

The Philadelphia

Trumpet

FLOODS · FIRES
DROUGHTS · STORMS

ACTS OF GOD?

Zalezlice, near Prague, Czech Republic, cut off from the outside world after devastating floods in August

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ON THE COVER: Floods, like those in Europe, and many other weather disasters have plagued the world this summer. (AP/Wideworld Photo)



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THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except bimonthly March/April and September/October issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 1019 Waterwood Parkway, Suite F, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices. ©2002 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

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Unless otherwise noted, scriptures quoted in the Trumpet are from the King James Version of the Holy Bible. U.S. POSTMASTER — send address changes to: The Philadelphia Trumpet, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083

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9/11: One Year Later

In May of 2001, I gave a message to our Church members that we are living in the “last hour” of this present age. About four months later, the United States suffered the worst terrorist attack ever.

It has been a year since the September 11 attacks. I want to remind our readers of just where we are now in Bible prophecy. I need to use a few more scriptures than usual in this article to illustrate the point.

The “last hour” prophecy was recorded by the Apostle John: “Little children, it is the *last time*: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the *last time*” (1 John 2:18). *Time* is translated from the Greek *hora*, which literally means *hour* (it reads this way in the Revised Standard Version). This is the *only* place this expression is used in the New Testament. We are living in what God terms the “LAST HOUR” of this evil world!

John thought it was the last hour before Christ’s Second Coming, then, in his time. He was, as we know today, nearly 2,000 years off. He was off in his *timing*, but every detail of this prophecy is NOW BEING FULFILLED. Jesus Christ, the one giving this revelation, allowed John to write it under this impression so it was recorded prophecy for OUR DAY.

When Herbert W. Armstrong came on the scene, he proclaimed that we were living in the *end time*. Now we are down to the LAST HOUR. John is talking about the *last hour* of the last day.

In that sermon in May, I said *we should expect this last hour to be different than any other hour in the history of man!* After September 11, many people mentioned how the world will never be the same again—as if we are in a new world. THE WORLD HAS ENTERED ITS LAST HOUR! IT IS PLAIN FOR ALL TO SEE!

This is one of the darkest times in the history of the land of America. It is the last hour. There is nothing in history to measure it by. It has been said that the devastation at the World Trade Center (WTC) looked like a nuclear winter. We are about to see a *real* nuclear winter that we cannot even imagine—if our people don’t repent. It will be that bad.

“Great tribulation” is about to strike the nations of modern Israel (which include the United States and Britain). But there is a preliminary stage that will bring these countries down. A dreadful, horrendous time is coming upon this Earth, even before the Great Tribulation.

“And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these

things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many. And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. *All these are the beginning of sorrows*” (Matt. 24:3-8).

“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and *then shall the end come*” (v. 14). After the gospel has been preached, an “end” comes—the end of the Philadelphia era of God’s true Church (see Rev. 3:7-13). Mr. Armstrong fulfilled this prophecy with his worldwide work.

Continue the flow in Matthew 24 to see the next event that will begin to take shape on the world scene.

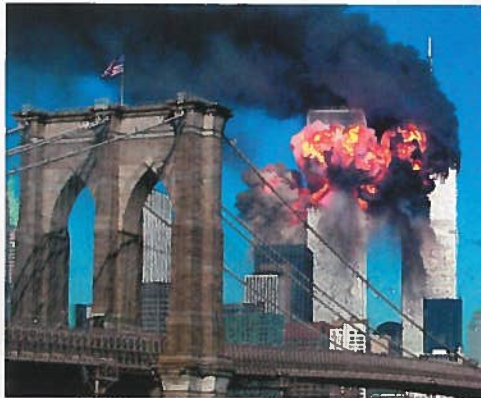
“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand)” (v. 15). When Mr. Armstrong died, Germany and the Vatican really began to gain power. (For more information, write for our booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.) Now they are leading Europe.

“For then shall be *great tribulation*, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved [alive]: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened” (vv. 21-22). God will *shorten* those days so that there will be some flesh saved alive. Anybody who sees this mad world, with all of these enormously destructive weapons, can see where humanity is headed.

The WTC attacks caused panic in a lot of people around the U.S. But their destruction was just the beginning of sorrows. What do you think people will do when the sorrows get worse and worse? What kind of panic will we see then? What kind of panic will we experience if we are in it? It’s not something we should take lightly.

The WTC attacks were a little taste of the Great Tribulation. What we saw is just a tiny little problem compared to what is coming. Multiply what happened on September 11 by maybe 30 or 40 thousand to begin to get a picture of what it will be like

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Recent strident demands by German politicians for Germany to take over parts of the Czech Republic and Poland should have Anglo-America and the whole of Western Europe up in arms. Instead, this specter of Nazi history hardly rates a mention in the world press. Why? And what does it portend?

SHADES OF HITLER



BY RON FRASER

IN HIS FIRST BROADCAST TO THE British people after becoming their wartime prime minister, Winston Churchill, surveying the Nazi onslaught, rallied his nation to begin the task of rescuing “a group of shattered states and bludgeoned races: the Czechs, the Poles, the Norwegians, the Danes, the Dutch, the Belgians—upon all of whom the long night of barbarism will descend, unbroken even by a star of hope, unless we conquer, as conquer we must, as conquer we shall” (quoted by Martin Gilbert, *Descent into Barbarism*).

Strong words—fighting words! The words of the political leader of the century—a defiant response to the onslaught of Hitler and his Nazi cohorts as the German army cut a bloody swath across Europe.

Expulsion the Penalty for War

As we know, the Allies turned the tide of war and, within five years of the shattering of those European nations by Hitler’s regime, gained the victory. In the ensuing peace, Germans were expelled from Czechoslovakia and Poland, both as a penalty for the Nazis’ crimes and as surety that they would never be “shattered” nor “bludgeoned” again by their German neighbor. At the time this seemed more than reasonable, given that one of Hitler’s staff officers, Col. Eduard Wagner, had penned in his diary following a meeting with Hitler, “It is the Führer’s and Goering’s intention to destroy and exterminate the Polish nation” (ibid.).

Yet, a little over six decades from the Nazi blitzkrieg of Europe, do we remember how it all started? It started with Hitler’s seizure of the *Sudetenland* and *Poland*!

The *Sudetenland* is a region within Czechoslovakia which had a majority German-speaking population up to the time of their expulsion by the Czechs following Nazi Germany’s defeat in World War II. In Poland, during the war, “It was intended by the masters in Berlin that within a decade, vast regions hitherto with Polish majorities would become ‘pure and Germanic provinces’” (ibid.).

But, as was the case with Czechoslovakia, the peace concluded by the Allies via the Potsdam conference in July-August

1945 specifically demanded the removal of Germans from Polish territory. At the time, the division of territory by the victorious Allies and the expulsion of German people from Czech and Polish territory was a deliberate strategy to protect Europe from ever again suffering from domination by Germany.

But that is not how certain German leaders view the situation in the 21st century. Witness the strident words of Edmund Stoiber, opposition candidate for the German chancellorship: “If, in the year 2002, anyone defends acts of expulsion and denial of rights which happened over 57 years ago, then they must be prepared for all Europeans to question whether they are ready to be part of Europe” (*Deutsche Welle*, May 21).

Sound good? Well, that may be until you realize about whom Stoiber was speaking. It all hearkens back to a resolution passed by the German parliament in the run-up to the federal elections of 1998.

“The joint Czech-German Declaration, signed in January 1997, promised that the two countries ‘will not burden their relations with political and legal questions arising from the past.’ On May 29, an election-conscious German federal parliament, the Bundestag, put the past back on the front burner by approving a resolution that calls on prospective members of the European Union to recognize the right of Germans expelled after World War II to settle freely in their former homelands” (*Prague Post*, June 3, 1998).

This resolution was passed in flagrant defiance of the 1997 joint Czech-German Declaration, because it *unquestionably* burdened the two countries’ relations with “political and legal questions arising from the past”! Why deliberately drag up the past in a seemingly glaring reflection of Hitler’s old dictum that such written agreements are “just made to be broken”?

Very simply, the Germans’ historic lust for an eastward land grab can simply no longer be contained.

Just 12 years on from the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany, the territorial advancement of Germany, under the guise of their European Union membership, is quite *startling*. Already having overseen the beating of the Balkans into submission to EU rule by the old policy of *divide and conquer*, Germany, feeling its

newly regenerated oats, is straightforward about its claim to the territory it previously occupied under Nazi rule.

The point is, the territory in question was deliberately placed out of Germany's orbit as part of the peace negotiations ostensibly designed, in the Allies' terms, to prevent the German nation from ever again posing a threat to Europe and the world.

Human beings have short memories. In this dumbed-down, anti-history, politically correct 21st century, it seems our collective memory is very short indeed.

Importance of History

Consider the history of Czechoslovakia and Poland. Czechoslovakia (now dissected into the Czech Republic and Slovakia) existed as a sovereign nation between the two world wars. Yet, under relentless pressure from Hitler, the appeasing British and French leaders, Neville Chamberlain and Edouard Deladier, simply caved in to the demonic demands of the Nazi Führer for the seizure of the Czech Sudetenland. Although this region was populated by German-speaking people, unlike other regions such as Danzig and the Saar, which were part of imperial Germany prior to its defeat in 1918, the Sudetenland was *never part of Germany*. It was formerly part of Austria-Hungary.

Thus, Hitler's first grab eastward for territorial expansion was tantamount to the *seizure of foreign land!*

At the Munich Conference on September 29, 1938, Hitler couched his claim to the Sudetenland in most threatening terms: "If the Czechs were foolish enough to resist the Munich Agreement by force, he told Chamberlain, he would 'try to spare the civilian population and to confine himself to military objectives.' Hitler added that he 'hated the idea of little babies being killed by gas bombs'" (Gilbert, op. cit.).

As Chamberlain returned to Britain, waving a copy of the Munich Agreement gifting the Sudetenland to Germany, Winston Churchill's ire could not be contained: "The partition of Czechoslovakia under pressure from England and France amounts to the complete surrender of the Western democracies to the Nazi threat of force. ... It is not Czechoslovakia alone which is menaced, but also the freedom and the democracy of all nations.

THE BELIEF THAT SECURITY CAN BE OBTAINED BY THROWING A SMALL STATE TO THE WOLVES IS A FATAL DELUSION" (quoted by Gilbert, *Winston Churchill*, vol. 5; emphasis mine throughout).

The old war horse's words were soon to prove most exact in their vision for the immediate future, as the ebullient Hitler, flushed with gaining the upper hand on the Western Allies, fixed his beady eyes on Poland. On September 1, 1939, he unleashed the Luftwaffe over Warsaw and bombed and cannoned Poland into subservience to the Nazi regime. The grave delusion of the appeasing Allies was shattered.

From Hitler's seizure of the Sudetenland and his rape of Poland sprung the greatest global conflict the world has ever known—the conflagration of the Second World War.

Enter Stoiber

Sixty-three years later, enter Edmund Stoiber—Bavarian, Catholic, politically unpredictable, ultra conservative, friend of right-wing Austrian politician Jorg Haider, and, when he deems appropriate, a flatterer supreme.

Stoiber currently heads the polls as he and Chancellor Schröder head toward the September 22 elections for the German chancellorship.

In the runup to this election, Stoiber is busy reinventing himself from his regional focus as prime minister of Bavaria to reflect a *national* image calculated to appeal to the presently restless and dissatisfied German public. The economically destabilized Germans long for a leader who can truly unite the nation still healing from the Cold War split between its eastern and western regions. They long for cohesion and stability throughout the four-year term of the next chancellorship.

Stoiber's campaign is calculated to revive German unity on three fronts. "Politicians in the middle of a personal and political transformation are always difficult to read. Herr Stoiber's appeal to many Germans is that, in common with Herr Kohl, he has strong regional roots and believes in *God, the family and traditional values*. Like Kohl, he has a clear sense of the German interest" (*Times*, Aug. 5).

Perhaps that doesn't sound too bad, unless you realize the perspective with-

GERMANY: UNFINISHED BUSINESS



in which Stoiber “believes in God, the family and traditional values.” Those beliefs were finely honed under one Franz Josef Strauss, commonly called “the strong man of Europe,” who was Stoiber’s Bavarian mentor. That God is a *very* Catholic God, that family is *very* Teutonic, and those traditional values hearken back to the heritage of Otto the Great’s *Holy Roman Empire!* They are, in fact, the particular God, the type of family and traditional values that will soon be embraced in a federal European constitution. And that is a very different type of God, family and values to those of the Anglo-American democracies!

But what is of real and most immediate and direct concern in Stoiber’s campaign for leadership is that degree to which he and others involved in his campaign have swung powerfully into action to activate a process that will end with Germany once again *dominating the Sudetenland and taking over Poland!*

This time it is not via threat to appeasing diplomatic representations of foreign governments, as it was in the case of Hitler’s Munich Agreement on the seizure of the Sudetenland. Nor is it by sending the Luftwaffe and the Wehrmacht into Poland—yet. This time the blitzkrieg is a powerful lightning war of words! Words which half a century ago no sane person would have ever hoped to hear again from the mouth of a German politician!

“Addressing the ‘East Prussia Congress’ in Leipzig on June 23 ... Stoiber has called on Poland to rescind the decrees which expelled Germans from Danzig, Pomerania, Silesia and East Prussia in 1945. ... Stoiber spoke constantly of reconciliation—while harshly attacking the hostility of the Czechs to any suggestion that the Benes decrees [which decreed the expulsion of Germans and assumption of the land they occupied at the conclusion of World War II] be rescinded This was because, while praising the firm stand the European Parliament had taken on the issue of the Benes decrees, Stoiber effectively told the Poles to rescind their decrees too. He said that all Germans from the East, including those from East Prussia, must be accorded the ‘right to their homeland.’ He said, ‘The post-war period in Europe will be ended only when the injustice of expulsion is contractually expunged, for the

reconciliation and common good of both sides. ... If the European Parliament’s report says, “Enlargement of the EU must close the wounds of historical events,” then we must address the question of the decrees by which the Germans were expelled and deprived of their rights” (*European Foundation Intelligence Digest*, June 2002).

EU Cloak

That is how the German leaders, intent on reviving their nation as a dominant world power, have consistently used the cloak of this European Union to pursue their own ends under the veil of the 12-star flag of the rising Eurobeast. More and more we see the prophetic words of Margaret Thatcher being fulfilled on the European continent. “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*” (*Gazette Telegraph*, Oct. 10, 1995).

One of the most detailed expositions of the repetition of history that is progressively revealing itself via the German domination of the European Union is Rodney Atkinson’s *Fascist Europe Rising*. A British political economist and adviser to ministers of government, Mr. Atkinson cuts to the quick of the German question in relation to that nation’s current grab for the Sudetenland and Poland in unique, biting form. Following is an excerpt from his book, commenting on a motion proposed by the then-governing parties in Germany, the Christian Democrats (CDU) and the Free Democrats, passed by the German government on July 7, 1998.

WWII: THE UNNECESSARY WAR

BY GERALD FLURRY

LOYD GEORGE, ONE OF BRITAIN’S most prominent leaders (prime minister in World War I), praised Hitler as the greatest German leader of the age. This was said in 1935, *after* Hitler had murdered political opponents and instituted racism.

Winston Churchill was appalled. “I feel our country’s safety is fatally imperilled both by its lack of arms and by the government’s attitude towards the Nazi gangsters,” he said. “It is fostering in them the dangerous belief that they need not fear interference by us whatever they do. That can only encourage those savages to acts of aggression and violence of every kind” (quoted by Martin Gilbert, *Winston S. Churchill, Vol. 5, The Prophet of Truth*). Churchill knew that if Britain fell, Europe would also fall and perhaps the whole of Western civilization, including America. Some people may have forgotten how close we came to destruction in World War II.

Even after Germany conquered Austria and Churchill’s warnings were vindicated, people wanted to believe the delusion that the Nazis could be negotiated with. The weak-willed press was the worst culprit, aiding Hitler more than many of his own soldiers! “The *Times* in particular urged the Czechs to make concessions to Germany, and ARGUED THAT IT WAS CZECH OBSTINACY THAT WAS THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT” (*ibid.*). The press deceived themselves about what was really happening. But not Churchill. He kept writing and speaking against this tragedy, even when his own Conservative Party began turning against him.

Hitler soon demanded that the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia be given to Germany. He said it was because many Germans lived there. But most of the Germans there did not want his rule! “Unknown to anyone outside his secret circle, Hitler was already contemplating a dramatic outcome. ‘I WILL DECIDE TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA,’ he had informed General Keitel on June 18, ‘ONLY IF I AM FIRMLY CONVINCED, as in the case of the demilitarized zone and the entry into



TO WAR German army, Nürnberg, 1935

"The motion was 'Refugees, evacuees and German minorities are a bridge between the Germans and their eastern neighbors.' My translation ... is followed by my comments. The motion reads as follows:

"The expansion of the European Union to the east represents for Germany and for the whole of Europe a great opportunity."

"Note which comes first—Germany, which shows the use of 'Europe' not as a means of suppressing German nationalism but as a means of promoting German national interests. ...

"Step by step we are thus approaching the common goal of a lasting and just peace for the whole of Europe."

"Most Europeans had assumed this was achieved in 1945 after the defeat of the Nazis—or at least in 1989 after the

defeat of communism—but not so apparently for a still agitating German political class. ...

"Today we see how the Charter of the German Expellees of August 5, 1950, has become reality. In this charter the expellees, a few years after war, flight and expulsion, declared their support for a Europe "in which the peoples can live without fear."

"This is precisely why the Poles, Czechs and others who had suffered from both the Kaiser and the Nazis' aggression, persecution and murder, drove out the German minorities, who had collaborated in that persecution, in the first place."

It is intriguing to note how Stoiber seizes on the results of the Balkan destabilization, sparked by Germany's peremptory, singular, unilateral recognition

of Croatia and Slovenia as separate and sovereign nation-states, in 1991, and uses that to justify his ends regarding the impending land grab by Germany in the Czech Republic and Poland.

"Expulsion and ethnic cleansing must nowhere be part of the existing legal order," Stoiber said [in his speech to the East Prussia Congress]. He undertook to see that this would happen—i.e. that the decrees would be rescinded—if he becomes German chancellor on September 22. He went on, 'East Prussia, like Silesia and Pomerania are on the way to becoming European regions.' He said that these regions should be 'ever more opened, ever more Europeanized' and, in effect, called for the affairs of these regions to be run jointly by Poles and Germans" (op. cit., *European Foundation Intelligence Digest*).

Austria, THAT FRANCE WILL NOT MARCH, AND THAT THEREFORE ENGLAND WILL NOT INTERVENE" (ibid.).

Hitler was going to take action ONLY if he was firmly convinced that France and Britain would not intervene!

This statement greatly exposes the mind of a tyrant, which America and Britain generally refuse to understand—a fact that reveals a lot about our nations. It clearly shows that we are weak and fearful nations when facing tyrannical dictators. But the strong and clear message is, tyrants ALWAYS prey on weakness. All they ever understand and respect is superior force.

Germany had started and lost World War I. The Allied powers imposed upon them the Treaty of Versailles, which prohibited them from entering into a demilitarized zone in their own nation. In the 1930s they broke that treaty in every way. They took military control of the demilitarized area. The world watched and did nothing, fearful that opposing the Germans would lead to war. Then, when Hitler seized Austria in 1938, again the world watched and did nothing. They feared it would cause a war if they stood up to the Nazis. But the fact is, Hitler marched into those areas because he saw how weak Britain, France and America were. The same evaluation was being used with Czechoslovakia.

Now we can better see why Churchill called World War II "the unnecessary war." He believed it could have been prevented if the democracies of Europe had stood up to Hitler in the beginning.

CHURCHILL WAS THE ONLY BRITISH LEADER THE GERMANS FEARED. That fact alone should have gotten him into the British Cabinet. Instead, it was the main reason he was kept out! The fact that Churchill was not in the government was a sign that the leaders hadn't faced reality. But it is so easy for weak and fearful people to reason around the truth.

Neville Chamberlain quickly and meekly responded when Hitler summoned him to Munich. He went there to sign a document of shame. The

British and French forced the Czechs into giving Hitler the Sudetenland, a vital part of their country. When Chamberlain flew back to London, there were "Vast crowds in the streets," Oliver Harvey recorded in his diary, 'hysterical cheers and enthusiasm'" (ibid.). People talked of giving Chamberlain the Nobel Peace Prize. One newspaper even labeled him the Prince of Peace.

Churchill was almost alone, unmoved by the tide against him, deeply ashamed and alarmed for his country. In a heated debate in the British Parliament, Churchill said, "I will begin by saying WHAT EVERYBODY WOULD LIKE TO IGNORE OR FORGET but which must nevertheless be stated, namely, that WE HAVE SUSTAINED A TOTAL AND UNMITIGATED DEFEAT, and that France has suffered even more than we have. ... [W]e have passed an awful milestone in our history, when the whole equilibrium of Europe has been deranged, and that the terrible words have for the time being been pronounced against the Western democracies: *Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting*" (ibid.).

That speech almost destroyed Churchill's political career. He had been kept out of office for nearly 10 years. Though he still played a role in Parliament, even his own party was turning against him, and most of them wanted him out.

Churchill had the vision to see what was coming, and warned his people—as we must do today. The trials we have today are petty compared to what is coming before Christ returns! God is going to get our attention through words—or the Great Tribulation.

Many authorities say World Wars I and II were the greatest tragedies of our century. I disagree. THE WORST CATASTROPHE IS THAT WE FAILED TO LEARN A LESSON FROM CHURCHILL'S WARNING!

Churchill spelled out in precise detail what was coming. We do the same today, with God's revelation. Our peoples are going to be without excuse. God is showering us with His loving message at this very moment.



DEFEAT Chamberlain after Munich

On this score—a position long adopted by the CDU (Stoiber's party)—Rodney Atkinson is most condemning. "In all these calls for the peaceful coexistence of minorities in a united Eurostate we must be aware of how, historically and during the 1980s and 1990s, Germany undermined and destroyed the multi-ethnic state of Yugoslavia, recognized Slovenia, its wartime fascist puppet Croatia then rearmed and helped the 'Kosovo Liberation Army' in its attempt to wrest a part of Serbia from Serbian control and finally sending troops and planes for 'peacekeeping' bombing runs in a war which they had instigated" (op. cit.).

Note the following declaration adopted by the German Parliament back in 1998, and Atkinson's intuitive summation on the Teutonic motivation which it embraces.

"The German Parliament therefore shares the approach of the federal government—and indeed all other post-war governments—which has always seen the post-war expulsion of Germans from their historical homelands a great injustice and illegal. The parliament calls on the government to continue its dialogue with the governments of our eastern neighbors and stand up for the interests of the expellees."

"Now we see in more aggressive language what all the friendship, cooperation, cultural exchange and 'united Europe' really adds up to. *It is apparently perfectly legal for Serbs to be driven out of their own country but not for Germans out of other people's countries*" (ibid.).

Déjà Vu

Do we get the point? Stop and really think about this for a moment. Just 64 years ago, a German nation, unified and militarized under one demented strong man, aggressively stole part of Czechoslovakia's sovereign territory. Just 63 years ago, the same aggressive German leadership stole the whole nation of Poland and occupied it under the Nazi bootheel with the intention of wiping it off the map!

Only five years ago, Germany's most powerful right-wing political party pushed through a motion in the German Parliament claiming the right to territory which was taken from German control by the Allies with the intention that, *in the interests of maintaining peace in Europe*, it never, ever

be occupied by Germany again!

This very year, election year in Germany, the nation's leading candidate for the office of chancellor promises that, should he gain office, he will work on the seizure of the Sudetenland and the "Prussian" bits of Poland!

This is an outright reversal of the intent behind the peace concluded at

Germany is again reaching east, preparing to seize the Sudetenland and parts of Poland. This is but a repetition of the history of 1938 and 1939, the only variation being the means by which it is being carried out.



Stoiber

Potsdam by the Allied nations which defeated Nazi Germany in World War II. Edmund Stoiber propounds the German government's conviction that a just peace for the global war that Nazi Germany started cannot be concluded until territories deliberately taken from them to guarantee a lasting and just peace are given back to the once-vanquished enemy of Western democracy. *Can you really believe this?*

In his speech in Leipzig in June, Stoiber underscored where his ultimate interests lie in his dream of gaining the leadership of the German nation. He ended the speech (unwittingly endorsing Margaret Thatcher's prediction of 1995) by "committing himself to *the defense of German interests*" (op. cit., *European Foundation Intelligence Digest*).

For over 50 years, Herbert W. Armstrong proclaimed that Germany would rise to lead a European world power stronger than the Anglo-American nations and Russia. He declared that this time, their third attempt in modern times at global domination, Germany would first mount an *economic, financial and corporate blitzkrieg* before instituting a singular federal currency and finally a huge *federal military force*.

"For more than 30 years I have been telling our radio audiences, and readers of the *Plain Truth*, about what is RISING UP, NOW, IN EUROPE!" he wrote. "The ROMAN EMPIRE is actually being resurrected. The Common Market is bringing Europe's nations back together. Soon it will become a political-MILITARY EMPIRE! It will be a third GREAT WORLD POWER—equal to, or stronger than, either Russia or the U.S.A.!" (Co-worker letter, March 5, 1964).

Germany's global financial and economic domination is well advanced. This year most EU nations placed the federal euro currency in circulation and withdrew their sovereign national currencies. The fledgling Euroforce, precursor of a European military force to ultimately number in excess of 2 million uniformed personnel, is on target for its launch next year.

Now, in this first decade of the 21st century, comes the time when, beginning to feel the newfound weight of its leadership of the world's newest and rising superpower (the European Union), Germany once again reaches east, preparing for the seizure of the Sudetenland and parts of Poland. This is but a repetition of the history of 1938 and 1939, the only variation being *the means by which it is being carried out*.

The burning question is, *will the pending seizure of sovereign Czech and Polish land by Germany have an immediate result in common with that in Hitler's day?* Believe it or not, Bible prophecy declares *yes*, it will. But *this* time it will be the *Allies*, Anglo-America in particular, that will suffer from blitzkrieg occupation!

We had better be aware that, whereas the world may perceive plenty of petty Hitlers on the scene today, it lacks even *one* leader of the capacity of Winston Churchill to stand up in the defense of freedom from totalitarian rule.

Where Is the Warning?

Sixty-four years ago, the Western democracies did have a *watchman*. Decried by his own people as having had his day, thrust out into the political wilderness for a decade, Churchill was returned to office as Britain's prime minister at that nation's and the world's most crucial time in all history. For the second time in less than 30 years, this time led by his fearless leadership, the free world was rescued from certain tyranny.

But where is that watchman today, on the eve of the third round of tyrannical threat to the English-speaking peoples and indeed the whole of the free world? Where is the voice of *courage*, of *faith*, of unswerving commitment to that which is *right*, to absolute *justice* and *freedom for all*? Where is the voice of *true peace* in this world's final hour of need? Search the seats of Parliament and Congress, search for the honest, the uncompromising, the staunchly loyal, the leader of impeccable character, untouched by the tarnish of fraud and malfeasance in this turgidly immoral society of the West in decline. Where are they? In prevailing political leadership we simply draw a blank.

Yet, there is *one* lone voice. Just *one* voice, even as the Eternal God promised there always would be. One voice in a wilderness of confusion, declaring, with increasing power, that which *shall be*—declaring the *reason* for this world's current ills and the *solution* to them—declaring a strident *warning* of what lies ahead if mankind refuses to repent of its present sinful ways.

God, whose word cannot be broken (John 10:35), has declared that "Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7). We who support the publication of this magazine simply take God at His word, for we know that *one voice* by which He is declaring His prophecies at this very moment! You need to *know* that voice and to *heed* it! The future welfare of you, your wife, your husband, your children, your family depends on your *heeding that voice* and *responding* to it!

And there's precious little time to do that before history repeats itself not only in the Czech Republic, not only in Poland, but in *your* country, your state, your province, your town—but *this* time with powerfully more devastating results! Write for your copy of our booklet, free of charge, titled *Nahum: An End-Time Prophecy for Germany*, and *heed* that voice which declares *your* future *now*! This will help you prepare today, in advance of the events soon to engulf this planet, in anticipation of the time of breathtaking peace, beauty and joy which will finally subsume all wars and rumors of wars under the beneficent rule of the *King of kings*, the *Prince of peace* and *Savior* of mankind, Jesus Christ, *Son of God!* ♦



READY, WILLING

German soldiers train for action in Afghanistan

THE FACE OF EUROPEAN SECURITY

One country in Europe is increasingly showing its willingness to militarily lead the union.

BY JASON HENSLEY

THE EUROPEAN UNION IS, OF COURSE, a collective product of its member nations. But the most influential and powerful country within this union is Germany. This nation's influence can be seen in virtually all aspects of the union. Its decisive leadership is proving itself vital to the EU's development. It has played a critical role in shaping the proposed EU constitution, and its economic and monetary system. While all of the EU nations have contributed, German contributions have been the most significant. Their voice is heard over all others.

One instance of this is a German plan, to be decided upon during an EU constitutional convention in 2004, which would "lay the foundations for what the most ardent integrationists see as an eventual United States of Europe. The proposal is meant to advance a postwar dream of European political unification and reflects Berlin's efforts to carve a *greater German leadership role* in Europe, EU analysts said" (*International Herald Tribune*, April 30, 2001).

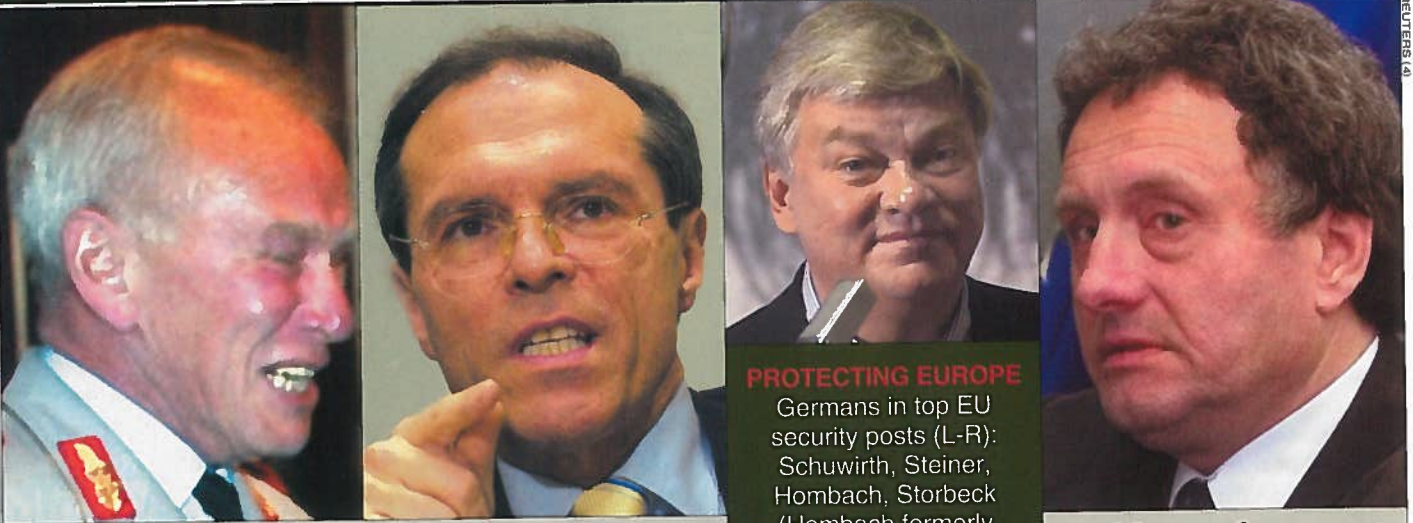
In addition, the vision of the country's corporate leaders is proving to have a significant effect on Germany's powerful economy. The German economy, though now in recession, is more robust than that of all the other EU member nations. It is supported by a diverse assortment of strong companies. Its industry is founded on post-war rebuilding that saw a nation transform from devastation into a flourishing economy through the generosity of the Marshall Plan.

Over a year ago, the *New York Times* declared, "Of the three major European powers, Germany appears the most agile and dynamic" (April 17, 2001).

But Germany's dominance in Europe may most clearly be revealed by its military, diplomatic and security initiatives. In these areas, Germany's voice, once flexible (out of shame over the country's negative history), has recently become more strident.

Critical Leadership

Several of the critical leadership roles in the EU are already filled by prominent Germans. Germany, inspired by



PROTECTING EUROPE

Germans in top EU security posts (L-R): Schuwirth, Steiner, Hombach, Störbeck (Hombach formerly led the Balkan Stability Pact.)

Germans lead Europe's rapid reaction force organization, as well as its peacekeeping mis-

and law enforcement missions in the Balkans.

its diplomatic successes in the Balkans, the Middle East and Afghanistan, and encouraged by its well-received contributions to various peacekeeping missions, is becoming the key player in EU foreign policy. This is particularly the case in policy formulation and tactical planning of the EU's rapid reaction force (ERRF).

The ERRF is the new European military developed so Europe collectively can respond better to crises that threaten the security and cohesion of the Union. This military arm of the European Union is to be ready for action by the beginning of next year. The initial plan is for 60,000 troops to be led by 135 officers from EU nations.

The first and current director of the Military Staff of the rapid reaction force is Lt. Gen. Rainer Schuwirth. Schuwirth, a German, was chosen over France's Lt. Gen. Marcel Valentin who, also in the running for the role, was passed over for allegedly political reasons. Schuwirth was department chief at NATO from 1994-1996. The French are no longer a part of NATO's military command structure. Putting Schuwirth in power avoided tensions between the military structures of the EU and NATO.

In this way, German leadership is serving as a convenient link between NATO and the EU.

"Schuwirth represents the Bundeswehr's [German army's] *quiet determination* to insert itself between the French and Americans to defuse the smoldering conflict. Unlike the French, who pulled out of NATO's mili-

tary command in 1966 to assert [military] independence, the Germans hold top positions in NATO and will use their transatlantic experience and contacts to *shape Europe's emerging security and defense policy without needlessly or gratuitously alienating Americans*" (*Los Angeles Times*, Dec. 31, 2000; emphasis mine throughout).

So, as NATO becomes increasingly obsolete in Europe—its original purpose of containing the Soviet Union no longer existing—Germany is simply transferring its influence from that organization to the new, up-and-coming EU military force.

On the domestic security front, the head of the European Union's law enforcement organization, Europol, is Jürgen Störbeck, also a German. This critical institution combats organized crime such as drug trafficking, immigration networks, vehicle trafficking, trafficking in human beings including child pornography, forgery of money and other means of payment, trafficking in radioactive and nuclear substances, and terrorism.

Diplomatic Actions

Germany's assistance in peacekeeping missions thus far has boosted the confidence of many who were skeptical of a country that caused two world wars. Now, because of their efforts in the last several years, the Germans are seen as consistent and unbiased peacemakers. They have been involved in many Middle East mediations, as well as some in Afghanistan. The Germans gained a

diplomatic coup by negotiating for the peace process following the war in Afghanistan to be brokered in Berlin.

In addition, they have taken on long-standing American problems. A *Los Angeles Times* article titled "Germany, Once a Menace, Sees New Future as a Peace Broker" says that "The ambition to broker cease-fires and bolster trust through freer trade has taken German diplomats in recent months to North Korea, Libya and Cuba—all so-called 'nations of concern' with which the United States has poor relations and little clout" (Aug. 30, 2001).

It is clear that Germany desires to not only lead *within* Europe, but also to play a leading role in world affairs.

Military Actions

In 1993, four years after Germany reunited, its Federal Constitutional Court ruled that German forces could take part in armed deployments as long as the German Parliament authorized them. These military operations were to be justified in international law and carried out in cooperation with allies. Germany is acutely aware that its military deployments since World War II are closely scrutinized. For this reason, it is extremely sensitive to the operations it commits to and how involved it becomes.

Since the Constitutional Court ruling, Germany's military role has been most noticeable in UN operations. In January, the largest German deployment thus far—around 1,800 naval soldiers—began patrolling the sea

lanes off the Horn of Africa. Many have speculated that they are playing a covert role in monitoring Al Qaeda forces in Somalia and Yemen.

In Afghanistan, Germany is leading a multinational brigade in the capital city of Kabul. They have contributed 1,200 of the 5,000 international soldiers. In addition, they have already been involved in diplomatic efforts that substantially contributed to the development of the Afghanistan interim government.

On March 6, the *Guardian* (London) highlighted Germany's increased commitment in Afghanistan. "The involvement of German special forces in the latest battle in Afghanistan has cast a spotlight on the way in which [German Chancellor] Gerhard Schröder is—almost stealthily—edging his country into accepting a much more active military role overseas."

In the Balkans, having instigated the initial crisis by recognizing the independence of Croatia and Slovenia, Germany has been an integral part of the subsequent peacekeeping mission. In fact, Mr. Schröder said in April that Germany is "not in a position" to assume a leadership role in the Afghanistan conflict because of its commitments in the Balkans. It was Germany that developed the Balkan Stability Pact, then led its implementation. The pact was initially headed by German diplomat Bodo Hombach (in January, Erhard Busek, former vice chancellor of Austria, took over). That same month, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan appointed Michael Steiner as the new Special Representative for Kosovo and chief of the UN Interim Administration in Kosovo. Mr. Steiner was formerly the foreign policy adviser to Chancellor Schröder and served as a diplomat in Bosnia-Herzegovina during the heat of the Balkan conflict in the 1990s.

In Macedonia, Operation Amber Fox began on September 27, 2001, and Germany took over the role as lead nation in December. After a three-month extension, they concluded their role in leading the mission in late June 2002. However, Germany continues its commitment to this region through an ongoing military presence and the approximately \$140 million it has pledged to Macedonia in reconstruction aid.

Another interesting troop deployment is the 40 to 50 German military

and civilian personnel that are part of a 190-person force stationed in Oklahoma City, Okla. The operation, based at Tinker Air Force Base, is using NATO E-3A AWACS reconnaissance planes to conduct surveillance.

Foreign soldiers on American soil are becoming increasingly common. The German Air Defense School and German Air Force Command for the United States and Canada is located just outside of El Paso, Texas. Alamogordo, New Mexico, is home to the first permanent foreign military base. The Germans use it as a training center.

The Outcome

Historically, the German people have repeatedly risen, over time, even when severely beaten down, to become a primary driving force within Europe. Recent and current German actions back up the reality of the nation's resilience and tenacity in pursuing their national goals.

An increasingly powerful Germany is involved in every major aspect of the European Union, as well as many facets that stretch outside of that scope. Watch for Germany to seize more control of the collective European processes it so effectively influences. Germany is destined to become the visionary, and the most powerful backer of each major EU institution in defense and security matters.

The Bible reveals that the EU, with Germany at its head, will become a SUPERPOWER. Prophecy proclaims that Germany will lead the last resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. The Bible describes today's rising German-led European Union as the king of the north.

This king of the north, God says, will be used as His tool to correct Britain and America. "O Assyrian [modern-day Germany], the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets" (Isa. 10:5-6).

Those truly are hard words to believe! But that is what your Bible says is about to occur. What is happening now is setting the stage for the most Earth-shattering, life-altering events in the history of man. ♦

POWER OF THE MERCHANTS

"THIS COMING 'UNITED STATES OF Europe' is the dream of many leaders—not only within Europe, but in Britain and America. The Common Market is only its economic beginning" (*Plain Truth*, June 1985).

That economic beginning has become the mainstay of the Germanic European Union. Fundamental to the success of the EU, in preparation for the development of a common currency, followed by a common military and security agenda, has been the effort by Germany to place its representatives in top positions within the financial and other advisory bodies that influence the global economy.

German eurocrats, bankers and financial controllers now head many of these institutions. Horst Kohler is the managing director of the International Monetary Fund. Michael Schreyer is the European Commissioner in charge of the EU budget. Otmar Issing is one of six members on the executive board of the European Central Bank. Eberhard Uhlmann is the newly appointed secretary general of the European Investment Bank's Management Committee. Gerhard Cromme is the vice-chairman of the influential Roundtable of Industrialists. Otto Lambsdorff is one of three regional chairmen of the Trilateral Commission. To top this list off, Peter Woike, an ethnic German, is managing director of the World Bank and executive vice president of the International Finance Corporation.

Quite an impressive list.

In addition to these high-profile posts, many German bureaucrats and businessmen staff influential positions within the EU bureaucracy.

In Revelation 18 we read of the power of the merchants influencing the development of the end-time European combine. The reality is that many of these globalist financiers and businessmen are already strongly attached to the fulfillment of the Teutonic vision of the resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. They are described as the "great men of the earth" in Revelation 18:23. We ought to remember that twice in the past century, such merchants marched in step with the military—with devastating results. RON FRASER

All That Glitters

The gold market tends to spike during hard times. Hard times are here, so who stands to benefit?

BY RON FRASER

BACK IN 1980, GOLD SOLD FOR \$875 per ounce. Today it sells for just over \$300. In short, if you invested in gold 20 years ago, it has been a drastically negative investment—by 60 percent.

Yet, there is a sheen emerging on the horizon for gold investors. Is gold on the comeback track? Traditionally, gold is seen as a hedge against economic hard times. Though it has shown no real sparkle for the past couple of decades, the slide of the dollar and tough times on Wall Street have brightened the immediate future of gold. In fact, as the price for the precious metal picked up in August, some pundits began predicting that, as economic reality dawns in the collective mind of the public, gold prices might head out of orbit.

USA Today quotes international speculator Doug Casey as saying, "The dollar is an unsecured liability of the U.S. government, and the government is bankrupt. ... It's an IOU of nothing." The article goes on, "To Casey, gold is the answer because it's always worth something—and it can't default. His prediction: Gold isn't going through the roof—it's going to the moon" (Aug. 15).

Well, maybe so, maybe not. However, it is interesting to note a few facts about the current market in relation to gold and what appears to be a showing of interest in the yellow metal much stronger than has been the case for years.

The last time that we saw a spike upward (though not sustained) in gold prices was on the wave of insecurity that swept the world regarding the Y2K

scare. That was just another indicator that the worst brings out the best in gold. With Y2K over at the strike of midnight on January 1, 2000, gold soon slumped back into the doldrums.

But the August lift in prices was stimulated by something much more deeply concerning and much more real than the perceived problems arising from a computer glitch. This time, some very significant economic fundamentals are in play. In short, these amount to a *deeply shaken trust in the whole American corporate and financial system.*

This reaches beyond the U.S. to impact foreign markets. The *Financial Times* (London) commented, "By May this year, foreigners became net sellers of U.S. equities—and the trend appears to be continuing" (Aug. 15).

A crisis of confidence in the market breeds a desire for more control over the source of investment. Possession of gold puts the buyer in direct control of the asset. He's not at the whim or sleight of hand of investment advisers or crooked CEOs.

To exacerbate this crisis of confidence, the weakening of the greenback challenges investors' trust in their own monetary system. *USA Today* put it this way: "Gold is a direct bet against the monetary system: Gold investors figure an ounce of gold is always worth something, even if the government is in shambles and currency is worthless. For two decades, the powerful U.S. economy kept the dollar strong and gold prices low. But lack of confidence in the financial system and the specter of more terror attacks are pushing gold prices up—and individuals back into the gold market" (op. cit.).

In 1933, the U.S. government recalled and melted down its gold coins. Forty years later, it went off the gold standard. Thus the dollar's value today is underpinned merely by the level of global confidence in the U.S. economy. When that confidence drops, so does

The German central bank holds the second-largest gold reserves in the world. Also, 11 of the present 15 EU member nations have signed over their national holdings of gold to the European Central Bank, located in Frankfurt, Germany.

the dollar—and the flight to gold historically commences. In simplistic terms, it would then seem, under such circumstances, that those countries which have hoarded gold as a hedge against the prospect of leaner times would emerge as economies of strength in the midst of such adversity.

Gold is great disaster insurance. Predictions of global economic disaster presently abound even among some high-profile commentators. On this score, it is interesting to note that while a number of countries, including Britain and Canada, were busy liquidating gold assets over the past few years, one country was busy buying them up—Germany.

The German central bank holds the second-largest gold reserves in the world. It has not engaged in any form of large-scale selling. Not only this; when 11 of the present 15 EU member nations joined the European Monetary Union (EMU), they signed over their individual national holdings of gold to the European Central Bank, *located in Frankfurt, Germany!* Coincident with this transfer in 1999, Germany bought bullion in a big way.

The timing of Germany's acquisition of huge amounts of gold was intriguing. "[T]he Bundesbank suddenly acquired massive gold reserves, just as the euro was launched in the first quarter of 1999. The gold amassed, both in terms of its physical size and of its value (national valuation basis) is more than enough

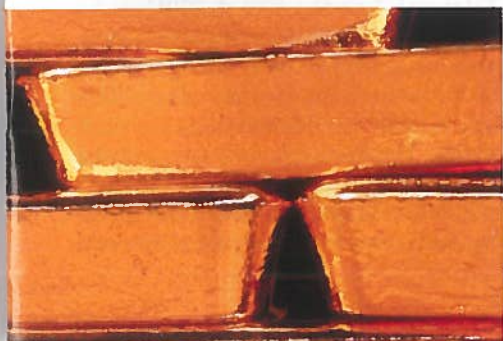
CORBIS

with which unilaterally to introduce a gold-backed 'new deutsche mark'—in contrast to the U.S. dollar, which is NOT backed by gold" (*Economic Intelligence Review*, March 2000).

The point is, whether or not the euro is a success in the long run, Germany sits in the box seat. On the one hand, the euro has substantial gold backing from the receipt of bullion by the European Central Bank, courtesy of the EMU nations' signing over of their reserves. This gives some strength to the euro's backing. Yet the collective economies of EMU nations are really not in the best of shape. "It [EMU] was meant to be the cornerstone of the single currency. Instead it is fast becoming a millstone. In the face of global slow-down the eurozone's stability and growth pact is a misnomer. It is failing to deliver stability and may yet threaten growth" (DAWN Group, Aug. 14).

Now both the European Stability and Growth Pact and the European Central Bank are German ideas, pushed through at German insistence. If an economic crisis in Europe does bring failure to the system that supports the fledgling euro, then it will be up to Germany to suggest the solutions.

Financial analyst Christopher Story poses an intriguing possible scenario, in the event of such a crisis developing. He wrote in the *Economic Intelligence Review* quoted above, "[T]he Germans may have been preparing their greatest coup in history: the sudden, overnight substitution of a 'new deutsche mark' backed by gold, for the regrettably 'failed' EU collective currency. ... [I]n reality, the Bundesbank's acquisition of colossal gold reserves coincident with the launch of the euro (which policymakers were never supposed to notice), and the convenience of the biggest competitive devaluation in history, betray the probable truth—that this represents the realization of the pan-German plan for a European collective currency elaborated by the Nazis, and was cunningly postulated from the outset." ♦



From Good Friday

to Good News

Despite enthusiasm over implementation of the Good Friday Agreement, the peace in Northern Ireland is merely a facade, hiding a network of corruption, terrorism and gunrunning.

BY GARETH FRASER

AS THE SUN BROKE THROUGH THE clouds and a cool wind swept across the cobblestone streets of Enfield, it seemed like any other autumn day in this sleepy town in the English county of Middlesex. Yet, in an agonizing instant, the calm of that fresh English morning in 1975 was shattered by gunfire reverberating through suburban streets as two masked revolutionaries shot a 50-year old man at close range. He died shortly afterward in hospital, the newest victim of Britain's ongoing Irish terrorist horror.

In the preceding weeks, the victim had been crusading to raise 50,000 British pounds as a reward for information leading to the arrest of those involved in a recent London terror campaign waged by the Irish Republican Army (IRA), which, to that point,

IN TATTERS Police investigate 1998's IRA bombing in Omagh, N. Ireland—a reflection of the failure of the Good Friday Agreement.

had claimed 54 lives.

He was the son of a newspaper director, educated at Oxford University, an outstanding track athlete who had served his country on board naval mine sweepers during World War II. But Ross McWhirter is probably best known for his co-founding, with twin brother Norris, of the *Guinness Book of Records*.

Within months of his brother's murder, Norris wrote the book *The Story of a Shared Life* and established the Ross McWhirter Foundation through which to recognize outstanding qualities of good citizenship, personal initiative, leadership and courage as an example to others—a fitting memorial to the sterling British character exemplified by his brother before his life was cut short.

The November 1975 execution of Ross McWhirter at the hands of the IRA highlights the destructive impact of the bloodstained history of this century-long terrorist war within Britain. Twenty-seven years on since this tragic event, has there in fact been any appreciable progress made toward true and lasting peace in Ireland?

Terror Links Increase

The Good Friday Agreement (just one initiative in the past decade's rash of

“peace processes”), signed in April 1998, held with it the hopes of many for stability in troubled Ireland. But its success would require a real *change of heart* on behalf of the principal antagonists in the Irish terrorist war, the IRA and its political arm, Sinn Fein. Recent events show that change of heart far from being forthcoming.

Today, four years after the signing of that agreement, three IRA operatives await their fate, not at British hands, but 6,000 miles across the Atlantic, at the hands of their Colombian captors. It is charged that the men willingly trained elite units of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in the art of the IRA’s deadly counterinsurgency tactics. The three were detained while attempting to leave Colombia with false passports and held thereafter when their respective stories did not match up.

“Senior figures in the Police Service of Northern Ireland and the Irish police believe FARC paid millions of dollars to the IRA for their expertise. ... The vast sums of cash [illegal drug cartel profits] channeled by FARC to Ireland via front companies and secret bank accounts was to fund Sinn Fein” (*Observer*, April 28). The paradox is that *Sinn Fein actually spearheads the anti-drug movement in Dublin* in a snide, hypocritical effort to appear on-board with peace-agreement stipulations.

It has been reported that over 25 operatives from both the Provisional and Real IRA wings of the Catholic Irish terrorist organization have already spent time in the jungles of Colombia training FARC units. As a barometer of the success of this terrorist collaboration, FARC killed over 400 Colombian police officers and caused over \$500 million in damage in terrorist activities throughout 2001.

Amid all the turmoil, Sinn Fein has sat relatively silent, knowing that the blunder could seriously jeopardize the sham Good Friday Agreement under which cover they seek to ramrod the weak-willed British government into permitting totally independent Catholic rule of Northern Ireland. Protestant Nationalists and others involved in the flimsy, de facto government of Northern Ireland are crying foul.

Despite the ongoing accusations and damning evidence, Gerry Adams, the mendacious leader of Sinn Fein,

went ahead with a planned visit to Cuba, a long-standing ally of the IRA terrorist cause, this year. Sinn Fein has long had resident “political” representatives based in Havana, one of which was among the three recently detained in Colombia.

Terrorists and Politics

So serious and wide-reaching is this mélange of illegal, drug-soaked terrorist politicking that the U.S. House International Affairs Committee conducted hearings in April on the subject. This confirmed that U.S. intelligence had connected FARC rebels to an *international terror network*, foremost in which was the IRA. The U.S. has considerable strategic and military interests in the area through its \$1.3 billion “Plan Colombia” partnership with the Colombian government, intended to

fight the terrorist drug cartels. It is also concerned that IRA involvement with Castro’s government will chill any warming of diplomatic ties with long-time adversary Cuba.

Furthermore, in direct opposition to the terms of the Good Friday Agreement, the IRA has established and maintained links with Spain’s Basque Separatist Movement (ETA) and the Palestine National Liberation Movement (Fatah), spearheaded by Yasser Arafat. Bombs exploding in the townships of Colombia and the Gaza Strip are now claimed to be identical to those used in Northern Ireland, indicating that they were either manufactured in Ireland or made on site under the tutelage of IRA bomb experts.

Pressure has been mounting for British Prime Minister Tony Blair to address this political hot potato, which must be placing some strain on Britain’s relationship with Washington and Tel Aviv. With three representatives of Sinn Fein presently sitting in British Parliament, the Labor administration seems intent on maintaining the status quo. The last thing Prime Minister Blair wants is to upset his lead in the political race for another term in office by triggering a round of IRA bomb attacks in London or any other mainland British city. Getting to the bottom of the recent developments implicating the IRA, FARC and other international terrorist organizations is simply not on the agenda of this morally decrepit government.

Guns Under the Table

“In 1973, a ship was captured off the southeast coast of Ireland. On board was the veteran IRA leader Jo Cahill, along with five tons of arms and explosives donated by Colonel Gaddafi.

“That is the first recorded incident of a rogue state supplying an Irish Republican terrorist organization. For the next 23 years, there is a wealth of evidence that similar assistance was provided to the IRA from the Middle East” (*Daily Telegraph*, London, Oct. 3, 2001).

Since 1999, U.S. authorities have broken up two gunrunning operations to Ireland off the Florida coast. “The U.S. already brands the IRA a terrorist group. The State Department says the IRA got help from ‘a variety of groups and countries and considerable training and arms from Libya and the PLO



The Good Friday Agreement

On Good Friday, April 10, 1998, a three-way handshake cemented a historic agreement between the British and Irish governments, through American mediation. British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the Irish Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Bertie Ahern and U.S. negotiator Senator George Mitchell ended a marathon 34-hour negotiation session on the Belfast Peace Accord, concerning the future government of Northern Ireland. Commonly called the “Good Friday Agreement,” the result was a consensus between the principal protagonists, Catholic Sinn Fein (the political wing of the terrorist Irish Republican Army) and the Protestant Ulster Unionists. Within the context of this agreement the Irish Republican Army committed to the decommissioning of their terrorist armaments. That decommissioning has never taken place.

[Palestinian Liberation Organization]. It is suspected of receiving funds, arms and other terrorist-related matériel from sympathizers in the U.S.” (*Investor’s Business Daily*, May 1).

Much of the IRA’s weaponry came from Libya during the 1980s, and suspicions are now arising that they are dumping old arms under the guise of “decommissioning” (i.e. disarming—as required by the Good Friday Agreement) and replacing them with new weapons under the table. Commenting on the Good Friday Agreement and the British government’s peace efforts, Harvey Cox, professor at the Institute of Irish Studies at the University of Liverpool, said, “The Blair government was desperate for a deal. ... Appeasement seems to me to be a reasonable reading of its policy” (ibid.).

Britain’s policy of appeasement toward the IRA and Sinn Fein has done nothing to ease the centuries-old religious hatred. Like a child afraid of the dark, Britain is pulling the bedsheets over its head, hoping peace will last and the Irish issue will quietly go away. But, as the history of British appeasement of their enemies has shown, “they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind ...” (Hos. 8:7).

Enter the Eurobeast

Caught in a trap of its own design, the British government is staring a more bloody and fractious conflict in the face. The IRA is pretending to decommission by throwing away old armaments and upgrading to the latest weaponry in preparation for the next phase in their terror campaign against Britain and their Protestant enemy. Through childish, weak, appeasing political maneuvers over the past few years, the Blair government has allowed—even *encouraged*—the pendulum of advantage to well and truly swing toward the IRA.

The war of attrition waged since the late 1800s against British rule in Ireland may soon enter a significant phase in favor of the Catholic majority in Northern Ireland. The Good Friday Agreement was a towering capitulation to the overarching designs of certain minds working behind the scenes in Europe to the detriment of Britain. Through the establishment of the North/South Ministerial Council, the Roman Catholic-dominated EU is in-

The IRA is pretending to decommission by throwing away old armaments and upgrading to the latest weaponry in preparation for the next phase in their terror campaign against Britain and their Protestant enemy.

fluencing an outcome in Ireland that will see its Catholic minority gain control of Northern Ireland. Witness the following extract from the Good Friday Agreement: “The Council [is] to consider the *European Union dimension* of relevant matters, including the *implementation of EU policies and programs and proposals* under consideration in the EU framework.”

The agreement is peppered with references requiring future Northern Ireland governance to be directly aligned with EU policy, protocol and political aims. In fact, within the terms of Britain’s membership of the EU, the British government is to become merely a subcontracted supervisor in Northern Ireland’s affairs, working on behalf of the EU.

Britain’s ongoing policy in Northern Ireland is built upon a foundation of sand. Its lack of political will to adequately defend its territory in Northern Ireland is compounded by a total loss of the pride in its former power (Lev. 26:19). Just as the British failed in 1920 to contain southern Ireland, so too the scene is now set for ultimate failure in Northern Ireland. Should the present tenuous cease-fire collapse and the region slump once more into tit-for-tat terrorism between Catholic and Protestant, Britain may find its Northern Ireland policy usurped by either the European Court of Justice or the European Court of Human Rights.

Mother of Europe

European involvement in Northern Ireland through the current peace agreement is nothing short of a victory for Republican Catholics.

The ancient words of the Prophet Hosea ring true today: “Ephraim [Britain] also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria” (Hos. 7:11). Britain today

consorts with its old adversary, Assyria (modern-day Germany), the unchallenged leader of the European Union. Europe is dominated by Catholics. Its principal leaders, its leading countries and its traditional religious leader all claim the Catholic faith. Soon, as Bible prophecy foretells, the European Union will not only be united economically, politically and militarily, but also by *religion* (Rev. 17:18).

What is it that, despite their ethnic and cultural diversity, connects the IRA to groups like FARC in Colombia and ETA in Spain? *Religion!* More specifically, *Roman Catholicism!* They all look to the Vatican for religious leadership. And we ought not forget that, since King Henry VIII, history demonstrates that the Roman Catholic Church has been overwhelmingly anti-British. The pope would dearly love to have “Mary’s dowry,” as the Vatican has traditionally referred to Britain, back in his Catholic fold!

As Pope John Paul II lives out his last days, watch for a younger, more dynamic, zealous, popular, diplomatically savvy yet iron-fisted leader of the Vatican State to emerge to pour the religious glue over Europe which is prophesied to bind the last resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire together for a brief final fling (Rev. 17). For those seeking a Catholic, Republican Northern Ireland, this will be the news they have been waiting for. Europe’s rise to prominence signals ultimate isolation for Britain, as they blindly skip to the beat of Europe’s drum.

Forgotten History

Britain, whose Queen Victoria not much more than a century ago admitted the Israelitish roots of her people, has, in these latter days, rejected God as the country’s source of blessings, guidance and direction. Today Britain’s government puts its faith in the idol of the EU. Full well Britain’s leaders fit the prophecy, “For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed” (Isa. 9:16). They simply don’t know that their once-united but now-fractious kingdom is under this *curse* from God! They have *forgotten* their *history* and their unique, royal, God-given *heritage!* *Forgotten* the throne of

· continued on p. 27



ON GUARD Soldiers stand by after explosions occurred blocks away from President Uribe's inauguration.

ernment groups. These threaten to tear apart the already fragile fabric of Colombian society and expand the war into other regions. Neighboring Ecuador and Venezuela have already suffered from the violent spillover.

President Uribe, whose father was killed by rebel insur-

gents, was elected following a bold campaign with the slogan "Firm Hand, Big Heart" and has promised to crack down harder than ever on the FARC. Uribe's proposals include doubling the defense budget in order to increase the size of Colombia's 50,000-strong military, and creating a million-member armed militia. The United States has promised continued and increased support under "Plan Colombia."

If Mr. Uribe chooses the route of more intensified war, as he seems to be preparing for, will he succeed? He is facing an overwhelming enemy. "Since President Pastrana broke off the peace talks with the FARC leaders last February, the guerrillas have launched three major coordinated offensives that have substantially altered the military balance of power. In early June ... the FARC started a campaign of death threats and ultimatums, aimed at driving elected mayors and municipal judges from their posts.

"Within a few weeks, they had erased all traces of government authority from 35 municipalities in 24 of the nation's 32 states. A further 200 mayors had fled their town halls and were attempting to administer by remote control from military barracks and regional capitals" (*In These Times*, Sept. 2).

As though this weren't bad enough, Colombia is in dire social and economic

straits, with public debt at close to 54 percent of Gross National Product, and 64 percent of Colombians living below the poverty line.

Uribe has few and difficult options. Basically, it's a matter of choosing his ally in this war against the insurgents. He may choose continued dependence on Washington, which would lead into a widening of the conflict across neighboring borders under the umbrella of America's "war on terror." Alternatively, he may opt to cozy up to the EU, a principle investor in Colombia and a more natural ally. With UN and EU support, Uribe could revive Pastrana's old peace process.

With anti-Americanism on the rise, it would not be surprising if Uribe opts for the latter course.

◆ MALTA

Caught in Europe's path

During Malta's brief flirtation with a left-wing government between 1996 and 1998, the country opted out of pursuing European Union membership. However, following Labor leader Alfred Sant's defeat at the polls in 1998, the nationalists, guided by the wily president of Malta, Guido de Marco, aggressively pushed for EU membership to be placed back on the political agenda.

As relations between the EU and Malta warmed once again, both the government and Maltese business representatives seemed destined to win the day in swinging public opinion in Malta to support of the country's early membership of the Union in the next wave of nations

clamoring for membership.

Both European Commission President Romano Prodi and Commissioner for Enlargement Gunter Verheugen visited Malta in March 2000 to tout for Malta's EU membership. They gave promises of financial investment in Maltese projects as an incentive to curry Maltese public opinion in favor of EU membership (see "Europe Marches South," *Trumpet*, May 2000).

At that stage, Malta seemed set on a course for early entry into the EU. But things have changed recently. Public opinion within Malta currently reflects that a critical 29 percent of the Maltese are against membership.

This has changed the tone of Commissioner Verheugen's rhetoric. Once full of promises of euros flooding across the Mediterranean into Maltese coffers as a reward for impending memberships, Verheugen's comments seem now to carry more of a threat. "Malta will be an outsider in a more or less integrated Europe" if it doesn't join the European Union, he has said. "[D]o you want to belong to a stronger EU which is facing the challenges of the 21st century or do you want to be 'in a nowhere land' between Europe and Africa?" (*EUobserver.com*, Aug. 13).

The Maltese Labor opposition has decided to pull out of EU membership agreements if it succeeds in gaining office at the next general elections. This may well isolate the island from European trade and place Malta in an untenable position, strategically, as the Eurobeast swallows

all in its path to plunder on into resource-rich Africa, steamrolling over this small island lying in its path.



De Marco

◆ COLOMBIA

Few and difficult options

Colombia is a war-weary nation. President Alvaro Uribe Velez, elected by a large 53 percent victory in May, now has tough decisions to make about how to salvage the mess of a nation he inherited.

On August 7, the day of his inauguration, half a dozen pre-set mortars exploded in the presidential palace and residential quarters of Bogotá, killing 19 people and wounding many more. This served as a grisly warning to Mr. Uribe.

Such attacks are all too common in a country where well over 30,000 lives have been lost in the past 10 years alone in an extended war between the leftist guerrilla insurgents known as the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC, a group that Washington calls "the most dangerous international terrorist group based in this hemisphere") and right-wing paramilitaries (the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia), as well as government security forces.

President Uribe finds himself the elected head of a country that is democratic in its constitution but where the rule of law is continuously overrun by warring anti-gov-

Malta's course is set. Either the island nation accedes to membership and loss of national sovereignty, or it will simply be overtaken by events as the EU pursues its aggressive strategy. The EU is moving *south* and *east* (Dan. 8:9), and Malta is in the direct path of that move. The securing of this ancient island bastion is crucial to this southward and eastward advance of the Eurobeast.

◆ AIDS

Outsmarting the cure

Today, 40 million people are estimated to be living with HIV or AIDS.

Although the overwhelming majority of these—95 percent—live in the developing world, the “developed” nations are also well-acquainted with this scourge. The total number of AIDS cases reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States up to June 2001 was 793,026. In the U.S. alone, well over 450,000 people have died from AIDS in the past 20 years. Globally, the number is approximately 3 million people for just the year 2001.

Since AIDS' initial breakout, scientists have worked long and hard, aided by millions of dollars in research funds, to develop vaccines that have managed to, in some cases, slow the spread of the disease and allow AIDS patients to live longer and healthier lives. But the virus is proving that it can outsmart the best that science has been able to produce.

Harvard AIDS researcher Dr. Bruce Walker recently discovered that, for people already infected with HIV, “it is possible to become infected with a *second strain* of

HIV, even a very closely related one” (*National Review*, Aug. 12; emphasis mine).

“This has, as one scientist put it, ‘shattering implications’ for the development of an AIDS vaccine. In plain terms, it means the HIV virus is so mutable and durable that the standard method of vaccine-making will almost certainly not work” (ibid.).

A study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* revealed another grim aspect of this problem, showing that “More than one fifth of



HIV strain

people recently infected in the United States and Canada with the virus that causes AIDS have strains that do not respond to some of the best antiviral medications ...” (*Contra Costa Times*, Aug. 9).

The *Times* goes on to explain that “[I]t might seem to defy logic that patients could have a virus resistant to drugs they've never been exposed to. But HIV, like most viruses, adapts itself to defeat drugs used to fight it.

“The people in the most recent study likely contracted their virus from someone who had been treated for HIV in the past and stopped responding to some of the drugs. Anyone exposed to that strain will find it is now immune to those therapies” (ibid.).

Dr. Martin S. Hirsch, director of clinical AIDS research at Massachusetts General Hospital, stressed that “the unruly AIDS virus has succeeded at evolving and mutating every time scientists and drug makers have attempted to outwit it” (ibid.).

The picture is gloomy for any future prospect of controlling the pandemic. Only a return to God's laws of morality and health will finally put an end to this plague.

◆ AUSTRALIA

Gambling their future

According to a recent *Issues in Society* report, gambling turnover by Australians in 1999-2000 was \$113 billion, with losses amounting to \$13.3 billion—an astonishing \$931 per person, an amount that has doubled in the last nine years.

On- and off-course betting is available on horse, harness and greyhound racing. Australians gamble on the results of a variety of sports, including four codes of football. There are lotteries and soccer pools spread over six nights per week, nationally.

But the most pervasive form of gambling in Australia is the 180,000 poker (slot) machines spread over six states and two territories—*making up 21 percent of all the gambling machines in the world*. Keep in mind that Australia's total population is about the same as the state of California!

State governments' budgets have become increasingly dependent on taxes imposed on gambling. According to the study that produced these statistics, “In 1999-2000 state governments reaped \$4.39 billion from all forms of gambling, which ate into 3.5 percent of household disposable income.”

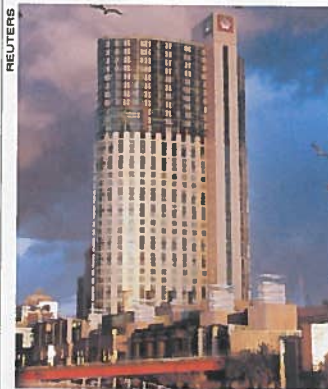
Like much of the rest of the Anglo-American countries, since World War II Australian households have become dependent on credit buying rather than saving for purchases. Poor spending habits mean many people are spending money they *don't have*, and throwing away money they *have*.

This penchant for gambling extends indirectly into many aspects of Australian

life, even affecting basic necessities such as housing mortgage finance—the major investment for most people.

The median price for a family home in Australia's largest city—Sydney—has risen dramatically to AUS\$350,000 in recent years. Banks and other lending institutions generally will finance up to 95 percent of the purchase price. With interest rates at a 40-year low and in order to lift its flagging fortunes, two years ago the Australian government doubled its “First Home Buyers' Subsidy” to \$14,000. Some lending institutions accepted this as full deposit! Borrowers were not required to save or contribute one solitary cent.

Now that mortgage repayments are increasing in conjunction with rising interest rates, it is only a matter of time before this translates into defaults and repossessions. This will send a boom that has seen purchase prices of ordinary houses near the city



CASINO In Melbourne

exceed AUS\$1 million into spiraling decline and negative equity. The domino effect will inevitably threaten the viability of lending institutions themselves, send overcommitted borrowers into personal bankruptcy and rapidly increase unemployment.

The government, lending institutions and borrowers will have all lost the gamble! The Australian economy is a bubble about to burst.

OURS IS A VERY DIFFERENT world from that of our predecessors. It is rapid-paced, quickly changing. Technology, brought on by the knowledge explosion of the 1960s, has revolutionized our world from what it once was.

Scientists, businessmen, educators and politicians all seem to operate under the belief that, given sufficient time, knowledge and resources, mankind could solve all problems. Yet with all our advancements, we now have increased evils. The threat of a nuclear holocaust still exists. Terrorism is a problem all around the globe. Violence is ongoing in the Middle East. We have ethnic clashes in Africa. India and Pakistan are at each other's throats. Christians are under attack in India and Indonesia. The U.S. economy teeters on the brink of disaster. In our Western world, morals continue to rapidly degenerate.

Is anyone solving these problems?

Broken Families

Our once-stable society is fracturing around us. Why? One major reason is that during our age of sci-

entific progression, the institution of family has been systematically pulled apart.

The first cousin of knowledge production is experimentation. The 1960s brought us the "new" morality (a palatable term for sexual immorality) which was simply an experiment with the family. The result? Skyrocketing divorce rates are now the norm throughout the Western world. Statistics show that for every 10 new marriages, four will end in divorce. That figure has actually gone down from six in 10 as the trend toward cohabitation (no marriage—no divorce) increases.

Divorce, together with the increasing number of children born *outside* of wedlock, has produced a high number of single-parent families. This means many homes are being led by single mothers who must work to support the family. We must face a stark reality: Too many of our homes are fatherless. In 2000, census statistics showed that 40 percent of American children do not live with their biological fathers.

The simple truth is, children need fathers to help them grow up mentally and emotionally healthy. To become leaders, boys need a strong father as a model.

It is the most read-about subject in business.
It is the most talked-about theme in politics.
But leadership is also the most-needed commodity
for today's problem-choked world. Why?

Why This World Lacks LEADERSHIP

BY DENNIS LEAP

Fathers should teach their sons how to lead their families and other institutions.

Our current leadership crisis is really a family crisis. Broken families produce flawed leaders.

Who is to blame for our broken, fatherless homes? We must be honest: A great share of the blame lies with men.

The sexual revolution of the '60s taught men to throw off the older generation's values. Men were encouraged to do "whatever makes you happy." For many, that meant shirking their God-given responsibility to lead. Generally, being "happy" also meant escape from a troubled marriage. Instead of solving marriage problems, many men simply moved on. Family breakdown became commonplace. Selfishness and self-centeredness replaced sacrifice and support. Setting the male example of being a hard-working, wise, loving and firm family guide became passé.

Now we have a new generation of non-fathered men who do not understand what it means to be a male. Many of today's men are moving through life without direction. Frustration runs high. Never before has our society been so confused about being male.

No wonder we have such a lack of leadership.

Attack on Males

We must also recognize the impact of the feminist movement on leadership. Male leadership, especially the role of the father, has been under attack for decades. The feminist movement has led the charge.

In his article "The Crisis of Manliness," Prof. Walter R. Newell wrote, "The last 30 years have witnessed a prolonged effort at social engineering throughout our public and educational institutions. Its purpose is to eradicate any psychological and emotional differences between men and women, on the grounds that any concept of manliness inevitably leads to arrogance and violence towards women

"This experiment was meant to reduce violence and tensions between the sexes. And yet, during this same period, 'macho' violence and stress between men and women may well have increased. Recent crime statistics suggest as much in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom—the countries where the feminist social ex-

All male energy, decisiveness and action is considered wrongful aggression by feminists. It is true that male authority can be abused; however, positive male energy, decisiveness and action solves problems—society's problems.

periment stigmatizing manliness has had the greatest latitude to prove itself" (*Weekly Standard*, Aug. 3, 1998). Wanting to replace male authority with female supremacy, the women's movement has ridiculed and maligned the male role in the family.

All male energy, decisiveness and action is considered wrongful aggression by feminists. It is true that male authority can be abused; however, positive male energy, decisiveness and action solves problems—society's problems.

Desiring a genderless society, feminists have taught young boys that their natural tendencies to take the lead, to be strong and energetic, are wrong. Yes, boys will be impetuous. All boys must be taught how to discipline and channel their energies. Yet, our schools today are dosing out Ritalin instead of teaching character and values.

The problems in schools are growing worse. Mr. Newell states that the feminist movement's put-down of men has helped produce a new generation of violent youths angered into aggression, resulting in more arguments, fights—even outbursts such as school shootings.

Our modern media have given much assistance to feminism. TV shows, movies and even comic strips typically picture women as bright, energetic and strong, while men are generally portrayed as lifeless, weak, bumbling idiots. The feminist movement has been a major contributor to our modern male identity crisis. The message has been clear: Women are good—men are bad.

It is not difficult to understand why so many young men today do not take the lead in society. They have been taught that it is wrong and oppressive to do so! But energy must be released, so frustrated young men are turning their male energy to destructive purposes.

The feminist movement is trying to

build a society without men. What is the impact? After a generation of experimentation with de-emphasizing the father's role, many experts now recognize that when male authority is lacking from home life, tragic results often follow. Children (both male and female) suffer terribly without a father living in the home. Law officials and other youth experts know that the declining role of fathers in our society has led to an increase in crime, welfare dependency and drug use.

Our modern homes need the firm, wise, loving, encouraging, uplifting guidance that only a father can give. Effective fathers train effective leaders.

Let's admit it: The FATHERLESS FAMILY is one of the *root causes* for this world's lack of leadership.

Leadership Must Be Learned

True leadership is not taught in colleges or universities. Isn't it fair to ask *why* the youth of today are not being trained to properly steer our modern governments and combat the huge problems facing mankind?

The first half of this century brought us leadership giants. Men like Winston Churchill, Harry Truman, Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer motivated their respective nations and influenced the world to overcome great obstacles. Scholars, historians, political scientists, sociologists and psychologists study the lives of these men, yet they still cannot define or summarize the basic qualities that make up effective leadership. Maybe you don't agree with that statement. But think about it. If we know so much about leadership, where are all the Churchills and De Gaulles today?

Many people confuse power with leadership. Go to the business section of any bookstore. Numerous books about leadership have the word *power* in the title. Some would consider Hitler, Mussolini, Lenin and Stalin leaders. These men wielded considerable power. But were they true leaders? As heads of their nations, these men inflicted enormous pain and suffering upon millions. Experts study these men and make observations about the use and abuse of power. We must ask, can we learn leadership from power-mad tyrants? Power is not leadership. Effective leaders use power to serve and assist others. Having power does

not mean problems get solved. Adolf Hitler proved that power can make serious problems much worse.

Recent decades have brought us some leaders of prominence: Dwight Eisenhower, Anwar Sadat, Margaret Thatcher, Ronald Reagan. But many would agree that there are not many impressive leaders today, providing effective ways to deal with international conflicts, racial tensions, urban and rural violence, failing global and national economies, poverty, famine, growing disease epidemics and unexpected natural disasters.

Honest observers recognize that this world is on a collision course with these problems. Who is being prepared to provide solutions, make plans and carry out decisions? We must conclude that our modern crisis of leadership is really a crisis of education.

James MacGregor Burns wrote, "The crisis of leadership today is the mediocrity or irresponsibility of so many of the men and women in power, but leadership rarely rises to the full need for it. . . . If we know all too much about our leaders, we know far too little about leadership. We fail to grasp the essence of leadership that is relevant to the modern age, and hence we cannot agree on the standards by which to measure, recruit and reject it" (*Leadership*). It is true: We just do not *understand* leadership. So then how can we properly teach it?

Cult of Personality

Why don't we understand leadership? Could our lack of understanding reflect a lack of moral character?

Let's be blunt. Do the people of this world truly *desire* effective leadership? If Winston Churchill came on the scene today, would anybody listen, and then DO what he recommended? The answer is a sad no.

Leadership reflects a relationship. A leader must have followers. When a leader leads, followers must follow. All people of this world—both East and West—have had considerable problems with their leadership. Even with all Churchill did for the free world, he was loathed by many.

Here is another reason we lack leadership today: Followers all too often reject the leaders best suited to lead.

Today, we prefer our leaders to be more like celebrities than people of substance. This is probably most true in the Western world, especially in the United States. Some of our elected officials are former actors or athletes. In our modern culture, we look up to people who look good. We tend to vote for the most handsome or most physically appealing. These are the kind of people we want to imitate and follow. Ugly people with right answers are categorically ignored!

Read about our leaders in the latest magazines and newspapers. You will find articles that peep into our leaders' private lives, revealing trivial things from sleep habits, sexual practices, clothing and favorite foods, to the pedigrees of dogs and cats. Why are these meaningless subjects given so much press? Editors know what sells magazines. They print what people want to read. The articles about our leaders in today's magazines are a reflection of ourselves.

Our high-tech society has become so shallow. We are living in a culture that focuses on personality. We are trend-seekers. We desire ease and pleasure. Who wants hard solutions to real problems? We want leaders to tell us there are no problems. We desire "IN" leaders who tell us everything is getting better and better. How far do



Churchill

we think a leader would get if he stated emphatically that to solve our nation's debt problems everyone should cut up their credit cards?

King Saul of ancient Israel was the people's choice. The people had rejected Samuel as their leader. He was old and gray-headed (1 Sam. 8:5). The people wanted a king like the nations around them. Saul was a tall and handsome man (1 Sam. 10:23-24). He had personality and charisma—the kind of leader the people could be proud of. Yet, he led his nation into one disaster after another.

Many leaders today have come to power more as a result of their personality and appearance than their ability or skill. Political critics recognize that the individual who effectively presents a charismatic TV and media image can gain power easily. Analysts agree that many of our modern leaders in the U.S. and Britain have come to office through their manipulation of the

media. Had King Saul been alive today, he would have successfully manipulated the media too.

Unfortunately, receiving a nation's vote at times is nothing better than winning the "people's choice" award for great drama. To have effective leadership, we must learn this lesson from history: The people's choice is often not what a nation needs. Our Western nations are teetering on the brink of disaster!

Lessons From History

Students of history recognize that there is a cyclic nature to leadership. Quoting George Santayana, Winston Churchill often said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." As a whole, the British and American people have lost their sense of history. Unless we regain a sense of our heritage, we are doomed to repeat a very tragic past. Our leadership is failing us by not learning from and reminding us of vital historic events.

How quickly we have forgotten the incredible human drama and trauma of World War II. That global crisis gave us fantastic leadership. In fact, World War II taught us that the true test of leadership is meeting and overcoming crises.

History shows us that eras of energetic and effective leadership by reasonable and just-minded men are generally followed by periods of decline and crisis under feeble or confused successors. Do we realize that THE GREAT LEADERS OF OUR TIME ARE DEAD? And many of today's current events parallel those which led up to World War II. The recent crisis in the Balkans, along with the racial and economic tension inside Germany, proves this point. Similar events in these troubled countries directly led to that war. Which national leaders today are speaking of these issues and warning our world about the coming trouble? Name them. Your list will be very small.

The history our modern Western leaders need most is found in the pages of a bestseller that few read: the Bible. Prophecy tells us where we came from, who we are and where we are going. The late Herbert Armstrong, one of the truly great leaders of our time, understood Bible prophecy like no other man. He explained Bible history and the destiny of the English-speaking world in his

book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. Write for a free copy if you don't already have one. This important book, if read—and believed—by today's Western leaders, would make a vital difference in the effectiveness of their leadership. It would guide their decisions—show them the way out of the major problems they face today.

The significance of this book is shocking. Charting a map through Bible prophecy, it shows that our modern Western nations are in grave peril, especially the United States and Great Britain. Mr. Armstrong clearly explained that the Old Testament prophecies written down in ancient Israel actually apply to us, right now!

Leadership Taken Away

Why do we lack capable leadership today? Prophecy shows that *God has removed competent leadership from America and Britain*—modern Israel.

The Prophet Isaiah wrote, "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).

These scriptures are an apt description of our leadership crisis and our society. God states emphatically that He has taken away competent leadership from us at all levels. He has removed it in our military (man of war), in our legal system (judge), in religion (prophet), in education (prudent), in our families (ancient), in business (artificer) and in our governments (orator). What is the result? People are oppressed. Our high-tech society has become a burdensome one. The more we advance, the more we decline.

Why has God removed leadership? Isaiah also wrote, "For Jerusalem is ruined, and Judah is fallen: because their tongue and their doings are against the Lord, to provoke the eyes of his glory"

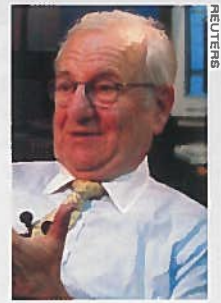
One FATHER'S Example

EXPERTS AGREE THAT A TRUE LEADER IS TRAINED FROM early childhood. Strong families—with an active father at the helm—build strong leaders. Let's look at an example of the kind of male leadership we are referring to.

Lee Iacocca, former CEO for Chrysler, wrote this about his father. "Whenever times were tough in our family, it was my father who kept our spirits up. No matter what happened, he was always there for us. He was a philosopher, full of little sayings and homilies about the ways of the world. His favorite theme was that life has its ups and downs and that each person has to come to terms with his own share of misery. 'You've got to accept a little sorrow in life,' he'd tell me when I was upset about a bad grade in school or some other disappointment. 'You'll never really know what happiness is unless you have something to compare it to.'

"At the same time, he hated to see any of us unhappy and would always try to cheer us up. Whenever I was worried about anything, he'd say: 'Tell me, Lido, what were you so upset about last month? Or last year? See—you don't even remember! So maybe whatever you are worried about today isn't really all that bad. Forget it, and move on to tomorrow.'

"During hard times, he was always the optimist. 'Just wait,' he'd tell me whenever things looked bleak, 'the sun's gonna come out. It always does.' Many years later, when I was trying to save Chrysler from bankruptcy, I missed my father's comforting words. I'd say, 'Hey, Pop, where's the sun, where's the sun?' He never let any of us surrender to despair, and I confess there was more than one moment in 1981 when I felt ready to throw in the towel. I kept my sanity in those days by recalling his favorite saying: 'It looks bad right now, but remember, this too shall pass'" (*Iacocca: An Autobiography*). This is the kind of father-leadership our families need today. Unfortunately, the majority do not have it.



Lee Iacocca

(v. 8). We have provoked God with our many sins. We have become a sin-filled society. Since we want sin, God is giving us leaders who will allow us to keep sinning to our own destruction. Isaiah continues, "The show of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves" (v. 9). As a people, we flaunt our sin—as do some of our leaders.

Unless our nations repent soon, we and our leaders will receive severe punishment.

Effective Leadership Will Return

Historians also recognize that in a period of decline, rule is often obtained by default. Many a nation has been ruined because of leadership by default. Unfortunately, those qualified to lead and govern today do not want the job. This too was prophesied. Isaiah states of America and Britain, "When a man shall take hold of his brother of the house of his father, saying, Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler, and let this ruin be under thy hand: In that day

shall he swear, saying, I will not be an healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing: make me not a ruler of the people" (vv. 6-7).

Isaiah reveals the ill effects of our leadership crisis. Our society is sick and gasping for breath. These verses show that things are going to get worse. When competent men refuse to rule, unscrupulous tyrants generally seize control.

The Bible does prophesy that a final, great tribulation is coming on our world (Matt. 24:21). Power-mad men will inflict the worst time of suffering on an unsuspecting humanity one final, short time.

But there is hope. Jesus Christ, the most competent and effective leader ever trained, will return and stop men from misruling other men (Rev. 11:15). He will establish a new world government with capable leaders. After He returns, never again will this world suffer a crisis of leadership. The entire Earth will have rulers capable of solving problems. At Christ's return, a new age of peace, health and success will break forth. May God hasten the day. ♦

SWAMPED A rescue crew works near buildings damaged by floods in Prague.



ACTS OF GOD?

The whole world is suffering a catalog of climatic catastrophes. Is destructive weather just a freak of nature? BY ERIC ANDERSON

ACTS OF GOD, IN LEGAL AND INSURANCE CIRCLES, ARE CATASTROPHIC natural events—floods, hurricanes, earthquakes. They cannot be predicted or prevented, and they occur without human intervention.

It seems the world has been suffering the gamut of acts of God lately.

August saw Europe, for example, hit hard with fierce flooding.

Germany has suffered the worst flash floods in a century, with mighty rivers such as the Elbe bursting their banks.

The Czech Republic watched aghast as its rivers swelled to three times their normal level. Czech Prime Minister Vladimir Spidla was quick to declare a state of emergency and deploy 4,000 soldiers across the country. Bridges

were washed away; others were declared impassable. In Prague, authorities made a desperate attempt to minimize architectural damage to centuries-old gems, as 50,000 people were evacuated and the swollen river Vltava cascaded through the Czech capital at 300 times its normal speed.

People, animals, cars, bits of trees and homes—in fact, anything moveable—was washed away in sweeping

currents as thousands of people across Central and Eastern Europe were forced to escape rising floodwaters.

“Parts of Austria’s capital, Vienna, were underwater, including the Copa Cagrana region along the banks of the Danube that hosts dozens of bars, clubs and chic shops. The German city of Dresden was among the hardest hit as more than four inches of rain in 24 hours caused the River Elbe to burst its banks after it rose 16 feet above normal levels. The city’s Zwinger Palace art museum was flooded and waters lapped at the sides of the Semper Oper opera house ...” (*Times*, Aug. 14).

Shoppers saw a man washed away in a tidal wave in the nearby town of Reichstedt. “Further south, in seven Bavarian districts, roads and bridges have been smashed, crops destroyed and villages flooded” (*ibid.*).

Fifty-eight people died in Russia due to storms on the Black Sea that swept tourists away.

These freak weather conditions have caused billions of dollars worth of damage in lost crops, structural damage, lost tourist income and economic paralysis.

But as bad as Europe's weather woes are, the U.S. is not far behind. 2002 has been an ongoing nightmare of freaky winter weather, hellish wildfires, floods and droughts nationwide (see p. 22).

Nor have other parts of the world escaped. The flood season in China this year is turning into the worst in recent years, with close to 1,000 people having been killed in three months. In South Asia, floods and landslides have killed more than 900 people. Twenty-five million people have been stranded or forced to leave their homes.

Why has the weather been so adverse this year—and indeed for the past several decades? People everywhere are looking for a cause—or, even better, a solution.

The Impact of Disasters Today

There's no question about it: Weather patterns are changing—for the worse. The whole Earth, to one extent or another, has experienced extreme climatic fluctuations over recent decades.

What's more, never before has there been such potential for human suffering due to weather upsets. The tremendous increase in population the past century has placed more people at risk when an extreme weather event occurs. Rapid growth in coastal populations places more people in harm's way when hurricanes or tropical storms strike. Also, a significant increase in the number of homes and businesses built in flood plains over the past 50 years increases the risk and frequency of high-cost flooding events.

Because of these societal trends, cost-per-disaster figures have risen. In the U.S. alone, 39 weather-related disasters occurred during the decade of 1991-2001 in which overall damages reached or exceeded \$1 BILLION at the time of the event. The total damage costs exceeded \$134 billion (see p. 24).

How We Affect the Weather

In addition to *magnifying* the impact of natural disasters, the population of this age is also *directly contributing* to weather problems as a result of world-

There's no question about it: Weather patterns are changing—for the worse. The whole Earth, to one extent or another, has experienced extreme climatic fluctuations over recent decades.

wide industrialization.

For decades, air pollution has been a chief contributor to weather upsets. Chlorofluorocarbons, smog from industrial activity, smoke from slash-and-burn deforestation in developing countries, widescale replacement of green and open land surfaces by pavement, asphalt and buildings, and the exhaust of jets, cars, trucks, trains and ships have contributed significantly to climatic variation.

There are many other suspected weather modifying agents, such as crop irrigation and the creation of man-made lakes, which affect the heat balance of the atmosphere by adding water vapor to the air. The influence of diverted rivers, dams, drained swamps and underground aquifers is signifi-

cant too because of the effect the water vs. land ratio has on the heat balance.

Not only that, now man is attempting to *intentionally* change weather through various experiments. For example, "cloud seeding" is intended to either produce needed rainfall or prevent cloud water from condensing into raindrops and snowflakes in an effort to head off severe storms and prevent flooding.

But who really is in control of the weather? Who allows the havoc that we see? A dimension exists beyond the physical realm, though most refuse to acknowledge it.

True Power Over Weather

There is a great, all-powerful God in heaven who created everything in the universe. He designed and established laws that regulate Earth's climates.

The biblical book of Job records the account of a man who thought too much of himself. Job epitomized the pride and vanity of humans in their abilities. And so, God had to humble him. One of the ways God proved that His abilities were greatly superior to those of Job (and of all mankind) was by pointing out, through Elihu, that He has absolute control over the weather.

EUROPE: STORM BEFORE THE STORM

HOW WILL THE DESTRUCTIVE WEATHER AFFECT EUROPE IN THE LONG RUN? CAN IT recover from the billions of dollars worth of lost crops, structural damage, lost tourist income? If, despite the euro's strength, many European countries were beginning to feel the pinch due to the increase in the cost of living brought about by their change of currency, meeting the tremendous repair costs in the wake of these devastating storms will force Europe to tighten its belt even more. It might even temporarily slow the rapid march of Europe's ambitions.

Prophecy gives us the answer: It is certain that Europe will recover. A brief period of contemplation and of taking stock while rebuilding could actually be beneficial to Europe, leading, through shared adversity, to consolidation and an increasingly strong sense of identity.

Central Europe, presently devastated by rainstorms, may be forced into a phase of rapid reconstruction, deeper integration and reflection, but it will be like a lull before the storm—a much bigger storm than World Wars I and II together—soon to rain down on an unsuspecting world.



ALL TOGETHER NOW German soldiers reinforce the dike of the gorged Elbe River.

“God thunders marvelously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend. For He says to the snow, ‘Fall on the earth’; likewise to the gentle rain and the heavy rain of His strength. ... From the chamber of the south comes the whirlwind, and cold from the scattering winds of the north. By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen. Also with moisture He saturates the

thick clouds; He scatters His bright clouds. And they swirl about, being turned by His guidance, that they may do whatever He commands them on the face of the whole earth. He causes it to come, whether for correction, or for His land, or for mercy” (Job 37:5-7, 9-13; New King James Version).

God has the power to do all this—and more!

He continued to humble Job by

asking, “Have you entered the treasury of snow, or have you seen the treasury of hail, Which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war? By what way is light diffused, or the east wind scattered over the earth? ... Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you set their dominion over the earth? Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, that an abundance of water may cover you? Can you send out lightnings, that they may go, and say to you, ‘Here we are!’?”

AMERICA: A YEAR OF WEATHER WOES

IN THE UNITED STATES, THIS year’s extreme weather conditions tell a story stranger than fiction. Consider:

In early January, heavy snows, sleet and freezing rain hit parts of Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia, resulting in over 60,000 power outages. Later in the month, a powerful storm brought ice and heavy snows across the Midwest, the Plains and Great Lakes and into New England, stranding airline passengers and shutting down schools. At least 15 deaths were blamed on the slick roads and freezing temperatures.

In February, high winds whipped across Southern California, uprooting trees and shutting down power for hundreds of residents. Nearly a thousand firefighters were called to battle a wildfire that scorched more than 5,000 acres, leaving 34 homes and six other structures destroyed.

A snowstorm in early March that swept from Texas to Michigan killed 21 people. Sleet, snow and freezing rain contributed to hundreds of traffic accidents and cancelled flights. The National Guard evacuated residents affected by a storm that knocked out 250 homes in the worst flooding to hit eastern Kentucky in 25 years.

Meanwhile, drought conditions intensified in parts of the Southwest and the Eastern U.S.; rainfall in the southern Rocky Mountains was only 30 percent of normal. Summer weather came early across parts of the Midwest, with April temperatures soaring into the 90s. The heat extended to New England, with record-high temperatures near or above 95 degrees.

In late April, a severe storm system in the Tennessee and Ohio valleys spawned killer tornadoes, high winds and hail. On the system’s northern edge, 20 inches of snow fell overnight in Wisconsin, leaving more than 40,000 people without power. Tornadoes struck Missouri, Kentucky and Illinois, causing one death in each state; tornadoes in Tennessee and Ohio also caused widespread damage. In Maryland, an F5 tornado (the highest classification—strong enough to debark trees, pick up houses and toss automobiles more than 100 yards) carved a path 400 yards wide and 30 miles long, and came within 25 miles of Washington, D.C.

In early May, five inches of rain fell in six hours, flooding



FEELING THE HEAT Firefighters work a controlled burn to stop advancing wildfires in Arizona.

streams and rivers in West Virginia, Kentucky and Virginia. Some communities were cut off by mudslides. More than 100,000 homes and businesses lost power at the peak of the storm. Flash flooding in the Appalachians left at least six people dead and 14 missing. At the same time, in stark contrast, drought intensified in areas along the East Coast, especially in the southeast.

In June, fires in Arizona burned over 450,000 acres and destroyed well over 400 homes. Colorado saw 210,000 acres and over 175 homes eaten up by wildfires. By the end of July, over 4 million acres had been burned nationally.

Record-high temperatures seared parts of the West, with triple-digit readings in many states. The warmer-than-usual temperatures recorded during the last decade have been so unusual that a comprehensive new planting guide for gardeners is slated for publishing this fall. This summer’s extreme drought conditions across the southeast, high plains and western states have wrought huge agricultural losses, and have even driven rats from their usually well-hidden nests to forage in the wealthy neighborhoods and trendy restaurants of Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and Pacific Palisades in Southern California.

Meanwhile, floods caused eight deaths in South Texas when over 40 inches of rain fell in a seven-day period in July. More than 33,000 square miles and 48,000 residents were affected by the floodwaters, and 24 Texas counties were listed as federal disaster areas.

July and August saw floods and mudslides wreak damage in southwestern Colorado, even as fires still burned in other parts of the state. Vehicles were swept off roads; rivers of mud filled houses and businesses. Officials say, with the hillsides burned bare, inevitable future floods will cause more damage and cost more than the fires.

On August 12, the rapidly spreading drought in the Midwest forced the U.S. Department of Agriculture to drastically slash its harvest forecasts. In revisions the biggest since the droughts of the 1980s, the nation’s most valuable crop, corn, was reduced by an incredible 9.2 percent, and the number-two crop, soybeans, was cut by 8.1 percent. The drought is shrinking crop reserves—the country’s buffer against shortages—to uncomfortably low levels.

(Job 38:22-24, 33-35, NKJV).

God is in charge of the weather, but just as He allows man to interfere with it, so also He allows the "god of this world" (11 Cor. 4:4) to impact it. A probable source of some of the "freakish" weather we have witnessed in recent years is the "prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2). The account in the first chapter of Job indicates that, when God permits it, this powerful being—Satan—can use atmospheric phenomena to wreak havoc. Freak weather could certainly be part of the "great wrath" Satan uses to afflict the inhabitants of the Earth (Rev. 12:12).

A Warning in Weather

God certainly allows nations to reap the natural consequences of weather caused by wrong agricultural practices or the abuse of the environment. He allows governments to make foolish political or environmental decisions that lead to unnecessary famine or agricultural disruption. He allows nations to experience the consequences on weather of huge, paved-over metropolitan complexes, cloud seeding and other such scientific experiments.

When mankind interferes with God's climatic laws, he suffers the effects—upset weather. Humans have done (and are doing) their share to bring droughts, floods, windstorms and other extreme weather conditions on themselves. The end-time prophecy in Hosea 8:7 surely must include our polluting and wasteful ways among man's misguided endeavors: "For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal"

But God is not only in command of the weather by means of the laws He has set in motion; He directly intervenes when He sees fit and uses the weather to bless or punish human beings according to their actions. "And also *I have withholden the rain from you*, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered. So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: *yet have ye not returned unto me*, saith the Lord" (Amos 4:7-8).

God intervenes in the weather to PUNISH nations for their sins.

The Bible defines sin as the transgression of God's laws (1 John 3:4). Idolatry is serving or worshipping anything above the true God and His laws.

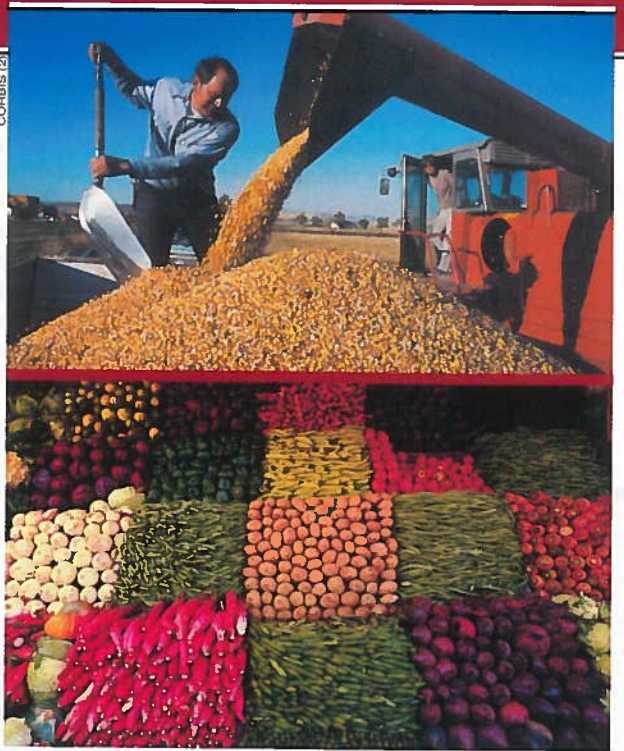
The U.S. and Britain (and the other modern nations of Western society) are overflowing with material goods and technological gadgetry that millions worship in the place of God. Immorality, crime, family breakdown and racial hatreds continue to increase. God is warning us through adverse weather to change what is in our hearts!

Passing Up God's Blessings

Today, the world is dependent primarily on the U.S., Canada, Australia and parts of Western Europe to supply the surplus foodstuffs necessary to meet the shortfalls elsewhere in the world. Another bad year or two of weather for these nations would have a disastrous impact on the rest of the world!

What hope can we have for safety from the devastating weather disasters that are sure to come about in the months and years ahead? Only one: The protection God gives those who obey His laws. He is indeed "a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall" (Isa. 25:4).

A good climate is one of the *blessings* God gives any nation that follows His ways and submits to His government. He promises, "And it shall come to pass, *if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments* which I command thee this day ... all these blessings shall come on thee The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven *to give the rain unto thy land in his season*, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow" (Deut. 28:1-2, 12).



CORBIS (2)

AP/WIDEWORLD



Today, the world is dependent primarily on the U.S., Canada, Australia and parts of Western Europe to supply the surplus foodstuffs necessary to meet the shortfalls elsewhere in the world. Another bad year or two of weather for these nations would have a disastrous impact on the rest of the world!

Of course, no modern nation has taken God up on that offer. And so, no nation has the right to expect dependable, seasonal weather.

There was a time when a nation faced with the prospect of bad weather *did* actually do something about it. That nation was ancient Egypt, the most powerful nation of its day. You may recall from the biblical account how Joseph was inspired by God to interpret the pharaoh's dream. Later, Joseph was put in charge of preparing the nation during seven prophesied years of plenty for the lean years to follow. It was indeed a critical role, car-

ried out by a God-fearing man. But perhaps we overlook that Joseph was able to do what he did because he had the full support of the man above him. Pharaoh was wise and insightful enough to take good advice and to approve the necessary actions to implement that advice (Gen. 41:33-40). God strategically positioned this humble man as king over Egypt at a crucial time in world history. Had this

pharaoh been arrogant or hardheaded, millions would have starved.

Today we have no such pharaohs in power. Leaders today generally make decisions based on what is popular or convenient, not what is necessarily right or best for the nation in the long term.

And so, in America and in the world today we can expect to experience worsening economic and human losses due to floods, droughts and other

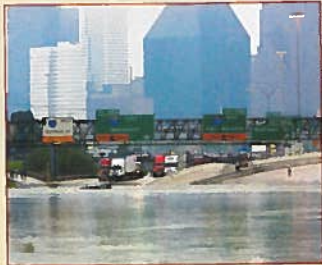
weather-related disasters. Few are interested in repenting of their sins and obeying God's laws.

Almost a decade ago, Editor in Chief Gerald Flurry wrote in the *Trumpet* about the continuing disasters: "God said He would send floods and droughts at the same time. *Five times* in Amos 4, God says, 'Yet have you not returned to me, saith the Lord'! THESE DISASTERS ARE GOING TO INTENSIFY UNTIL

A DECADE OF BILLION-DOLLAR U.S. WEATHER DISASTERS

2001

June: Tropical Storm Allison



Produces rainfall of 30-40 inches in portions of coastal Texas and Louisiana, causing severe flooding; approximately \$5 billion damage/costs; at least 43 deaths.

April: Midwest and Ohio Valley Hail and Tornadoes

Storms, tornadoes and hail over a six-day period; at least \$1.7 billion damage/costs; at least three deaths.

2000

Spring-Summer: Drought/Heat Wave

Severe drought and persistent heat over south-central and southeastern states causes significant losses to agriculture and related industries; estimate of over \$4 billion dam-



age/costs; estimated 140 deaths nationwide.

Spring-Summer: Western Fires

Severe fire season in western states due to drought and frequent winds, with nearly 7 million acres burned; estimate of over \$2 billion damage/costs.

1999

September: Hurricane Floyd

Large category 2 hurricane causes landslide and severe flooding in eastern North Carolina; estimate of at least \$6 billion damage/costs; 77 deaths.

Summer: Eastern Drought/Heat Wave

Very dry summer and high temperatures, mainly in eastern U.S., with extensive agricultural losses; over \$1 billion damage/costs; estimated 502 deaths.

May: Oklahoma-Kansas Tornadoes



Outbreak of F4-F5 tornadoes; at least \$1.1 billion damage/costs; 55 deaths.

January: Arkansas-Tennessee Tornadoes

Two outbreaks of tornadoes in six-day period; approximately \$1.3 billion damage/costs; 17 deaths.

1998

October-November: Texas Flooding

Severe flooding in southeast Texas; approximately \$1 billion damage/costs; 31 deaths.

September: Hurricane Georges

Category 2 hurricane strikes Puerto Rico, Florida Keys and Gulf coasts of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida panhandle; estimated \$5.9 billion damage/costs; 16 deaths.

August: Hurricane Bonnie



Category 3 hurricane strikes eastern North Carolina and Virginia, extensive agricultural damage due to winds and flooding; approximately \$1 billion damage/costs; three deaths.

Summer: Southern Drought/Heat Wave

Severe drought and heat wave from Texas/Oklahoma eastward to the Carolinas; \$6-9 billion damage/costs to agriculture and ranching; at least 200 deaths.

May: Minnesota Severe Storms/Hail

Very damaging thunderstorms with large hail over wide areas of Minnesota; over \$1.5 billion damage/costs; 1 death.

Winter-Spring:

Southeast Severe Weather

Tornadoes and flooding related to El Niño in southeastern states; over \$1 billion damage/costs; at least 132 deaths.

January: Northeast Ice Storm



Intense ice storm hits Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York; over \$1.4 billion damage/costs; 16 deaths.

1997

April-May: Northern Plains Flooding

Severe flooding in Dakotas and Minnesota due to heavy spring snowmelt; approximately \$3.7 billion damage/costs; 11 deaths.

March: Mississippi and Ohio Valleys Flooding and Tornadoes

Tornadoes and severe flooding; estimated \$1 billion damage/costs; 67 deaths.

December 1996-January 1997: West Coast Flooding

Torrential rains and snowmelt produce severe flooding; approximately \$3 billion damage/costs; 36 deaths.

1996

September: Hurricane Fran

Category 3 hurricane strikes North Carolina and Virginia,

WE REPENT! You can stake your life on that!" (Sept./Oct. 1993).

As many biblical prophecies reveal, future divine intervention in already upset meteorological conditions will play a prominent part in the tumultuous events bringing this age to a close. Weather disturbances of catastrophic proportions will be the result (Rev. 6:12-17; 8:5-12).

The Future

In the World Tomorrow, however, it

will be different. When the violent weather conditions accompanying the end of this age are wreaking their destruction, Jesus Christ will return to rule the world. Under His perfect government, all nations will be forced to live at peace. They will finally forsake their idols and other sinful pleasures and submit to God's government. At the start of the new Millennium, there will be some stubborn people who must be persuaded to submit to God's rule. One of the ways this will be done

is through divine climate control (Zech. 14:17). Eventually everyone will see the benefits of God's ways.

Once they do, the prophecy of Ezekiel 34:24, 26-27 will come to pass: "And I the Lord will be their God ... And I will make them ... a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing. And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase." ♦

With reporting by STEPHEN M. HILL

extensive agricultural and other losses; over \$5 billion damage/costs; 37 deaths.

Fall 1995-Summer 1996:

Southern Plains Severe Drought

Severe drought in agricultural regions of southern plains—Texas and Oklahoma most severely affected; approximately \$5 billion damage/costs.

February: Pacific Northwest Severe Flooding

Very heavy, persistent rains and melting snow over Oregon, Washington, Idaho and western Montana; approximately \$1 billion damage/costs; nine deaths.

January: Blizzard of '96



REUTERS

Very heavy snowstorm over Appalachians, Mid-Atlantic and Northeast, followed by severe flooding; approximately \$3 billion damage/costs; 187 deaths.

1995

October: Hurricane Opal

Category 3 hurricane strikes Florida panhandle, Alabama, western Georgia, eastern Tennessee and the western Carolinas; \$3 billion damage/costs; 27 deaths.

September: Hurricane Marilyn

Category 2 hurricane devastates U.S. Virgin Islands; estimated \$2.1 billion damage/costs; 13 deaths.

May: Texas-Oklahoma-Louisiana-Mississippi Severe Weather and Flooding

Torrential rains, hail and tornadoes; \$5-6 billion damage/costs; 32 deaths.

January-March: California Flooding

Frequent winter storms cause 20-70 inches rainfall and periodic flooding; over \$3 billion damage/costs; 27 deaths.

1994

Summer-Fall: Western Fire Season

Severe fire season in western states due to dry weather; \$1 billion damage/costs.

October: Texas Flooding

Torrential rain and thunderstorms cause flooding across much of southeast Texas; approximately \$1 billion damage/costs; 19 deaths.

July: Tropical Storm Alberto



COMBIS

Torrential rains, widespread flooding and agricultural damage in parts of Georgia, Alabama and panhandle of Florida; approximately \$1 billion damage/costs; 32 deaths.

February: Southeast Ice Storm

Intense ice storm with extensive damage; approximately \$3 billion damage/costs; nine deaths.

1993

Fall: California Wildfires

Dry weather, high winds and wildfires in Southern California; approximately \$1 billion damage/costs; four deaths.

Summer: Midwest Flooding



AP/WIDEWORLD

Severe, widespread flooding in central U.S. due to persistent heavy rains and thunderstorms; approximately \$21 billion damage/costs; 48 deaths.

Summer: Drought/Heat Wave

Southeastern U.S.; approximately \$1 billion damage/costs to agriculture; at least 16 deaths.

March: Storm/Blizzard

"Storm of the Century" hits entire eastern seaboard with tornadoes, high winds and heavy

snows; \$3-6 billion damage/costs; approximately 270 deaths.

1992

December: Nor'easter of 1992

Slow-moving storm batters northeast U.S. coast; \$1-2 billion damage/costs; 19 deaths.

September: Hurricane Iniki

Category 4 hurricane hits Hawaiian island of Kauai; approximately \$1.8 billion damage/costs; seven deaths.

August: Hurricane Andrew



DIGITAL STOCK

Category 4 hurricane hits Florida and Louisiana, high winds damage or destroy over 125,000 homes; approximately \$27 billion damage/costs; 61 deaths.

1991

October: Oakland Firestorm

Oakland, Calif., firestorm due to low humidities and high winds; approximately \$2.5 billion damage/costs; 25 deaths.

August: Hurricane Bob

Category 2 hurricane—mainly coastal North Carolina, Long Island and New England; \$1.5 billion damage/costs; 18 deaths.

SOURCE: NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



AP/WIDEWORLD

BIG CITY INFESTERS

The black, \$170 million Deutsche Bank tower, middle (next to the World Trade Center site), is so infested with mold that its future is in doubt.

A GROWING PROBLEM

BY STEPHEN M. HILL

ANYONE WHO HAS NOTICED JUST how much the U.S. building industry and, consequently, the insurance sector have suffered due to the recent blight of mildew might be surprised to note that this specific state of affairs was actually prophesied to occur in your Bible.

Like all of God's prophecies being broadcast worldwide by *Trumpet* Editor in Chief Gerald Flurry in the *Key of David* television program, even this seemingly small one is coming to pass!

How specific God can get when it comes to prophecy! "The Lord shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with MILDEW ..." (Deut. 28:22).

To bring this prophecy up to date with current events, one is immediately struck by the level of concern even conservative insurance

monthlies are expressing due to the present mildew plague in the U.S. "In an article titled 'Mold: Will It Grow to Be Bigger Than Asbestos?,' David P.

Anderson, senior counsel for Risk International, cites several examples that point to the enormity of the problem. The Environmental Protection Agency, he reports, estimates that mold has affected between 10 million to 25 million workers and some

800,000 to 1.1 million buildings. More specifically, Anderson notes that in the last 24 months, there have been numerous school closures—in Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and Washington—due to mold contamination" (*Risk and Insurance*, Dec. 2001).

Oklahoma building contractor Rick Rouzer says the price of chipboard has been affected due to lumber companies shipping planks of wood wrapped in plastic to protect against mildew. Building construction professionals and insurers are now increasingly on the lookout for evidence of the beginning of mold. For them, the curse of mold is threatening to become a whole new game of sink-or-swim, potentially costing the U.S. billions.

Meanwhile, the pace is picking up and getting rough in legal spheres: "[A] major insurer was recently hit

with a \$32.2 million jury verdict for not handling a mold claim properly, while in Oakland, Calif., 130 residents of a housing project received a \$1.3 million settlement for a mold contamination claim. And last year, about 300 tenants of a New York apartment complex filed a lawsuit seeking damages in excess of \$10 billion for personal injury and property damage arising from mold and fungi exposure" (ibid.).

Only a few years ago, claims for mildew damage were practically unheard of. Now they threaten to "wreak havoc on the way insurance companies deal with claims for water damage,

wherever you live" (Kiplinger's *Personal Finance Magazine*, Oct. 2001).

The greatest danger is that certain types of mold can grow in concentrated amounts indoors, and their spores, when inhaled, can seriously damage one's health. Some varieties have been attested by leading medical journals, such as the *British Medical Journal*, as being potentially lethal.

- *Stachybotrys* is a greenish-black fungus. It thrives in high-cellulose building materials. Fiber board, drywall, gypsum board, ceiling tiles and anything made of wood—even books—are favorite breeding grounds for this worldwide blight. It is well documented to produce a series of potent toxins capable of affecting the immune system and producing effects such as chronic fatigue, respiratory diseases, skin and eye irritation and problems with the central nervous system. Notice that the prophecy in Deuteronomy groups other curses with the problem of mildew: *consumption, fever, inflammation, extreme burning.*
- *Aspergillus* is another type of mildew, believed to affect human health in similar ways.
- *Penicillium* and *Cladosporium* are less toxic but are known to grow to levels that can spark allergic reactions such as asthma, eye and throat irritations, coughing and headaches.

In Britain, design teams are working to ensure that new hospital buildings don't fall foul to what has become known as "sick building syndrome."

"The term *sick building syndrome* is used to describe a situation in a building where more people than normal suffer from various symptoms or feel unwell for no apparent reason. The symptoms tend to increase in severity with the time that people spend in the building and to steadily improve or disappear when people are away from the building" (Paul H. Appleby, *British Medical Journal*, Sept. 14, 1996). Appleby, a divisional director of Building Health and Safety, in London, went on to specify *mold* as a risk factor for sick building syndrome.

American business, even tourism, is witness to the fact that the costs involved in the removal of mold can be devastating across the board. Recently,

CREEPING CURSE

The EPA estimates that mold has affected 10-25 million workers and 800,000 to 1.1 million buildings in the United States.

the *New York Times* reported that one of the world's largest hotels, Hilton Hawaiian Village at Waikiki Beach, is infected with mold. The resort has closed guest rooms in the newest of its six towers and is spending \$10 million to rid it of a potentially dangerous mold.

Mold has cast a serious blight not only on the world of construction and insurance, but in some sectors of the agricultural industry as well. For example, *Botrytis*, a mold common in strawberries, reduces yield and softens a wide range of small fruits. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's science magazine reported that "In the Pacific Northwest alone, the mold causes up to \$125 million per year in crop losses" (*Agricultural Research*, Sept. 2001).

"I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased ... yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord" (Amos 4: 9).

The sack of our substance is being eaten to holes, through which it is steadily and surely running to waste. But God doesn't want to see our substance rotting or being eaten away. Neither does He want us to have to suffer strange, new afflictions! If only we could see His purpose—this is one of His way of trying to get our attention. God wants us to turn to Him!

Suffice it to say, while such afflictions are still relatively tame, it is no exaggeration to draw the parallel between the way mold eats and wastes away the host it settles on and the fact it is costing millions, perhaps billions, of dollars in income to the developed world.

Few may think God would really get so specific in prophecy as to mention the minor curse of mold. But it is a prophecy God did make which *has* come true. "I smote you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labours of your hands; yet ye turned not to me, saith the Lord" (Hag. 2:17).

What if we were to turn to God? Would He take away some of the "smaller" plagues such as fires, MILDEW and insects, which have been on the rise so noticeably recently, as well as the ever-prevalent, bigger curses that are bringing the U.S. and Britain down?

Spiritually speaking, the United States is suffering a terrible blight, which is eating away at its moral heart. Will we repent? Will you? ◆

David upon which their unique, royal representative sits! *Forgotten* that all of their blessings, all their glory and all their prosperity came from *God!*

As the prophets foretold so long ago, Britain, a land increasingly dedicated to idols and false religious worship, will be cursed by God for allowing the *shame* of pagan religion to be practiced in its midst! (Ezek. 36:6).

Yes, Britain still has a unique capability to organize a major event with all the pomp and pageantry of apparent righteousness—but they simply don't *know* the true God! "They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: there is none among them that calleth unto me. Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned" (Hos. 7:7-8).

Britain is like a burned-out cake—it lacks substance. Though it looks good on the outside, it is in fact set to crumble. Just half a century ago, this nation prayed a collective prayer of thanks to God as their Deliverer in the greatest war in mankind's history. But in a little more than 50 years, they have turned away from Him. No nation that mixes itself among other nations, adopts the shame of their false religions and exalts sexual promiscuity and gender-blur will ever be influential for very long. Look what happened to Rome!

From Good Friday to Good News

The impending collapse of the Good Friday Agreement will herald the ultimate collapse of the once-Great Britain. That *sudden* collapse of the remains of the once-regal and globally powerful British people will soon shock the world. "My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations" (Hos. 9:17).

Believe it or not, unless Britain repents, Bible prophecy indicates that this once-great country stands to be reduced to an island of rubble, a tourist attraction to its conquerors, a mere reminder of the nation that turned its back on the God that once gave it the choicest parts of the Earth over which to rule. Yes, unless Britain repents, the all-wise, all-loving God will be forced to punish Britain to bring that nation back to Him! Then God will *crush* terrorism in all its vile forms.

After its punishment in great tribu-

lation (Matt. 24:21), God will clear away the rubble of rebellion, and a repentant Britain will be rebuilt in regal splendor under the King of kings. Having put away idol worship to serve the one true God who will then bless them abundantly, "Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found" (Hos. 14:8).

We have to remember that this coming punishment from God is all for a most glorious purpose. We must look beyond the present to see the glorious future God has planned for humankind. In that wonderful future, *terrorism will never again raise its ugly head!*

The memorial of the Ross McWhirter foundation is a noble cause. It is founded upon the finest principles that Britain once stood for. Yet, sadly, too few Britons uphold such principles today.

But God's coming family Kingdom will powerfully instill in the minds of men the *ultimate* qualities of godly citizenship—personal initiative, leadership and courage as an example to others. Jesus Christ will personally take command of a program of education which will inspire all mankind to reach for and attain their full, incredible human potential! (Isa. 2:3). God will put His very *nature* in man (Ezek. 36:26). *All* mankind will have a chance to understand the riches of the glory of the family of God! The *give* way will be taught—the way of life which is based on *outgoing concern*, one toward the other. God's government will reign supreme (Isa. 9:6-7). "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon" (Hos. 14:4-5). NO MORE ILLEGAL DRUG CARTELS, NO MORE GUNRUNNING—AND ONLY ONE *PURE* RELIGION!

God will have taught Protestant and Catholic, Jew and Gentile, Britain, Israel and the whole world a powerful spiritual lesson. He will restore Britain's former glory and prosperity and magnify it beyond comprehension! *Then* His chosen people will show forth the fruits of His divine Spirit and character in a natural outpouring of love toward all human beings, regardless of ethnic and cultural diversity. May God hasten that glorious day! ◆

◆ PERSONAL · from p. 1

in the future. The horror will not end until we learn that lesson.

In the future, it will get so bad that it won't even be possible to take care of all the dead. As bad as September 11 was, it did not shake America out of its godlessness and spiritual sickness. God will have to use more severe means to get our attention.

The fire in the WTC was so hot that it caused the steel to lose all of its strength. It melted faster than ice cream in hot weather. It was so hot, people were jumping from 100 stories high. But as bad as that was, it was just *the beginning* of sorrows.

The future will be much worse. Is that what it will take to wake up America and Britain so that God can bless them?

But realize also the positive side of this—there is a voice out there warning our people. The Philadelphia Church of God is the only voice telling the world what is going to happen. Though it comes with a lot of bad news—so much so that the land will eventually not be able to bear our words (Amos 7:10)—it also comes with the greatest news mankind has ever heard.

Notice Revelation 1:7: "BEHOLD, HE COMETH with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. ..."

Behold He comes! This is overwhelmingly good news. *Thayer's Lexicon* and *Strong's Concordance* state that "behold" can be translated, and in this context *should* be translated, "*Behold! See! Lo! He comes!*" Pay attention! HE IS REALLY COMING!

And it is in present tense: *He comes!* Who is God really talking to, if this is in the present tense? *He's addressing the people that are there when it's all going to happen*, the people who will have the honor and privilege to see Christ return to this Earth! The terrorist attack was truly ugly. But it is tied to this mind-staggering event!

"And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming" (1 John 2:28). We are in the *last hour*. AT THE END OF THIS HOUR, JESUS CHRIST WILL RETURN TO THE EARTH! We are so close to this awesome event!

When the last hour runs its course, then *behold! See! Lo! Jesus Christ comes!*



Forgotten

«I appreciate how the *Trumpet* has been tirelessly teaching and warning this present generation. May God bless all of you and especially Gerald Flurry for his vision like Herbert Armstrong's.»

Libya

YOUR MAGAZINE MAKES ME WONDER IF THERE are any prophecies about Malta. Nowadays in Malta we are being told how good it will be for Europe if Malta joins. We are getting a lot of top brass from Brussels, even Prodi himself, come over to tell us how wonderful it is to be in the EU. Please, if you can, see what the prophetic future is for Malta.

Sliema, Malta

I HAVE READ YOUR JOURNAL FOR OVER A year now, and I am shocked by the level of Islamophobia you preach. For example, your coverage of the Middle East totally favors Jews and repeatedly ignores legitimate Palestinian concerns.

London, England

THANK YOU FOR THE WONDERFUL ARTICLE that you didn't want us to read. Now I need to read about *Human Nature* and *Repentance Toward God*. I hope I'm not too late (78) to change.

Erie, Pennsylvania

THE *TRUMPET* IS ABSOLUTELY THE BEST reading found anywhere. But it doesn't seem the country is waking up in these climactic times. The news reports are saying that we are losing in most of our efforts in fighting the drug war and the Islamic Jihad. The situation with Syria and Iran is really serious. It doesn't look like anyone is getting too concerned.

Manteca, Calif.

Golden Jubilee

THANK YOU FOR THE ARTICLE ON ENGLAND'S Golden Jubilee. It's easy to think England is not that weak, watching shows about England on television or just thinking about it. But your article showed that the curses mentioned in the Bible are a reality we need to realize and that exist in England today. Thank you also for your article on German fascism. If I just watched TV and read the newspapers, etc., I would think we saved

Yugoslavia from an evil dictator. If I just listened to people at work, I would think the European Union was a good thing. But only after reading the plain truth in the *Trumpet*, July 2002 issue, does the scary and sickening picture of what really is happening appear. Thank you for continuing to bring these truths into focus and remembrance.

Bend, Oreg.

YOU ESPOUSE SOME OF THE MOST EXTREME right-wing conservative pro-U.S. politics I have ever seen! How can so overtly political an organization be of God? How indeed, when the U.S. is so often more wrong than right and the people the U.S. labels as terrorists are regarded by many people, with good reason, as freedom fighters akin to the Dutch and French resistance of World War II? The real threat to world peace and security in our time does not come from Germany, it comes from the U.S.A.

Qld., Australia

I STUMBLED ON YOUR JULY 2002 EDITION of your magazine on a visit to a friend. I picked up the magazine to read, and I never did drop it until the last page was read. Your write-up on "How German Fascism Conquered Kosovo" made interesting reading. It indeed highlighted the danger of allowing Germany to take up the leadership of the European Union. May God deliver mankind from the German beast.

Cross River State, Nigeria

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

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RYAN MALONE

The Death of True Culture

What has caused it and what it means for the West.

IF EVER THERE WAS A TIME TO BEMOAN THE DEATH OF CULTURE, that time is now. Serious ills in Anglo-American society have led us down the path to becoming a culturally inept people.

Webster's defines *culture* as "acquaintance with and taste in fine arts, humanities" It is also "enlightenment and excellence of taste acquired by intellectual and aesthetic TRAINING."

But the English-speaking peoples live in an age of affluence and ease. Even our "work" tends to be easy. We've been numbed to believe everything should come easy—especially our culture. If it takes effort and education to appreciate it and enjoy it, then we will probably move on to something easier—which usually means something of lesser quality. So true culture, by its very definition, DIES.

The advent of television has been a huge part of this problem. For every hour of television we watch, we spend four minutes in cultural activities. And no wonder. Television is easy. It takes much less hassle (not to mention being more affordable) than getting dressed up, leaving the house and forking out \$25 a seat to attend a play or a concert. And what it shows us caters to our culturally challenged minds. It is showy, flashy, catchy, entertaining. And if we don't like what we see, we can change the channel.

Television COULD help the phenomenon—making operas, new plays, historical information more accessible. But, aside from public television, it has done just the opposite.

Now, let's not point fingers. Truth is, we want it that way.

This age of affluence should allow us to enjoy the "finer" things of life. To attend plays, concerts and art galleries, to establish a hearty classical music library in our home, to have the time to enjoy fine literature. Instead, we go for what's easy.

Part of the reason is that we simply don't *know* any better. So many are as wealthy as aristocrats, yet without the training in culture that goes along with being of noble blood. We haven't been educated to know the difference between fine and finer. What is excellence? What is taste? Modern education has failed to *teach* cultural literacy and history—to cultivate appreciation for the finest achievements of man's literature, art, music.

We live in a society—and here is the danger, even beyond culture—that puts less and less emphasis on HISTORY and more on the "now"—on IMMEDIATE gratification. This makes appreciation for fine culture (which takes time and

effort to develop) more difficult. In the process, we have become a society of cultural amnesiacs who don't have time for anything but catchy tunes that don't require more than 3½ minutes of our attention.

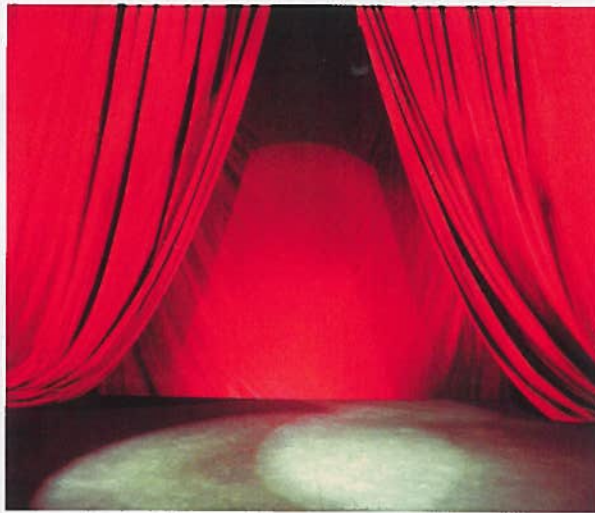
In times past, cultured individuals weren't just the elite, the aristocratic. There was a time when operatic arias WERE the pop songs. If people couldn't afford to attend concerts, they made their own—gathering around the piano, each child with an instrument, to play music for their evening entertainment. The masses were cultured because they *were* the culture!

Understanding art, theater, literature, opera takes time, experience, education. But, sadly, today we rarely slow down, appreciate, observe, relax. Such a lifestyle is marring not only to high culture and excellence but to our entire perspective on the world, on significant history, on important issues, and even on our morals.

Another major modern weapon in destroying true culture is our *popular* culture with perversion and obscenity as its predominant characteristics—a culture that appeals to the very attributes that destroy high culture. We've come to embrace an overabundance of hedonistic and crude reality television shows, hormonally driven dating shows and sitcoms portraying the supremely unrealistic active sexual lives of singles—all of it showing human nature at its lowest. We are entertained by the scandal-ridden lives of our celebrities. This is our "culture." It is a subculture that has killed true culture—which should, for the most part, show humanity at its finest, most excellent physical and mental state of creativity and achievement.

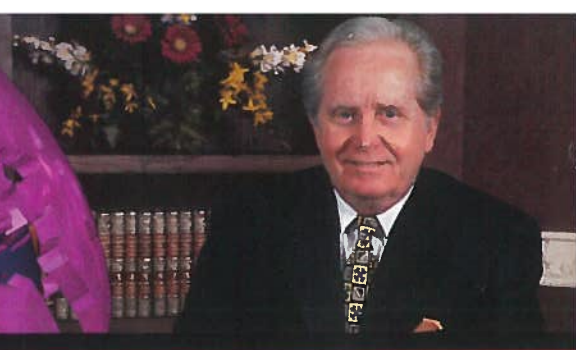
Since the early part of the 20th century, our New Morality has created a rebellious youth contingent—identifying with their desires and feeding an ever-growing generation gap—which has contributed to the fall of excellence in taste to the death of classical music and the scarcity of fine art and literature.

Because we have become a society glutted on popular entertainment, affluence and ease, culture is being nonchalantly shoved aside. Because we've lost a proper perspective of time, history and education, culture is taking its dying breaths. Even if culture were the only victim, it would still be a remarkable tragedy in the annals of Western civilization. But what's worse is that all these ills that plague culture reveal deeper problems about our society and the disastrous direction it is headed.



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California, Los Angeles—KTLA 7:00 am, Sun
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Illinois, Chicago—WFLD 10:00 am, Sun
Illinois, Harrisburg—KBSI 7:30 am, Sun
Illinois, Mt. Vernon—WDKA 7:30 am, Sun
Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 7:30 am, Sun
Missouri, Cape Girardeau—KBSI 7:30 am, Sun
New York, Buffalo—WUTV 8:30 am, Sun
New York, Plattsburg—WVNY 7:00 am, Sun
New York, New York City—WWOR 7:30 am, Sat
North Carolina, Asheville—WASV 8:00 am, Sun
North Carolina, Charlotte—WAXN 8:00 am, Sun
North Carolina, Kannapolis—WAXN 8:00 am, Sun
North Carolina, Fayetteville—WKFT 9:30 am, Sun
North Carolina, Raleigh—WKFT 9:30 am, Sun
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WTVE 11:30 am, Sun
South Carolina, Greenville—WASV 8:00 am, Sun
South Carolina, Spartanburg—WASV 8:00 am, Sun
Texas, Dallas—KDFI 9:00 am, Sun
Texas, Tyler—KLTU 10:30 am, Sun
Vermont, Burlington—WVNY 7:00 am, Sun
Virginia, Roanoke—WDRL 8:00 am, Sun
Washington, D.C.—WTTG 7:00 am, Sun

Canada

Satellite—Galaxy 3 Trans. 3 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thur
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Satellite—Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun
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Dish Network—KTLA Chan. 232 10:00 am ET, Sun
Dish Network—WWOR Chan. 238 7:30 am ET, Sat
Nationwide cable—WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun
Nationwide cable—KTLA 10:00 am ET, Sun
Alberta—CKRD 9:30 am, Sun
British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 7:30 am, Sun
Ontario—WUTV 8:30 am, Sun
Quebec, Montreal—WVNY 7:00 am, Sun

Europe

England—(Radio) MANX 1368 AM 7:45 pm, Sun
Ireland—(Radio) MANX 1368 AM 7:45 pm, Sun
Malta—Smash TV 4:00 pm CET, Sun; 8:10 pm CET, Mon; 7:10 am CET Tue; 10:10 pm CET, Thu
Scotland—(Radio) MANX 1368 AM 7:45 pm, Sun

Latin America

Satellite—Galaxy 3 Trans. 3 11:30 am ET, Tue/Thur
Argentina—WWOR 8:30 am Sat
Belize—WGN 8:00 am ET, Sun; KTLA 10:00 am ET, Sun
Brazil—WWOR 8:30 am, Sat
Chile—WWOR 7:30 am, Sat
Colombia—WGN 7:00 am, Sun; WWOR 6:30 am, Sat
El Salvador—WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Guatemala—WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Honduras—WGN 6:00 am, Sun
Mexico—WGN 7:00 am, Sun; KTLA 8:00 am, Sun
Panama—WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Venezuela—WWOR 8:30 am, Sat

Caribbean

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Satellite—Galaxy 5 Trans. 7 8:00 am ET, Sun
Direct TV—WGN Chan. 307 8:00 am ET, Sun
Dish Network—WGN Chan. 239 8:00 am ET, Sun
Dish Network—KTLA Chan. 232 10:00 am ET, Sun
Dish Network—WWOR Chan. 238 7:30 am ET, Sat
Aruba—WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Bahamas—WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Cuba—WGN 8:00 am, Sun; WWOR 7:30 am, Sat
Dominican Republic—WGN 8:00 am, Sun
Grenada—MTV Grenada 8:00 am
Haiti—WGN 7:00 am, Sun
Jamaica—WGN 9:00 am, Sun; WWOR 8:30 am, Sat
Puerto Rico—WGN 8:00 am, Sun; WWOR 7:30 am, Sat
Tobago—CCN 7:30 am, Sun
Trinidad—CCN 7:30 am, Sun

Middle East/Africa

Algeria—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Bahrain—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Cyprus—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Egypt—Star World 11:00 pm, Sun
Ethiopia—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
Iran—Star World 1:30 am, Sun
Iraq—Star World 11:50 pm, Sat
Israel—Star World 11:00 pm, Sat

Jordan—Star World 11:00 pm, Sun
Kuwait—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
Lebanon—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Morocco—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Oman—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Palestine—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Qatar—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Somalia—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
Sudan—Star World 11:00 pm, Sat
Syria—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Tunisia—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
United Arab Emirates—Star World 1:00 am, Sun
Yemen—Star World 1:00 am, Sun

Asia/Pacific

Cambodia—Star World 4:00 am, Sun
China—Star World 5:00 am, Sun
North Korea—Star World 6:00 am, Sun
South Korea—Star World 6:00 am, Sun
Hong Kong—Star World 5:00 am, Sun
India—Star World 2:30 am, Sun
Nepal—Star World 2:45 am, Sun
Pakistan—Star World 2:00 am, Sun
Kazakhstan—Star World 4:00 am, Sun
Uzbekistan—Star World 2:00 am, Sun
Georgia—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
Indonesia—Star World 4:00 am, Sun
Malaysia—Star World 5:00 am, Sun
Maldives—Star World 2:00 am, Sun
Brunei—Star World 5:00 am, Sun
Vietnam—Star World 4:00 am, Sun
Papua New Guinea—Star World 7:00 am, Sun
Philippines—IBC TV 7:00 am, Sun; Fiji—Star World 5:00 am, Sun
Taiwan—Star World 5:00 am, Sun

Australia/New Zealand

Australia nationwide—Network Ten 4:30 am, Sun
New South Wales—NRTV 4:30 am, Sun
Canberra—Ten Capital 4:30 am, Sun
Queensland—QTV 4:30 am, Sun
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