JANUARY 2001

GOOD VERSUS EVIL

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AMERICA BRITAIN ISRAEL



HOUSE DIVIDED

What is the solution for these governments in crisis?



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A HOUSE DIVIDED

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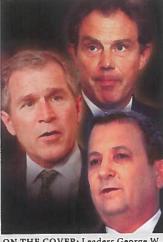
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ON THE COVER: Leaders George W. Bush, Tony Blair and Ehud Barak (clockwise from left). (AP/Wideworld (2): Barak-UPI)







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THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except

(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.

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Divided We Fall

or many years now, we have aimed our trumpet-blow-**♦** ing work mostly in the direction of America, Britain (including the former British Commonwealth nations) and Israel. The reason for this focus is grounded in Bible prophecy. In Hosea 5:4, God speaks to the latter-day descendants of biblical Israel: "Their deeds do not permit them to return to their God. For the spirit of harlotry is within them,

and they know not the Lord" (Revised

Standard Version).

Israel's descendants today, as we have proven before, are the American, British and Jewish peoples. (If you haven't already, request a free copy of The United States and Britain in Prophecy. For more information about that book, see the twopage spread in the middle of this magazine.) Continue with verse 5: "And the pride of Israel [America] doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim [Britain] FALL IN THEIR INIQUITY; Judah [Jewish Israel today] also shall fall with them." The Bible assures us that America, Britain and Judah will all fall together. That's what makes the present events in those three nations so disturbing.

All three are deeply divided along ideological lines. This chasm is clearly seen among the general

populous and within government.

The United States election crisis revealed two Americas. The Republicans represent geography—rural America. The Democrats represent demography—urban America. One side is more religious, the other more secular. Both sides view each other as becoming increasingly more evil. (See "Good vs. Evil" on page 16.) The representatives of both sides in government are equally fractious, with both houses of Congress virtually split down the middle of party lines. And thanks to Vice President Gore's "win at all cost" mentality, the judicial system has now been forced to expose its own ideological divide. Added to this mess is the dark cloud hanging over America's executive branch. It's one thing for a president to bring shame upon himself—it's quite another for a presidential candidate to denigrate the office itself.

Across the Atlantic, the British have their own crisis of division. They too are divided along moral lines, both sides viewing the other as evil. Tony Blair has even publicly stated his desire to destroy conservative thought in Britain. British parliamentary opposition leader William Hague, on the other hand, cites liberal leadership as a primary cause of Britain's post-empire identity crisis. He is also extremely

critical of Mr. Blair's push for EU membership, seeing it as a loss of British sovereignty. British membership in the EU now looms large as a hotly disputed issue in the next election.

In tiny Israel, Ehud Barak's "resignation" in December thrust that nation into further political turmoil even while it is coping with a civil war within its borders. Barak, who said he would seek re-election, apparently made the move to

> keep his political rival, Benjamin Netanyahu, from running against him. According to Israeli law, if the prime minister resigns, his successor must be chosen from among those in the parliament. Initially, however, Barak's maneuver appeared to backfire, as the Knesset amended the law, clearing the way for Netanyahu to run. But in the end, Netanyahu backed out when the Knesset refused to dissolve itself and hold concurrent elections. He attributed his dropout to division: "I could be prime minister, but I do not just want to be elected, I have to have a stable government and coalition. This is not possible with the current paralyzed Knesset. We would just go round and round."

Thus we see, as we enter the year 2001, three nations deeply divided. Instead of loving democracy and their constituents above self, most politicians lust for power. We have seen examples in our day—this modern, high-tech, intellectually advanced age—where politicians

will do virtually anything just to GET elected.

As a consequence, people in America, Britain and Israel have less confidence in their governments THAN EVER BEFORE! It's been said that the American electorate was split in half, which is true—half the people didn't even bother to vote. In Britain, most people are overwhelmingly opposed to giving up the pound and joining a European monetary union. Yet Tony Blair forces his way forward against the will of the people, intent on joining the European superstate. And in Israel, the man most people would like to elect prime minister isn't even in the upcoming election!

Everywhere you turn in these three nations, there is division and strife! Jesus said a nation divided against itself cannot stand (Mark 3:24). All three nations are prophesied to fall together—AND HARD—if we do not wake up and turn to

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In this, our first *Trumpet* issue of 2001, we examine the increasingly divided political, social and geographical landscape of America, Britain and Israel.

and our "EVOLVING CONSTITUTION"

Presidential candidate Al
Gore said that we need an
"evolving Constitution."
But why did Abraham
Lincoln or other great
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expression? Before we
ask for an "evolving
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result of our evolving!

BY GERALD FLURRY

T MAY SHOCK YOU, BUT THE PRESIDENtial election chaos in the U.S. was prophesied in your Bible! The battle between lawyers and judges was prophesied over 2,500 years ago!

The Supreme Court of Florida made two significant rulings after the election. This was the result of the Democrats sending in hundreds of lawyers to challenge the presidential election results.

The U.S. Supreme Court reversed both its rulings. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said that "it might be in the state's best interest not to go around CHANGING THE LAW after the election" (emphasis mine).

In fact, the Florida Supreme Court changed several laws in those two rulings. It created chaos and confusion all over America.

This is no small problem. The purpose of our courts is to interpret and enforce our laws—not break them! They are supposed to uphold the laws to give us justice.

The fruits reveal what happens when we break laws. The fruits of the Florida Supreme Court's decisions were chaotic. "By their fruits you shall know them" (Matt. 7:20).

We saw the fruits of an "evolving Constitution." The laws were watered down or broken. Of course the Constitution is not perfect and needs a little fine tuning at times. But if we do more than that, WE ARE TEARING DOWN THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR REPUBLIC!

The Florida chaos gives us good insight into what will happen all across America if we don't wake up. WE ARE

EVOLVING INTO ANARCHY!

The Supreme Court of Florida should not have intervened at all. Mr. Bush won on two machine counts. And the law says you intervene only if there is 1) fraud or 2) malfunctioning machines. There was no fraud, and the machines counted like other machines all over America.

Here is where the law was transgressed, plunging the state into a gigantic mess. The state does need better machines, but this problem, if it is going to be corrected, must be corrected before the election. That is the law.

But too many of our people want an evolving Constitution and law.

The Trojan Horse

The Democrats started the whole mess by complaining about "illegal" butterfly ballots—a ridiculous issue that was subsequently rejected by all the courts. But it allowed the lawyers to get involved in the process. And, as most lawyers typically do, they discovered other "crimes" like hanging chads and dimpled ballots.

Lawyers for Al Gore helped to obscure the fact that when voters enter the booth, they are responsible for vot-

ing properly.

Florida's Supreme Court should have slammed the door on the chaos from the very beginning, and this confusion would have ended. But they didn't.

None of this national damage would have been possible without a biased press. They too favor an "evolving Constitution," which leads us into rampant injustice. The press made it look like both sides were trying to steal the election, when in fact it was just one side.

The nation is divided 50-50. But the press is more like 80-20 in favor of Mr.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 7 to 2 that there were constitutional problems with the Florida Supreme Court's rulings. But still we needed a stronger decision. The weakness of the Supreme Court's decision portends more chaos and even anarchy in the future.

This is where most of our leaders are blind. They like an "evolving Constitution," which places more trust in human reasoning than law. It is a dangerous recipe for disaster. All close elections of the future are apt to be contested. The chaos is going to spiral out of control unless we make radical changes.

Our people are being led into more and more lawlessness. Human nature hates law. Events tend toward catastrophe unless law keeps us in check.

Our forefathers understood human nature and law far better than we do today. But you can't convince our leaders of that vital truth.

Events like the election crisis and human reasoning lead the people to trust our leaders less and less. Such things are causing our people to just look to themselves. "Every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Jud. 21:25). This was the condition of our biblical forefathers—just before their nation collapsed and they went into slavery!

This thinking is not a small problem. It is a plague!

"Babes Shall Rule Over Them"

We don't see most of our leaders quoting President Lincoln and our forefathers about the Constitution and law. President Lincoln knew there were some bad laws. But he said we should faithfully OBEY those laws until they could be changed according to the Constitution. He knew that the LAW MUST REMAIN SUPREME or there would be very little justice.

The prophecies in Isaiah were written in a book for the end time. Notice this end-time prophecy: "For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water, the mighty man, and the man of war, the JUDGE, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, the captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them. And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable" (Isa. 3:1-5). God takes away the judge who renders true justice—because of our sins.

All the leaders are like little children in their reasoning. They rule like "babes." A child has no real history to draw from. Many leaders have rejected the lessons of history—our greatest secular source of guidance. A good understanding of history also gives a leader vision into the future.

Winston Churchill could warn us about Germany in the 1930s because he understood the history of Germany. All of the major European wars since 1870 have been started by Germany!

The most important vision of the future comes from the Bible. No secular source compares to God's word.

Children are guided almost solely by emotions—unless they are guided by a wise adult. But here in Isaiah THE CHILDREN RULE, guided mainly by their emotions. And children are naturally

OUR LEADERS HAVE NEVER GROWN UP EMOTIONALLY! And that is true of all our leaders-not just one political party. And they lead the nations of Israel-including the world's numberone superpower!

House Divided

Tim Russert, host of Meet the Press, said this U.S. election is "the WORST PO-LITICAL WAR" HE HAS EVER SEEN! The division between parties is bitter in this political civil war. The division and bitterness was made far worse by Mr. Gore and the Florida Supreme Court. And the worst is still to come. The bitter feelings will undoubtedly remain for four years, eight years or more! That means nobody can lead Congress and the nation. Confusion and intrigue make real leadership impossible.

It has been a struggle for power where both men lost! But the real loser was America. This crisis is far, far worse than our people think! As Jesus Christ and President Lincoln said, "A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND." It "CANNOT STAND"! But where is the leader who will, like Mr. Lincoln,

step up and say so today?

Mr. Lincoln knew the solution could only come from God!

Seven of the Supreme Court justices said there were constitutional violations by the Florida Supreme Court. But when Mr. Gore conceded, he said, "I strongly disagree" with them.

Why does he disagree? Because he believes in an "evolving Constitution." And his election loss didn't change his mind. This is the lawless thinking that is dividing and destroying our house. A house so divided against itself cannot stand! But faced with another election like this one, Mr. Gore would act the same way. That is not what we need to unite our American house.

And DON'T FORGET—THIS IS THE ONLY HOUSE WE HAVE!

A HOUSE DIVIDED: U.S.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Bush said that we must rise above a house divided. But how? A big part of the answer is getting back to the Constitution and law. I see nothing to indicate that we will. In fact, we are moving in the opposite direction. More and more of our people are adopting the philoso-

phy of Mr. Gore and his "evolving Constitution."

One TV commentator said this election challenge by the Democrats was "unfair." But it's more than unfair—it's a great injustice. There has been collusion between judges, lawyers and politicians attempting to steal an election!

Let's be honest for a change!

The attempt was made and it almost succeeded. That shows how lawless our people have become. This portends a nightmare future—unless we heed God's message.

Can anybody rule America? is a common question. It is a very dangerous situation that most people fail to see.

Once our political system falls apart, nobody will be able to put it back together again.

How horrifying that we cannot see the coming mega-disaster! The outcome could be changed by heeding God's message.

Do people really know why Christ came? Did it have anything to do with justice?

Why Christ Came

Christ came the first time for a great purpose. "And Jesus said, For JUDG-MENT 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.

One definition in *Thayer's Lexicon* for *judgment* is "a matter to be judicially decided, a lawsuit, a case in court."

Christ came to this Earth that we "might see" what true justice is and how we are to be judged.

This world hated His judgment, or system of justice, and killed Him. 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.

Why don't more religions discuss this justice system?

A true Christian is one who follows Christ. If we are Christians, we should seek God's law and judgment.

Christianity is often the greatest hypocrisy of all. People profess Christianity, but don't believe in Christ's

message of justice. They talk about Christ, but they don't teach His judgment or justice based on His law, or the Ten Commandments.

Men don't know what true justice is. But Christ knows, and He wants to give sight to the blind. Soon, in your lifetime, Christ will implement His system of justice based on His law, in spite of man's rebellion (1 John 3:4).

I haven't seen any of our leaders seeking God's view of our justice system in this election.



"A house divided against itself cannot stand."

Abraham Lincoln

Samaria Falls

The Prophet Micah was more condemning of our justice system than perhaps any of God's messengers. And remember, his book is for the end time. (Write for our free booklet on Micah to prove this for yourself.)

Let's look at some of the history of our biblical forefathers and learn an awesome lesson.

"The word of the Lord that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem" (Mic. 1:1). The word of the Lord came to Micah as new revelation. This revelation only comes to prophets and apostles (Eph. 3:5). God speaks to mankind through apostles and prophets.

And so it is today. God has sent a prophet to warn—but then God says our people won't recognize him as a prophet until His terrifying prophecies come to pass (Ezek. 33:33).

Micah means "Who is like God?" Nobody even remotely compares to God. That means we ought to heed His message, because it is 100 percent certain to be fulfilled!

If we are like Micah, we believe God. God addresses two cities in Micah 1. Samaria was the capital of the northern ten tribes. Jerusalem was the capital of Judah (which also included Levi). Samaria is also discussed in verses 6-8. Then in verse 9 we see that her wound is *incurable*. That leaves only Jerusalem remaining. Later we see only Zion (God's Church today) and Jerusalem left (Mic. 3:10). Even later, there is only one city—undoubtedly Jerusalem—that remains (Mic. 6:9).

What happened to Israel, or Samaria? Israel was conquered between 721 and 718 B.C.—about 30 years after Micah delivered his message.

Micah must have seen Israel fall. Why didn't Judah fall at about the same time? That is a critical question.

How to Save a Nation

King Hezekiah was mentioned in the context of Samaria and Jerusalem (Mic. 1:1). Notice how this king relates to the story.

"Then rose up certain of the elders of the land, and spake to all the assembly of the people, saying, Micah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spake to all the people of Judah, saying, Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Zion shall be plowed like a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest. Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him at all to death? did he not fear the Lord, and besought the Lord, and the Lord repented him of the evil which he had pronounced against them? Thus might we procure great evil against our souls" (Jer. 26:17-19). JUDAH DIDN'T FALL AT THE SAME TIME SAMARIA DID, BECAUSE HEZEKIAH LED THEM TO REPENT!

Samaria and Jerusalem split in the first place because they were so deeply divided. That is the way it is in Britain, America and Palestine today. The nations of Israel have a history of tearing themselves apart, if their enemies don't do it for them!

Judah did not go into captivity around the time when Samaria did because they responded to Micah! They heeded God's strong warning.

This is the inspiring and wonderful truth of what God would do today if we would only listen and heed His warning.

Here is a big lesson: Kings and presidents should listen to God's apostles and prophets! That is how nations are saved!

Nations don't have to fall. It is not inevitable. There is great *hope* in this message.

Prophets like Micah tell kings and leaders what to do. The leader should lead in repenting as Hezekiah did.

Is there a modern-day Micah that our leaders should hear? And that you should heed? There absolutely is, and you can prove it.

This message is so important that

the whole Earth is commanded to hearken. But God is starting with the nations of Israel. He is against you. That means you individually and the nations of Israel.

This message is about falling empires! That is what happened to Samaria when they refused to obey Micah's message from God!

IT IS AN END-TIME MESSAGE PRIMARILY, AND IT MEANS NA-TIONS ARE ABOUT TO FALL UNLESS THEY HEED MICAH'S MESSAGE!

The Florida election crisis is only one curse among many because God is against America, Britain and Palestine.

Today God is warning. It all happens just before His return to Earth: "For, behold, the Lord cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth. And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place" (Mic. 1:3-4).

That's right. Believe it or not, OUR PROBLEMS TODAY ARE TIED DIRECTLY TO THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST! This is the best news this world has ever heard!

Do we get it? Do we understand and believe God?

This is not a message for just Oklahoma or the U.S. It is a message for the whole world!

Micah Cries for Justice

"And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel; Is it not for you to know JUDGMENT?" (Mic. 3:1). Who is Jacob or Israel in this end time? We have proven for over 60 years that Israel refers primarily to America, Britain and Palestine in these prophecies. (Write for our free booklet on the United States and Britain in Prophecy.)

God is addressing the heads of Israel—the rulers. These are people who have a history with God. They of all people ought to understand judgment.

The Gesenius Hebrew and Chaldee

Lexicon defines judgment as the sentence of a judgment, according to law. Judges are supposed to interpret and enforce law. Other translations use justice instead of judgment.

This is addressed to the headsmagistrates and government officials responsible for upholding the law.





Kings and presidents should listen to God's apostles and prophets! That is how nations are saved!

Their responsibility is to give us justice based on law.

The only perfect law is God's. The framers of America's Constitution founded much of that document on God's law as they understood it.

The word judgment means the "entire process, whole administration of justice." The Hebrew word is mispat. The same word is used as lawful (Ezek. 18:5, 21, 27). The point is this: Proper judgment must always include LAW.

That is why it is so crucial that judges not change the righteous law or

God holds the judges and rulers accountable for their judgment against every institution and each individual. THIS WARNING IS DIRECTED TO OUR RULERS.

And God wants Britain, America and Palestine to be reminded of their history with Him.

God's own Laodicean church has a spiritual history with God in this end time, and have now rejected that relationship.

God addresses Jacob first. This was Israel's name before God began to work with him. So it refers to the physical nations of Israel today. Then God speaks to Israel. God is not repeating Himself. This refers to spiritual Israel, or the church.

So God warns both carnal and spiritual Israel, because they both have a his-

tory with God. "Is it not for you to know judgment?" Of all people on this Earth, they should know judgment! They should understand their own history!

They should also know God, but they don't. Knowing God is the only solution to our problems.

Just how bad is our justice system today?

"Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones; Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron" (Mic. 3:2-3). God is speaking figuratively and spiritually. OUR JUSTICE SYSTEM RIPS OFF THE PEOPLE'S SKINS, BREAKS THEIR BONES, TEARS OFF THE FLESH, CHOPS THEM INTO PIECES, THROWS THEM INTO THE POT AND THEN EATS THEM!

This is probably the most grisly metaphor in the Bible. It's as if they butcher their victims and devour them like wild beasts. Cannibalism!

This is God's evaluation of our justice system!

But this is not the end of it. "Then shall they cry unto the Lord, but he will not hear them: he will even hide his face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings" (v. 4). God will literally mutilate those leaders as they figuratively mutilated their victims.

The heads, including the judges, ignored the cry of their victims. Soon God will turn from their cries for help in the Great Tribulation. And that includes everybody who operates in that same evil spirit.

Modern-Day Micah

The "sun shall go down over the prophets" (vv. 5-6). This could only apply to God's own Laodicean church—spiritual Israel—which had the sun—the light—and then went back into the dark. They no longer have a "vision" or receive God's revelation.

The Bible is a coded book, and only God can decode it for us. Once He does, we can't refute His powerful truth.

"But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin" (v. 8). Micah was full of the Holy Spirit and judgment, or God's justice.

What was Micah to do with that judgment? Did he retire? No, he was

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told to DECLARE it specifically to two groups-Jacob and Israel. Jacob has TRANSGRESSED God's law, and Israel has SINNED ("to him that knows to do good, and does it not, to him it is sin"-James 4:17). This refers to God's church, or spiritual Israel. They have been given God's truth and rejected it. So their guilt is sin. They are not in ignorance, as Jacob, or carnal Israel, is. The Jacob group has never known God spiritually. The Laodiceans are being judged now! (Rev. 3:14-21). That is not true of carnal Israel.

So Micah was told to DECLARE this message. That means there has to be a type of Micah today who is DECLARING this same message. Remember, this warning message is tied directly to Christ's return (Mic. 1:3). It is for the end time!

It is up to you to find the individual who is delivering that message. That is the only way to find God.

Remember, God's message is about judgment-God's system of justice. So we declare God's

message to the heads-to politicians, lawyers, judges, educators, media and religion. They must change, or our house will not stand!

They must hear God's judgment which, again, refers to which is just, lawful, or according to LAW. In this case, God's law.

"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). Can you believe our leaders "abhor judgment"? They "pervert all equity." That means what is straight they make crooked!

That is our system of justice. And God says His messenger is to tell the rulers DIRECTLY—"HEAR THIS"!

All of our people must hear God's rebuke about justice, or they are going to suffer more than any nation ever has.

Do you "HEAR THIS"?

"They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity" (v. 10). There is going to be a bloody end if we don't heed God's warning. This verse is about a slaughter. The nations of Israel are going to have a violent end. They will literally be chopped in pieces, as their victims have been figuratively!

This punishment happens because of our "iniquity," or lawlessness. The leaders base their judgments on human reasoning, not law.

"The heads thereof JUDGE FOR RE-WARD, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the Lord, and say, Is not the Lord among us? none evil can come upon us" (v. 11). The religious and secular leaders judge for "reward." Their judgments are not motivated by love for the law, the Constitution or justice. They do it for reward—for personal gain.

This illustrates how urgently we need new leaders. But the good news is, this very chaos we are now experiencing will lead directly into a world of Godfearing leaders who uphold the rule of law and make just judgments. These leaders are now being prepared—as they have been throughout history.

God's message is about judgment— God's system of justice. So we declare God's message to the leaders. They must change or our house will not stand!

Firstfruits

"Woe is me! for I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grapegleanings of the vintage: there is no cluster to eat: my soul desired the firstripe fruit" (Mic. 7:1). This is about the firstripe, or firstfruit, spiritual harvest. Micah discusses the summer fruit from the first harvest. God is always concerned about His church first.

Micah had a painful experience that God's people lived through in this end time. "Woe is me!" He could find no "cluster" of spiritual food to eat from the firstfruit harvest. Anciently, the farmers left gleanings for the poor. There was not even anything to glean from the fields spiritually.

This makes no sense unless you look at it spiritually. In this end time, God's very elect Christians have left our mother church and its other dissenting groups. Almost every one of them said, "Woe is me." They were starving spiritually. You don't know you are starving spiritually unless you have known God's truth. They were receiving no revelation about Micah, as we have in our booklets about this prophet and many other major and minor prophets.

This refers to a major crisis in God's church that we have lived through. Even our court case over Mr. Armstrong's book Mystery of the Ages is in the context of this verse.

Micah 7:1 is a blanket condemnation of all God's Laodicean churches. They have polluted spiritual food. Only that group which declares the Micah revelation does God's work. (Write for our free book Malachi's Message. It will explain the whole Laodicean issue.)

"The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net" (v. 2). The good man means "holy one." That same Hebrew expression refers to Jesus Christ (Ps. 16:10).

Why is this holy man perished from the Earth? These firstfruit saints were

good, or holy, and then they re-

This is how the Hebrew-Greek Key Bible Study book explains the word perished: "It is used to describe the downfall of nations [or churches], the withering away of crops [firstfruit harvest]."

Only those who BROKE AWAY from the sinning Laodicean church survived spiritually (Mic. 2:13). That is explained in our Micah booklet.

"They hunt every man his brother." This refers to the God family. Spiritual brothers are hunting family members to destroy them!

No tragedy could be worse!

Watchmen

Now we move to society's problems. "That they may do evil with both hands earnestly, the prince asketh, and the judge asketh for a reward; and the great man, he uttereth his mischievous desire: so they wrap it up" (Mic. 7:3). The prince (politician) and the judge ask for REWARD. They take the initiative in seeking their reward. How abominable! These leaders render injustice if they can't get what they want. Their motives are very impure.

"They wrap it up" means they conspire to subvert justice! They weave crooked paths and catch people as a spider catches flies in its web.

The state of California attacked the church headed by Herbert W. Armstrong in 1979. Lawyers and judges met privately to discuss their attack. It was an unethical meeting. God's church was described as "a bowl of spiders." Eventually, the church was

continued on page 26

Britain's identity crisis has deepened. Its basic institutions, from the royal family to the union of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, have found their very reasons for existence challenged. What's at the heart of this erosion of the once *Great* Britain?

DISUNITED KINGDOM

BY RON FRASER

RITAIN IS PRESENTLY UNDER THE rule of a radical government. Under this government, the British royal family's influence on society has been greatly reduced, the queen's military forces decimated. Parliament has seen the diminution of the influence of the House of Lords; Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales have virtual-

ly been given separate parliaments; and a whole swath of foreign laws, rules and regulations have been thrust onto the unwitting British public by a seemingly all-imposing European Union. The result is a deeply divided population.

Britain's prime minister, Tony Blair, modeled his campaign for victory over the conservative government in 1997 on that of President Clinton when he won power from the Republicans in 1992. Both leaders simply sacrificed principle for power. Departing from the traditional ideological perspective of their respective political parties, they stole many of the policies from their conservative, or "right wing," opponents and billed them as their own. This tactic meant that disaffected voters who traditionally voted conservative, or Republican, yet who were disenchanted with the party leadership of the right, shifted their vote to the opposition camp.

The hybrid mix of policies and procedures which have resulted from this crossing of political boundaries more recently has been lumped together under the term "Third Way." This Third Way is deeply fracturing British society at the family level, the institutional level and the national level.

Similarities

Winston Churchill in his typical wit described England and America as



"two nations separated by a common language." It is uncanny how each of these Anglo-Saxon nation's style of government, at any point in time, often seems to reflect that of the other. This has certainly been the case over the past few years.

There is, in fact, a great deal of similarity between the level of division within American society, reflected in the results of the recent presidential election, and the division which is steadily fracturing British society.

Just as rural England continues to generally portray a picture of basic decency—of common sense, a down-to-earth grasp on just what it is that makes things tick, a lingering sense of general courtesy and basic manners—so these traditional values are often found in the rural countryside and towns of the heartland of America, that part of the U.S. commonly referred to as the "Bible belt."

Yet it is also in the cities of these two nations that comparisons between Britain and America meet, and both nations divide within themselves. For it is in the cities that the porn merchants and drug pushers thrive. Here are based the merchants of flesh and fleshly lust. This is where bodies are peddled for gain, rackets run which reach at times deep into the nation's banking, brokerage and business sectors, and the home-

less street people, many of them minors, abound. It is in this climate that a "new" form of governance termed the Third Way has thrived of recent years.

This Third Way, which is deepening these divides between the traditional liberalism centered in the cities and

conservatism which has its roots in primarily the rural areas of "landed gentry," is not a new concept. It raised its head throughout the last century with drastic results, in Europe in particular. Fundamental to its ideology is a complete overturn of moral values. At its heart it is centered on the crazed thinking of that revolutionary philosopher turned psychotic, Fredrich Nietzsche.

"His 'transvaluation of values' was to be the final, ultimate revolution, a revolution against both the classical virtues and the Judaic-Christian ones. The 'death of God' would mean the death of morality and the death of truth—above all, the truth of any morality. There would be no good or

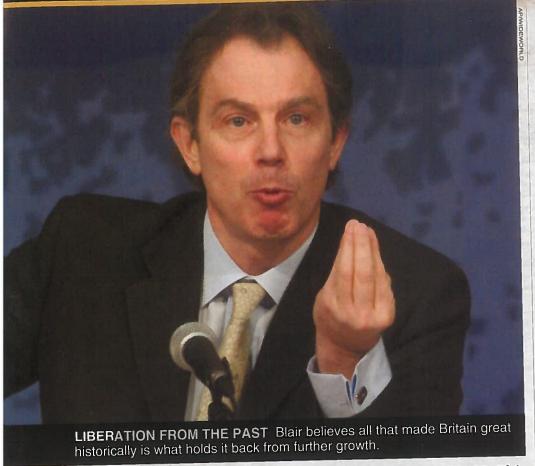
evil, no virtue or vice. There would be only 'values'" (Gertrude Himmelfarb, The De-moralization of Society).

Professor Himmelfarb, historian at City University, New York, praises the behavior, manners and morals of the Victorian age—contrary to present "politically correct" trends: "Even the 'gentlemanly' virtues of honesty, integrity, courage and politeness were not above the capacity of the ordinary person. Still less were the 'respectable' virtues: hard work, sobriety, frugality, prudence.... They were, so to speak, democratic virtues.... All individuals were assumed to be free moral agents [not just a 'human resource' to be exploited by the state]" (ibid.).

Professor Himmelfarb then goes on to highlight the illogical thinking of the unprincipled Third Way mindset which casts principled morality aside, labeling it as oppressive: "Today, among the disciples of Nietzsche or Foucault, it is precisely this self-induced morality, this internalized conscience, that is regarded as most coercive and tyrannical! This point of view would have been incomprehensible to virtually all Victorians" (ibid.).

Historically, British political parties have fought their campaigns based on matters of a purely political nature. Yet the current discourse between Britain's two leading political parties goes to the

A HOUSE DIVIDED: BRITAIN



very heart and core of British identity and morality!

On the one hand, the leader of the incumbent liberal-socialist left, Tony Blair, decries all that is historically British as that which holds Great Britain, the world's fourth-largest economy, back from further growth and development which his government promises via deeper entrenchment in the European Union.

On the other hand, conservative leader William Hague seeks to limit the impact of negative forces on British identity and British heritage by promoting the old moral values. He holds up the nature of "Britishness" as something which, at heart, is most separate from the very nature of that which drives the European Union.

Yet the undercurrent which flows beneath and which deeply influences such divisions as these is moral and spiritual both at its source and in its effect. Perhaps this is best illustrated by comparing extracts from keynote speeches delivered by each of these British political leaders within the last two years.

Moral and Spiritual Divide

At a speech to a gathering of the Labor Party faithful in Brighton, Eng-

land, on September 28, 1999, Mr. Blair gave his mandate for "new Britain": "Today at the frontier of the new millennium I set out for you how, as a nation, we renew British strength and confidence for the 21st century A new Britain where the extraordinary talent of the British people is liberated from the forces of conservatism that so long have held them back.... Now the new progressive force in British politics...can modernize the nation, sweep away those forces of conservatism" (emphasis mine throughout).

But the prime minister then went on to declare, "Look at Britain. Great strengths. Great history" (ibid.).

One can hardly look at Britain and consider its great strengths and great history without realizing there was something inherently different in the foundation upon which that greatness was founded from the Third Way proposed by Mr. Blair (see "Where is the Third Way Taking Us?", Trumpet, Aug. 2000).

The prime minister, expressing his party's view of their mission to Britain, preached, "Ours is a moral cause, best expressed through how we see our families and our children.... If we are in politics for one thing—it is to make

sure that all children are given the best chance in life."

Best chance? What do the liberalsocialists of Britain mean by this? Moral cause? How has that moral cause been enacted by this sitting government in Britain since its leader made that statement? What is the fruit of this British government's moral crusade, ostensibly offering the best chance to British families and British children for their future? Read the headline!

"Gay Age of Consent Dropped to 16 After Two-Year Battle" (London Tele-

graph, Dec. 1, 2000).

And what is the result of this new "moral cause"? Read the next day's headline: "Make Age of Consent Lower, Urges Tatchell" (Telegraph, Dec. 2, 2000).

"No sooner was the age of homosexual consent legally lowered to 16 than campaigners were yesterday demanding it be reduced further. Peter Tatchell, of the pressure group OutRage, called for the age of consent to be 14 for heterosexuals and homosexuals" (ibid.).

The lowering of the age of consent for homosexual acts in Britain was a specific promise made by Prime Minister Blair as part of his party platform for election in 1997.

And what will be the bitter fruit of this rank perversion, should it be allowed to persist? The following extract from the same British newspaper gives some indication: "A 40 percent rise in people with AIDS in England and Wales in the next three years was predicted by government figures released yesterday to coincide with World AIDS Day.... With an AIDS pandemic of biblical proportions sweeping across Africa, do the statistics tell us that Britain is about to endure the same horrors?" (ibid.).

What, then, is the present British government's true attitude to that basic building block of society, the family? "The government should not promote marriage as the ideal context for bringing up children, Tessa Jowell, the minister for employment and women, says today.... Miss Jowell says she does not think that marriage is necessarily the best model.... The Tories said Miss Jowell's remarks showed that the government no longer supported traditional family values. Ann Widdecombe, the shadow home secretary, said last night: 'If this is what a government minister is saying, it gives the lie to Tony Blair's claims to be the party of the family'" (ibid.).

Not only does the present British government reject, even lampoon, the basic moral and ethical principles upon which Great Britain was founded and developed as a nation, it seeks to promote a radical change in the basic institutions of marriage and family within this hybrid mix of liberal ideas called the Third Way. The confusion that results, going to the very heart and core of the nation—its families—is not surprising, nor is the British prime minister's rhetoric on the family and morals really surprising, when its source is revealed.

Hope of Salvation?

Anthony Giddens is the director of the London School of Economics and Political Science. Mr. Giddens has done much to promote this ubiquitous Third Way, embraced by Prime Minister Blair and President Clinton, and with which Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak has even flirted. Tony Giddens is said to be Prime Minister Blair's favorite intellectual.

Here is what Mr. Giddens has to say about the traditional family unit: "How might the new politics approach the question of family? We should be clear first of all how implausible the idea of returning to the traditional family is. It is worth listing the reasons: ... Nostalgia for the traditional family idealizes the past.... Traditional marriage was based upon the inequality of the sexes.... Children are no longer an economic benefit but instead a major economic cost. The nature of childhood and child rearing has changed profoundly. Recapturing the traditional family is a non-starter" (Anthony Giddens, The Third Way, pp. 91-92).

This is the spin behind the words of Mr. Blair's Brighton speech. This British government's Third Way of governance is built upon a foundation of sand in that it undermines the very core building block of the nation's structure: God-given families. It can therefore have but one result: "And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it" (Matt. 7:26-27).

Amazingly, unbelievably, the prime minister presented this "new moral purpose," this vision for his scenario of sodomy, in *theological* language!

In that 1999 Brighton speech, Mr. Blair said this: "The cause we have fought for, these 100 years...is the nation's only hope of salvation."

Salvation? The British Oxford Dictionary defines salvation as "deliverance from sin." The Bible, the word of God which defines God's plan of salvation, condemns homosexual acts as sin. What is this salvation that Mr. Blair and his party promotes? It certainly does not come out of the book which defines the fruit of his "new moral purpose" as sin! That's the book that the English-speaking peoples have done more to print, publish and distribute than any other book in history—your Holy Bible!

The prime minister declared that he and his fellow "new radicals" were intent on undertaking "this historic mission to liberate Britain from the...old structures...old ways of working and doing things"! (ibid.).

Most of the British peoples may not have come to understand their incredible God-given human potential throughout the history of the British Empire, but they did largely accept the old biblically based moral principles which were taught to the empire's children and its children's children. Once they were enshrined in British law! The Bible enjoins us to hold on to those ways, but it prophesies a refusal by many to do so in these end times: "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the

ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein" (Jer. 6:16).

Identity Crisis

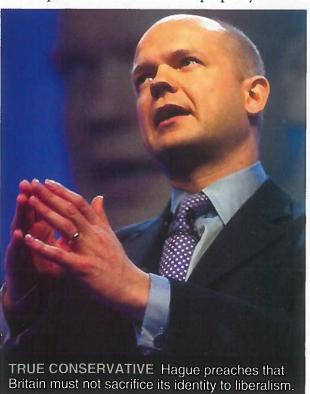
This liberal-socialist radicalism is wreaking havoc with the British public as the British media march largely to the beat of this immoral Third Way drum. It has exacerbated Britain's postempire identity crisis and sapped this nation of its confidence, creating uncertainty about a future attached to a developing European superstate on a continent whose multi-faceted peoples have never fully understood the British and their heritage.

British parliamentary opposition leader William Hague put it this way in a speech to the Center for Policy Studies on January 24, 1999: "The British people...according to current wisdom, are

unsure of our own identity and uncertain of our future.... [Once] we were the people who could never be conquered, whose freedoms were Godgiven, whose industry was the workshop of the world, whose empire had brought civilization to far-off lands, whose navy kept the sea-lanes open, and whose Parliament was the mother of all parliaments."

Mr. Hague specified that Britain's current crisis was a crisis of identity! He stated that his first purpose in this speech was "to show that we cannot allow British identity to be treated like some passing fad that can be repackaged, rebranded or simply consigned to the dustbin. The idea of what it means to be British has existed for hundreds of years and has sunk deep roots into our consciousness. It represents something much bigger than being English or Scottish or Welsh, and something much stronger than being European. Our British identity is not only relevant to today, it also holds the key to a successful future" (ibid.).

Recalling how Winston Churchill, in his famous wartime speeches, pointed to *Britishness*, the British history and heritage of renown, Mr. Hague warned against the prospect of Britain, being subsumed into the European Union and losing its sovereignty and distinct nationality: "Churchill's great speeches roused the British people by



A HOUSE DIVIDED: BRITAIN

celebrating the nation state.... That struck me forcibly when a senior German politician told me...the only path for his country was greater European political union" (ibid.).

Mr. Hague continued to strengthen his point that Britain, by absorption into a European superstate, risked

total loss of its identity.

"Another threat to the defining features of Britain's identity, and our future success, comes from the drive to create a single European state.... Transferring power from Westminster to Brussels strikes at the core of our national identity" (ibid.).

In an emotional appeal to his audience, Mr. Hague honed in on the dangers of the much-touted Third Way of the centrist movements, embraced by Britain's present government: "All these policies share one common feature. They run counter to the essential character of the British people. They are the Third Way and not the British way" (ibid.).

God and My Right

Today's Britain is a poor witness to its glorious past. Gone, long gone, is the empire. The glory reflected in its key naval, sea and air battles is fast disappearing as regimental museums are decimated at the present government's behest. The new generation of immigrants who have no intention of adapting to British ways-who are taught to feel alienated and discriminated against, and that the British owe them a living—is drastically breaking down that very way of life which held out some hope in times past to the disenfranchised landing on Britain's shores.

Over the past 30 years, British history has been progressively revised to write out the achievements of its heroes and heroines, great orators, authors, geographers, explorers and scientists-in an effort to largely appease this multicultural minority within its midst and bow to those who would seek to Europeanize Britain's culture.

Forty-five years ago, sociologists Edward Shils and Michael Young were able to state legitimately, "Over the past century, British society, despite distinctions of nationality and social status, has achieved a degree of moral unity equaled by no other large national state.... Constitutional monarchy and political democracy have played a part in the creation and maintenance of this moral consensus" (Prospect, Dec. 2000).

A moral and political dagger is being shoved through the heart of Britain. That dagger has already cut deeply into the nation and reaches now toward its very vitals.

But as Alan Wolfe and Jytte Klausen comment, "Since that was written, the monarchy has become tarnished as a symbol of moral unity-its place, arguably, taken by the NHS [National Health Service]—and Britain has become far more diverse in values, lifestyle and ethnicity" (ibid.).

This has led to a situation in Britain where, as the scripture prophesied of Israel, if they would dare forget their identity and their God, "The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low" (Deut. 28:43).

Bhikhu Parek, author of the recent report "The Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain," sponsored by the Runnymeade Trust, goes so far as to state that Great Britain ought to abandon the idea of "Britishness" altogether in favor of a "community of communities." Such statements are right up Romano Prodi's alley. This president of the administrative body of the European Union has taken the title "President of the Commission of European Communities."

Do we get the point? National identity, national sovereignty, is obliterated as the member nations of the EU are reduced to being mere subservient communities within a federal superstate.

Today's Britain is a nation divided. Mr. Blair would seek to join the European Monetary Union; 78 percent of Britons say no! Mr. Blair backs a European army; the British reaction is an overwhelming no! Mr. Blair may wish to yield to Romano Prodi and his ilk when he cries, "Give up your power of veto"—the only leverage which Britain has left in negotiating with the EU; the British public say no!

On the other hand, Mr. Hague sees that Britain faces the greatest of risks if it loses its national identity. He perceives that a moral and political dagger is being shoved through the heart of Britain. That dagger has already cut deeply into the British nation and reaches now toward its very vitals.

In his masterful exposé of America

risking a similar crisis, Cultural Amnesia, author Stephen Bertman declares that in this crazy, high-tech world, "Our salvation belongs to a dimension no wires can ever reach" (p. 89). That's right. Mr. Bertman speaks of a higher power than man. A power that defines evil and good. Mr. Blair preaches a political and moral theology where good becomes evil and evil good (Isa. 5:20). Mr. Hague is concerned about Britain's political bedrock being destroyed.

The nation sits dazed and divided as to its future. How did Britain get into this dilemma and where does Britain's future lie? Will it lose itself in a European superstate? Will it leave the EU? Or will it just become one of those second-rate nations trailing in the wake of a two-speed European Union led by

the bully Germany?

British politician Alan Clark incisively concluded how Britain has been manipulated into its present crisis of identity and moral purpose: "So the technique for their subjection has to be gradual: to first isolate and then erode those various indicators of British national identity and self-confidence" (Adrian Hilton, The Principality and Power of Europe, p. 169). There are forces at work seeking to destroy the British heritage.

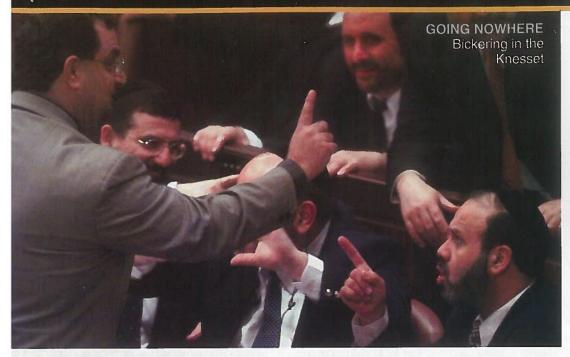
"Dieu et mon droit"—God and my right. These are the simple words on the British royal arms that describe in one phrase the heritage of Britain. This ancient nation's identity is irrevocably tied to its God and its birthright.

Britain faces its greatest crisis ever! This divided nation needs to heed the call of one of its brightest analysts, the best-selling author Adrian Hilton: "Just as Churchill called the nation to prayer on the eve of the Battle of Britain, the current threat from the Continent is no less worthy of constant prayer, and the call is just as urgent. It is a righteous government which will restore British sovereignty, pursue righteous laws" (ibid., p. 181).

The burning question is, where is that government? How will it come to power to unite this ancient house divided? Write for your free copy of The U.S. and Britain in Prophecy for the most amazing, and provable, answer to

this urgent question. •

The United States and Britain in Prophecy is yours at no cost. See page 14 for an overview of this important book and information on how to order.



A PICTURE OF POLITIC

Israel must exorcise its own demons before it will ever solve its woes with the Arabs.

BY JOEL HILLIKER

n July 10, 2000, his last day in Israel before the Camp David talks in Washington, security was heavy around Prime Minister Ehud Barak. Visitors to the Knesset building were spot-checked by patrolmen. Mr. Barak was surrounded by a double-circle of at least a dozen security guards.

As dangerous as the situation warranting these measures was, however, one television commentator said it was "child's play" compared to what Barak could expect if he returned from the summit having conceded anything to the Palestinians.

What did Mr. Barak have to fear? It wasn't the Palestinians or any foreign terrorists. It was his own countrymen.

After all, the last time someone was in Barak's position, he was murdered. That was November of 1995, when Yitzhak Rabin, deeply involved in land-for-peace negotiations with the dispossessed Palestinians living on Israeli soil, was felled by the bullet of a religious Jew. (How is that for irony? There is a faction in Israel so zealous in their belief that their land was Godgiven, they are willing to break God's commandment forbidding murder to meet their aims.) Barak's bodyguards were a grim illustration that the demons of ideological division within Israel are running amok.

The prime minister had assumed power just 13 months before on the promise of brokering a "peace of the brave" with Israel's Arab neighbors. But the deep rifts within the Israeli government were exposed when, as Barak headed to the U.S. for this, his first seri-

ous, detailed bargaining session with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, three of the right-wing political parties in his parliamentary coalition abandoned him. Their protest of his proposed concessions sucked dry his required majority of seats in the Knesset (Israel's parliament), leaving him politically isolated. To make things worse, Arafat refused the peace deal, and when the defeat-

ed Barak returned home his own foreign minister resigned.

The picture grew gloomier after a September visit by Likud party leader Ariel Sharon to Jerusalem's Temple Mount. Israeli Palestinians seized the chance to spark what has amounted to a low-intensity war over Israeli occupation that after two and a half months

and over 300 deaths shows no sign of letting up.

Barak has been ripped in two between retaliating decisively—thus angering neighboring Arab countries and most of the world, inflaming already strong anti-Israel sentiment—and turning the other cheek, which itself animates the intifada by showing weakness of will and ceding control to the protesters. His present response has been somewhere in the middle, which, in the words of news analyst George Friedman, "achieves the worst of both worlds, violence coupled with increasing isolation" (www.stratfor.com, World-View, Nov. 27, 2000).

Arafat, sensing his opponent's indecisiveness, is working to unite the whole Arab world into an anti-Israel front. He is particularly intent on winning over Egypt, the

closest thing Israel has to an ally among its neighbors. The Palestinians have everything to gain by escalating the violence, applying increasing pressure on a crippled Israel, waiting for its inevitable break. Many are committed to continued fighting, viewing this as nothing less than a noble, divinely ordered war for independence.

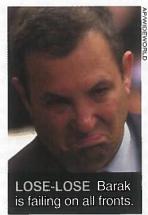
Barak cannot win. Nothing he could do would pacify all parties involved. And whatever the outcome of any

> peace talks, as his bodyguards in July showed, there are passionate enemies from within and without who are more than eager to spoil the deal.

After weeks of facing increasingly paralyzing opposition in the Knesset, the embattled prime minister finally launched his own political attack. Barak pre-empted his opponents on December 10 by resigning after com-

pleting only 17 months of his proscribed four years in office.

His move necessitates new national elections in February-in which he hopes, with fantastic optimism, to obtain a new mandate from his people and re-enter the peace talks with more support behind him. That's right-in the face of so much failure, Barak and



A HOUSE DIVIDED: ISRAEL



many of his people still bet that the peace process is the solution! Many other Israelis vehemently disagree.

The country's political climate is irreparably poisonous and fractious split among a host of conflicting parties and pressure groups, each arguing for different solutions. Its divisions almost make the U.S. look like a picture of unity by comparison.

A Fractious System

In Israel, the Knesset holds ultimate political power-its enactments cannot be vetoed or nullified by the president, prime minister or Israeli Supreme Court. Its 120 members are elected by the whole country, rather than by state or region, as in the U.S. But rather than vote for a particular person, people choose a political party, each of which posts its list of proposed Knesset candidates. The 120 seats are then filled based on proportional representation—the greater the percentage of the popular vote a party gets, the more seats that party occupies. Virtually any political grouping garnering more than 2 percent of the vote can send a representative to the Knesset.

With the nation's populace as disparate and as religion-based as it is, this system has led to a headacheinducing cacophony of competing parties. The current Knesset has representatives from no less than 16 political parties. Just how diverse the resultant legislative body is can be partly ascertained simply from the fact that it does not meet on Friday, Saturday or Sunday, in deference to its Muslim, Jewish and Christian members.

The prime minister is chosen in the same election, but he is elected directly. The candidate who wins the popular vote must then form a coalition with other parties to achieve a 61-seat majority in the Knesset. The last several administrations have found this difficult to impossible, because the various parties have less and less common ground on which to build. And, as was proved both in Barak's administration and in that of his predecessor, Benjamin Netanyahu, when pressure mounts in Israel's relationships with Palestinians and neighboring Arabs, the internal political faultlines begin to widen, making coalition building and maintenance even harder.

For the next several weeks, as Israel stumbles on with a bloody and broadening war on its own territory, its attention will be critically divided as it grapples with the messy politics of a new election. With emotions already riding high from the ongoing violence, this is sure to be a rancorous, fierce campaign. Promises from the candidates will surely be as lofty as the criticism and accusation will be bitter.

But no matter what the candidates promise or who wins, the man who takes office in February faces literally impossible odds-as he tries to unite his emotionally charged, divided countrymen, quell the rioting Palestinians, restore the confidence of neighboring enemies and win back the support of the rest of the world. Simply stated, accomplishing those goals would require statecraft beyond the talents of any of the contenders for Israel's prime-ministership.

And yet—there IS a way for Israel to gain the peace and security it is crying out for!

A House Divided

The Jews may not recognize the authority of Jesus Christ's statement, but they should heed its wisdom: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand" (Matt. 12:25). They likewise should take to heart the truth recorded in Amos 3:3-"Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"

Internal division is fatal poison for any nation. People may call Israel's boisterous democracy "spirited," but what they see as healthy debate is in fact a quickly spreading, highly malignant cancer.

In the midst of present crises, could this fact be any more apparent?

Consider: The existence of this nation-a tiny, Western-style democracy surrounded by hostile, autocratic monarchies and republics, a Jewish population among Islamic peoples, a country founded on religion and convicted of its divinely granted, prized yet modest and arguably insecure land rights, a nation home to millions of Palestinians who desire a state of their own on this very soil—Israel's very being-has always posed an inherent threat to its neighbors.

Are there not enough difficulties facing Israel already? It would behoove any people in such circumstances to walk wisely, circumspectly, to avoid missteps-certainly, to present to those outside of its borders a united front, if nothing else.

But Israel's gaping chasms of political disunion are easily and accurately perceived by its many foes as being chinks in its armor. The more divided the country is, the more vulnerable it appears—to a number of peoples who are all too willing to hasten its demise.

Foolish Remedies

What is the way out for Israel? Clearly, none of the methods it has tried have worked.

Peace talks have not worked. Not only was Rabin assassinated by one of his own people, the agreements he reached with Yasser Arafat were not honored. There has been evil on both sides, as hatred and misunderstanding have intensified. Barak's efforts at negotiation have angered his own people and still failed to meet Palestinian demands.

Stonewalling has not worked. Netanyahu's tough stance managed to stave off a major Middle East explosion during his tenure, but by no means did he bring about a stable and lasting security. Why the people who voted him out just a year and a half ago wish they could return him to office now, thinking that he would give them something different, something better than before, can perhaps only be explained as that they see him as merely the *least bad* of a precious few ugly options.

The fact is, none of these men can bring peace to Israel. The more they have talked about peace, the worse the situation has gotten.

It doesn't matter who becomes prime minister or what strategies he employs—the *Trumpet* can state categorically and absolutely, as we have repeatedly, that his actions will fail to bring Israel the security and peace it is crying out for, and will serve to only further divide the State of Israel! Thinking otherwise is shamefully naive!—that is, *barring* one singular and highly unlikely course of action, the ONLY COURSE Israel's new leader could take that would change the nation's miserable fortunes:

To turn the people to God.

It has never been clearer: No negotiation, no peace contract, no military muscle can offer the security, protection and blessing Israel is in desperate, vital need of right now.

As the election campaign swings into gear, listen closely to the rhetoric, and its emptiness will scream out at you. That is because these leaders stubbornly REFUSE to acknowledge their incapabilities—even as they watch the obvious evidence rioting in their streets! Every solution presented by the politicians is nothing more than whitewash on an IMPOSSIBLE situation!

The Prophet Ezekiel foretold of this precise political conundrum, in Ezekiel 13: "Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, PEACE; and there was no peace"—what Israeli politician, in or out of office for the past 20 years, hasn't fit that description?—"and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar..." (v. 10)—they construct brilliant-sounding plans to bring Israel the security it sorely craves, but those plans are put together with nothing but untempered mortar—unsavory, foolish things amounting to mere whitewash!

What did Ezekiel say would happen? Because of these untruthful, shallow leaders, God responds, "Say unto them which daub it with untempered mortar, that IT [THEIR WALL] SHALL FALL" (v. 11). Their plans will be destroyed by none other than the great God!

Read the verses that follow, and it is clear that God Himself is ANGRY with these leaders who are so confident in their own ability to bring about solutions to their people's woes! Because they look to themselves and not to God, "It shall fall, and YE shall be consumed in the midst thereof: and ye

"They have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace."

Ezekiel 13:10

shall know that I am the Lord. Thus will I accomplish MY WRATH upon the wall, AND upon THEM THAT HAVE DAUBED IT with untempered mortar, and will say unto you, The wall is no more, NEITHER THEY THAT DAUBED IT" (vv. 14-15).

The Israeli leaders' plans for peace—their shaky, hollow edifices of security—will fall! And THEY THEMSELVES—who keep seducing people with false promises of peace—will fall at the same time! "To wit, the prophets of Israel which prophesy concerning JERUSALEM, and which see visions of peace for her, and there is no peace, saith the Lord God" (v. 16).

The great and intensifying problems from which Israel suffers are in direct measure to the degree to which they have looked to themselves for solutions.

In the face of so much indisputable evidence that these men do not have the answers—that they know not the WAY TO PEACE (Isa. 59:8)—God only wants them to acknowledge their failure, repent of their stubbornness and humbly TURN TO HIM for their protection!

The Stormy Wind

How will God strike Israel?

Notice the FIRST means that God uses to rend their pitiful defensive wall: "Therefore thus saith the Lord God; I will even rend it with a STORMY WIND in my fury..." (Ezek. 13:13). God's stormy wind comes before He sends the more severe punishments.

What is that prophesied stormy wind? YOU ARE EXPERIENCING IT RIGHT NOW! It is the powerful warning message being delivered by God's messenger, Gerald Flurry, supported by God's faithful, true church!

If only Israel would respond to the stormy wind, there would be NO NEED for the overflowing shower and the great hailstones that will follow (v. 13)—times of tremendous suffering which Israel will experience all too soon if they don't repent before God now!

The message contained in this magazine is one of HOPE. GREAT hope for Israel! It represents a real chance to change the present course, to receive abundant mercy and to avoid the numbing punishments that God is about to reluctantly, but certainly, deliv-

er. "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way AND LIVE: turn ye, TURN YE from your evil ways; for WHY WILL YE DIE, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL?" (Ezek. 33:11).

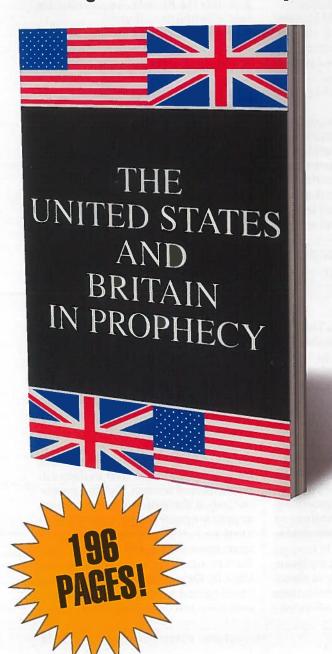
Can't Israel recognize the dead end they face? Can't they understand that they are tearing themselves apart before their enemies even have to? Can't they see the imminence of their own destruction?

Is it not clear by now?

The ONLY SOLUTION to the maelstrom of Israel's problems is for the leadership to turn to God in deep repentance and to then lead the people to God. If the nation doesn't repent, EVERY PROPOSED SOLUTION IS GUARANTEED TO FAIL—tearing the country apart from within and exposing it to further attack from every direction. ONLY by divine intervention, guidance, blessing and protection will Israel's confusion and chaos end.

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greater impact on your mind and life than the small booklet.

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It discusses a staggering turn of world events due to erupt in the next few years. It will involve the U.S. and British peoples, Western Europe, the Middle East and other nations.

Why don't world leaders know about what is coming? Because they have been educated into closing their minds to the real causes behind world events. This world has been falsely educated to ignore causes and deal instead with effects. All of our problems today are a simple matter of cause and effect.

For example, what *caused* man to be here on Earth? What is man? And why is man? Science, education, politicians and religious leaders can't tell you.

World leaders also feverishly travel the globe in search of peace. But they continue in the way of war. They don't know the *cause* of war or peace!





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There are many forces, plans and conspiracies at work that are about to cause our world to explode in violence.

This could all be avoided if we knew and understood that the lost master key has been found. That key opens Bible prophecy—one third of the Bible—to our minds. It reveals who Israel is in this end time. If heeded, worldwide disaster could be averted.

One whole chapter is devoted to that subject.

The Missing Master Key—Found!

"The great world powers of our time have been, and are, the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, Germany, France, and other Western European nations. The missing

We can mail the older, 59page booklet. But if we lose the court case, we can no longer freely give the far better, 196-page book. If you don't have a copy of the larger version, I strongly urge you to write for your copy while you can! vital KEY is simply the identity of these great world powers in biblical prophecy! The staggering and cataclysmic world-shaking events soon to erupt upon a shocked, stunned, bewildered world relate directly and specifically to the United States, Britain, Germany, Western Europe, and Russia....

"But the all-important master key has been found!

"That key is knowledge of the astonishing identity of the

American and British peoples—as well as the German—in biblical prophecies. This very eye-opening, astounding identity is the strongest proof of the inspiration and authority of the Holy Bible! It is, at the same time, the strongest proof of the very active existence of the living God!" (pp. 2-3).





The stark question of human annihilation keeps the world in fear. There are no solutions in sight. But God says there ARE solutions!

I don't live in fear of human annihilation. Why? Because God promises to protect nations or individuals who heed His warning.

The United States and Britain in Prophecy makes all of this very clear. You need this book!

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In 1804, London became the financial hub of the world, and from there the British Empire became the greatest empire ever on this Earth!

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What was the cause? *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* makes the answers so wonderfully clear. It is deeply inspiring!

I hope that you will write for your free copy of this 196-page book. You may say it was the wisest decision you ever made!

Serold 7 lury
Gerald Flurry
Editor in Chief, Philadelphia Trumpet

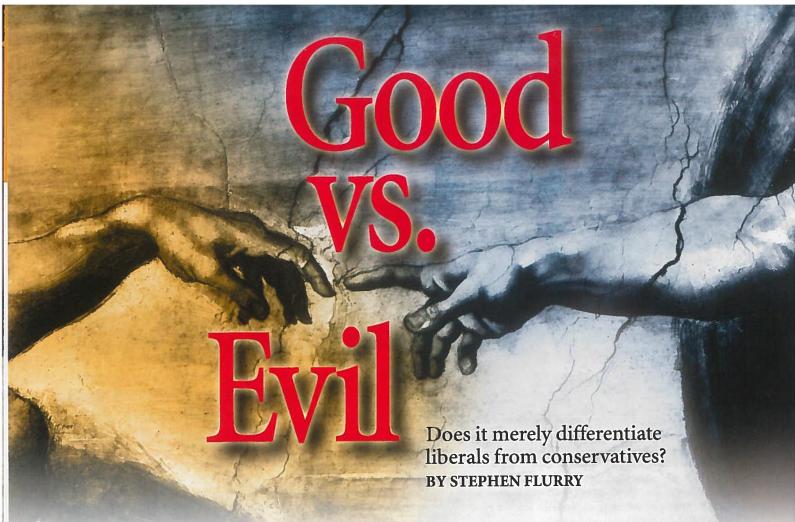
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and to avoid statements that could make it harder for our country to come together once the counting is over. That is the direction I have given to my own campaign," he said.

That, however, was patently untrue. Just days before the election, realizing he was slipping in the polls, Mr. Gore told a black audience in Memphis that the 2000 election was a contest between *good* and *evil*. "Deep within us," he said, "we each have the capacity for good and evil. I am taught that good overcomes evil if we choose that outcome. I feel it coming."

He was taught that, no doubt, in church. Romans 12:21 says, "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Certainly, we should overcome evil with good. But to imply that he is good while George W. Bush is evil—isn't that a bit extreme? At the very least, it's inflammatory language.

Later, that same day of campaigning, Gore warned another gathering of

black Americans: "When my opponent, Governor Bush, says he'll appoint strict constructionists to the Supreme Court, I often think of the strictly constructed meaning that was applied when the Constitution was written—how some people [slaves] were considered three fifths of a human being." He was implying that a vote for Bush would foster racial prejudice and signal approval of slavery.

The following day, the sister of James Byrd accompanied Gore at an outdoor rally in Philadelphia. As Gore stood by, she described the gruesome details of her brother's murder in Texas at the hands of three white men and then said, "We have a governor of Texas who doesn't think that's a hate crime." (Two of the three murderers have been sentenced to death, by the way.)

All of these statements constitute extreme, inflammatory language. They point to how desperate Mr. Gore was to win. He was willing to SAY anything to get elected. In the weeks that followed the election, he proved willing to DO anything for a victory. He even pretended to be a peacemaker, telling the media that his campaign was morally above the bitter political

rhetoric. In other words, his campaign was good. The other side—evil.

Respectfully, Al Gore is *not* a credible source to turn to for a proper explanation of good and evil.

The Bible is.

Judging by Fruits

Jesus Christ repeatedly taught His followers to judge by *fruits* (Matt. 7:16-20). A good tree produces good fruit, He said, and a corrupt tree produces evil fruit.

The Pharisees of Jesus's day fancied themselves to be righteous. On the outside, they certainly seemed that way. They went to church regularly, prayed and fasted publicly, recited Scripture and always seemed to be the law's staunchest defenders.

But Christ condemned their religion as rank HYPOCRISY. He branded their interpretation of good and evil as heretical.

Notice Matthew 12:33: "Either make the tree good, and his fruit good; or else make the tree corrupt, and his fruit corrupt: for the tree is known by his fruit." In the next verse, addressing the Pharisees, Jesus said, "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil,

speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Now here, like Mr. Gore, Jesus labeled a particular group evil. But because He was without sin, we have no reason to doubt Christ concerning His explanation for good and evil. Christ labeled the Pharisees as such because they viewed themselves as righteous, but their words were evil! Jesus said you can tell a lot by a man's words. If he has an evil heart, it will eventually make itself known verbally.

The Heart of Man

What about the heart of man, in general? Vice President Gore says we each have the capacity for good and evil—and that's true. But it does not tell the whole story.

Jeremiah described man's nature by saying, "The heart is deceitful ABOVE ALL THINGS, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). He even said man's heart was so evil that God would curse the man who trusted in a man! (v. 5). That is not saying much for the supposed good we find in man's heart.

The Apostle Paul described man's heart similarly: "the carnal mind [man's mind in its naturally created state] is ENMITY against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Rom. 8:7).

Jesus Christ described it this way: "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man" (Mark 7:21-23). And the most stinging indictment against man's innate evil lies in the fact that men killed the man who said that—the only genuinely good man who ever lived.

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and MEN loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were EVIL. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved" (John 3:19-20). Jesus Christ was that light! But mankind has preferred to live in darkness. That's why "religious" people killed Christ in the first century. That's why they crucified most of the apostles and prophets of God as well (Luke 11:48-50). That's why, soon after Christ's crucifixion, even many of His followers turned to another gospel

(Gal. 1:6). That's why religion, ever since, has sought to water down, reverse and reject most all of Christ's fundamental teachings. And that's why, in this modern age, the god of science and secularism has come to reject God and His existence altogether.

Man prefers darkness over light.

These scriptures and many others say nothing about man's capacity for good. To the contrary, the Bible repeatedly refers to man's nature as being inherently evil.

Tree of Good and Evil

But what about Mr. Gore's statement concerning man's *capacity* for good and evil? It is true that man is *capable* of

and Eve rejected God's revelation of what was good and evil and instead decided for themselves right from wrong.

Man's system of knowledge production has been predicated on that foundation *ever since*. That's why, even as knowledge increases, so DO PROBLEMS AND EVILS. The *fruits* of man's 6,000 years of self-rule are there for all to see.

Confusing Liberal with Good

Vice President Gore's explanation of good and evil is yet another vain, human attempt to decide what is right and wrong. In his mind, and in the minds of many other liberal thinkers, conservatives are the epitome of evil. They, liberals say, are dangerous radi-

"The carnal mind [man's mind in its naturally created state] is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Romans 8:7

producing much good. But that, as I mentioned, is only part of the story.

U.S.News & World Report featured an article in October of 1999 titled "Is the Bible True?" On the cover was a portrayal of Adam and Eve, a serpent and a bright red apple. That is perhaps the most easily identified scene in Scripture. Everyone, it seems, is familiar with that account in Genesis. Yet how few there are who really UNDER-STAND the significance of what happened in the Garden of Eden.

Prior to creating man, God had set in motion an invisible yet inexorable law that, if obeyed, would *cause* every GOOD result. God's law, then, is what causes all that is good. Transgressing that law, on the other hand, is what *causes* EVIL.

After creating man in His own image and likeness, God then educated him in the way of life that would bring about everything that is good. He typified this law-abiding lifestyle by the tree of life. Another tree in the garden represented the way of life that would cause everything that is EVIL. And yet, God called it the tree of the knowledge of good AND evil.

Why? Because when Adam and Eve ate from that tree, they took to themselves the divine, godly prerogative of determining what is good and evil. Even Satan knew what this tree represented. He told Eve in Genesis 3:5, "For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be AS GODS, knowing good and evil." By rejecting the tree of life, Adam

cals, harboring racist, homophobic and misogynist views. Liberals think that way because in their arrogance, as one commentator recently said, they have come to confuse *liberal* with *good*.

Conservatives, on the other hand, have come to view liberals as increasingly nihilistic and anti-God. And while conservative thinkers do uphold a more upright standard of Bible-based morals, still, God says the problem with our society is with MAN in general. Good and evil is *not* divided along political lines. While many Americans might think so, GOD DOES NOT!

The irrefutable Bible teaching is that *God* is GOOD and *man* is EVIL.

Now, perhaps you are thinking about all the "good" things you have done or maybe all the "good" people of history who have made a difference—who made this world a "better place." How can all those people be "evil"? How can I be considered "evil"?

LISTEN TO WHAT GOD SAYS! "We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as FILTHY RAGS; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away" (Isa. 64:6). Even what we like to consider good, according to our standard of judging right and wrong, God says is nothing but filthiness. Now it's hard to argue with scriptural passages this plain and direct—especially when that truth is repeated throughout the Bible, Old Testament and New.

Prior to the Flood, "God saw that the wickedness OF MAN was great in the

earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY" (Gen. 6:5).

Well after the Flood, King David wrote in the Psalms, "The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: THERE IS NONE THAT DOETH GOOD, no, not one" (Ps. 14:2-3).

The Apostle Paul paraphrased this psalm in the book of Romans, saying, "There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is NONE that doeth good, no, not one" (Rom. 3:11-12).

By this point, you must be shaking your head. How could God be so critical? I didn't know the Bible was this pessimistic. No wonder religion turns

off so many people.

Listen! Man is in the predicament he is in—a society rife with corruption, division and strife at every level-BECAUSE OF MAN! Do not blame God for society's present state. We have chosen our own course. And today, we are left with the fruits of that choice.

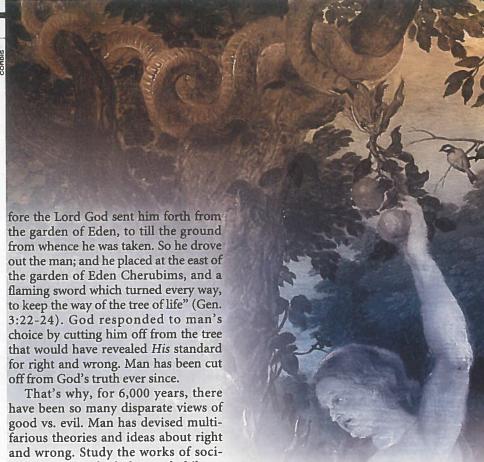
Cut Off From God

This is where so many religious groups get sidetracked. Traditional Christian teaching depicts God and Satan—i.e., good and evil—in a titanic struggle for human souls. To help in this ongoing war against the devil, people think, God sent Jesus to Earth to try to save as many souls as possible.

But if this is true, any clear-thinking Christian would have to admit that today, EVIL IS OVERCOMING GOOD. Satan has deceived popular religions into accepting this lie because it makes him out to be mightier than God!

The real truth of the Bible reveals that MAN, since the days of Adam, and under the deceptive influence and sway of Satan, has chosen the way of evil. Furthermore, the Bible shows that God has allowed man to make that choice and to reap the fruits of what he has sown.

Let us return to the account in Genesis. Adam and Eve, in eating from the forbidden tree, chose to decide for themselves what is right and wrong. Notice God's response: "Behold, the man is become as one of us, to KNOW GOOD AND EVIL: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: There-



ety's most noted scholars and philosophers and you find repeated contradictions. Study the beliefs of major religions and, once again, you find division and confusion over the most basic questions of life.

God's truth has been a mystery to this world, even among well-meaning clergymen, because this world has preferred darkness rather than light. How else do you explain II Corinthians 4:4, which calls Satan the "GOD of this world"? How else do you explain Ephesians 2:2, which calls Satan the "prince of the POWER of the air"? How else do you explain Revelation 12:9, which says Satan has deceived "the whole world"?

This world is deceived. The works of this world have brought forth evil and despicable fruits. God says it will only get worse until the living Jesus Christ returns to Earth as King of kings and Lord of lords to stop evil in its tracks and overpower it with good.

None Good But God

Does this mean that religion is useless? Are we resigned to living in a world where evil prevails? Not at all! Not by any means!

From cover to cover, the Bible is filled with HOPE. And individually, despite the world's slide into oblivion, you can make progress even now—if you will come out of the darkness and into

the light. In Luke 6:45, Christ again admonished His disciples to judge by fruits: "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh."

Yet, in this exchange, Jesus broadened His definition of goodness to include much more than words. Continuing in verse 46, Jesus said, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and DO NOT the things which I say?" Christ condemns beliefs that might sound religious, yet seek to DISOBEY God's laws. He likens these types of "Christians" to one who builds his house upon sand (v. 49). They might say all the right things they may sound religious—but their actions prove they are hypocrites!

True religion combines BELIEF in Christ with DOING what Christ said. And doing what He said is summed up by obedience to God's commandments. That's what Jesus told the rich man who inquired about eternal life in Matthew 19: "And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?" (v. 16). Now read carefully, because Christ goes on to define genuine goodness. "And he said unto him, Why callest thou ME good? THERE IS NONE GOOD BUT ONE, THAT IS, GOD: but if thou wilt enter into life, KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS" (v. 17).

What a response! Jesus was actually taken aback by someone calling Him good! Here was a man who abided by God's laws perfectly and yet He asks, "Why do you call me good?"

ONLY GOD IS GOOD! And Jesus knew that the only goodness dwelling in His life came as a result of God's POWERof *God* living in Him by the Holy Spirit.

Humanly, apart from that Spirit, Jesus was nothing more than what Isaiah described-a fading leaf. But with God, Jesus epitomized goodness and was able to do good things!

All Things Are Possible

Continue reading that passage in Matthew 19. The rich man asked Jesus which commandments He was referring to. Christ went on to list several of the Ten Commandments. The man claimed to abide by these laws, but Christ knew better. He told the rich man to part with his possessions and to follow Himsomething this man could not do!

Then Christ taught His disciples the lesson. They witnessed the exchange and were amazed, wondering how anyone could make it into God's Kingdom. "But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is IMPOSSIBLE [because of man's Satan-influenced, carnal nature]; but with God ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE" (v. 26). In truth, God can bring goodness into your life, BUT YOU MUST DO YOUR PART. Unlike that rich man, you must be willing to give up everything for God and then humbly follow Christ.

It does take courage to do that in a world overflowing with evil. In fact, only a miniscule few have. The prophets of the Old Testament dideven when all the children of Israel turned to evil and eventually went into captivity. The rest of the world at that time, of course, never knew God. Christ's disciples, except Judas, gave up everything and followed the commandments of God. But nearly everyone else in their day did not. After His 31/2-year ministry, Jesus Christ only had 120 disciples out of the tens of thousands He probably spoke before. The apostles of the New Testament raised up many small congregations of true Christians. Yet most of those believers turned to pagan religion by the end of the first century. The story is the same throughout the Middle Ages-God's people have mostly been scattered and persecuted.

Even today, there are only a handful of people who abide by the teachings of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture.

Worse and Worse

Yet, all of this is by design! God has purposed it to be this way. He isn't losing the titanic struggle with Satan—He has already won.

When God cut off man from the tree of life in the Garden of Eden, He allotted man 6,000 years to go and devise his own systems of government, industry, finance and education—to build his own society. In allowing this, He wanted man to learn the lesson that human society without God's laws WILL END IN RUIN. That's what hapthem 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).

If we take an honest look at man's society in this end time, through the lens of Scripture, we find that it is completely upside down!

That is the world we live in. One where politicians can arrogantly stand before crowds proclaiming the other party to be evil, while theirs, presumably, is good. One where nations take up arms against one another to solve disputes. A world where religious groups hate each other and will even

"And he [Christ] said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Matthew 19:17

pened during the Flood. That's what happened in Sodom and Gomorrah. And that's what is prophesied to happen in the latter days.

We have come near the end of that allotted time, and the PARADOX OF MAN stands as compelling testimony of what God wants us to learn. With 6,000 years of experience to build on, man has produced marvelous wonders technologically. But in doing so, man has made a god out of science—he has worshiped the creation more than the Creator, as the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 1:25—and so evils have only INCREASED.

That is what our modern society is noted for in Scripture—increasing amounts of evil. Notice what Paul wrote in 11 Timothy 3:1-5: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness [it seems religious], but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." These types of evil are certainly not new to our society. But notice verse 13: "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."

It just keeps getting worse.

Isaiah also prophesied of this modern-day phenomenon: "Woe unto murder in the name of God. One where husbands and wives cannot get along and will split apart at the first sign of trouble. One where children grow up disrespecting parents and despising all forms of authority and government. One where an increasing number of women view men as society's primary evil; where minorities view the majority as evil, and vice versa.

A world where EVERYONE has their own definition of evil and where NO ONE will submit to God. Jesus was right, when He said in John 7:7, that the works of this ENTIRE WORLD are evil.

Only when man wakes up to the fact that the problem with this world is not someone else, or some other group— BUT HIMSELF—will God start working with us. That is where goodness in human beings begins. It starts with turning to God in sincere and humble repentance, not only for what we have done, but for what we ARE-evil-minded human beings who are naturally hostile to God and His laws.

Only then can God begin converting the evil of your mind into good. Only then, by using the power of God's Spirit, will you be able to overcome evil with good.

RECOMMENDED READING

Our booklet Human Nature— What Is it? is yours at no cost. Visit www.pcog.org to order online, or see the inside cover of this magazine for how to order by phone or mail.

Reports on the outcome of the December European Union summit ranged from euphoric to downright condemning. But for the EU's leading nation, all goes according to plan.

and Losers

BY RON FRASER

HE HEADLINES VARIED GREATly, depending on which country's newspapers one elected to read, following the recent European summit in Nice, France (Dec. 7-11, 2000): "Member States Concede Minimum"; "Britain Sold Out at Nice"; "Europe Takes a Step Backwards"; "Germany the Stronger."

What really did happen behind those closed doors in this old French town over the five days of exhausting negotiations between member nations of the European Union? Well, it seems that one nation came out the winner, on all counts, by far.

The two major initiatives that the Nice conference addressed, those that will have chief impact on the future of the European Union, "will be based on two ideas which were originally very German," in the words of one German diplomat. The first was to draw up a European constitution in 2004; the second was to have the hard core (known as "enhanced cooperation") of states centered around Germany.

As the European Foundation Intelligence Digest, a publication providing incisive commentary and analysis on the stories making the headlines across Europe, reported, "Much of the European press agreed that Nice has led to the strengthening of German power within Europe. Although Germany retains the same number of votes in the Council as France, Britain and Italy, she now becomes the only country which can block a decision by allying herself with two other big countries, on the basis of a double-majority system based on population. Britain, France and Italy cannot achieve the blocking majority on their own, while Germany can with two of them" (Dec. 1-14, 2000).

This emerged as a masterstroke of German genius. The "double majority" agreement effectively gives Ger-



NO MORE MR. NICE GUY Schröder (center) with other German leaders at the Nice summit.

many, in concert with only two of the "enhanced cooperation" EU nations, sole power to block any future EU policies with which it does not agree. Although the big five, Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Britain, all enjoyed having their vote within the EU increased by 30 percent, Germany's extra voting power comes about by virtue of possessing the largest population within the Union.

"In future, EU law must be approved not only by a qualified majority in the Council of Ministers (as before, albeit with new numbers for an enlarged EU) but also by states representing 62 percent of the population of the EU. It is here that Germany wins because she has 20 million more people than the next biggest countries" (ibid.).

In the words of the Commissioner for European Communities, Romano Prodi, "You can say what you like but in the end water finds its own level. It just takes patience" (BBC News, Dec. 11, 2000). That level has now been found. Though Britain, up to the time of the Nice summit, was protected by its veto power from accepting EU resolutions which it did not support, that country can now be outvoted on every count by only two of the other "big five" EU nations voting, with Germany, against it.

The European Foundation recalled that "This German pre-eminence was the sine que non [indispensable condition] for enlargement, which is largely a German-organized operation, taking in as it does the old German satellites of Central Europe" (European Foundation, op. cit.). It went on to say that "The Germans' success is, according to the

German press, thanks to psychological warfare waged successfully by the chancellor and his foreign minister."

This most recent EU summit has been described as the longest, most rancorous and contentious in EU history. It has certainly been a watershed. It will simply set the balance of power in this wealthy trading bloc for years to come, moving the EU one more step closer to the "superstate" feared by Euroskeptics, especially in Britain.

Reflecting a new mood of "Germanophobia" in the wake of the summit, the Paris daily Liberacion wrote, "German power has never

been more glaring."

Yet the socialist prime minister of France, Lionel Jospin, threw his weight behind the process being created by the Brussels bureaucrats. Stating, upon signing the charter on the first day of the summit, that he was ready to support the German-initiated EU Charter of Human Rights being written into law, he declared, "The first step has been taken at Nice; there will be more" (Reuters World Report, Dec. 7, 2000).

Yes, there will be more. Watch 2004. Watch for the eastward expansion of the EU to extend out from its fulcrum in Berlin to Eastern and southeastern Europe and into the Mediterranean. Watch for the "eastern leg" of this resurrecting old Holy Roman Empire, under the aegis of the European Union, to be consolidated at the next EU summit in 2004. Watch for the EU Charter of Human Rights to be signed into law in EU member countries in 2004. Watch between now and the next EU summit for the EU to launch its new military force, with a command and control function destined to be separate from NATO. Watch for the balance of power to shift from the old Atlantic alliance, and Britain, the U.S. and NATO frozen out of Europe by a new alliance between the EU and Russia.

Following in the footsteps of our founder, Herbert W. Armstrong, we have consistently declared, as he did for well over 50 years, that the European Union is a Vatican-German initiative to resurrect the power of the ancient Holy Roman Empire. Even secular journalists and some deep-thinking foreign affairs analysts are starting to see that. •



EUROPE'S FINEST Honor guard of the German Bundeswehr march on the 10th anniversary of the reunified German forces, Oct. 9, 2000.

Holy Roman Blitzkrieg

Where Europe's new rapid reaction force will ultimately lead

BY GARETH FRASER

S THE BITING WINDS GUSTED ACROSS the white-capped waves of the Atlantic Ocean, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill solemnly gazed out to sea. It was August 1941, and they had just confirmed a declaration of principles for the Atlantic Charter. Key military officials from both countries had shuttled to the secret meeting to ensure that after the war there would be an adequate structure for preserving the peace of Europe and the world.

Part one of the Atlantic Charter stated, "They have considered the dangers to world civilization arising from the policy of military domination by conquest upon which the Hitlerite government of Germany and other governments associated therewith have embarked, and have made clear the steps which their countries are respectively taking for their safety in facing these dangers."

These two wartime leaders went on to state that the key to uninterrupted peace in Europe lay in the disarmament of its countries. Furthermore, they emphatically stated in point eight of the charter that "they believe

all of the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons, must come to the abandonment of the use of force."

Four years after the signing of the Atlantic Charter, the lone voice of Herbert W. Armstrong warned of German-led Europe's unbending will to rearm and unite again: "We don't understand German thoroughness," he said in a 1945 radio broadcast. "From the very start of World War II, they have considered the possibility of losing this second round, as they did the first—and they have carefully, methodically planned, in such eventuality, the third round-World War III!" (The World Tomorrow, May 9, 1945).

NATO's Nosedive

The Atlantic Charter was the precursor to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. NATO was created in April 1949, quite simply, as a one-for-all, allfor-one defensive alliance between ten European nations, the United States and Canada. The organization's role as neighborhood watchdog was to prevent the repeat of anything akin to Germany's World War II hegemonic romp

across Europe, as Russia loomed threateningly on the horizon.

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, NATO has searched for a new identity. At the same time, despite European, U.S. and UN opposition, Germany and the Vatican recognized the breakaway Balkan states of Croatia and Slovenia. Under the prodding of Germany, and not wanting to ignite a diplomatic conflict, the U.S. administration led NATO into a dangerous new interventionist role instead of its former role, which was purely defensive. The following years saw NATO become overextended in the Balkan quagmire as Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia all broke away from the former Yugoslavia, and Kosovo became embroiled in conflict.

Blinded by an infantile foreign policy, NATO and the West (primarily America and Britain) aided and abetted German-led European ambitions. Camouflaged under the cloak of NATO, committed corporatists, bureaucrats and politicians within the emerging European superstate were beavering away, achieving their long-held imperial objectives.

At the 50th anniversary celebration of NATO in April 1999, European allies massaged the amendment to Article 30 of the alliance to pave the way for the European Union's assumption of greater security and defense responsibilities. Then in June at Cologne, and again in December at Helsinki, the European Council outlined its "headline military goal" for what was to become the European military force.

In the European Commission's November 2000 regulation for the creation of a European rapid reaction force, the EU outlined that it had "First Pillar responsibility" in conflict resolution throughout Europe. This staggeringly presumptuous document details point by point the "pressing need" for the EU to handle conflicts INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF EUROPE, independent of NATO, through its self-proclaimed solution to world conflict—the European rapid reaction force (RRF).

Rapid Reaction Force

The deal was sold to NATO by the EU as complimentary military support, which ostensibly would ease the burden of Europoliceman for the United States. Despite claims by NATO's secretary general and the EU president that the EU

force will not undermine NATO, European Commission documents outline future expansionary measures for the RRF. The creation and implementation of the RRF will simply leave NATO to twiddle its thumbs on the sidelines.

The EU's "Military Capabilities Declaration" outlined an initial rapid reaction force of 100,000 soldiers, approximately 400 combat aircraft and 100 warships. At a recent EU meeting, defense member states (and even nonmember states) pledged over and above the required quota of soldiers, aircraft and ships. Not surprisingly, Germany will provide the most soldiers—almost 14,000. The RRF plans to link communication systems with NATO and share sensitive intelligence and military hardware. The EU also announced that German General Klaus Schuwirth, son of a World War II Nazi officer who taught at the Hitler war academy, would lead the forces. With a fully functional headquarters and support system, the RRF will select battle troops from its soldier "catalog" for specific missions.

Aside from this newly created RRF, the EU already has a collective military force of over 2 million personnel in uniform within its member countries.

In a November 28, 2000, interview with the Trumpet (see p. 23), British political economist Rodney Atkinson provided his view of the RRF: "[Germany is the beneficiary. This idea, as I say, of Germany, through its secret service, undermining and destroying Yugoslavia-that led to a crisis. Then they say, Okay, we've got a crisis;

we've got to have an army to deal with it. We can't rely on the Americans to come and 3717

EUROPE GETS SOME BITE A surface-to-air missile launcher released by the German army.

help us. And that rapid reaction force is, and is meant to be, an embryo European army."

Europe's boldness regarding the implementation of the RRF reveals three distinct global indicators worth noting: first, a weak-willed U.S.-led NATO; second, a strong German-led Europe; and, finally, a suspicious yet cautious Russia trying to play each side against the other.

Predicting future German-led European political, economic and military

expansion, Herbert Armstrong, with unique prophetic insight, declared 20 years ago, "You may be sure the West European leaders are conferring hurriedly and secretly about how and how soon they may unite and provide a united European military force so they can defend themselves!... And who will they blame for their humiliation and their necessity now

to have a united Europe, with a united government, a common currency and a common military force as great or greater than either the USSR or the U.S.? They will blame the United States!" (Plain Truth, April 1980). Mr. Armstrong said that 20 years ago!

Far from the 1941 desire of Roosevelt and Churchill for Europe's "abandonment of the use of force," NATO's weakness in allowing the EU to dance to its

own military tune is systematically undermining the very pur-

pose of the North Atlantic treaty. Far from the initial purpose of the Atlantic Charter to demilitarize Europe,

NATO IS PERMITTING GERMAN-LED EUROPE TO REARM, blindly gifting to the EU the use of NATO military material.

As rudderless NATO drifts aimlessly, Europe is arming its blitzkrieg (rapid reaction) battalions in preparation for their prophesied third thrust for global dominance.

Britain's Shame

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has aggressively supported the creation of a Euroforce. Gerhard Schröder's first overseas visit after gaining office in 1998 was to Number 10 Downing Street. At that meeting, Blair pledged his support for Schröder's pressing for an expanded European defense policy. As a reward for his service to Germany's European interests, Tony Blair was presented, on May 1999, with the Charlemagne Prize.

Since that time, the prime minister has passionately taken up the RRF cause and promised much to EU partners. Without the approval of the public, he

> has vainly pledged to Europe 12,000 British troops, 72 combat aircraft and 18 warships. Unfortunately, he was not banking on the British press and general public coming out vehemently opposed to his policy of military cooperation with Europe.

> Tragically, Britain's collaborative EU defense policy stems from a generation now in government which has no

grasp of the historic hostility that has existed through centuries and even millennia of time between Germany and Britain, America and their allies.

Gerhard Schröder

Margaret Thatcher's labeling of the Euroforce policy as "monumental folly," in a recent interview with British newspaper the Sun, set off a firestorm of political rhetoric. While Blair denounced Baroness Thatcher's comments, opposition leader William Hague took up the mantel and has been hounding Tony Blair in the House of Commons, pointing to the fact that British integration into a EU military force will not only destroy British national sovereignty but also eliminate NATO and alienate the United States. Adding to the voice of opposition, Gulf War General Sir Peter de la Billiere, along with other generals and military advisers of past British governments, see the plan as dangerous to British national security. Blair's European-policy bouquet could well be the very issue that causes his political defeat in Britain's next election.

The Trumpet warned of Britain's weakness and foretold its downfall in our September/October 1999 edition. "Britain (biblical Ephraim) is simply being used by Germany. The Britain described in scripture as a 'cake unturned' (Hos. 7:8) will soon find itself dropped like a hot cake when Germany has no use for Britain to legitimize the world's perception that it has

changed its ancient, aggressive habits."

Watch for Britain to become increasingly divided over the volatile defense issue in the coming months.

The historically schizophrenic U.S. view of European defense was summed up in Defense Secretary William Cohen's final speech before a concerned NATO at their December meeting in Brussels. "If there is openness, transparency and a noncompetitive relationship, then the United States would remain committed" to NATO, he said. But "if we had a competing institution that was established that would be inconsistent with military effectiveness, then NATO could become a relic" (International Herald Tribune, Dec. 6, 2000).

Speaking in America, in October of 1995, Margaret Thatcher accurately forecast the future of this dangerous European alliance: "You have not anchored Germany to Europe; you have anchored Europe to a newly dominant, unified Germany. In the end, my friends, you'll find it will not work."

The Coming Conflict

"O Assyrian [modern Germany], the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation" (Isa. 10:5). Bible prophecy foretells that German-led Europe will soon bring great destruction on this world (v. 6).

Many scriptures indicate that Britain and America, along with their fellow Israelitish nations, will endure a time of great tribulation under the boot-heel of their old enemy Assyria. This will be the time of America and Britain's greatest trial. The Prophet Ezekiel foretold Britain and America, the leading nations of biblical Israel, entering into alliances with the Assyrians, only to find the mutable Germans turning on them and leading them into slavery (Ezek. 23:9).

God is going to use Germany as His tool to punish America and Britain. Then, a few years later, God will use the Russians and Chinese to steamroll the Germanic Vatican-led European Union (Dan. 11:44). Finally, these great powers will gather in the valley of Armageddon, located in the Middle East, to fight the coming world ruler-Jesus Christ. Are you watching these events unfold? Will you be ready when they literally knock on your door? •

Our booklet The History and Prophecy of Germany is yours at no cost. Visit www.pcog.org to order online.

An Empire in the Making

 British author and political analyst Rodney Atkinson, B.A., M.Sc., M.I.L., is founder of the Campaign for United Kingdom Conservatism, an organization committed to educating British citizens about the growing power of the European Union. On November 28, 2000, Gerald Flurry and Ron Fraser interviewed Mr. Atkinson. Following are excerpts.

TRUMPET INTERVIEW part one of two



Atkinson

TRUMPET: In your book on Europe's Full Circle, you wrote that "Germany bullied its partners into locating the European Central Bank in Frankfurt and insists (under the

guise of anti-inflationary sentiments among Germans) that a Euro currency must be a de facto German currency." When you realize that whoever controls the money controls just about everything, and if we realize Germany's past, that's rather a disturbing statement. So, can you explain how that happened?

ATKINSON: Yes. I think, really, this has been the best example of how Germany has used the European Union to reestablish its historical aims in Europe. The currency...which of course means the abolition of the national currencies of all those countries that take part in it, is the final blow to the sovereignty of the nations of Western Europe. And it is come rather late in the day of the development of the European Union.... It is the first time, really, that people can observe what's happening to them-because they have their currency taken away; they have their national central banks taken away. And, of course, where is the center of the new currency?

Now, the European Union has always been "sold" by Germany and by other nations in Europe as a way of putting an end to the hostilities of the past, putting an end to German domination, German nationalism and so on. But here we see, as in other areas, that the European Union, far from being a mitigation and a removal of the threat of German nationalism, is in fact an expression of it.... The German finance minister at the time-when they were talking about setting up a central bank for the euro-said, "It either comes to Frankfurt or the euro will not get off the ground." Now, you couldn't get a more nationalistic statement than that.

And the French went along with it. As in so many other aspects of the European Union, the French think that if everything comes under the heading of the European Union, they will have ultimate control.... The French, therefore, agreed to the reuniting of Germany, and the Germans agreed to give up the deutsche mark.... But, in fact, Germany wanted both of those things. And the fact that the central bank had to be in Frankfurt shows exactly how they saw the euro-not as a constraint on Germany but as a very expression of German power.

TRUMPET: Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. stated, "A nation denied a conception of its past will be disabled in dealing with its present and its future" (Disuniting of America). How important is an appreciation of history in determining the future global impact of the EU?

ATKINSON: It is absolutely critical to the whole interpretation of what's happening today.... All the political classes, except the German one perhaps, in Europe have forgotten history. And we are reliving it-in a slightly different form, but in a far more pernicious form. Because, instead of marching armies and guns and airplanes, which are visible, and the ranting and raving of a Mussolini or a Hitler, you can't see and hear constitutional destruction as it takes place....

The average European citizen could not be expected to have understood what has happened. But what has happened is exactly what was intended during the First World War, during the Second World War. And after the Second World War, a number of those interests-not just German interests, but large corporations, French corporatist ideals, even elements in the British establishment who were very appeasing of Hitler in the '30sthought that they could construct a peaceful Europe. It so happens that the methods they chose were to create a system which was not dissimilar from

that which the Germans...fought to construct in the first place.

And the European Union has taken on virtually all the characteristics—social, economic, philosophical characteristics—of fascist Europe in the '30s and '40s. It is anti-free-trade, anti-Anglo-Saxon; it's anti-American; it believes in management from the center; it believes in authoritarian structures. It does not believe in personal, individual legal rights based on freedom; it believes instead in handing down rights from the top to the bottom, so that the person who is handing the rights down is the

themselves, and given more and more power to a small clique of a governing elite—a few people in each government in Europe, for instance—and THEY HAVE PLANNED, BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SUPERSTATE.

Now that, of course, is almost identical to what the Nazis and these big German companies, before...and after the war, wanted.... The fact that they have almost achieved their aims is as much to do with the *incompetence* and the *failure* of democracy in our free countries as it is to those sitting down in 1934 and planning it, as this...report reveals.

"Those who have forgotten history are now being condemned to relive the worst aspects of the 20th century in the 21st century in Europe."

one who has the power, not the individuals who, in theory, have the freedom.

So, I'm afraid, those who HAVE forgotten history are now being condemned to relive the worst aspects of the 20th century in the 21st century in Europe.

TRUMPET: This is a quote from Reuters, Arthur Spiegelman, May 10, 1996: "Realizing they were losing the war in 1944, Nazi leaders met top German industrialists to plan a secret postwar international network to restore them to power, according to a newly declassified U.S. intelligence document.... They were also told 'existing financial reserves in foreign countries must be placed at the disposal of the [Nazi] party so that a strong German empire can be created after the defeat.'

"Now that the Nazi secret plan has been confirmed, the central question is whether it has been carried out,' said Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress." Would you say this has been carried out?

ATKINSON: Certainly it has been achieved. Whether it was carried out successfully by those who planned it is another question. The kind of Third Way which Nazism represented, i.e., authoritarian collective corporatism combined with a large element of socialism, in an authoritarian state (that is effectively what fascism is)...is not dissimilar to what has happened since 1945...through the destruction of personal capital, through the bypassing of parliament by extra-parliamentary institutions, by the sort of committeetype establishment of new laws as opposed to the democratic processes. All these things have marginalized voters, marginalized members of parliament and marginalized the parliaments

However...the present structure of the European Union is based almost entirely on the logic of the 1941 Nazi plans, under the title of the European Economic Community, which I analyze in Europe's Full Circle....

If you can get by stealth what you would otherwise have got by violence, you don't need concentration camps—because your political opponents are locked up in your constitution and they can't move. So, I'm afraid the parallels are very, very striking....

American corporations (although...German, French, British were also involved)...who were most supportive of the Nazi regime were Ford and General Motors. Henry Ford was a great admirer of Hitler, and received in 1938...the highest Nazi German order of merit that they could bestow. And the American State Department was very worried during the war, particularly from 1940 onwards, about General Motors, because their subsidiary Opal was the second-biggest producer of tanks for the Nazi army....

Those two companies, Ford and General Motors, are two of the leading proponents of the single European currency of the European Union. And they threaten, in the United Kingdom...that we must abolish our currency and our central bank, and therewith our national self-governments, because they want to make better profits in an integrated Europe. So there's a direct link between then and now in the form of two major [U.S.] companies.

TRUMPET: What's happening in Europe about the euro?

ATKINSON: Well, there are two aspects to it. One, in the United Kingdom the euro is at the very center of the po-

litical conflict—between the people on the one hand, and the leaders of the three major political parties on the other.... If we adopt it, it means the abolition of the pound, the abolition of the Bank of England and the abolition of our effective sovereign government. Naturally, the people don't want this: 75-80 percent of the people say no, and indeed, more than 50 percent of the people now wish to leave the European Union altogether....

Those countries that are in the euro...are all suffering extremely badly, because the euro has collapsed by about 30 percent against the U.S. dollar and by about 25 percent against the pound sterling. And within that currency area, there's great differences—between a booming Spanish economy, a relatively stagnant German economy, high unemployment in France...(30 percent of people over 55 are unemployed). In Ireland, their interest rate (which applies all over the euro zone)...is causing chaos. And, of course, the rise in the oil price—that is also being exacerbated by the very weak euro.

So, economically and politically, the euro and the European Union are failing and their people see that it's failing.

TRUMPET: How important are developments in the EU to the U.S.?

ATKINSON: I recall Fidel Castro who, as you know, is not one of your greatest supporters in this country, saying that he was going to embrace the euro. In other words, it is seen, outside Europe, outside America, as a potential threat. Of course, it's not a threat, as it's turned out, because it's so weak and disastrous. But, of course, a very weak currency is also a threat. Not that it's going to replace your strong dollar-on the contrary, because it's so weak it can undercut your strong dollar and threaten, as it has done, your industrial base. Because German and French manufacturers can produce in a very weak euro zone, and then export over here at very cheap prices in U.S. dollar terms....

Politically, we know when it comes to trade negotiations, there is an enormous amount of protection, of agriculture in particular, in Europe. That's also a great threat. Not so much to America—you have a very strong agricultural sector. But it is a conflict, and it is particularly pernicious for the developing world. Artificially created surpluses of agricultural products in Europe are dumped in the Third World markets and they destroy local developing countries' economies.

So, there is a very, very great threat for the United States from the European Union, particularly one based on this corporatist, quasi-fascist ethic that I've described in Europe's Full Circle.... Gradually, more and more people are coming to the realization that this is not a benign organization, the European Union; it is a would-be empire in the making, trying to project its power way beyond its borders.

So, politically, economically, in trade terms and in defense terms, the European Union is ALREADY showing itself a threat to American interests, and certainly to British interests—not just in Europe but around the world.

TRUMPET: The Sunday Times, March 12, 2000, had an article titled, "Ailing Pope Loses Control of the Vatican.' Other newspapers have said that the Catholic Church has made a shift, as they call it, to the right. Is this something that we should be concerned about?

ATKINSON: Yes. There is an old saying in Europe, that when two particular forces have a common interest, that means very grave danger for Europe as a whole. And the two forces that they're talking about are German imperialism and the Vatican. And today, as historically in the so-called Holy Roman Empire, those interests are coming back together. Because they both have an interest in creating a European superstate. Germany, because it's right in the middle of it and seeks power—economic and political—through that new superstate; and the Vatican, because it sees its ability to influence politically and, of course, religiously, the...makeup of the whole of Europe, through the European Union....

So why is the Vatican asserting itself? I would say, I don't think it's moved; it's just asserting what it's always believed: that it's not a church but a state, it regards its believers as citizens. It calls them citizens of the church; it accuses everyone else of being a heretic....

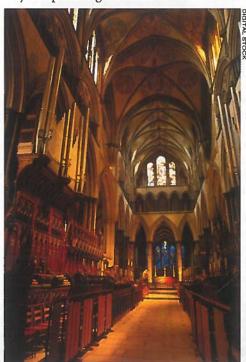
In various parts of the world, be it in Northern Ireland, where there's a Protestant-Catholic conflict, be it in parts of India, where there is a Hindu-Catholic problem, or in East Timor, where there is a Muslim-Catholic problem, or in Yugoslavia, where there always has been a very vicious Catholic-Orthodox problem—in all these areas we can see how the Vatican, through the naïveté, in many ways, of the Anglo-Saxon world, is reasserting its power and influence.

UK Embraces Transsexuals

AST NOVEMBER, VICAR PETER STONE, tall and slim, wearing his chestnut hair in a neat bob, sporting a navy pencil skirt, floral scarf and black court shoes, stepped into the limelight. Having sat down on one of the bishop's dining chairs, he told reporters in Britain that he had returned to work the day before as a woman named "Carol Ann" after having a sex change operation, fully condoned by the Church of England. "Miss" Stone added that she was still developing "her look."

Respected British newspaper the Telegraph reported, "It was the first time Stone, 46, had appeared in public since he was given leave by Bishop Rogerson to take three months off to undergo 'gender redesignation.' On Sunday he will deliver his first sermon as Carol Stone at St Philip's, Upper Stratton, Swindon, where he has been vicar since 1996. All but four of the 80strong congregation agreed to welcome their priest back as a woman" (Nov. 28, 2000).

As Bishop Rogerson talked to the congregation about giving his blessing to allow Stone to carry on preaching after his sex change, there was spontaneous applause. Later, the bishop admitted, "It is not a decision I have had any sleepless nights about"—a senti-



COME AS YOU ARE? A British church

ment which, after the operation to supposedly change his gender, Vicar Stone, father of an 18-year-old girl by his third marriage, said was firmly echoed by his family. "My daughter has been tremendously supportive. She is doing her A-levels at the moment and so she has a lot on her mind. Her mother wants my happiness."

These days, transsexuals like Peter Stone are becoming increasingly accepted by mainstream society. For example, in most of Europe, men and women who have had sex-change operations are now allowed to legally marry, and in some cases even adopt children.

What's more, sex-changed soldiers can now remain in active service in the UK army, following a recent European Court of Justice ruling that it was unlawful to discriminate against transsexuals. This recent decision "follows a controversy over a planned sex change by Sgt. Maj. Joe Rushton, 38, who now calls himself Joanne. Rushton, of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, is a former army boxer who has served in Ulster and Bosnia" (Electronic Telegraph, Aug. 2, 1999).

Not only that: In Britain, people can now even get "free" sex change operations—paid for with taxpayers' money, on the National Health Service!

Why the relatively sudden change in policies and views?

Unquestionably, the constant publicity given to liberal pressure groups canvassing homosexual and lesbian-related issues—especially since the raving 1960s—has wreaked tremendous, lasting damage on the perception of core, family values in Western society in a way which would have been unimaginable before World War II. Surely the fact that Britons have come to so readily embrace transsexuals and transvestites as "normal" individuals is a clear barometer of how far into the cesspool morals have plunged.

Frankly, within the British Isles, from whose shores homosexuals, effeminate men and other sexual perverts used to flee "with their shame" to escape the long arm of the law at the beginning of the 20th century, the subject of homosexuality no longer stirs more than a ripple. •

-STEPHEN HILL

Justice from page 6

cleared of all wrongdoing. But there were no apologies.

So who was the "bowl of spiders"? We lived through that abominable

miscarriage of justice!

The whole system of justice is being contaminated more each day. This leads to people disrespecting these in-

Why can't we see what we are doing to ourselves?

"The best of them is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge: the day of thy watchmen and thy visitation cometh; now shall be their perplexity" (v. 4). In the midst of these briers and thorn hedges are God's end-time watchmen-"thy [your] watchmen." They belong to God. God has used two men to watch and warn in this end time. Herbert W. Armstrong warned for 57 years that Germany would rise again and destroy us if we don't repent. And God has used a type of Micah to carry on that same warning.

But look at the good news. The bad news is directly connected to the best news you could ever hear! Christ is about to come and give us true justice! Both men had to watch and warn just before Christ's Second Coming-"your visitation." Christ is about to

visit this Earth!

Do you believe Christ? How many people really believe God's message?

The watchman work is directly tied to Christ's return. One leads directly to the other.

WHAT WONDERFUL AND INSPIRING NEWS! THIS IS THE BEST NEWS YOU COULD EVER HEAR!

Warring Family

Where does our rule by lawless lawyers and judges lead us? Why is it

so dangerous?

"Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom. For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house" (vv. 5-6). You can't even trust your friends. That is how treacherous people have become. But it gets even worse. It destroys the family unit.

You have to watch your mouth even when only your spouse is around! THE NATURAL FAMILY AFFECTION is gone. Your mate may get a clever lawyer and strip you of everything.

The son dishonors the father and vice versa. Mother-in-law fights against daughter-in-law. Friendships fail. The family, which is the backbone and strength of our nations, breaks down.

Our failures will be revealed when we face a crisis. Justice, trust, honor and love will not be there to protect us. People will consume each other with treachery and betrayal! They do it even now. But that crime will multiply 100fold in a crisis.

Anarchy is the end result. The Florida election gave us a little insight of what is going to afflict all the nations of Israel.

This is a very strong warning for our people.

The Solution

Where are all these problems ulti-

mately leading?

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Mic. 6:8). The first condition God requires is "to do justly"—to give justice, based on God's law of love, to everyone. Each one of us is going to be ruled by God's law, or we have no future.

But this is not a hard, calculating justice. Secondly, we must "love mercy."

Thirdly, we are "to walk humbly

with your God."

"O man" is from the word Adam. Adam was made from the dust of the ground. We too are like Adam—a pile of dust.

Why shouldn't we walk humbly with our God? Why are men, made from mud, so proud and vain?

God "has showed you, O man." Since the time of Adam, God has shown man His truth. Apostles and prophets have been slaughtered for delivering God's precious truth. Man has had ample opportunity and has failed utterly. Now Christ is about to intervene and bring us His glorious justice.

CORRECTION

In our December 2000 issue, on page 21, Tirana was incorrectly called the capital of Montenegro. It is actually the capital of Albania. THE DECEMBER 2000 ISSUE MADE ME REALize how courageous you are, and how important the truth is to your church.

Hialeah, Fla.

I want to commend you on "The Real Election Crisis," which I thought was especially well written. Lawyers do bend, pervert and circumvent the law to their own selfish ends. We have just witnessed a breech of justice that is a first in the history of this country. We now have a man who is legally our president, but morally he has not been legitimized, because he did not receive his crown from the people but from the court. The right and voice of the people is the foundation of not only our Constitution but of the very democracy which we serve. That trust has been grossly violated. Your article dealing with the fiasco in Florida was superb, both politically and prophetically. Big Rapids, Mich.

THE FINE ARTICLE "A MODERN DAY BOOK Ban" was well focused, bringing the issues into the light. What happened in the Worldwide Church of God is unprecedented. What CEO of even a worldly corporation would take over a company that took half a century to build and destroy it in a few short months? They had better enjoy their fruits now, because the future for those who would destroy God's work looks pretty foreboding. People who call good bad, and bad good, have no place in God's plan. Let the truths of Mystery of the Ages shine ever brighter in a darkened world.

Detroit Lakes, Minn.

I was saddened to read about what the Church of God is doing to get rid of Herbert W. Armstrong's book and to change what he believed in. He is the reason for my conversion to commandment- and Sabbath-keeping. I have one of his first copies of Mystery of the Ages and it will not be destroyed. Keep it in print.

Kenly, N.C.

THANK YOU FOR REMAINING FAITHFUL AND true to the teachings of your founder, Herbert W. Armstrong. I used to receive the Plain Truth for many years, and I was blessed and edified by Mr. Armstrong's insight to world conditions. I remember many of Mr. Armstrong's teachings on current world events, and I marvel at how everything has fallen into place, just as he predicted according to the Bible. We know that God's word is true.

Palm Coast, Fla.

GARY RETHFORD

Why the Electoral College?

The Founding Fathers didn't establish a democracy, but a republic.

HILLARY CLINTON, IN ONE OF HER POST-ELECTION SPEECHES, promised to fight to abolish the electoral college. It is outmoded, she said, and should be phased out of our election system. Why is her proposal so dangerous to America?

To understand the electoral college, we must first understand the governmental system under which we live. Although we often use the terms *democracy* and *republic* as if they were the same, they are not. Yes, both systems give governing power to elected representatives, but in a republic

those officials are expected to act on their own best judgment concerning the needs and interests of the country. Direct democratic rule, on the other hand, insists on the will of the people being realized whether that will is for the good or the destruction of the nation. Today we refer to that rule as partisan politics.

British professor Alexander Fraser Tyler wrote, "A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can exist only until the voters discover they can vote themselves largess (defined as a liberal gift) out of the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidate promising the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that democracy always collapses over a loose fiscal policy, always to be followed by a dictatorship" (J.S. Mill, On Liberty).

Direct democratic rule was understood by the Founding Fathers to be historically destruc-

tive. James Madison wrote, "Democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths" (*The Federalist*, no. 10).

What did he mean? Rule by simple majority creates the real danger of disenfranchising the rights of the minority. In the beginning, the founders studied the history of ancient governments. They made clear their sound reasons for preferring a republic: Nothing else could better safeguard the people's liberties. These were exceptionally astute men who believed in the sovereign rule of God. They gave Him credit for their blessings and generally tried to submit to His laws. There are none on our political scene today to equal them!

The shame of election 2000 was acted out before the whole world—the shame of partisan politics. Everyone was able to see exactly what the founders tried so diligently to prevent. Partisan politics favor only A SEGMENT of the people, not all the people. And that's the point of the electoral college.

The electoral system was devised by the drafters of the U.S. Constitution, who intended that their choice would be unaffected by partisan politics. In Article II, Section 1, of the Constitution, the method of selecting electors is delegated to the separate state legislatures, and the voting procedure to be followed by the electors is carefully defined. Under the elec-

toral college provision, when U.S. citizens vote, they are not voting for the person running for office. They are actually voting for a particular group of electors, who then cast the only binding ballots of the election.

Why is this better than relying on the popular vote only? As election 2000 demonstrated, some states have considerably less population than others. Obviously, a simple majority vote would routinely disenfranchise those minority states. But the electoral college system allows people to vote

through their state, slightly favoring less populated areas. It may seem an unimportant distinction (and there are differing viewpoints), but the founders knew it was as good as they could get in a human system.

Under the popular vote system, would the votes of a low-population state like Wyoming EVER count? No! Wyoming voters would always be steamrolled—while the majorities of heavily populated areas (Senator Clinton's New York, for example) would always control the presidency. Do the politicians of our day understand this? Of course they do—it's their business.

James Madison wrote, "In all cases where a majority are united by a common interest or passion, the rights of the minority are in danger!" John Adams agreed: "Unbridled passions produce the same effects, whether in a king, nobility, or a mob. The experience of all mankind has proved the prevalence of a dis-

position to use power wantonly. It is therefore as necessary to defend an individual against the majority [in a democracy] as against the king in a monarchy...."

The issue is far bigger than just "counting every vote." The founders saw that when a minority is ignored, they soon realize that THEIR VOTES DON'T COUNT. That realization begins to bring the destruction that has happened to every democracy in history: rebellion against governmental tyranny. What would the final outcome of such a venture be? A HOUSE HOPELESSLY DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF.

Why, then, do many politicians keep trying to remove the electoral college—a safeguard against mob rule—and replace it with the "concept" of democracy—count every vote? Perhaps they don't like the limits on the powers that have been granted them by state and federal constitutions. Maybe they know that if they control several key states—major population centers (California and New York, for example)—they can rob every election from the minority states and take control of the nation. That is what has happened to every democracy in history! Whatever the reason, such government will surely be self-serving—that's the way mankind is unless we submit to and are governed FIRST by the laws of God!

Given recent events, it is easy to see how a democracy can turn into anarchy when self-serving individuals wish to manipulate it.

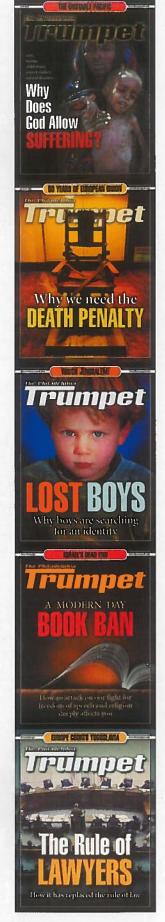


umpet What happens when America's bills are due?

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New York, New York City—WWOR 7:00am, Sun
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North Carolina, Charlotte—WASN 8:00am, Sun North Carolina, Kannapolis-WAXN 8:00am, Sun North Carolina, Fayetteville-WKFT 8:00am, Sun North Carolina, Fayettevinie—WKFT 8:00am, Sun North Carolina, Raleigh—WKFT 8:00am, Sun Ohio, Cincinnati—WXIX 7:30am, Sun Ohio, Cleveland—WOIO 6:30am, Sun Oklahoma, Lawton—RAUZ 9:00am, Sun Oklahoma, Lawton—Radio 87.7 FM 9:00am, Sun Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCB 7:00am, Sun Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WXXF 6:30am, Sun Pannsylvania, Pott-Lieu, WCCB 9:30am, Sun South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg-WASV 8:00am, Sun Tennessee, Memphis—WLMT 9:00am, Sun Texas, Amarillo--KAMR 7:00am, Sun Texas, Beaumont---KBMT 9:00am, Sun Texas, Dallas----KDFI 8:30am, Sun Texas, San Antonio—KSAT 6:30am, Sun Texas, Tyler—KLTV 10:30am, Sun

Texas, Wichita Falls—Hadio 87.7 FM 9:00am, Sun Vermont, Burlington—WVNY 7:00am, Sun** Virginia, Richmond—WRIC 7:30am, Sun Virginia, Roanoke—WDRL 10:30am, Sun Washington D.C.—WTTG 7:00am, Sun

Canada

Nationwide satellite—Galaxy 3R/3 11:00am ET,Tue, 11:05am ET, Thur (Key of David satellite uplink)
Nationwide satellite—WWOR 7:00am ET, Sun
Nationwide cable—WGN 6:30am ET, Sun
Alberta—CKRD 9:30am, Sun
British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00am, Sun
Manitoba—KXEL, 1540khz 11:00pm ET, M-F
New Brunswick—CIHF 7:00am, Sun
Nova Scotia—CIHF 7:00am, Sun
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Latin America

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Jordan—Star World 11:00pm, Sun
Kuwait—Star World 12:00am, Sun
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Asia/Pacific

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Australia/New Zealand

Australia nationwide—Network Ten 4:30am, Sun New South Wales—NRTV 4:30am, Sun Canberra—Ten Capital 4:30am, Sun Queensland-QTV 4:30am, Sun Victoria—Ten Victoria 4:30am, Sun New Zealand nationwide—TV3 6:00am, Fri Nationwide satellite—Sky TV 6:00am, Sun

Station Changes

Northeast cable—WWOR 7:00am ET, Sun California. Los Angeles—KCOP 7:00am. Sun Illinois, Chicago.—WJYS 12:00Noon. Sun Arkansas, Little Rock—KKYK 8:00am. Sun Missouri. St. Louis:—WPXS 9:00am, Sun California. San Diego—Channel 12 9:30am, Sun

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" Indicates a new station or time change

Printed in the United States of America

PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD Post Office Box 3700 EDMOND, OKLAHOMA 73083 U.S.