guardian* replies, "Those who point out that this is simply a stop-gap measure to get the country back on its

◆ PEACEKEEPING

feet can be met with a lesson from history: The favorite protest of [Britain] as it spread its flag around the world was that its empire was an unwilling one. British colonialists would mutter into their brandies that if only those natives could sort out their affairs properly, the imperial administration would simply wither away" (ibid.).

And the parallels don't end there.

A Case in Point

No situation demonstrates the futility of nations to govern themselves effectively more than that which is currently extant across the continent of Africa. Africa was colonized, with varying degrees of harshness, by the Belgians, French, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, Italians and Germans. But the least harsh and most benign of colonial powers in Africa were the British.

Lord Palmer once said that the British inherited an empire in a fit of absent-mindedness. There's was not a deliberate, overt, militaristic effort to acquire empire. Believe it or not, the British were given their great empire, ruling two thirds of the Earth's surface during the whole of the 19th and half of the 20th centuries, by the Eternal God! (Write for your free copy of the *United States and Britain in Prophecy* for a detailed explanation.)

What was the African legacy of "Pax Britannia," that century of peaceful rule that Britain imposed on the world in its glorious Victorian era? The nations of Africa today are in various states of turmoil and poverty. Is this the result of colonial rule? Consider a few examples.

For Southern Rhodesia, known today as Zimbabwe, the first half of the 20th century was a period of material progress and relative economic prosperity. This was when the British ruled. There was a well-developed infrastructure, food for the population, and a relatively low rate of disease. In Zambia, formerly Northern Rhodesia, the British developed a strong mining industry at the beginning of the 20th century. Zambia also had one of the highest rates of educational expansion on the continent. South Africa, once the largest African nation within the British Empire, amassed wealth from the extraction, processing and export of vast mineral resources—gold, diamonds and heavy metals. This supplied employment to

and generally raised the standard of living of the native populace.

The story is similar in many of the other African nations: When the British came, they established infrastructure, industry and a sense of law. These were prosperous nations.

Yet, since colonial times, there has clearly been a change: That wealth and prosperity is rapidly disappearing. Disease, political turmoil and civil violence have all become common characteristics of virtually all African nations.

One of the most striking examples of the current African condition is Zimbabwe. In 1965, Ian Smith, then prime minister of Southern Rhodesia, unilaterally declared independence from Britain. Robert Mugabe, a Marxist, led guerrilla warfare to remove Smith from office, succeeding in 1980.

In recent years, President Mugabe has seized the land of white farm owners, providing no compensation. He allows violence to reign against those who wish to remain, and threatens them with imprisonment if they endure. Over 6,000 farms were seized from white land owners, who were producing most of the domestically consumed food and earning about 40 percent of Zimbabwe's annual foreign currency (Voice of America, June 3, 2002). In other words, President Mugabe and other leaders used the idea of righting the supposed wrongs of colonialism to break Zimbabwe's agricultural backbone, crushing the country financially. President Mugabe's desire to wipe out every remaining trace of colonial influence includes wiping out the prosperity that Zimbabwe once enjoyed, initially established under British colonial rule.

South Africa also is reverting toward the state of other decolonized African nations. In his January 9, 2002, syndicated article, "South Africa After Apartheid," economist Walter Williams wrote, "Each South African day sees an average of 59 murders, 145 rapes and 752 serious assaults out of its 42 million population. ... Twelve percent of South Africa's population is HIV-positive, but President [Thabo] Mbeki says that HIV cannot cause AIDS."

Back in 1987, Williams wrote, "Wouldn't it be the supreme tragedy if South African blacks might ponder at some future date, like the animals of Jones' Manor (George Orwell's *Animal Farm*), whether they were better off

under apartheid? That's why blacks must answer, what's to come after apartheid? Black rule alone is no guarantee for black freedom."

Indeed, it is not. Since he penned those words, it has become evident that many African nations are far worse off. So much so, that some are coming to the point of inviting the colonizers back in as "peacekeepers."

Blessings Gone

The idea of colonialism is revolting to many educated in the post-colonial, revisionist, liberal-socialist system. Yet, the facts show that many of the former colonies were substantially better off under the British Crown.

What the revisionists would prefer we forget is that the British brought a sense of political and societal order to lands of tribal chaos. Lands once deemed uninhabitable were developed into bustling areas of agriculture and commerce. The British took possession of otherwise unknown resource-rich lands and exploited them, which improved human living conditions.

These facts are clear. The reason some nations are inviting colonizers in under the guise of peacekeeping is because they believe they may be able to bring living conditions back up to where they were during colonial times.

Of course, improved living conditions do not necessarily speak to the *morality* of the colonizers. Though the Bible prophesied thousands of years ago that the British peoples, the most effective colonizers in history, would become a "multitude of nations" (Gen. 48:19)—the greatest commonwealth ever on the planet—there is no corresponding prophecy that they would be a *righteous* people.

Herbert Armstrong wrote, "... God had promised this birthright to the descendants of Abraham unconditionally because of Abraham's faithfulness and obedience (Gen. 26:5). God was bound by His promise to confer this stupendous national blessing regardless of the righteousness or wickedness of the descendants" (*The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, 1980 edition).

What's more, God prophesied that, through Abraham's descendants (which He promised would "spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south"—Gen. 28:14), much of the world would

be *blessed*. God told Abraham, "And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will GIVE UNTO THY SEED ALL THESE COUNTRIES; and *in thy seed* shall ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH BE BLESSED" (Gen. 26:4; see also Gen. 22:17-18).

These blessings were evident in the foreign lands that God bestowed upon the British, in particular. Tremendous oil and gas reserves, rich agricultural regions and strategic seaports exist within the landmasses colonized by Britain. In Victorian times, there was a general belief in Britain that God gave the British such colonies and such resources. In turn, the colonies themselves were blessed. They benefitted heavily from British rule, from British management of their land. In reality, they benefitted from *God's* blessings on the British, despite imperfections in British implementation of its policies, and despite what revisionist critics might say.

What liberals and revisionists would have us IGNORE is that many of these areas have fallen into a shambles since the British withdrawal: economic peril, political instability, racial strife, civil war, intense border disputes, unprecedented famine and disease tend to be the rule rather than the exception in many a former colony.

Granted, every nation on Earth has its problems. And perhaps no nation can be expected to have smooth sailing immediately after being handed the reins to its own government.

But WHY all these problems since the dismantling of the British Empire? Because when Britain left these nations, the blessings God had bestowed upon Britain LEFT with the British.

When Britain left its colonies, dictators and corrupt political figures took control. Since then, these countries have been plagued with leaders who do not have the people's best interests at heart. As a result, many African nations have been crippled. Many of the leaders who have brought about these conditions will continue to use the history of colonialism as an excuse to cause further damage to their countries, denying their own people the quality of life they want for themselves.

Though the chief blame for the African condition must fall on these despots in power since the withdrawal of the UK, Britain is not guiltless. For, had they obeyed God, the blessings

that were conferred on them, and, through them, on the nations of the British Empire, would have remained and multiplied. You can read about the blessings Britain would receive for obedience in Leviticus 26, and the curses that would come—and did come—from DISOBEDIENCE.

The removal of these blessings, evident in both the former colonies and within the mother country, should serve as a WARNING for Britain and the world! Just as the “nations of the earth” once *benefitted* from the blessings upon Abraham’s descendants, so are they now being *adversely* affected by the REMOVAL of those blessings.

Recolonizing today won’t help; the blessings are GONE—and they aren’t coming back without national repentance! There isn’t a nation on Earth that can bring these blessings back to Africa or anywhere else right now. And, as history shows, peacemakers rarely bring peace!

As the rebellion of mankind continues, so will its curses, culminating in a horrendous World War III, what the Bible calls the Great Tribulation, if they do not repent soon.

A Coming, Perfect Empire

Man cannot bring peace to man, whether in the form of colonialism, or in the neocolonialism known as peace-keeping. No human empire or man-ruled government can bring *perfect* peace or abundance to any part of the world. The best anyone can hope for is a bandage on the cancerous problems that afflict the ex-colonial nations. Before real peace can be achieved, human nature will have to undergo a fundamental change.

Thankfully, in just a short while, Jesus Christ will return and set up a divine government that will do this. It will be ONE administration ruling the entire world. It will be a universal empire. It will affect every nation on Earth (Isa. 9:7). Incomprehensibly more than the British Empire ever could do, it will bring rich *blessings* beyond measure—beyond imagination!

No government of man can bring about such things. But under God’s government, it WILL happen. The whole Earth will come under the perfect government of Jesus Christ—a government of peace and prosperity that will last forever. ♦



Apocalypse When?

“Your booklets and the *Trumpet* magazine really give me insight into the world through the eyes of the Creator. I also understand my Bible like never before.”

Richmond, Va.

WHY DO WE WANT TO KNOW WHEN THE end is upon us? Is it because we think we can repent timely so we don’t burn in hell? To be a Christian is to be like Christ daily, not just when He comes knocking. Christ has told us how to live, and if we don’t live that way, we will pay for it.

Glasgow, Ky.

I’D LIKE TO POINT OUT A FACTUAL PROBLEM in the sidebar “Puzzling Millennium” (August, p. 21). The statement “Most postmillennialists accept the theory of a rapture of the saints” should read, “Most premillennialists accept the theory of a rapture of the saints,” and it should be in the premillennial paragraph. Postmillennialists do not believe in the rapture as such. They do believe in the Second Coming.

Springfield, Va.

We regret the error. Correction noted.

THANK YOU FOR THE FREE SUBSCRIPTION to the *Trumpet*. I find it extremely interesting and informational in my time of confusion since the Church split some years ago. Your magazine is the spiritual nourishment I’ve been searching for.

Gary, Ind.

I AM CURRENTLY ONLY 14 YEARS OLD, BUT the articles in your magazine really amaze me! I just want to say how insightful and useful all these articles have been in my life. Many of my friends are agnostic or atheist, simply because of their own ignorance. I would like to request some books or booklets that would help me learn how to provide evidence for the existence of God and help me in my own faith.

Lake Forest, Calif.

Mr. Armstrong’s Message

I WAS AT MY DOCTOR’S OFFICE TODAY AND picked up the *Trumpet*. After reading for

a while, I realized after seeing Herbert W. Armstrong’s picture that I was reading materials that I had seen many years ago when I was a member of the Worldwide Church of God. How sad is the demise of such a great institution that Mr. Armstrong brought about. I remember reading years ago, before any other paper or book came out, about the United States of Europe. And now it is for real. You mention the rise of smaller nations to a greater position within the EU, and it hits home with what Mr. Armstrong was saying. I commend you for continuing Mr. Armstrong’s message and goals.

Macon, Ga.

I READ THE *TRUMPET* FOR THE FIRST TIME and would like to address the commentary on “The Education Crisis.” The article clearly stated that the problem with education comes from the fact that America has cut itself off from God. The Constitution is a secular document that establishes the separation of church and state, leaving religion out of our laws. This principle has benefited religion by protecting individual religious freedoms. Those who disagree with this concept simply need to look at nations that have integrated religion with their laws. Northern Ireland, the Mideast, Iran and Afghanistan are good examples of 2,000 years of religious rule. Friction, war, hatred and the loss of basic human rights abound.

Tifton, Ga.

Letters to the Editor must include the writer’s name and address and should be sent to The Trumpet, P.O. Box 1099, Edmond, OK 73083, or e-mailed to letters@theTrumpet.com. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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RON FRASER

The Lie That Broke Britain

Free trade is lauded as an absolute good. But great nations know better.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE BEING FOOLED. SO ARE THE British. The English-speaking peoples seem blind to the economic catastrophe that awaits them. How is this so?

There exists a dichotomy at present in the circle of economic theorists. One school of thought claims that the ability to *consume* is the proof of a nation's wealth. The other holds that it is the ability of a nation to *produce*. Which of these theories truly holds water? Consider their fruits.

Take Britain. Revisionist history aside, the truth is that the British peoples never deliberately set out to aggressively build an empire. What this "nation of shopkeepers" did do is set out to *trade* with the world. It established global trading posts, shipping raw materials from all over the world to the home-base in Britain. These materials were manufactured into finished goods within the greatest industrial empire of the time. The finished goods were sold for domestic consumption; the surplus was exported. By the mid-1800s, Britain produced double the output of America, with Europe's future industrial giant, Germany, not even beginning to figure in the equation.

To that point, the British held to a "Britain trade first" policy, protecting their home manufacturing base from foreign competition. The empire was self-supporting, the most wealthy collection of nations ever seen. What's more, Britain enjoyed absolute sovereignty.

All of that changed in 1860 when "enlightened" politicians embraced the free-trade economic policies of John Stuart Mill. Competition from cheaply produced, inferior-quality, low-cost goods made in foreign countries began to flood its markets. The abandonment of protection over its home manufacturers resulted, barely 50 years later, in Britain producing less than half the output of America. By 1914, it had even been surpassed by a German industrial economy that had not existed half a century before.

Today, Britain's trading empire, source of its past wealth, is gone, its formerly great industrial base dismantled, largely gobbled up by foreign enterprise. Even strategic services, such as its postal system, water distribution, power generation and distribution, publishing, telecommunications and port facilities, increasingly are being captured by its former enemies.

Meanwhile, what has happened to America? Consider.

In the founding days of the nation, Alexander Hamilton delivered his "Report on Manufactures." A former aide to Washington, Hamilton had noted a profound strategic weakness during America's war of revolution: The country had simply been dependent upon a foreign nation, France, for the provision of armaments. Hamilton determined to mend this great national weakness. "Not only the wealth, but the independence and security of a country, appear to be materially connected with the prosperity of manufactures," he wrote. "Every nation ... ought to endeavor to possess within itself all the essentials of a national supply. These comprise the means of subsistence, habitation, clothing and defense."

Subsequent U.S. governments followed Hamilton's dictum on national self-sufficiency for over 100 years. The result was

that by the start of World War I in 1914, the U.S. had become the wealthiest single nation on Earth. As Patrick S. Buchanan rightly observes, "The self-sufficiency and industrial power Hamiltonian policies created enabled us to rearm in security, crush the Axis in four years, rebuild Europe and Japan, and outlast the Soviet empire in a Cold War, while meeting all the needs of our people" (*American Conservative*, Aug. 11).

But after the war, the Wilsonian philosophy of opening the U.S. home market to foreign competition started the American economy on a downhill run. With the revival of post-World War II Japan and Europe (Germany in particular), foreign competition started to bite. What Germany and Japan had not obtained through *hot* war, they were largely seizing by unfettered *free trade!* The U.S. was rapidly changing from being a dominant net exporter to becoming a gluttonous consumer of imported goods.

The outcome? Author Pat Choate, in his recent book *Agents of Influence*, lists the following levels of dependence that the U.S. now has on foreign countries for the supply of strategically critical goods: metalworking machinery—51 percent; engines and power equipment—56 percent; computer equipment—70 percent; communications equipment—67 percent; semiconductors and electronics—64 percent.

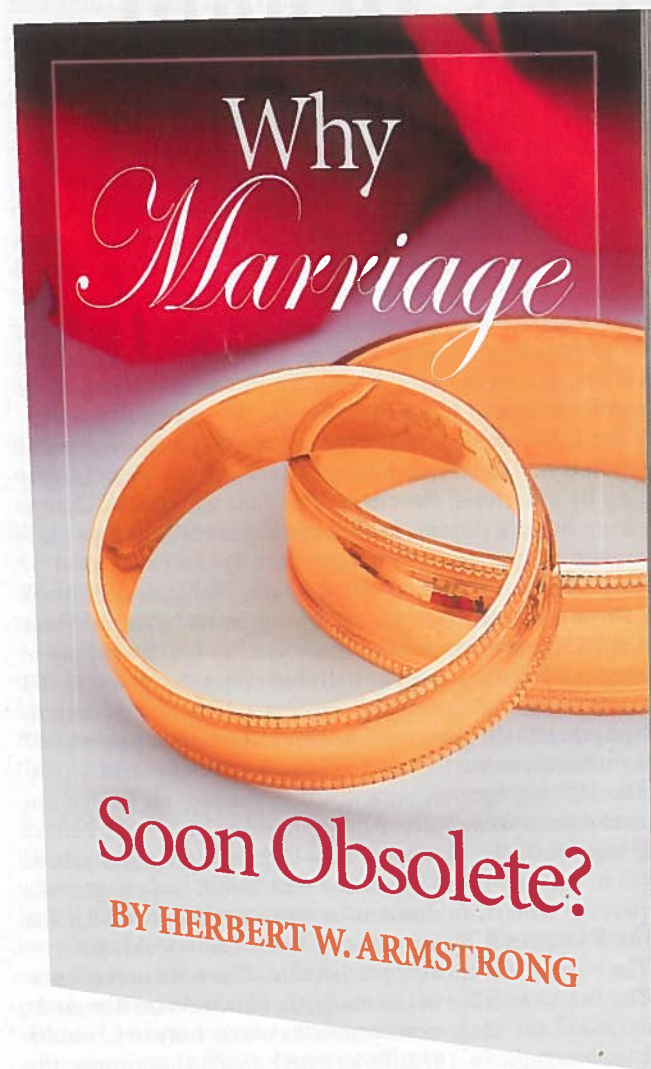
The U.S. has become, once again, dependent on foreign imports to sustain its military. And it prefers to have it so! Believe it or not, both the Pentagon and U.S. industrialists joined forces in July to oppose legislation that would have required a 65 percent American content in weapons procured for the country's defense. *That is military and economic suicide!*

The outcome is entirely predictable. There are precedents.

The first chancellor of Germany, Count Otto von Bismarck, understood the clear connection between *industry, wealth and sovereignty*. In 1834, he created a customs union, the *Zollverein*, as a strategic move in his quest for a German empire. He maintained that Germany must be able to feed itself and equip its armies without *any* reliance on foreign countries for their supply. In short, Germany formed this closed union of European trading partners for aggressive purposes—to prepare for imperial expansion by warfare.

Compare this experience with what is happening in Europe today. The German-dominated European Union has developed from a post-war protected *common market* into what is, already, a *self-sufficient empire* in the making. It has captured a *global industrial base*, producing wealth of a quantity that places it now in the uppermost league of federal economies. Its new constitution will establish the EU as a *sovereign federal superstate*, in exchange for individual member nations sacrificing their own national sovereignty.

The old Britons were right. Hamilton was right. Bismarck was right. Though the motivations of each differed, they all acknowledged a great truism currently ignored by our present leaders. In the words of Mr. Buchanan, "Free trade does to a nation what [alcoholism] does to a man: saps him first of his vitality, then his energy, then his independence, then his life."



DARE TO ASK WHY

Is marriage on the way out? Is adultery still wrong? Is the institution of the home, with its family life, to disappear from society?

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