

JUNE 2001

IS RUSSIA FINISHED?

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*The Philadelphia*

# *Trumpet*



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How our  
culture of  
looseness  
enslaves us

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ON THE COVER: The Statue of Liberty stands as a symbol of freedom. (Digital Stock)



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J. Tim Thompson  
Vyron Wilkins  
**MANAGING EDITOR** Stephen Flurry  
**ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR** Joel Hilliker  
**NEWS EDITOR** Ron Fraser  
**CONTRIBUTORS** Eric Anderson  
Gareth Fraser  
Stephen Hill  
Andrew Locher  
Ryan Malone  
Wilbur Malone  
Gary Rethford  
**RESEARCH ASSISTANT** Zrinka Pratezina  
**CONTRIBUTING EDITORS** Donna Grieves  
Deborah Leap  
Paula Powell  
Melody Thompson  
Magda Wilkins

**PREPRESS PRODUCTION** Ryan Malone  
**CIRCULATION** Jason Hensley  
**INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS EDITOR** Wik Heerma  
French Antonin Chiasson  
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**SPANISH EDITION EDITOR** Stephen Hill  
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# Murders in Tekoa

**S**ome murders are much more revealing than others. Two young Jewish boys were killed on May 9 in the town of Tekoa, Israel, located about 12 miles south of Jerusalem. The boys were playing in a cave. Later they were found with their hands tied, stabbed and bludgeoned to death with stones. The killers had smeared their blood all over the cave.

The boys were ages 13 and 14. The 13-year-old and his family had migrated to Israel from America. His relatives live in the U.S. So we are intertwined with Israel in several ways.

The rage in Israel continues to escalate. Both sides have committed violence. The Middle East is on the verge of exploding, and it is going to affect *your life* intensely!

You need to understand why.

More effort is expended to bring peace to the Middle East than any place on Earth. But as we feverishly reach for peace, virtually the whole world is being drawn into a war.

Is there any solution? Yes, there is.

Since these murders happened in a biblically famous city, I think it is appropriate that we look at some of Tekoa's history. Its history reveals how to stop violence and crime in the Middle East and in other parts of our world.

Anciently, Jehoshaphat delivered a powerful message in Tekoa. "And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; *Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper*" (II Chron. 20:20). The message of how to have peace and joy was thundered to the people, and it happened in the very same town where the boys were murdered.

What a paradox!

Do you believe any of our peace-seekers will look into the biblical history of Israel for a solution? Probably not. But it is still the **ONLY** place they will find a solution!

All we must do to be established—nationally or individually—is *believe* God. If we believe God's prophets, we will prosper. We must look to God and God's messengers, or His

prophets. The Jews are only one tribe of Israel. We have proven for many years that America and Britain are a part of Israel too. (For more information, write for our free booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.)

But Israel has a history of stoning and killing the prophets—so said Christ (Matt. 23:37). "Religious" people have always been at the vanguard of the murderous persecution of God's prophets.

What a powerful irony. The two boys were savagely murdered in Tekoa. And if we look in the Bible, we see that the solution to this violence today was given in Tekoa!

It's all a matter of faith. Do we believe the Bible is God's Word?

Many people think they believe God, but do not. Do you believe the Bible? The booklet I just offered you—*The United States and Britain in Prophecy*—is the single greatest proof of God's existence and that the Bible is God's Word.

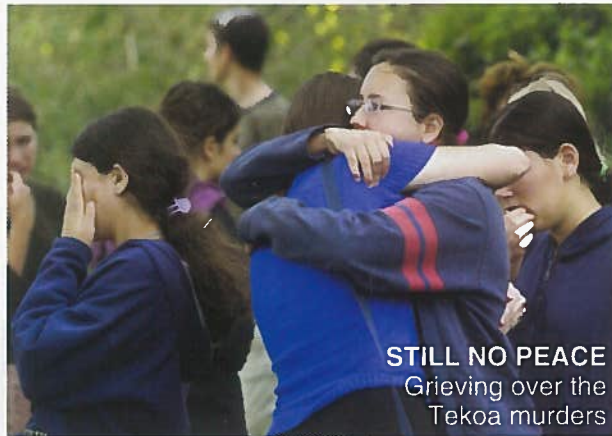
One of Israel's greatest prophets, Amos, was from the city of Tekoa (Amos 1:1). But his own people rejected his mes-

sage from God and tried to drive him out of the area (Amos 7). His message was only a *type* of one to be delivered today. This latter-day message is also prophesied to be rejected. It is the *last* message that God will deliver (Amos 7:8) before the time of suffering the Bible calls the Great Tribulation (Matt. 24:21; Rev. 7:14). (Write for our free booklet on Amos.)

As with Christ, religious people led the persecution against Amos. It is happening the same way in this end time.

The Prophet Jeremiah wrote his book for this end time (Jer. 30:1-3). Most of his prophecies revolve around the latter days. One of the strongest warnings he wrote was given in Tekoa anciently.

"O ye children of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem, and *blow the trumpet in Tekoa, and set up a sign of fire in Beth-haccerem: for evil appeareth out of the north, and great destruction*. I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman" (Jer. 6:1-2). Zion is a type of God's Church today. Jerusalem is a type of all Israel—including Britain and America. As Jeremiah warned, the great end-time destruction will come *from the*



**STILL NO PEACE**  
Grieving over the  
Tekoa murders

**Do you believe any of our peace-seekers will look into the biblical history of Israel for a solution? Probably not. But it is still the **ONLY** place they will find a solution!**

north. This refers to the king of the north mentioned in Daniel 11:40-41, Jeremiah 1:15 and many other prophecies.

This is how the Great Tribulation—the worst time of suffering ever on this Earth—will begin. World War III will be triggered in the Middle East.

The trumpet is to be blown in *Tekoa*. The trumpet symbolizes a warning. And what is the warning about? The “GREAT DESTRUCTION” coming from the north.

There is also to be a sign of fire in Beth-haccerem, a high place in the Tekoa area. So there is a double warning about the terrifying destruction from the north—that the enemy is about to come, unless we repent.

The “sign of fire” symbolizes nuclear destruction in this end time. Remember, it is called “great destruction,” or the worst destruction ever (Dan. 12:1; Matt. 24:21-22).

“Thus saith the Lord, Behold, a people cometh from the north country, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth” (Jer. 6:22). God raises up a great nation to punish Israel for their evil. “They shall lay hold on bow and spear; they are CRUEL, and have no mercy; their voice roareth like the sea; and they ride upon horses, set in array as men for war against thee, O daughter of Zion” (v. 23). They are a “cruel” nation—against God’s own people and the nations of Israel. And that is not all. “We have heard the FAME thereof: our hands wax feeble: anguish hath taken hold of us, and pain, as of a woman in travail” (v. 24). They are famous for their cruelty. That is why the people will agonize as a woman giving birth to a child!

Who could that be in this end time? The same nation—Germany—that started World Wars I and II and demonstrated the greatest cruelty we have seen to this point in time. (Write for our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.)

How can we prevent this crisis of all crises? “Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the OLD PATHS, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein. Also I set watchmen over you, saying, Hearken to the sound of the trumpet. But they said, We will not hearken” (vv. 16-17). God’s Laodicean Church and the nations of Israel were shown the “old paths” but refused to walk in them. God also set watchmen over us to blow the trumpet about the coming Great Tribulation. You are reading a watchman’s message right now! But our people said, “We will not hearken.”

What are the *old paths*? This applies spiritually and physically.

God’s Church had God’s truth revealed to them in this end time. But most of them have rebelled and forsaken that truth—the *old paths*.

The nations of Israel—mainly America, the British peoples and the Jewish nation—have a history with God. No other nation has ever been called by God to set a righteous example for the world. No other nation was ever given such a commission!

But Israel has rejected those *old paths*. We now lead the world in drug usage, crime, divorce, pornography and every other pathology.

This is why God will punish us as no other nation has been punished, if we don’t repent.

“Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hear-

kened unto my words, nor to my LAW, but rejected it” (v. 19). They have *rejected* God’s words and law, the Ten Commandments. You can’t *reject* or *not hearken* unless God’s truth was proclaimed in your presence.

Herbert W. Armstrong preached the true gospel around the world as a witness (Matt. 24:14). God’s Word and law were taught. We now “prophesy AGAIN,” after God’s message was stopped by His own people (Rev. 10:11).

Still, the nations of Israel have rejected that message. They still act very religious—but it is not a *lawful* religion (Jer. 6:20). And the religions in Israel have done away with God’s law, or Ten Commandments. They also reject the government of God that teaches that law.

And now the nations of Israel seek peace in the Middle East and in their own cities. But there is no peace (v. 14). There will never be peace until they hearken to God’s words and law!

That includes peace in our nations’ deeply troubled families.

Our people continue to commit the worst abominations and are not ashamed (v. 15). America sends its pornography around the

world on the Internet and in movies. It is far ahead of any other nation in spreading this filth, but still is not ashamed!

We need to wake up and see what God thinks about our sins. We were *chosen* by God to lead the world in keeping God’s Word and law. Instead WE LEAD THE WORLD IN REJECTING GOD’S WORD AND BREAKING HIS LAW—THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT WE WERE CHOSEN TO DO!

Strong marriages and families are the foundational strength of any nation. Drugs and pornography help to shatter this institution and destroy our nations’ godly values.

That is *why* we blow the trumpet. The solution to our crime and other problems is revealed in the history and prophecy of Tekoa. God has established this trumpet-blowing work (v. 27).

How bad will it get? “Be thou instructed, O Jerusalem, lest my soul DEPART from thee; lest I make thee desolate, a LAND NOT INHABITED” (v. 8). If we don’t heed God’s message, He *departs*. That is the worst possible news! Then the land of Israel becomes desolate—“a land not inhabited.”

A land without inhabitants? That is a description of nuclear destruction. After the attack, the remainder of our people will be taken out of their own land as slaves.

This terrifying prophecy has never happened in our history. But it is about to happen, and is prophesied in over a hundred Bible prophecies! How can a rational person not look into these warnings from God?

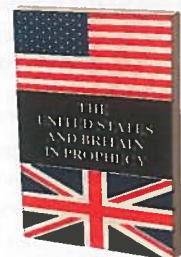
You are reading the same message that Amos and Jeremiah taught.

In the end, there is good news. All this terrifying destruction will unfold immediately before the greatest event of all: Christ’s return.

God has promised to *protect* us individually or nationally if we repent. May the great God help you to heed this urgent and terrifying message!

## Israel leads the world in rejecting God’s Word and breaking His law—the opposite of what we were chosen to do!

To order your free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong’s booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, please visit our website, [www.pcog.org](http://www.pcog.org), or look on the inside cover of this magazine for information on ordering by phone or mail.



# Declaring the Mystery

Why fighting for  
*Mystery of the Ages*  
is so important to us

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

**W**E USED TO PAY THE press, by purchasing ad space, to tell our story. In recent months, however, some media outlets have come knocking on *our* door. Now well into its fifth year, the court battle over *Mystery of the Ages* (MOA) is finally attracting some attention.

Jess Bravin's front-page article in the February 21 *Wall Street Journal* is most notable. In it, Bravin told the story of a church that disavowed the tenets of its founder after his death, even to the point of destroying his written works and preventing all others from printing them.

These events were what prompted us, the Philadelphia Church of God (PCG), to reprint and distribute *Mystery of the Ages* in early 1997. The Worldwide Church of God (WCG) sued immediately for copyright infringe-

ment, feeling it was their "Christian duty" to keep the book out of print.

In mid-1998, a federal district judge ruled in our favor, saying that distributing the entire book, free of charge, was a "fair use" of the work.

The WCG immediately appealed. And in September of last year, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the lower court's judgment by a 2-1 ruling. The lower court then ordered the PCG to stop distributing the book in late January, bringing its four-year print run to a standstill—temporarily, we hope.

On April 2, the United States Supreme Court let the Ninth Circuit's reversal stand, deciding not to hear PCG's appeal—for now, anyway. There will be another opportunity for appeal once the damages trial in the lower court concludes this fall.

Additionally, the counterclaim we filed against WCG for 18 other works of Mr. Armstrong appears to be gaining

some momentum. The district judge in California has allowed us to use the Religious Freedom Restoration Act as part of our claim, even though it had been rejected earlier in the *Mystery of the Ages* suit.

Both lawsuits—*Mystery of the Ages* and the other 18 works—are far from over. The *Trumpet* will keep you up to date with the legal developments as they unfold. For more background information, log on to our legal website at [www.mysteryoftheages.org](http://www.mysteryoftheages.org).

## Harvard Law Review

Returning to the Ninth Circuit's split decision that forced us to stop distributing *Mystery*, we draw your attention to an article in the April issue of the *Harvard Law Review*. (The article is reprinted in full on page 6.) In it, the journal criticized the Ninth Circuit for applying the copyright law "narrowly." "By giving insufficient weight to the religious nature of the text," the article stated, "the court interpreted fair use in a manner that contravenes the goals of a doctrine designed to encourage, not hinder, the free expression of ideas."

Of course, this is what our lawyers have been arguing all along. *Technically*, yes, WCG holds the copyright to *Mystery of the Ages*. But they are using it unlawfully, in our opinion. They are using it to suppress the free expression of Mr. Armstrong's ideas.

"The most serious error in the court's analysis," the *Review* continued, "was its failure to credit sufficiently MOA's centrality to PCG, which led it to misapply the first fair use factor. MOA is required reading for those who seek baptism in the church, and church policy mandates reading the book before services because it 'provides the key to understanding the Bible.' The dissent recognized this centrality. The majority, however, treated PCG's copying and distribution of MOA as a straightforward infringement case. It failed to recognize that to prohibit PCG's use of the book would be to suppress both the unique expression of the ideas in the book and the ability of PCG's members to live according to their religious faith." (Later, we will examine the centrality of *Mystery of the Ages* to our religious doctrine.)

If the majority erred in not recognizing this centrality, it made matters worse by giving credibility to WCG's plans for producing an annotated version of MOA. "The court's assumption

Herbert W.  
Armstrong

PHOTO: HERBERT ARMSTRONG

that WCG was not seeking to keep MOA from the public (or from PCG) rested on a tenuous belief in the sincerity of WCG's annotation plans; it then privileged those speculative plans over PCG's immediate, religious need for the book."

Indeed, the *Review* correctly asserts that the WCG has no plans whatsoever to reproduce *Mystery of the Ages*—certainly not in the form Mr. Armstrong printed it. "WCG withdrew MOA from circulation because its leaders believed they had a 'Christian duty' to avoid propagating the book's doctrinal er-

## Aside from what the Constitution allows, there are spiritual reasons we decided to print *Mystery of the Ages* in 1997 and offer it free of charge to all who requested it.

rors; the church's reasons for not wanting PCG to copy MOA were clearly not limited to market concerns."

The *Harvard Law Review* highlights some of the arguments that we believe will help us before this legal struggle is finally over. From the beginning, we have contended that redistributing *Mystery of the Ages* was allowed by the Constitution. We feel this will eventually hold up in court.

Aside from what the Constitution allows, there are *spiritual* reasons we decided to print *Mystery of the Ages* in 1997 and offer it free of charge to all who requested it. Most notable among these reasons is the importance of *Mystery of the Ages* to our religious beliefs.

### The Bible Is a Mystery

In Colossians 1:23, Paul exhorted God's people to be "grounded and settled" in the "hope of the gospel." He was in jail at the time, and yet, providing encouragement for the saints. Even prison could not slow down Paul's ministry. "Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; Even the *mystery* which hath been HID FROM AGES and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints" (vv. 25-26). We believe passages like this inspired Mr. Armstrong with the title *Mystery of the Ages* for his most significant book.

The word *mystery* in Colossians 1:26 comes from the Greek word *mysterion*. *Thayer's Lexicon* defines it as a "hidden or secret thing, not obvious to the understanding...generally mysteries, religious secrets, confided only to the initiated and not to ordinary mortals." Another definition is "the secret

counsels which govern God in dealing with the righteous, which are hidden from ungodly and wicked men but plain to the godly."

Like Paul, Mr. Armstrong believed the most critical truths of the Bible had been shrouded in mystery from the masses of mankind. He quoted Bruce Barton in the preface of *Mystery of the Ages*, saying the Bible is "the book that nobody knows." In *Mystery of the Ages*, Mr. Armstrong set out to explain the biblical truth about SEVEN GREAT MYSTERIES man has been unable to

solve: the mystery of God, the truth about angels and evil spirits, the mystery of man, of civilization, Israel, the true Church and, finally, the mystery of the Kingdom of God.

"These are the SEVEN GREAT MYSTERIES that concern the very lives of every human being on Earth," Mr. Armstrong wrote. "The PLAIN TRUTH of all these mysteries is revealed in the Bible, but none of the churches or theologians seem to have comprehended them."

"WHY?" he asked. Because "the Bible IS THE BASIC MYSTERY OF ALL."

In writing *Mystery of the Ages*, Mr. Armstrong hoped to unveil the truth about that basic mystery—the Holy Bible. When he presented *Mystery of the Ages* as a textbook to his sophomore class at Ambassador College in 1985, he told them it was a synopsis of the ENTIRE BIBLE. "You could say it's the gist of the Bible. It doesn't cover all of it. But it covers the main thread of the Bible so you can *understand* the Bible."

You can see why he was so excited about distributing the work.

Paul was equally thrilled about his opportunity to teach the mystery. "Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, BUT NOW IS MADE MANIFEST TO HIS SAINTS: TO WHOM GOD WOULD MAKE KNOWN what is the riches of the glory of this mystery AMONG THE GENTILES; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: WHOM WE PREACH, warning EVERY MAN, and teaching EVERY MAN in all wisdom; that we may present EVERY MAN perfect in Christ Jesus" (vv. 26-28). God made the mystery known to Paul first, then to the saints, through Paul—and from there, to the Gentiles. Ultimately, Paul said in verse 28, the goal is EVERY MAN!

On September 23, 1985, shortly before Mr. Armstrong finished *Mystery of the Ages*, he wrote to all the members of the Worldwide Church of God. In his letter, he told his supporters that *Mystery of the Ages* was the most important book of his life. He even considered it to be the most important book since the Bible. "We want to reach the LARGEST AUDIENCE POSSIBLE with this book. I know you will feel the same way when you read it."

Like Paul, Mr. Armstrong knew that the astonishing truths God had revealed to him were of little value unless he MADE THEM KNOWN—"every man" being the ultimate goal. As it turns out, Mr. Armstrong barely lived long enough to start that goal. The book was released in the fall of 1985. Mr. Armstrong died in January 1986. And in 1988, his successor stopped the presses and destroyed remaining inventories of the book.

### The Spirit Searches All Things

The Apostle Paul also wrote about the "mystery" in I Corinthians. He told the saints at Corinth that his teaching "was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power" (I Cor. 2:4). Some of the members in Corinth were undoubtedly criticizing Paul for not being more scholarly. Many present-day leaders of the WCG have also criticized Mr. Armstrong for his "informal" education. This is one of the reasons they so quickly disavowed his teachings soon after his death—even discontinuing the one book that summed up his life's work.

When he was alive, Mr. Armstrong was never intimidated by worldly scholarship. Neither was Paul. "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect [meaning *spiritually mature*]: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God IN A MYSTERY, even the *hidden wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory" (vv. 6-7). In verse 7, we see the same Greek word—*mysterion*. God ordained it before the world began, but it has remained hidden from mankind. Even the scholars of this world cannot grasp this mystery (v. 8).

That is because God must reveal it! "But God hath revealed them unto us by *his Spirit*: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD" (v. 10). The natural mind of man, without God's Holy Spirit, can only under-

stand material things (v. 11). It cannot grasp spiritual truth.

It is our opinion that *Mystery of the Ages* contains spiritual truth. We do not expect everyone to agree with us on that point. There are probably many others, in addition to those still in the Worldwide Church of God, who place no great value on *Mystery of the Ages*.

But the same could be said for ANY book! The point is, TO US, *Mystery of the Ages* is the most important book on this Earth—next to the Bible. And it's even more important for us to make that truth known to the largest audience possible. We believe the U.S. Constitution allows for that. We KNOW Mr. Armstrong would have wanted it that way. And looking into the Scriptures, we believe God is behind our effort to make this truth known to EVERY MAN.

### The Deep Things of God

Turning to Ephesians 3, we again see how Paul would not allow incarceration to impede his efforts in proclaiming the mystery (v. 1). "Assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly" (vv. 2-3; Revised Standard Version). God had revealed the mystery to Paul. And for the brethren to understand it, they needed God's Spirit, as we have seen from I Corinthians 2.

But that's not all. "Whereby, WHEN YE READ, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ" (v. 4). They needed God's Spirit—AND a written explanation of that mystery to read!

"Which in OTHER AGES was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets *by the Spirit*" (v. 5). In other ages, mankind could not understand. But now, *by God's Spirit* and through PAUL'S WRITINGS, they could understand. Let us not forget how important *writings* are to this equation. God provides the Spirit direct from Him. He then provides His teachings through His servants—many times in the form of written works, like Paul's epistles or Mr. Armstrong's *Mystery of the Ages*.

Paul took his ministry seriously. God had commissioned him to deliver these "unsearchable riches of Christ" to all men (vv. 8-9). He fulfilled that commission mostly in the form of written works.

"For this cause I bow my knees unto

the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the WHOLE FAMILY in heaven and earth is named" (vv. 14-15). This, in sum, is what the mystery is all about—the family of God. Ever since the world began, mankind in general has not understood that God is a family—and that He is reproducing Himself (Gen. 1:26).

*Mystery of the Ages* proves that truth to all those who have a childlike attitude—to those who will be led by God's Spirit and prove the truth God has preserved in writing.

Some have wondered why we just don't explain these truths all over again in our own words—in a different book. The way Paul concludes Ephesians 3 is part of the reason why this has not been an option. "That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to *comprehend* with all saints what is the BREADTH, and LENGTH, and DEPTH, and HEIGHT" (vv. 17-18).

There is SO MUCH DEPTH to this mystery. God is reproducing Himself—fine. But what does that really mean? Why is He reproducing Himself? What led up to that plan? Does the rebellion of Lucifer and his angels have anything to do with it?

What about Adam's rebellion in the Garden of Eden and the fact that God cut him off from the tree of life? Did Adam's sin have anything to do with the present state of man's civilization?

And what about ancient Israel? Why would God raise up one nation to be

**They have no interest in protecting the free expression of ideas. Their only ambition in this case is to suppress—in fact, destroy—religious views they consider to be heresy.**

His chosen people and yet deny them spiritual salvation—except for their prophets? Is God a respecter of persons? What about all the other nations?

And what was the purpose for Jesus Christ coming in the flesh? Why did He come 4,000 years after man's civilization began? What was the purpose for His ministry? Why were there only a handful of disciples? Why the Church? How come it didn't begin until after Christ died? And why have there been so many variations of Christian denominations ever since? Didn't Christ mean for there to be only one true Church? If there is only one, where is it? And if Christ is trying to save the world now, why have so many been lost—presumably billions having lived and died without ever knowing Christ?

And what about the future? Assuming God is a family to be born as spirit when Christ returns, why? What will God's family do on this Earth? What about the universe?

The answers to all these questions, believe it or not, are explained in *Mystery of the Ages*. To answer those questions in another book would be like trying to rewrite *War and Peace*. Sure, we could try to tell the same story in our own words, but in the end it would NEVER be *War and Peace*.

### Suppressing "Heresy"

Much of the WCG's success at the Ninth Circuit rests on their potential plans for an annotated version of *Mystery of the Ages* that would reveal all the "errors" in Mr. Armstrong's teachings. While we feel these plans are nothing but talk, the fact is that even if they produced an annotated version, it is *that book* which should carry a different title. Mr. Armstrong wrote *Mystery of the Ages*—not some annotated version that attacks his own life-long religious beliefs. The WCG is the church that ought to consider writing another, altogether different book—not us.

As this case plays out in appeal, we feel that judges and juries will come to see the insincerity behind the WCG's arguments in court. They have absolutely no interest in using the copyright law the way it was intended—to PROTECT the free expression of ideas. Their only ambition in this case is to SUP-

PRESS—in fact, *destroy*—religious views they consider to be heresy. Indeed, they consider this suppression their "Christian duty."

But religious "heresy" does not give a church the right to ban books—not in America, anyway. The *Harvard Law Review* article made mention of this fact: "The court's failure to see the case for what it was—a church's attempt to suppress heresy by using copyright law—led it to overlook the purposes of the fair use doctrine and FACILITATE THE MONOPOLIZATION OF A RELIGIOUS IDEA." ♦

To remain updated on the *Mystery of the Ages* court case, log on to our legal website: [www.MysteryoftheAges.org](http://www.MysteryoftheAges.org).

# Copyright Law FAIR USE

Ninth Circuit holds that breakaway church cannot invoke fair use to reprint copyrighted book suppressed by parent church

HARVARD LAW REVIEW

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**F**AIR USE DOCTRINE MIGHT RIGHTLY BE considered a full-employment act for copyright attorneys. As one commentator has wryly noted, “[i]t is *de rigueur* to begin a scholarly discussion by quoting one of the judicial laments that fair use defies definition...before going on to define it anyway.” Last September, in *Worldwide Church of God v. Philadelphia Church of God*, the Ninth Circuit applied the doctrine narrowly and held that it did not constitute fair use for a breakaway church to copy and disseminate a religious text that its parent church was attempting to suppress. By giving insufficient weight to the religious nature of the text, the court interpreted fair use in a manner that contravenes the goals of a doctrine designed to encourage, not hinder, the free expression of ideas.

In 1934, Herbert Armstrong founded what would become the Worldwide Church of God (WCG). Between 1985 and 1988, WCG distributed 9 million free copies of *Mystery of the Ages* (MOA), a work Armstrong had completed shortly before his death in 1986. In 1988, the church’s leaders decided to stop distributing MOA and destroyed most of their inventory, asserting that MOA no longer represented WCG’s position on certain doctrinal issues and that the church wished to distance itself from the book’s racially insensitive views.

Dissatisfied with this doctrinal shift, two of the church’s ministers left WCG and in 1989 founded the Philadelphia Church of God (PCG) “to continue the

work established by Herbert W. Armstrong” and “to educate people about the incredible truth found within the Bible.” By 1996, PCG’s membership had reached roughly 7,000, in part due to MOA, which PCG distributed free of charge. PCG initially met demand with existing copies of MOA, but in 1997 began reprinting the book almost verbatim. When PCG refused WCG’s demand to stop distribution, WCG sued for copyright infringement.

PCG responded to the suit by claiming that WCG did not own the MOA copyright, that the First Amendment’s Free Exercise Clause and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) barred WCG’s claim, and that PCG’s reproduction constituted “fair use” under copyright law. WCG sought a preliminary injunction prohibiting PCG from printing or distributing MOA, PCG sought a declaratory judgment recognizing its rights of reproduction and distribution, and both sides moved for summary judgment. The district court dismissed PCG’s RFRA defense but granted PCG summary judgment on the fair use question.

A divided Ninth Circuit panel reversed, granted WCG a preliminary injunction, and remanded the case for a determination of damages. Writing for the majority, Judge Schwarzer briefly addressed copyright ownership—finding that WCG owned the rights to MOA under the terms of Herbert Armstrong’s will—before turning to PCG’s fair use defense. Under §107 of the Copyright Act, courts must consider four factors when evaluating fair use: the purpose and character of the use; the nature of the copyrighted work; the amount and substantiality of the portion used; and the effect on the market for or value of the copyrighted work. Considering the first factor, the court reasoned that because PCG had copied MOA verbatim, the church’s use was not “transformative”; nor could it be considered nonprofit, because it was “beyond dispute that PCG ‘profited’ from copying MOA—it gained an ‘advantage’ or ‘benefit’ from its distribution and use of MOA without having to account to the copyright holder.” The majority concluded that these considerations weighed against fair use.

The majority then briefly addressed the second and third statutory factors. Noting that creative works enjoy more protection than informational ones under the second factor—the nature of

the work—the court held that MOA was essentially a creative work, despite the fact that its adherents consider it truth. Regarding the third factor—the amount of the work used—the majority acknowledged that courts have permitted wholesale copying in certain circumstances. However, the court found that because PCG used MOA for the same purpose as had WCG—“as a central element of its members’ religious observance”—fairness weighed in favor of payment.

Turning to the fourth factor—market effect—the court determined that PCG’s copying of MOA would impair the marketability of WCG’s planned annotated version of the book and that WCG’s 1988 decision to remove the book from circulation was irrelevant to a finding of infringement. On the basis of its four-factor analysis, the court concluded that PCG’s fair use defense failed.<sup>1</sup>

Judge Brunetti, dissenting, rejected the majority’s fair use analysis, emphasizing that “fair use doctrine is an equitable rule of reason” and that “each case raising the [fair use] question must be decided on its own facts.” Regarding the first factor, he argued that PCG’s noncommercial, religious use of MOA distinguished it from the typical fair use case, particularly because the book was out of print and difficult to obtain. After reasoning, under the second factor, that MOA resisted classification as either informational or creative and, under the third factor, that the Supreme Court had permitted wholesale copying in certain circumstances, Judge Brunetti turned to the fourth statutory factor—the impact of PCG’s use on the value of MOA: “WCG’s decision to cease publication of MOA, destroy inventory copies, and disavow MOA’s religious message in the context of its doctrinal shift as a church demonstrates that MOA is no longer of value to WCG for such purposes, regardless of PCG’s actions.” Judge Brunetti concluded by noting that WCG seemed less concerned with protecting its copyright than with preventing the dissemination of ideas it now deemed false, and that the Supreme Court had found that suppression is not a legitimate use of copyright.

Fair use is a check on the monopoly power of copyright; it is “what its name suggests: an exemption from copyright infringement for uses that are fair.”<sup>2</sup> In *Worldwide Church of God*, the court’s failure to see the case for what it was—a church’s attempt to



## “The most serious error in the court’s analysis was its failure to credit sufficiently MOA’s centrality to PCG...”

suppress heresy by using copyright law—led it to overlook the purposes of the fair use doctrine and facilitate the monopolization of a religious idea.

The most serious error in the court’s analysis was its failure to credit sufficiently MOA’s centrality to PCG, which led it to misapply the first fair use factor.<sup>3</sup> MOA is required reading for those who seek baptism in the church, and church policy mandates reading the book before services because it “provides the key to understanding the Bible.” The dissent recognized this centrality. The majority, however, treated PCG’s copying and distribution of MOA as a straightforward infringement case. It failed to recognize that to prohibit PCG’s use of the book would be to suppress both the unique expression of the ideas in the book<sup>4</sup> and the ability of PCG’s members to live according to their religious faith.

The court briefly addressed the suppression issue by reasoning that if WCG were to refuse reprint permission to PCG,<sup>5</sup> it would do so to protect its own interest in an annotated edition of MOA, not to prevent PCG from using the book. That financial interest, said the court, meant that there was no suppression—and thus no market failure—because “[m]arket failure should be found only when the defendant can prove that the copyright owner would refuse to license out of a desire unrelated to the goals of copyright—notably a desire to keep certain information from the public.” The court’s assumption that WCG was

not seeking to keep MOA from the public (or from PCG) rested on a tenuous belief in the sincerity of WCG’s annotation plans; it then privileged those speculative plans over PCG’s immediate, religious need for the book.<sup>6</sup>

WCG withdrew MOA from circulation because its leaders believed they had a “Christian duty” to avoid propagating the book’s doctrinal errors; the church’s reasons for not wanting PCG to copy MOA were clearly not limited to market concerns. Under most circumstances, of course, a copyright owner is entitled to set an impracticably high licensing fee or even to refuse to license his work altogether. When, however, that refusal is based on the copyright owner’s intent to suppress a particular set of ideas that cannot be paraphrased or expressed in another way, courts should apply fair use doctrine to allow the secondary use.<sup>7</sup> The copyright law does not permit the monopolization of ideas; neither should it enable the suppression of heresy. The fair use doctrine exists to carve out precisely these kinds of exceptions to the law.

Rather than granting an injunction, the majority could instead have remanded the case to the trial court for an inquiry into whether WCG had been motivated by any suppressive intent. Such an inquiry could have proceeded through either a subjective or an objective test. PCG could ask permission to copy MOA, and if WCG refused, a subjective test would explore WCG’s reasons for doing so, much as a criminal

court looks for *mens rea* [criminal intent]. By contrast, an objective test might consider whether, if WCG refused the license, its behavior could be considered objectively reasonable; alternatively, if WCG did grant a license but at an extraordinarily high price, an objective test could determine whether the price could have been grounded in a reasonable business judgment. Either test would have given the court more information about WCG’s motives for taking MOA out of circulation.

Just as courts have created a narrowly tailored fair use exception to permit the parody of copyrighted works, so too should they apply the doctrine to situations in which copyright law intersects with the practice of a religious faith. In such cases, courts could apply the fair use factors in the following way: When a copyright holder is using the copyright law to suppress the expression of an idea that is necessary to an individual’s or group’s self-expression, and there is a market failure that prevents dissemination of the idea through any other channel, a court should find fair use and permit the individual or group to copy the work. Such a narrowly tailored, conjunctive analysis<sup>8</sup> would preserve the protections of the copyright system while preventing manipulation of the system for suppressive or insincere purposes; it would also fall well within the bounds of a doctrine that is “not a grudgingly tolerated exception to the copyright owner’s rights of private property, but a fundamental policy of the copyright law.” ♦

### FOOTNOTES:

1. ... The majority also rejected PCG’s RFRA defense. Finding that PCG had not demonstrated a substantial burden on the practice of its religious faith, the majority declined to decide whether RFRA applies to copyright law....

2. ... [Lloyd L.] Weinreb argues that a proper understanding of fair use doctrine should be limited neither to the four statutory factors nor to utilitarian concerns, but should be sufficiently fact-specific to accommodate broader notions of fairness. Although he acknowledges that such an approach may be more difficult to apply than a putatively straightforward four-factor test, he suggests that his approach comports best with the purpose of fair use doctrine: “Adjudication according to a standard of fairness calls for the exercise of great judi-

cial skill, or art. But it is not for that reason to be regretted. It is, in any case, what the Copyright Act prescribes. Fair is fair.” ...

3. The court’s analysis under the fourth statutory fair use factor—that PCG’s version would hurt the market for any WCG-annotated version of MOA—was also unpersuasive.... In this case, as the dissent rightly pointed out, there would be little competition between the two versions of the book: One, after all, was an almost verbatim reprint, while the other would identify the work’s doctrinal “errors.”... Furthermore, the majority’s belief that such an annotated edition of MOA might be forthcoming lacked support in the record: Even ten years after it withdrew the book from circulation, WCG’s plans for the new edition remained inchoate and speculative....

4. Because ideas cannot be copyrighted.... PCG would be free to ex-

pound Herbert Armstrong’s theology—and perhaps even to quote selectively from MOA—without fear of liability. This argument overlooks the fact that for religious texts, ideas are often indivisible from their expression. (Orthodox Jews, for example, believe that the Torah is literally the Word of God; many Christians believe the same about the entire Bible.) While PCG views MOA as a work of interpretive theology rather than as a divinely inspired sacred text, its ideas are not neatly divisible from the form of their expression—which is why converts to PCG must read MOA itself and not simply hear sermons that draw from it.... Courts might be wary of telling religious groups how much of their theology is reducible to paraphrase.

5. The court stated that PCG itself had never actually asked WCG for permission to reprint MOA...; the court failed to mention that

some individual members of PCG had asked for and been refused reprint permission....

6. As suggested above, however, because the markets for the two versions would be so different, the substantiality of WCG’s annotation plans is of little relevance....

7. Cf. *Harper & Row Publishers, Inc. v. Nation Enters.*... (“We do not suggest this right not to speak would sanction abuse of the copyright owner’s monopoly as an instrument to suppress facts.”).

8. The conjunctive nature of the analysis must be emphasized. A religious group that followed the works of John Irving, for example, would not be permitted to reprint *A Prayer for Owen Meany* and claim fair use. Even assuming that the group’s beliefs were sincere, there would be no market failure, as the book can be purchased at any bookstore.

9. Pierre N. Leval, *Toward a Fair Use Standard*....



# What Is True FREE

The most precious gift we could have is that of freedom. But what is freedom? We are more deceived about this subject than perhaps any other today, and you can never be free until you know what freedom truly is! BY GERALD FLURRY

**F**REEDOM IS ONE OF THE MOST sought-after ideals in human history. Man's search for freedom has taken him into the fiercest of protests, struggles, revolutions, civil wars—even world wars. Today, in the midst of free societies, many continue to fight for what they perceive as ever greater freedoms.

Did you know that what most people call *freedom* today is really **SLAVERY**?

*The great majority of people today are deceived about what freedom truly is!* And yet, we can't be free until we know what freedom is. Neither can we avoid slavery unless we know what slavery is. Are you sure you know?

### An Unpopular Definition

The Apostle Peter taught about true freedom, and it got him into serious trouble, because his audience didn't understand what true freedom was!

Peter talked about people whose idea of freedom was in error: "They promise them freedom, but *they themselves are slaves of corruption*; for **WHATEVER OVERCOMES A MAN, TO THAT HE IS ENSLAVED**" (II Pet. 2:19; Revised Standard Version). If you are overcome by something, you are *enslaved* to it. What does that mean, exactly?

Take alcoholism, for example. People may consider it freedom to be able to drink to excess, but many people do that so often, they become alcoholics; they then *crave* alcohol and feel miserable without it.

Alcohol abuse comes with a staggering price tag, socially and economically. It costs an estimated \$2 billion each year to cover health and welfare services

provided to alcoholics and their families in the U.S. Include their decreased productivity at work, and some estimate the problem costs America \$7 to \$10 billion. Alcoholics have higher rates in divorce and marriage separation, crime, automobile accidents, property damage and injuries to persons, depression and suicide. They, their family and their friends all end up being the losers.

It is easy to see—as they struggle with their addiction, ruining their family, their career, their life—that alcoholics are not free. At one time they may have thought alcohol gave them freedom, but in truth it has *enslaved* them!

The same is true of drugs. We have developed a *drug culture* in America. This is also the case in Britain. Drugs are increasingly mainstream and popular, moving well past the pockets within the big cities. They are taking over the lives of people of all income levels, all walks of life. Our entertainment is more and more obsessed with the drug world. Often we see high-profile entertainers grappling with severe addiction.

AMERICA LEADS THE WORLD IN DEMAND FOR MIND-DAMAGING, ESCAPIST-TYPE DRUGS. Over 77 million Americans have sniffed, smoked, swallowed or injected themselves with illegal drugs; 22 million identify themselves as regular users. Among children age 12 to 17, a staggering 10.9 percent are regular drug users! "The routine availability of illegal substances is now a fact of life for young people. Keith Hellawell, the 'drug tsar,' said last week that drug-taking among well-educated teenagers from stable families was the fastest growing part of the drug racket. Forget cannabis—

these kids are going straight for cocaine" (*Sunday Times*, Jan. 9, 2000).

*Is that freedom?* How many of these people have gotten hooked on drugs and cannot stop? Even low levels of drug use can do irreparable damage to their own minds. On top of that disastrous effect, how many of these people are injecting or sniffing away increasing portions of their incomes, at their families' expense? How many are having to resort to ever more unsavory activities to fund their drug habits?

Many people would consider it freedom to destroy their lives with deadly drugs. **THAT IS NOT FREEDOM!** Instead they have become **TOTALLY EN-SLAVED** to drugs!

For many years we have declared a war on drugs in America. What has been the result? Look at the facts and we must concede that **WE HAVE LOST THAT WAR!**

America is *overcome* by its drug problem. And "whatever *overcomes* a man [or a nation], to that he is **EN-SLAVED**."

We don't talk much about the war on drugs today. People don't like to talk about *losing* a war. Many people began to see their own families and children caught up in drugs and felt they needed to tone down their approach. They didn't want to be involved in a war so close to home.

### The War on Pornography

Another terrible addiction is gripping America today: sex addiction. It is more and more taking center stage in our culture and entertainment. It too is becoming more common, more main-



# DOM?

stream, more widely accepted. Our television and movies portray increasing levels of filth. And the problem is made all the worse by the widespread availability of pornography on the Internet.

"The Net is making adult entertainment one of the world's biggest businesses.... Pornography is becoming part of popular culture and is still the only business that can consistently turn a profit on the Net.... Pornographers, particularly in the U.S. but also in Europe, have been the driving force of the Net" (*London Independent*, May 21, 2000). The Internet is saturated with pornography! It is big business—people by the millions are lapping it up. The above article called pornography "the economic powerhouse of the Internet, one of the largest industries in the U.S., and the mother of Internet invention."

What does that say about us? It is Britain and the United States that primarily fuel that endeavor. Are we free? Most people would call that freedom. Is it really? Or is it enslaving us to values that will destroy our marriages and families? Are we ENSLAVED to pornography?

Deep down we KNOW that pornography is evil! In the past, even the thought of it caused us shame. At one time we also declared a war on pornography, but we don't hear much about that war anymore. Why? Because we don't like admitting defeat. WE LOST THAT WAR AS WELL.

What does it mean to lose the war on pornography? It means losing the values that build strong marriages and strong families. Strong families are the

backbone of any strong nation. Yet we have *been overcome* by something we were *too weak* to resist. "Whatever overcomes a man [or a nation], *to that he is enslaved!*" Just look at the facts and you can plainly see that America is *enslaved to pornography*.

Social workers and ministers often discuss a rapidly growing problem. Many people (especially the young) tell these professionals that they are hooked on Internet sex and can't break the habit. They have become addicted and have lost control.

In the name of "free speech," our leaders are allowing the evil god of this world to enslave our young people before they even learn how to live! (II Cor. 4:4). The most vile pornography is channeled right into their own homes. That easy access only increases the temptation.

The Bible commands us to do just the opposite—flee temptation and fornication. We are going to pay a *deadly* price for our rebellion against God.

The fact is, the more pornography we have, the less freedom we have. The negative impact of all that obscenity is incalculable.

### Destroying Family

Peter paints an extraordinary picture. Imagine someone coming to you enclosed in a cage, handcuffed, their legs bound by shackles—and offering you freedom! "They promise...freedom, but *they themselves are slaves of corruption....*" That's exactly what is happening so often today! The drug pushers and pornographers do not have true freedom!

Recently a U.S. court overturned a law that restricted sleazy sex shows on cable to the late-night hours. The court felt that interfered with *free speech*. They wanted people to have access to pornography day and night.

Did the courts consider the effect their ruling would have on families? Do we really believe marriages are strengthened when men watch pornography? Does that endear them more to their wives?

God cares deeply about the family. "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, *giving honour unto the wife...*" (I Pet. 3:7). God commands husbands to treat their wives with a high degree of honor. He wants stable marriages that stay together and rear stable children in an environment of authoritative love and care.

Does being addicted to pornography help you to honor your wife more—perhaps the wife that God Himself has given you? We all know the answer to that; it's just a matter of whether we are willing to face it.

We must realize what this way of thinking is doing to us! It is tearing our families apart and leaving our children, in many cases, failing to receive the proper love and protection from their mother and father. Then they become very vulnerable to drug and sex addictions themselves!

True freedom means being FREE of *dishonor* in our marriages. That is the kind of freedom we need more of today.

Consider this as well: In several places in Scripture, children are commanded, "*Honour thy father and mother*" (e.g. Matt. 15:4). Is a child addicted

JOEL HILLIER/DIGITAL STOCKARTY TODAY

# WHAT IS FREEDOM?

**Under the guise of "free speech," we destroy marriages and families—the foundation of our nation!  
Spewing out tons of pornography is not free speech—it is a diabolical plot to destroy America and Britain!**

to sex or drugs more inclined to honor his parents? No—he is probably much likelier to disregard what they say.

Are the courts looking at these scriptures when they make their decisions? Their priorities are upside down.

We need to be FREE of fighting, divorce and perversion. FREE of anarchy and chaos in our families. We need to be stable! Parents must be stable, or what can we expect of the children? They desperately need a mother and father to love them, guide them, teach them—show them how to be strong, how to face life without drugs and other addictions.

Police officers have to deal with the fruits of society's bad decisions. They can't avoid facing the truth. Every day they deal face-to-face with the results of our pornography, our drugs—the results of all the evils we allow to go on in the name of "freedom!"

*Under the guise of "free speech," we destroy marriages and families—the foundation of our nation!* SPEWING OUT TONS OF PORNOGRAPHY IS NOT FREE SPEECH—IT IS A DIABOLICAL PLOT TO DESTROY AMERICA AND BRITAIN! And the plan is working extremely well.

America's Founding Fathers knew that the family was the strength of our nation. Strong families mean strong nations. Our forefathers would be shocked and shame-faced if they could see what we have done with our so-called freedom today!

Not only do we scorn the Bible, we contemptuously reject our own history!

A certain recipe for national disaster.

## A Nation Enslaved

Strong marriages build strong children. We need strong children who are not vulnerable to drugs.

Why do children want to take drugs and destroy their minds? The mind is the only thing that really sets us apart from animals. What is lacking in their lives that would make them want to do that to themselves? Why even take a *chance* on something so destructive? Because their wills are so weakened, they must have something to fill the void their parents have left—in most cases. Of course, drugs don't truly fill that void at all—they only bring people into slavery of the worst possible kind.

Drug addiction destroys the WILL! Sex addiction destroys the WILL! The

worse the addiction, the weaker the will to resist, to fight evil.

Our young people today have even lost the will to participate in the military to protect our *nation's freedom* (see p. 29). History shows the terrible consequences of a damaged will: When a nation's will is broken, it becomes weak and ineffective—and, oftentimes, *enslaved* by an enemy nation!

The courts are trying to protect free speech. Yet, what will happen if families fall apart and there is no strong nation left? What good will "free" speech be then? If the family is in turmoil and confusion, if parents are divorcing and children are left to themselves, how important is free speech at that point?

What good is free speech if you lose the very values that made you great? We are polluting and vitiating the public good, the character, that we have possessed as a nation in the past.

Understand: I value free speech highly! I know that I couldn't be printing these words without the free speech afforded our society. It is a great value that we should protect. I promote it in every way I possibly can.

But let's get our priorities right. Is free speech more important than family? No, it is not. People behave as if family doesn't even matter! And yet, family is the foundation of EVERY GREAT NATION!

The stability of our nation is at stake. Why do nations die? God asks, "Why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezek. 33:11). Can we really calculate the damage of all these social evils? They add up to the destruction of our nations! Nations collapse by giving in to these evils that are erroneously called *freedoms!* Not only does our will become hopelessly weak, but our sins cut us off from God's blessings and protection!

I don't care who calls it freedom; it is NOT freedom to get into pornography and drugs! IT IS NOT FREEDOM—IT IS ENSLAVEMENT! It enslaves individuals, and it leads to the enslavement of the whole nation!

## What Is True Freedom?

Many religious people like to talk about freedom. But are they getting their definition of freedom from the Bible? "And ye shall know the truth, and *the truth shall make you free*" (John 8:32). If they have a different

idea of freedom, they are *enslaved*. They are not following true Christianity! And that is true of many who consider themselves very religious.

Jesus said to the religious people of His day, "Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people *honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me*" (Mark 7:6). Christ condemns a lot of people with this statement! Many people TALK about God and Jesus Christ; they ACT religious. But in truth, their hearts are FAR FROM GOD! They are actually *enslaved* to a false religion, and think they are obeying God.

We must be FREE from that kind of false Christianity!

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps" (1 Pet. 2:21). If you're going to be a Christian, you must follow Christ.

Christ lived His life in perfect subjection to the law of God. He resisted the pulls of His flesh rather than *being overcome* by them!

We need to be like Christ—FREE OF HUMAN NATURE! Most people don't even know what human nature is.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). That is God's view of human nature, though most people don't believe that. Do you recognize the evil in your own heart—or are you, like most others, *deceived* about human nature?

We can see this truth illustrated all around us: *If you let a desperately wicked heart run FREE, it will do great damage!*

It is very difficult to keep God's law. But the problem isn't with the law, it is with us. We need to change and conform ourselves to that law. We need to replace the wickedness of our hearts with the righteousness of God by writing God's law in our hearts!

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel

*continued on page 28*

# Risky Business

The lure of quick, easy money is seducing millions.  
But is it worth the gamble?

BY GARETH FRASER



LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

**D**RIVING THE LAS VEGAS STRIP AT night, you cannot help but be overwhelmed by the flood of flashing lights emanating from casino after casino.

Rolling slowly in bumper-to-bumper traffic, you are struck by the images of watery Venice, Paris' Eiffel Tower, ancient Rome, Egypt's pyramids, swashbuckling pirates and a tropical oasis. The sidewalks overflow

with thousands of starry-eyed pedestrians who casino-hop in hopes of striking the jackpot—trading in their dreary suburban lives for the lifestyle of the rich and famous.

Last year over 30 million people visited this gambling mecca, the fifth most popular tourist destination in the world; 100,000 of them were married here. Vegas manages over 850 daily airline flights transporting over 2.5

million passengers per month through its airport, making it the eighth-busiest airport in the world. Nine of the ten largest hotels in the world are located here, and within the city limits alone it maintains a 90 percent occupancy year round in its 120,000 hotel rooms.

This is Las Vegas—sin city—a jewel of prosperity and opulence—America's gambling capital and the home of "risky business."

## Big Spenders

The amount of money spent worldwide each year on all forms of legal and illegal gambling is impossible to calculate. However, legalized gambling figures reported by the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (NGISC) paint an astounding picture of just how rapidly the industry grew in the U.S. in the last 50 years.

Before 1990, legalized casinos existed only in Las Vegas and Atlantic City. Now casinos are legal in 28 states. State lotteries began in the U.S. in New Hampshire in 1964. Today, 37 states plus the District of Columbia conduct state lotteries. In 1991, riverboat casinos began operation in Iowa. By 1998 there were 40 in Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and almost 50 dockside and riverboat casinos in Louisiana and Mississippi. That year the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians* that states can't regulate commercial gambling on Indian reservations. In 1988 under this law, 70 Indian casinos and bingo halls were operating in 16 states. Just ten years later, 298 facilities were operating in 31 states.

Today, 48 of America's 50 states conduct one form or another of legalized gambling within their borders. These range from lotteries, casinos, riverboats, Indian casinos and video lottery slot machines, to horse racing and dog racing.

Over 20 million Americans are problem or pathological gamblers—double 1986 estimates. In fact, in 1998, Americans spent more on gambling (about \$50 billion) than on recorded music, theme parks, video games, spectator sports and movie tickets combined.

## Simply Irresistible

Have you at one time or another dreamed of striking it rich? All of your troubles and problems would melt away if only you had more money! But would they? Since gambling has such

TRUMPET/ART TODAY

an impact upon the world and its citizens today, shouldn't the Bible have something to say about the subject?

With country after country struggling under the oppression of economic decay, stability of income has become increasingly uncertain. Widespread unemployment has led many to seek a "once and for all" solution to cure their monetary woes. Instant wealth!

The get-rich impulse stems from warped thinking as a result of desperate and misguided human nature. As Arthur Shafer, former philosophy professor at the University of Manitoba,

*effortless fast profit. It is driven, in every case, by greed.*

Educator Herbert W. Armstrong was a man who knew both grinding poverty and the fruits of hard work in lasting success. He recognized the root cause of man's greed. "Coveting MONEY and that which money will buy is merely the manner of manipulating Satan's WAY OF LIFE—'GET' instead of 'GIVE'—TAKE and COMPETE instead of COOPERATE—self-concern and self-gain with desire to WIN, instead of LOVE toward GOD and LOVE toward neighbor" (ibid.).

**The media report winner after winner to the public, giving the impression that the odds of winning are actually pretty good.**

**The truth is, the chances of losing are astronomical.**

commented, "The whole impulse to improve one's life through gambling is dubious. It is a kind of magical thinking" (*Good News*, Sept. 1986). This thinking drives millions to seek enormous profits through minimal work.

Joseph Dunn, ex-director of the National Council on Compulsive Gambling, stated, "People who are worried about the factory closing take a chance on making it big. Once they win anything, they're hooked" (ibid.).

Advertising, marketing and mainstream media work hard to report winner after winner to the public, giving the impression that the odds of winning are actually pretty good. However, the truth is that the chances of losing are astronomical! Report after report reiterates that the majority of "common people," especially the poor and less educated, are the real losers—those who can least afford to spend the money on games of chance.

The American Journal of Economics and Sociology reports that those earning less than \$10,000 per year spend over twice as much money on gambling than people making three or four times that. Meanwhile the unemployed and retired gamble 61 to 83 percent more than the employed.

#### What's Your Motivation?

Even if you approve of gambling, most of you reading this article are not addicts. However, even minimal amounts of wagering in any form carry with them the big question of MOTIVE. Gambling is based on risk. Chance is the predominant determining factor. Its seductiveness lies in its promise of

The Apostle Paul wrote, "For the love of money is the root ['a root' is the correct translation] of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (1 Tim. 6:10). The attitude behind gambling is simply the attitude of GET—acquiring material gain at the expense of someone else. It springs from raw human nature, not the mind of the all-loving, universe-creating God.

Was Paul saying that being wealthy is sin? No! Anciently Abraham, Job and others were very wealthy. Even the Apostle John wished health and prosperity upon God's people (III John 2). Wealth of and by itself is not evil; it's the attitude behind the wealth that God is concerned about. The lustful craving for wealth ensnares one in the unrelenting grip of greed.

God's character does not allow lust or greed. As Mr. Armstrong so often wrote, His character is based on His law, the law of love, of outflowing concern one toward the other—the WAY OF GIVE. This is the attitude we should have when it comes to finance, money and wealth.

Proper business practices involve a profit return, but not at the expense of someone else's loss. Both sides should gain by the transaction—it should be mutually beneficial. In the same manner, the principle of insurance coverage promotes the sharing of expenses to cover accidental losses—the GIVE principle.

This is the principle behind God's attitude toward gambling. Simply put, GAMBLING BREAKS GOD'S LAW. The very motive of get for the self destroys the building of God's very own nature, His way of GIVE, His character in us. As Christ Himself said in Acts 20:35, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

The way of GET, greed and gambling is risky business. However, the way of GIVE is risk-free. Jesus Christ taught that the way of GIVE produces a return, a blessing: "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again" (Luke 6:38). If you seek to live by the principles of God's way of life, all of your physical necessities will be provided for (Matt. 6:33). You have to make sure you have your spiritual and physical priorities set straight.

In the arena of entertainment there are many areas to consider where God's principle regarding gambling applies. Put simply, will the money spent produce a predetermined return, or is there only a chance of some return? Contests or skill-testing games that test your talents deliver a predetermined return. However, paying a gaming fee for the chance of winning a monetary or physical prize is gambling.

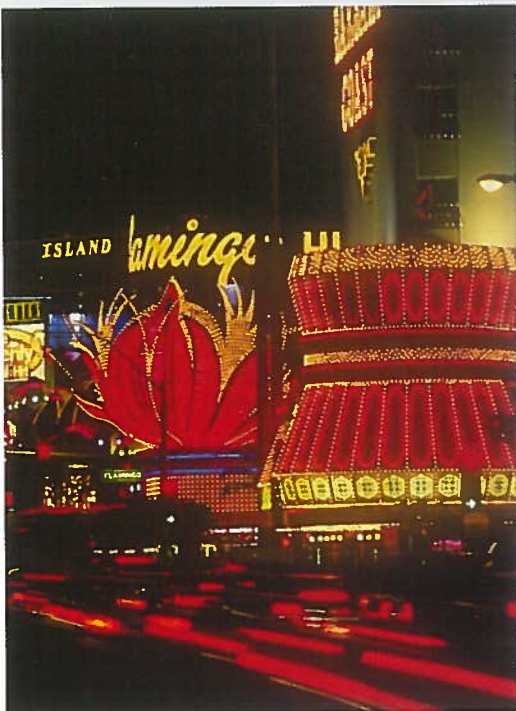
Reconsider your approach to raffles or drawings used to promote subscriptions sales. *God is concerned with your attitude.* Honestly evaluate your motivation in all of these areas. Is it one of GET for yourself and take from others,

OR GIVING, sharing and mutually benefitting everyone involved?

This principle may not apply to sweepstakes, draws or other business and media-sponsored events. If nothing is wagered, nothing is lost. Dropping your name in a box for a department store draw involves no risk of money or stakes upon the outcome. The customers

**Playing the Numbers**

- 48** Number of U.S. states with some form of legalized gambling.
- 20 million** Estimated number of problem or pathological gamblers in the U.S.
- 50 billion** Dollars Americans spent on gambling in 1998.



**LOST WAGES** Bright lights in Las Vegas, America's gambling capital.

have collectively paid for whatever prizes will be awarded. This is often used as a bonus to draw more customers into the department store. This is not gambling.

#### The "Worthy Cause"

One particularly cunning way that gambling is promoted is through the diversion of a portion of the proceeds toward "worthy causes." Raffles and state lotteries are the most common forms of this promotional scheme. Governments often promote lotteries stating that a percentage of the proceeds from ticket sales goes to the "worthy cause." However, they fail to mention that this money will not be added to existing budgets, but will merely reduce the amount that the government must allocate to that particular area. The amount of money given to, let's say, protect the environment remains the same as before the lottery was introduced.

In addition, the motive behind giving must be seriously considered. Raising money for worthy causes has been popular for many years. The public doesn't buy the lottery ticket to help the worthy cause, but for the chance to win big and net themselves a fistful of money. Motivation is the key. As God told the Prophet Samuel, "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (1 Sam. 16:7). Supporting gambling for a supposed selfless motive is usually just an excuse for letting greed run rampant.

ART TOOKAY  
Giving to charitable causes or organizations is absolutely fine, so long as that is purely what it is for: a donation with no strings attached—a charitable contribution. Today in the U.S., we see campaign finance reform as a hot topic. Many have provided large contributions to electoral candidates with the expectation of favorable treatment in return. This is simply self-serving greed, not a simple charitable contribution.

#### Productive Effort

We've often heard the adage, "An honest day's work for an honest day's pay." God's law agrees with this principle of a just reward for work rendered (1 Tim. 5:18). Gambling stifles the character trait of productive effort—hard, honest work.

"A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent" (Prov. 28:20). An attitude of greed will eventually drive you toward poverty (v. 22). Time after time the stories have been told of people who were financially wiped out after gambling their life's savings away.

In Luke 19:12-27 and Matthew 25:14-30, we are shown via Christ's parables of pounds and talents that God's way involves developing and increasing that which is entrusted to us. Both spiritu-

**God's law supports the principle of a just reward for work rendered.**

**Gambling stifles productive effort—hard, honest work.**

**It teaches one to rely on blind luck and chance in acquiring wealth.**

ally and physically, the lesson is that to gain a reward requires *personal effort*.

Gambling teaches those who enter its snare to rely on blind luck and chance in acquiring wealth. There is no investment, just enormous odds of losing. It is far more profitable for us to direct our time, effort and attention to acquiring honest wealth—and, even more, the true riches of God's soon-coming Kingdom (Matt. 6:19-21).

My father-in-law referred to Las Vegas as the city of "Lost Wages"—and he was right. For all of the instant millionaires in the world, there are countless more millions of losers, those who have had their livelihood swept out from under them. Even more problematic is that the love of money, lust and greed chokes off character growth and the way to a happier life.

#### Invest in God's Work

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings" (Mal. 3:8). God challenges us here, stating that if we rob Him of tithes and offerings He will curse us with *the curse*—utter destruction.

Ask yourself, *how much more can I give to God? To the Creator of heaven and Earth and all that is in them?* Every good thing you have comes from Him (James 1:17). Do you give back to God—making Him your best investment?

*Trumpet* Editor in Chief Gerald Flurry has repeatedly shown that there is an end-time church that knew God and used to give Him His tithes and offerings, but now holds them back. In the process they are knowingly depriving the world of the invaluable treasure of the knowledge of God. The job of sharing this precious knowledge with all who wish to receive it has been left to the relative few, a small remnant in this end time who will sacrifice and serve God as He commands.

God is making it personal here—for you and for me: "Bring *ye* all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and *prove me* now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open *you* the windows of heaven, and pour *you* out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to re-

ceive it" (v. 10). You see, giving God His tithes and offerings in support of His work is a FAR MORE WISE INVESTMENT than frittering it away by gambling on a hope, chance or hunch of winning. (For more understanding of God's law of tithing, request our reprint article on this subject.)

Don't let the bright lights of the love of money entice you into the grip of greed. God is looking for those special few in this world who will flee the risky business of gambling and invest in Him and His work, which gives vastly great and rewarding returns. For to be truly successful, you must put God first in your life. Make His work your treasure; support His one voice sharing this precious knowledge with the world, and then you will reap unspeakable blessings. ♦



**SURRENDER** of Japanese forces at end of WWII

◆ JAPAN

## Rising sun to rise again

A little over half a century ago, Australia faced invasion and occupation by Japan. Only the willingness of the U.S. to assist in Australia's defense, through the leadership of General Douglas MacArthur in the Pacific theater of World War II, saved Australia from being overrun by the nation of the rising sun.

At the time of the Japanese surrender, those responsible saw to it that Japan would rebuild under a national constitution that denied it the right to possess a military force other than that which allowed, with U.S. support, for its own territorial defense.

How soon history is forgotten. Times change. Old soldiers die. With them goes the memory of the brutality and inhuman treatment at the hands of a fanatical enemy.

Last month Australia's Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer, traveled to Japan, cap in hand, in an effort to convince the Japanese government to amend its Constitution to allow for Japan to "expand its security horizons be-

yond its territorial defense" (*Sydney Morning Herald*, May 17).

Japan's former prime minister, Yoshiro Mori, had foreshadowed this prospect. Now the new prime minister, Junichiro Koizumi, has also called for such a change. For some time the U.S. (arbiter of the present Japanese Constitution), has urged Japan

to amend its pacifist Constitution to permit the nation to develop greater military strength. With Australia now chiming in, the scene is set for Japan to make the appropriate changes, in a politically correct environment, under encouragement from its avowed enemies of 55 years ago.

Increasing concern at Chinese and Asian instability is at the root of this heightened effort to pull Japan into a stronger military role in the region. The collapse of social order in Indonesia, political unrest in the Philippines, insecurity with North Korea's intentions, and China's saber-rattling across the Tai-

wan Strait are all contributing to the feeling of unease about Southeast Asian security felt by the U.S., Australia and Japan.

Will Japan's charismatic new prime minister be the one who effects this change to Japan's Constitution? Some see his flashy person-

ality as denoting a man of straw. But even if Koizumi does not have what it takes to turn the Japanese economy around, he may well set the scene for a constitutional change which will spark Japanese industry, in the doldrums for the past four years, into a rearmament-driven revival.



**Koizumi**

◆ ITALY

## Leaning right

Two of the "big five" nations within the European Union now sport right-of-center governments. Italy has joined Spain in a move away from the left-of-center politics which have dominated the EU for the past decade.

Together with Austria, these countries may well be leading a trend to the right as the EU moves toward its twin goals of full implementation of the euro (the standard European monetary unit) in 2002 and enlargement of the Union with the impending addition of 13 new member nations.

The electorates of EU member states are showing a marked concern about the prospect of increasing incursions on national sovereignty by the European Commission, the European Central Bank and European Parliament. Additional concern is continuing to mount regarding the prospect of a flood of cheap labor from Eastern and Central Europe as enlargement takes effect.

Recent swings in referendum on the euro and local elections in France, Switzerland and the Nordic countries also point to a trend in voter preference for right-wing stances on major issues.

The melting pot of EU issues may well be behind the recent success of a right-wing coalition headed by Italy's conservative media magnate, Silvio Berlusconi, in that country's recent national elections. The suave, smooth-talking billion-

aire's coalition largely comprises his own *Forza Italia* party, the party of former neo-fascist Gianfranco Fini, and rightist Umberto Bossi's *Leaga Norde*.

Concern is being voiced over the prospect of a new Italian government (Italy's 59th since World War II) maintaining powerful control over the country's media. Berlusconi owns Italy's largest private TV network. As control of Italy's state television enterprise falls to the incumbent government, Berlusconi stands to control two networks which between them attract an audience comprising 90 percent of Italy's viewing public. This

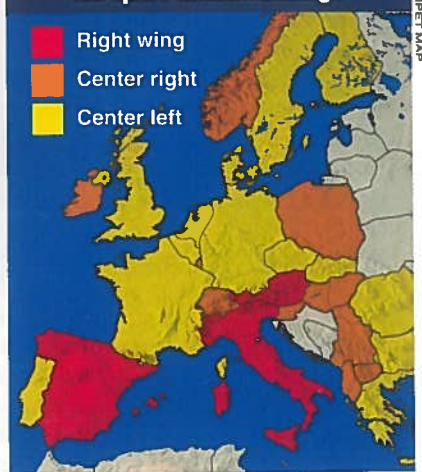


**Berlusconi**

is unprecedented for any European leader. The new leader of Italy may well have his credibility put to the test when he is called upon to honor election promises to scale down his involvement in his media empire.

Watch for Italy's new government to use its access to media dominance to condition the minds of Italians to demand an increasing say in European Union administration. Watch too for Berlusconi to conclude deals with the EU which will benefit his country in exchange for the use of Italian TV for EU propaganda.

### Europe: Political Leanings





◆ IRAN

## Tehran turns up heat

Billed as the “biggest anti-Israel gathering in 50 years,” 37 Muslim nations met in Tehran in April rallying to declarations of condemnation against Israel. The host country for the conference, Iran, does not recognize the State of Israel and has consistently called for the formation of a sovereign Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

The heads of the main anti-Israel groups—Hezbollah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad—were all present at the conference, which was strident in its call for “continuing Palestinian resistance against Israeli aggression” (Xinhua, April 26). Iran’s official IRNA news agency

published a final statement from conference delegates which declared that the Palestinian *intifada* is “a brave and righteous response of the defenseless people to the racist, brutal genocide staged by the occupiers of the motherland.”

Calling on all countries—Islamic nations in particular—to sever ties with Israel, delegates also hoped, according to conference chairman Ali-Akbar Mohtashami, to attract support from Western governments for “a new approach towards the Middle-East” (Deutsche Presse-Agentur, April 25).

U.S. State Department spokesman Philip Reeker referred to a number of conference participants as *terrorists*, declaring that their names would be included in the periodical *Patterns of Terrorism*. This stirred the ire of Mohtashami, who railed, “We condemn the U.S. for

supporting Israel which is a symbol of state terrorism and consider the remarks by the American spokesman as baseless and hostile.”

In condemning the U.S., Islamic leaders are looking to the European Union as a replacement prime negotiator in the Middle East quagmire. Barely weeks after this conference, the EU told Israel that it bore the main responsibility for the restoration of peace in the Middle East. Implicit in the EU stance is the prospect of a ban on all Israeli goods emanating from Gaza, the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights. The EU has declared that all



Mohtashami

settlement activities in these areas are illegal under international law.

The Vatican, a longtime supporter of the Palestinian cause, will be a powerful ally of this anti-Israel stance. This all plays into the hands of the extremist elements in Islam and further serves to swing public opinion away from Israel, as the largely left-wing Western media continue to portray that tiny nation in a poor light.

“Iran has been trying to institutionalize the status of the anti-Israeli militia groups as legitimate freedom fighters for the liberation of their homeland, and the militia leaders themselves hope that the Tehran conference will at least lead to some changes in Europe regarding the issue” (ibid.).

Europe will be the emphasis from here on. Watch for Europe to become the prime “peace” broker in the Middle East. Look for the EU to take up the invitation, already issued by both Israel and the Palestinians, to supply a “peace enforcement” task force to surround Jerusalem in the not-too-distant future.

◆ FAMILY

## Unmarrieds multiply

Recent census data showing continuing and dramatic changes in U.S. family structure have alarmed some conservative groups, but these protests are sure to be small ripples in the overall reaction.

The data highlighted several key developments which have formed over the past four decades: For the first time, less than a quarter of the households in the United States are made up of married couples with children (in 1960, they accounted for 45 percent of all households); the number of Americans living alone, 26 percent of all households, surpassed, for the first time, the number of households married with children; households composed of unmarried partners, and the number of families headed by women with children, have become strikingly more common than in previous decades, both growing nearly five times as fast as the number of households overall.

The new data offer a glimpse into the shifting and complicated make-up of American families, and what its implications may be for the future. In particular, the increase in single-parent and “cohabiting” households is an indicator of deeper societal problems.

Several new books on the new American family show the increased risks faced by the 38 percent of U.S. kids who live with split-up or never-married parents: “They are less healthy than those of married parents, [being] far more likely to die in infancy and later suffer poorer physical and mental health than

children of married parents. They receive less education and do more poorly in school than those of married parents, potentially perpetuating their childhood economic hardship into adult life. They are less likely to get and stay married as adults, potentially repeating for their own kids the negative cycle they faced” (USA Today, May 16). As David Popenoe, a Rutgers University sociologist who heads the National Marriage Project, stated, “Young pre-marrieds are kind of shell-shocked from their own families.”

The fact is, far fewer of today’s children grow up in stable, two-parent homes than did a few decades ago. This means that far fewer children are being provided with healthy examples to learn how to function in their own marriages and families in the future.

It is consequently difficult to imagine, despite all the welfare, daycare and other social reparation programs that have mushroomed in recent decades, that many of today’s youth will be adequately educated in marriage and family skills to form a solid foundation for our families and the nation in the next generation.



**BECOMING HISTORY** The traditional family is a rarity in the new millennium.

For 40 years Russia stood as a behemoth astride a vast Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, its sole intention apparently to break Western resistance to the imposition of communism on the world. Then, ten years ago, the Soviet vision collapsed with the failure of its godless dream.

# Is Russia Finished?

BY RON FRASER

**"RUSSIA IS FINISHED,"** THE COVER of the May edition of the *Atlantic Monthly* blared. The related story claimed that Russia was caught in "the unstoppable descent into social catastrophe and strategic irrelevance."

Is this true? Is the mighty, lumbering Russian bear finished? Does this great country, with its vast expanse of resource-rich land stretching from the Eastern European plain of its western flank to the icy wastelands of Siberia in the east, have any future in the global political economy? Does Russia pose any ongoing strategic threat to the West? Will Russia rebound to once more have a strident and significant say in world affairs?

## What Is Russia?

To Winston Churchill, trying to forecast Russian actions at the outbreak of World War II was akin to understanding "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma." His reasons for such an assessment were rooted in the fact that, throughout its history, Russia has suffered from an identity crisis.

The world at large has often wondered just what Russia is. Standing at the junction between the Orient and the Occident, Russia seems to suffer from continual bouts of political schizophrenia. Should the nation ally with its eastern neighbors or with continental Europe? Which culture should it embrace as a foundation for its systems of government, politics, economy and internal administration?

For over 200 years, Russians have grappled with these questions. Orlando Figes, professor of history at Birkbeck College, concludes that "if we find Russia difficult to grasp, it is because the Russians themselves have never been quite sure about who or where they are" (*Prospect*, January 2001).



**AT THE HELM** The inscrutable Putin is trying to orchestrate a Russian comeback.

Professor Figes postulates that due to both "the tsars and then the Bolsheviks [denying] Russia the legal culture or civil society of a liberal European state...the Russian nation remained a thing of the imagination—of music, folklore, poems.... The nation lived in the idea of Russia rather than in the reality" (*ibid.*).

Two prime reasons exist for this Russian failure to define itself in the minds of its peoples. One is geography, the second is the utopian view of the Russian state.

The sheer vastness of Russia, the world's largest country, means that Russians find it difficult to have a sense of place. Thus, the country's writers and artists strove to create an idealistic impression of Russia which was often at odds with what composer Modest

Musorgsky termed "the all-Russian bog," what poet Osip Mandelstam called "the watermelon emptiness of Russia."

This dichotomy between the imaginary Russia and reality is further deepened by Russia's own defining myths of origin and revolution. Russian writers and painters generally projected a myth which declared that the nation evolved as a Christian civilization of the East. Exploiting the epic of the early historic struggle of Christian settlers against the tartar horseman thundering down from the Asiatic steppe, princes killed in battle became saints. The battles against the nomadic Asian horsemen took on the flavor of a holy crusade. From 1500 to 1917 the Russian empire grew at an average rate of 40,000 square miles a year. Many came to imagine Russia's mission as leading an Eastern Christian empire, subjugating the pagan Asians, to then renew and save the corrupt Western Christian nations.

This same sense of mission, to impose a higher state of man on the West, found its way into the communist ideology of those who embraced the revolution against czarist Russia led by Lenin and his henchmen in February 1917.

## Russia and the West

The relationship between Russia and the West that has been Russia's continuing source of insecurity took on an even greater significance following World War I. Western intellectual minds became fertile ground for Soviet ideology. The Soviet Union mounted an aggressive campaign to penetrate Western academia with its godless message of communism. The spirit of revolution that pervaded the campuses of Western universities in the 1960s and '70s is witness to the fact that those of the intelligentsia in the West were increasingly seduced by the communist dream, and many of their students swallowed it hook, line and sinker.

"Western intellectuals have tended to look east for spiritual renewal. Here,

we might suppose, was the source of much illusion and naivety in Western attitudes toward the Soviet regime: the illusion that, for all its faults, life in Soviet Russia was at least more 'spiritual' than in the capitalist West" (ibid.).

Much of this Western flirtation with the Russian communist dream came to a grinding halt as the Russian economy unraveled in the last decade, exposing the cataclysmic failure at the heart of the grand Marxist-Leninist experiment. Reality dawned.

### A Vision of Russia's Future

When the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, the words of that ambassador for peace, Herbert W. Armstrong, once again rang so true.

On June 26, 1970, Mr. Armstrong attended the commemorative meeting in San Francisco of the 25th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations charter. Mr. Armstrong was also an accredited press representative during the original 1945 conference in that city. A quarter of a century following the establishment of the UN, this was his observation on Russia in the Arctic intensity of cold war: "The world seems blissfully ignorant of the colossal crimes Russia is committing against these smaller nations she is occupying and annexing. But I have talked, here, with officials and representatives from these nations and learned, FIRSTHAND, with shocked indignation, the true and cruel facts" (*Plain Truth*, Aug./Sept. 1970).

Yet, Herbert Armstrong was a visionary. Throughout the cold war, right up to his death in January 1986, he continued to declare that the U.S., Britain and the Western democracies need not fear war with, nor invasion by, Russia. He knew Bible prophecy! And he knew the terrible instability of the foundation upon which Russia had built its communist political economy. Harkening back to that original conference, Mr. Armstrong recalled, "I attended a special Molotov press conference. He was the same. Belligerent, unsmiling, accusing the United States, praising the USSR.

"What an opportunity for the United States to have championed the rights of those smaller, downtrodden, ill-treated countries between East and West Europe—Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Yugoslavia. The United States was by far the strongest military power in all world history then. We had the atom

bomb. Russia had no nuclear weapons. If the United States had stood up to Russia IN STRENGTH, and given its demands, the Kremlin WOULD NOT have risked war. But we had lost the pride of our power. We weakly submitted to Russia's demands and threats" (ibid.).

Mr. Armstrong did not live to see that "evil empire," as Ronald Reagan termed the USSR, collapse. But he did predict the results of Russian hegemony. "I do not see PEACE being germinated here, but the seeds of the next WAR!

"Success of the United Nations' effort for world peace requires complete HARMONY between the Big Three. But if America and Britain are to achieve harmony with Russia, it is already apparent IT WILL HAVE TO BE AT THE COST OF JUSTICE IN THE SMALLER BALTIC AND BALKAN NATIONS, AND POLAND. And if the rights of these helpless millions are to be trampled upon with impunity as the price of peace with Russia, THEN WE STILL HAVE NO PEACE!

"There can be NO REAL PEACE until we have justice for all. To achieve that, Uncle Sam must stand up as the stern and determined champion of the rights of these helpless smaller peoples" (ibid.).

Uncle Sam did not stand up for those nations—not until President Reagan took up the challenge. This president had the fortitude to throw his weight behind the effort of the Vatican, underpinned by German and U.S. intelligence operatives, to support the Vatican-funded solidarity movement in Poland as the thin edge of the wedge to split the façade of Soviet communism asunder. Then the whole wickedly corrupt Soviet edifice came tumbling down, and the Baltic and Balkan nations reverted to their pre-Soviet configurations.

But did peace result? No! "The seeds of the next war" had germinated, and another behemoth, in the guise of a great trading bloc, came trundling across the borders of Poland from *MittelEuropa* to spread the net of the European Union across the Balkans, and reach out into the Baltic. These small nations, like the pawns in the great chess game of European politics that they have been for centuries, just escaped one evil empire's net to be caught up in another—that of the rising beast power of a federated, catholicized Europe.

### From Krushchev to Putin

"We will bury you!" declared Nikita Krushchev during the heady days of cold war intensity. This uncouth little man once took off his shoe and banged the podium at the United Nations in hammer-like fashion to drive the point home. Krushchev reflected all of the swaggering arrogance of the Soviet Union at its peak. "In its Soviet incarnation Russia had nuclear weapons and a powerful military, a threatening and subversive ideology, a tendency to invade its neighbors or meddle in their affairs, and the might to wreak havoc on other continents" (*Atlantic Monthly*, op. cit.).

In the long haul from the belligerence which marked the reigns of Krushchev and his successor, Brezhnev, to the *glasnost* and *perestroika* of Mikhail Gorbachev, something happened to the great command economy of Soviet Russia. It faltered; it cracked; it failed with a thunderous economic and political earthquake that rippled on from the Polish plain to the Ukraine, from the Baltic to the Balkans.

With the collapse of the Soviets' hold over Poland, and successive Central and Eastern European countries, the bipolar world of the cold war was suddenly dominated by a singular powerful presence: The United States of America now strode the world as a military and economic giant. Armageddon appeared to be thrust way off into the future.

In the early 1990s we were all informed that Russia would embrace Western democracy and Western business practices. Scenes of President Clinton and Boris Yeltsin in bear hugs and collapsing in fits of laughter at each other's jokes promised a new nirvana of peace and prosperity from the Rocky Mountains to the Sea of Okhotsk—



Krushchev



Gorbachev



Yeltsin

and U.S. businessmen would be there for the killing.

Well, it did not quite turn out that way. It took less than ten years for Russia to revert to type. Yeltsin was granted czar-like powers under a new constitution which he proposed as his hold on the country weakened, following a mass uprising in October 1993. From then on it was a downward slide for Russia all the way back to a totalitarian state.

Yet Yeltsin's rule was a cakewalk compared to that of his successor, Vladimir Putin. Declaring in his inaugural address that Russians were "not ready to abandon traditional dependence on the state and become self-reliant individuals," Putin set about restoring the old state apparatus. He started by strengthening the power of his own office of president; he then moved to quash media criticism, and redrew Russia's administrative boundaries akin to those of imperial Russia, placing former KGB or military officers in charge of most. But perhaps the most glaring use of naked presidential power was his prosecution of the war in Chechnya.

### Two Fronts

The Russia of the 1990s fought on two fronts—Chechnya at its southern, Islamic flank and the domestic front at home. Both the Chechen war and the war on its economy by the oligarchs and *Mafiozi* have taken a terrible toll.

Chechnya has revealed the decay of Russia's military. It is crucial to Russia that its southern flank of the Caucasus region be secured, as this is Russia's buffer zone against any efforts by Turkey or the West to erode its hegemony in that region. This is the gateway to Caspian oil reserves, a significant tool in Russia's weakened economic and foreign-policy basket.

"But the blood, gore and corruption in Chechnya are a reminder that no matter what the numbers are, a band of rebels has managed to tie down the army of what was once the world's second superpower" (ibid.).

To be sure, Russia still holds a significant arsenal of nuclear weaponry. Granted, the funds to maintain, deploy and effectively use this deterrent in Russia's foreign-policy strategies are

sadly wanting. Yet when push comes to shove, as it has in the Caucasus wars, Russia has shown that it is prepared to brutalize opposition into submission.

As the *Atlantic Monthly* observes, "Russia is likely to maintain a nuclear arsenal sufficiently strong to keep NATO [the U.S.-led North Atlantic Treaty Organization] from ever launching a 'humanitarian' war on its soil. And the ruin that Russian forces have wrought on Chechnya has shown what Moscow is willing to do to keep Russia intact" (ibid.).

On the domestic front, only two havens of hope stand out: Moscow and St. Petersburg. Whereas Moscow, in its architecture, culture and society, is a showplace of Russia's longing to express its nationality, St. Petersburg shows off Russia's European leanings. Western businesses continue to operate in these havens where continuing foreign investment guarantees well-maintained city infrastructures. However, elsewhere the picture is bleak.

In the mid-1990s about \$10 billion per year in foreign aid poured into Russia; at least double that amount flowed out. A select band of oligarchs seized control of key industries and, supported by *Mafiozi* enforcement and protec-

tion (146 million today) could be lost to the horrors of alcoholism, violent deaths and disease. Tuberculosis and HIV have spread exponentially over the past three years. Comparisons are being made between Russia and Mobutu's Zaire. Both are huge lands with comparatively sparse populations. Both are replete with great natural resources exploited by an authoritarian elite as their peoples slide into a vortex of poverty, disease and despair.

### Russian Weakness— German Opportunity

Under President Putin, Russia has looked West to solidify its contacts with Europe, in particular with its old enemy/ally Germany. This ex-KGB officer, who spent years as a Russian spy in East Germany, speaks fluent German and slips readily into the Berlin political scene. His affinity with things German is right up German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's alley.

In a series of tit-for-tat deals, Germany has invested heavily in ailing Russia, picking off crucial and strategic industries, particularly in power generation and distribution, oil and gas, the high-tech minerals sector and aerospace. In simple terms, Germany needs

access to Russia's huge pool of natural resources, and Russia desperately needs the deutschmarks to maintain ongoing exploitation of those resources. In the new space race, with the U.S. space industry on the back foot through reduced funding, the German-led EU has been quick to buy into Russian aeronautical and space know-how as a platform to push the EU aerospace program to the fore.

Following a Russia-EU summit held on May 17, President Putin affirmed that both countries had dis-

cussed the strengthening of a long-term strategic partnership. European Commission President Romano Prodi commented that both Russia and Europe would profit significantly from the use of the euro (the EU monetary unit) in their economic transactions.

Strategically, this increasing economic alliance between Russia and the EU is a thorn in the flesh to the U.S. Both Russia and the German-dominated EU are aggressive in their intentions



**PUTIN'S POWER PLAY** Aftermath of war in Chechnya

tion gangs, seized the Russian economy and held it to ransom. It is estimated that today, 80 percent of Russian businesses pay *dan*—tribute or protection money—to the *Mafiozi*. Refusal to pay ends in torture and violent death.

Today Russia's gross national product is equivalent to just 4 percent of U.S. gross national product. Its population is shrinking markedly, by almost one million per year. Predictions are deeply worrying. One third of Russia's popula-

to see the U.S. pushed from its perch as the world's most influential nation.

In the EU-Russia alliance, it will be the EU that dominates; any Russian dream of a return to superpower status must remain, on all accounts, for the foreseeable future, a dream. Russian nationalism is likely to increase and its rhetoric return to bellicose anti-U.S. declarations from the Kremlin. However, the deplorable state of Russia's sinking economy and its deeply concerning demographic challenge of a poverty-stricken, shrinking population spread over a heavily industry-poisoned, environmentally ailing and vast geography mitigate against this great country ever returning to superpower status—without help.

In the great EU-Russia trade off, Germany has the deutschmarks to make it Russia's largest single investor and trading partner—but Russia holds the whip hand in its large nuclear arsenal. Continuing deals between the EU and Russia will boost Russia's economy and lead to a clear definition of where the shared border between the EU and Russia's diminished empire will be drawn.

But history shows that Germany and Russia have long enjoyed a love-hate relationship. Both countries have a long history of periodic reversion to nationalism and authoritarian government. "The very worst outcome for Europe would be one in which both Germany and Russia returned to nationalism and authoritarianism. If both countries were to move in more militaristic directions, partly as a result of failed economic policies, then Europe would again revert to the battleground it was for centuries, and face both German and Russian hegemony—and nuclear weapons" (Angela E. Stent, *Russia and Germany Reborn*, p. 244).

Since the close of the Second World War, the U.S. has been the determining factor in European and Russian politics. The U.S. worked to unify Germany as a bulwark against Russia, and has sought to offset Russia's nuclear threat by balancing that with its own powerful nuclear arsenal.

But times are changing. The U.S. is now thrust by the might of the EU into second place, economically. The EU is now working openly to establish a strong military presence in Europe and to push forward to the lead position in military space technology. Meanwhile,

**In the EU-Russia alliance, it will be the EU that dominates; any Russian dream of a return to superpower status must remain, on all accounts, for the foreseeable future, a dream.**

the U.S. teeters on the brink of a new isolationism, keen to withdraw from its long-term commitments to European security and hand that responsibility to the EU. This state of affairs poses grave risks for world security.

"As long as America continues to play a leading role in Europe, it will act as a stabilizing force and an anchor of European security. If it were to withdraw into isolationism, then both the domestic and the international situation in Europe could seriously deteriorate" (ibid., p. 245).

#### Oriental Magnet

That part of the Russian psyche that looks east will inevitably be drawn by events to continue to flirt with the orient and to build a diplomacy that blends with Russia's dependence on Western investment.

"As its population shrinks, Russia will find itself less and less able to face demographic challenges from China. Overpopulation is pushing the Chinese into the Russian Far East" (*Atlantic Monthly*, op. cit.). This trend is benefiting the Russian economy by bringing small-scale investment from China and increasing Sino-Russian trade.

In fact, Bible prophecy foretells the fracturing of the EU-Russia alliance by the strengthening of Sino-Russian rapport to the point that Russia's Eastern mind will eventually lead it to throw in its lot with China and Asia in a huge Eurasian alliance.

In the prophecies of Ezekiel, we read that this causes the European federation enough concern to launch a pre-emptive strike against this north-eastern alliance, wreaking havoc and dealing death to millions. However, this strike will serve to unleash the wrath of Eurasian retaliation as the largest military force ever assembled in man's history—200 mil-

lion in all—swoops down on Western Europe and destroys the short-lived final resurrection of the old Holy Roman Empire, in its guise of the European Union. Check the prophecies of Revelation, Ezekiel and Jeremiah for the details, foretold millennia ago.

#### Your Future

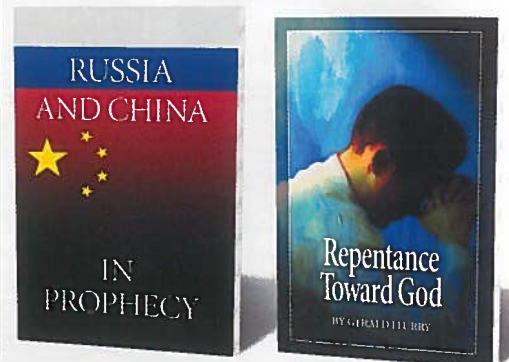
The changing order of things and emerging balance of power are harbingers of the impending fulfillment of Bible prophecy for this age.

As our mentor, Herbert Armstrong, so often declared, one third of your Bible is prophecy, and most of that is destined to be fulfilled in our day. Herbert Armstrong died 15 years ago. Current events confirm that we now live in the midst of the fulfillment of those prophecies which foretell the rise of the European beast power. We live on the brink of the formation of the great prophesied end-time power blocs: The EU is fast rising; Russia, China and Asia are moving toward consolidating in a giant Eastern bloc; the Islamic countries are uniting against the Western "infidel"; meanwhile, the Jews in Israel are weakened; the British are humbled in their national weakness—their sovereignty subsumed by their continuing membership of the European Union; the pride of U.S. power is broken amid the national fear of losing any American military person's life in battle. The events of this age are rushing toward a climactic *explosion!* This will *greatly* affect you and your loved ones.

Whether you realize it or not, these events are *real!* Do yourself a service.

*continued on page 28*

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# The FOOD on Your Plate

Ninety percent of American food is processed. Do you really know what's in your next meal?

BY STEPHEN HILL

**M**ORE HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST 40 years to change people's eating habits and the way food is produced than in thousands of years of recorded history!

Is the average American conscious of what goes on behind closed doors in the modern food industry?

Many will find the facts staggering!

Ninety percent of all food now consumed in the U.S. is processed. That means much of the natural flavor is lost and has to be reinvented.

The *marketability* of a food product depends on its taste. Thus, top-secret industrial complexes are scattered across the country, with refineries and chemical plants dedicated to re-creating or inventing new flavors—to assure a standardized taste for all their products. It is a multi-billion dollar industry. The consumer is steadily being separated from “real flavors.”

Eric Schlosser pinpoints the profit-and-power motive driving the food processing industry in his book *Fast Food Nation*: “The centralized purchasing decisions of the large restaurant chains and their demand for *standardized products* have given a handful of corporations an unprecedented degree of power over the nation's food supply” (p. 5; emphasis mine).

One quarter of the adult population in America buys

food in a fast food restaurant every day, seemingly without giving it so much as a thought!

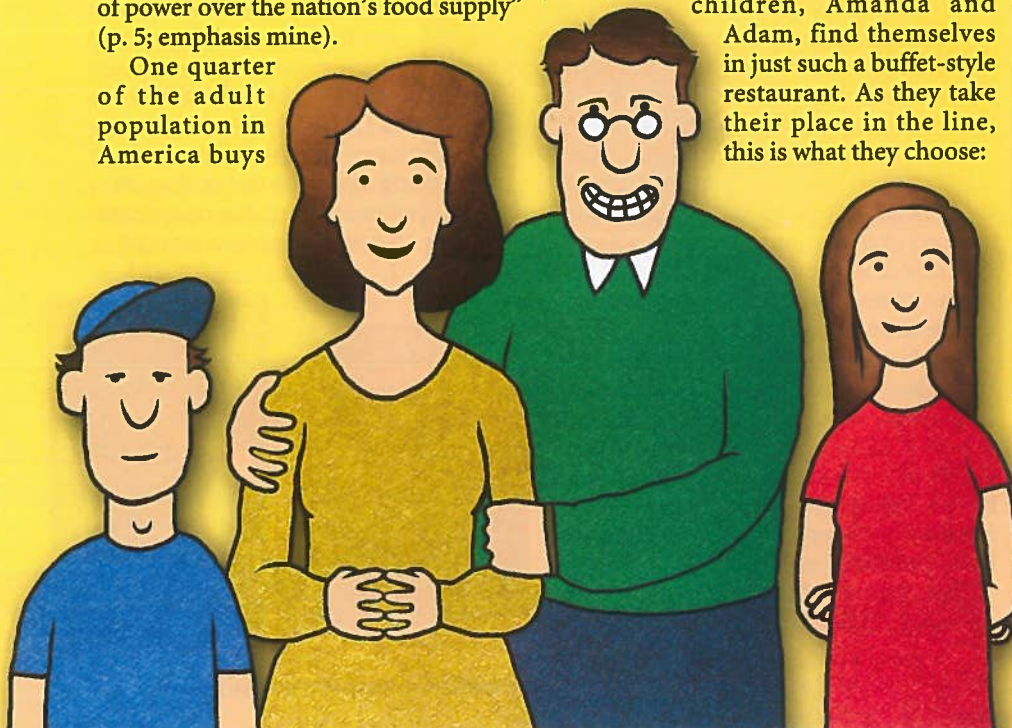
We need to wake up to the reality of what processed food is all about!

Fast food is at present fully entrenched in American culture, to the extent that it forms one of America's major exports. Fast food fits neatly into the average American family's lifestyle—especially for Mom, who hardly cooks anymore.

Mr. and Mrs. America leave their fridge full of a week's supply of ready-prepared, pre-cooked snacks and meals to heat up in the microwave. If they arrive home early enough from work, they may order a quick pizza to share in front of the television with the kids, or stock up at the drive-through of a local hamburger joint.

In the land of plenty and easily disposable, if perchance there is time for the family to spend together on Sunday and the sun is shining, they may go out for a buffet-style meal at a restaurant and get their fill of a broad selection of food. The restaurant chain's sales pitch is, “Eat as much as you like!”—for an accessible price.

Mr. and Mrs. America and their two children, Amanda and Adam, find themselves in just such a buffet-style restaurant. As they take their place in the line, this is what they choose:



**French Fries for All!**

AS FRENCH FRIES ARE SO CHEAP TO PRODUCE, there's a fortune to be made out of them if you get the taste right. McDonald's, the biggest retail company in the world, has its artificial flavoring down to a fine art; it now makes more money from its fries than from its burgers!

The oil in the fries, and the secret artificial flavor added to them—a hint of beefy flavor conjured up in a test tube—awaits the family's taste buds. Cost is the decisive factor. The cheapest oil mix on the market, regardless of its health effects, is generally what gets used. In addition, repeated use of the same oil for frying can be seriously detrimental to the customer's health.

One step backwards in the process and we find the soybeans, the cottonseed and the potatoes themselves have been genetically modified—engineered so as to produce their own insecticide and to tolerate exposure to potent weed-killers. The ground they were planted in has now been rendered useless for many other types of crop. Half of the soybeans and potatoes in the U.S. have been so modified.

What is the latest news in the world of potatoes? Last December a British company developed potatoes whose leaves have been implanted by a fluorescent gene from a jellyfish. The jellyfish gene, triggered by a protein that forms, glows when the plant is thirsty (*Daily Mail*, London, Dec. 18, 2000). Sound like science fiction? No, not in the 21st century.

Clearly, worldwide there is growing opposition towards genetically engineered plants, because of the unknown health and environmental risks. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is under pressure from health-watch groups for refusing to label genetically engineered products.



**Drinks: Soda-Pop for All**

TOP SODA-POP COMPANIES GUARD THE secret way they mix chemicals with water, more than gold. Last year, a major shareholder protest resolution asking Coca Cola to stop using genetically en-

JOEL HILLMAN

gineered products failed to pass. Coke buys genetically engineered corn syrup by the tanker-full! Similar resolutions were filed with McDonald's, General Mills, PepsiCo, Quaker Oats, Sara Lee and Procter and Gamble.



**Mom:  
Chicken  
Nuggets**

ANYONE IN GRANNIE'S DAY KNEW THAT giving someone sick meat meant endangering their health—perhaps their life! It seems the creators of modern processed food, as they drive the gravy train, have forgotten this simple fact.

The restaurant the America family is visiting is part of a multi-national chain which buys thousands of tons of broiler chickens every week. Broiler chickens are reared especially for their meat. They are housed in over-crowded sheds with up to 20 birds per square meter.

In the interest of profit, selective breeding, combined with 23-hour artificial lighting (which encourages constant eating) results in the species reaching its slaughter weight in only 38-40 days.

Nevertheless, the bird's skeleton grows at a more natural rate. Consequently, the birds may not be able to support their body weight, causing tens of millions to suffer from painful leg disorders and lameness every year. By the time they reach slaughter weight they may have difficulty walking or reaching food and water. Millions die prematurely due to heart or lung failure or other causes.

The litter the birds stand on is usually not cleaned throughout the birds' lives. As it becomes increasingly contaminated with poultry manure, corrosive ammonia is often produced; and because they have to spend so much of their time squatting on the ground, blisters often appear on their breasts. Ulcerated feet and burns on their lower legs are also common.

The health implications for consumers are irrefutable. Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), a leading animal protection group, stated, "In 1996 a report by the Advisory Committee on the Microbiological Safe-

ty of Food reported that one in three fresh chickens on sale are infected with salmonella and 44 percent with campylobacter (although some supermarkets now say that they have reduced this contamination rate)" ([www.ciwf.co.uk](http://www.ciwf.co.uk)).

Here is the other side of the sword: Antibiotics are often routinely fed to broilers as growth promoters and as a preventative medicine against the infections resulting from overcrowding. The antibiotics help to kill the bacteria that live in the gut of the broiler, but there is a growing concern that resistance to antibiotics is building in bacteria that infect both the broilers and the humans that consume them.

More than 19 million pounds of antibiotics are fed to cattle, pigs and chickens each year as they amble toward the dinner table.



**Amanda:  
"Just an  
Omelet"**

THE MILK IN HER OMELET, LIKE MOST ON the U.S. market, contains a whitener to make it look more appealing. In this case, titanium dioxide was used—the same chemical component *used to whiten paint*; but as the FDA does not require companies to disclose the ingredients of their color or flavor additives as long as all the chemicals in them are considered by the agency to be GRAS ("generally recognized as safe"), food processing companies maintain the secrecy of their formulas.

Frank Spivey, a retired research scientist who worked as a technician in both the pesticide and paint industries, and as a designer of flavors in the food industry, says that some of the chemi-

cals used in the pesticide, paint and food industries are the same—it is just that the proportions and amounts used are different!

It is rare that anything is wasted in food-processing. Milk on the supermarket shelves that passes its expiration date is often sent back to the factory where it is turned into cottage cheese, yogurt or sour cream.

The cows that produced the milk in Amanda's omelet, like so many now in the U.S., receive a fortnightly injection of a genetically engineered growth hormone called bovine somatotropin (BST) which boosts milk production by 25 percent. Milk produced by cows injected by BST shows boosted levels of the growth hormone IGF-1 (insulin-like growth factor one). This hormone is also a suspected carcinogen. In addition, some research claims the hormone has been blamed for wiping out almost 20 percent of some herds. The cows' immune systems become impaired, increasing their vulnerability to severe bladder and udder infections. BST also weakens the poor beasts' skeletons by draining calcium from their bones, resulting in the many cows that survive being unable to stand because their bones are too weak.

Then there are the eggs in Amanda's omelet, which were battery-produced, processed and turned into egg powder. The hens that lay the eggs are imprisoned for life in cages where each bird's living space is less than the size of this page. Such extreme confinement denies a hen most of its natural behavior, such as walking, stretching its wings, pecking, scratching or dust bathing. The hen is forced to stand on a sloping wire floor which causes considerable discomfort and often leads to

foot injuries, feather loss and skin damage due to constant rubbing against other birds and the wires of its cage.

Thanks to selective breeding, hens now lay around 300 eggs per year, rather than the normal 12 that their wild ancestor would lay. As eggshells are made of calcium, this abnormally high number of eggs severely depletes the bird's calcium levels, which, combined with the inability to exercise,



**COUPED UP** To keep up with consumer demand, many chickens are raised in a cramped and sickly environment.

can lead to osteoporosis and the hen's bones snapping under her.

CIWF has found hens in cages with their wings, legs or heads trapped in the door, and dead birds left rotting in cages for days. Hardly ideal conditions for the production of healthful eggs.



**Parents,  
Amanda:  
Veggies**

A BRITISH REPORT BY NUTRITIONIST David Thomas and backed by leading scientists has demonstrated that, thanks to modern farming methods, vegetables are not as good for us as they were 50 years ago.

"There is up to 75 percent less calcium and 93 percent less copper in fruit and vegetables, the study says. Runner beans which used to contain a significant amount of sodium vital for the working of the nerves and muscles now have almost no traces of it at all" (*Daily Mail*, March 5). According to Mr. Thomas's report, "The levels of other important minerals such as iron, phosphorous, potassium and magnesium have also plummeted."

By comparing figures over a 50-year period, his recent report was able to plot trends that clearly demonstrate how vegetables are being consistently sapped of the nutrients so important to human physiology.

At a time when experts are telling us to cut down on fat and eat more fruit and vegetables, surreptitiously the nutritional content of what we are eating is being depleted for simple gain!

Research has shown that spinach, famous as a good source of iron, was found to have 60 percent less iron than it did 50 years ago; broccoli has 75 percent less calcium, which is essential for building healthy bones and teeth; carrots have 75 percent less magnesium, which protects against heart attacks, asthma and kidney stones.

Nutritionists are also concerned about fertilizers, which encourage plant growth at the expense of the minerals important for good health. Excessive use of fertilizers also leads to residues of nitrates in produce and contamination of water supplies.

In addition, pesticides are now found deep within fruit and vegetables, not just on the skin. They can impair the human immune system and lower resistance to cancer.



**Adam:  
A Regular  
Beef Burger**

THE TRIED AND TESTED CHOICE! ADAM adds a thin slice of laboratory-designed, easy-to-melt, plasticky cheese and some company-designed sauce to the fluffy, bleached-white bun. Ingredients of the bread: "Enriched wheat flour (flour, barley malt, ferrous sulfate, niacin, thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, folic acid), water, high fructose corn syrup, yeast, wheat gluten, soybean oil, salt, soy flour, monocalcium phosphate, ammonium sulfate, calcium carbonate, mono and diglycerides, ethoxylated mono and diglycerides, calcium sulphate, datem, dough conditioners (sodium stearoyl, lactylate, calcium dioxide, calcium iodate, diammonium phosphate), dicalcium phosphate, vinegar, enzymes, calcium propionate and sorbic acid (to retain freshness)." The list is almost as long as Adam's arm!

The beef in beef burgers is often stored in gigantic aluminum vats which store meat from the far-flung corners of the world, and from which the contents are ground and mixed with a predetermined proportion of fat. A single fast food hamburger now contains meat from dozens or even hundreds of different cattle.

Obviously, this practice helps spread infections and harmful bacteria, especially, of late, the potentially deadly *E. coli* virus. "A modern processing plant can produce 800,000 pounds of hamburger a day; meat that will be shipped throughout the United States. A single animal infected with *E. coli* 0157:H7 can contaminate 32,000 pounds of that ground beef" (Schlosser, op. cit., p. 204).

Although according to official sources an effective sanitary control

system would only cost about one percent of present cost, there seems to be a general lack of will to employ even precautionary measures.

"Instead of focusing on the primary causes of meat contamination—the feed being given to cattle, the overcrowding of feedlots, the poor sanitation at slaughterhouses, excessive line speeds, poorly trained workers, the lack of stringent government oversight—the meatpacking industry and the USDA [United States Department of Agriculture] are now advocating an exotic technological solution to the problem.... They want to irradiate the nation's meat. Irradiation is a form of bacterial birth control, pioneered in the 1960s by the U.S. Army and by NASA. When microorganisms are zapped with low levels of gamma rays or x-rays, they are not killed, but their DNA is disrupted, and they cannot reproduce. Irradiation has been used for years on some imported spices and domestic poultry" (*ibid.*, p. 217).

Although the American Medical Association and the World Health Organization would have one believe that irradiated foods are safe to eat, most consumers are still reluctant to eat things that have been exposed to radiation. So, rather than treating the problem at its roots, the meatpacking industry is working hard to get rid of the unpopular word "irradiation" to replace it with the innocuous phrase "cold pasteurization."

With the relaxing of health control standards in the 1990s, more meat splattered with hair, feces or pus is getting through. Some, like Steven Bjerklie, former editor of *Meat and Poultry*, believe that the widespread use of irradiation might encourage meat packers to speed up the kill floor and spray dung everywhere. Mr. Bjerklie thinks that reducing



**HOW'S THE BEEF?** In maximizing beef production, some ranchers are putting cows in appallingly unhealthy conditions before sending them to consumers.



pressure on the meatpacking industry to make basic and essential changes in their production methods will permit their unsanitary methods to continue. "I don't want to be served irradiated feces along with my meat," he says.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) points to the seriousness of the problem. According to their statistics, if we use gastrointestinal illness as a common gauge of food poisoning, as we entered the 21st century food poisoning was 34 percent above what it was in 1948! The CDC says that every year, 5,000 deaths, 325,000 hospitalizations and 76 million illnesses are caused by food poisoning.



**Dad:  
Traditional  
Steak**

CHEMICALLY TENDERIZED SO THAT HIS knife will cut through it more easily, Mr. America's steak was grown on a cattle ranch in the far north of Montana.

After visiting such a farm, Ian Cobain, New York correspondent for London's *Daily Mail*, in a June 12, 1999, article titled "The Inside Scoop on American Feedlot Beef," described his experiences. In his opinion, what British farmers did to cause BSE (mad cow disease) pales beside the horrors of American farmers' pursuit of profit.

"On this particular ranch," he wrote, "thousands of cattle had been corralled into a series of steel pens, called feedlots, around 200 to each. There was no shade, no shelter and no grass on the ground, only dust. On each side of each feedlot was a trough containing herbicide-soaked grain.

"All of the cattle were enormous—the result of the grain diet and a series of steroid hormone implants inserted under the skin behind their ears....

"Because the cattle were carrying so much weight, and because their digestive systems are designed for grass not grain, some of the cattle's internal organs had fallen out. And because it would be too expensive to call a vet out to treat these problems, a couple of sweating, panting farm hands in cowboy hats were going from cow to cow prising their organs back inside and stitching up the cows."

Around 90 percent of the 29 billion pounds of beef consumed by Americans each year comes from cattle that have been fattened by hormone implants!

American farmers have been merrily feeding an array of pharmaceuticals to their cattle since the 1950s. Today they routinely use six types. Three are "natural" sex hormones: testosterone, progesterone and oestradiol-17 beta; three are synthetic sex hormones. Like the steroids used by a bodybuilder, these substances increase both muscle and fat growth, making each cow heavier and increasing its weight by around 50 pounds. They also make the animals grow faster, so the farmer can take them to market far more quickly.

When the EU's Scientific Committee on Veterinary Measures published the results of its study on the use of hormones, it concluded that at least one, called oestradiol, is a "complete carcinogen," because it can trigger tumors *and* promote their growth. The committee also called for further studies on the other five hormones.

Samuel Epstein, professor of environmental and occupational medicine at the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago, warned that confidential 1998 farming industry reports to the FDA revealed high residues of hormones in American beef.

"According to some estimates, an 8-year-old boy who ate two hamburgers made from this meat would, following the meal, have increased his levels of the female sex hormone by 10 percent. According to Dr. Epstein, lifelong exposure to high residues of natural and synthetic sex hormones in meat poses serious risk of breast and reproductive cancers, which have increased sharply in the U.S. since 1950" (ibid.).

The EU was particularly concerned by reports about cases of boys growing breasts and girls developing them early after eating contaminated food.

To reinforce its decision to ban U.S. beef, the EU published the results of tests on the small amount of supposedly hormone-free U.S. beef which was allowed in. When it discovered traces of hormones in 12 percent—including one substance which is illegal in the U.S.—it announced a ban on all American beef.

"There are around 42,000 feedlots in the major cattle-growing states, and around half the country's 100 million cattle are confined within them. Some farmers using feedlots have begun research trials adding cardboard, newspaper and sawdust to the feeding programs to reduce costs. Other factory farms add manure from the chicken houses and pigpens, making the United

States the only Western nation where it is legal to feed raw manure to cattle.

"Farmers are even reported to have experimented with cement dust, which is said to have produced a 30 percent faster weight gain" (ibid.).



**Parents:  
Dessert—  
Strawberries**

THEY LOOK SO BIG AND RED. LITTLE DOES the family know that they are genetically engineered strawberries impregnated with fish genes to harden the crop against cold, frosty weather.



**Children:  
Strawberry-  
Flavor Mousse**

THESE ARE THE INGREDIENTS OF THE ARTIFICIAL flavoring: amyl acetate, amyl butyrate, amyl valerate, anethol, anisyl formate, benzyl acetate, benzyl isobutyrate, butyric acid, cinnamyl isobutyrate, cinnamyl valerate, cognac essential oil, diacetyl, dipropyl ketone, ethyl butyrate, ethyl cinnamate, ethyl heptanoate, ethyl heptylate, ethyl lactate, ethyl methylphenylglycidate, ethyl nitrate, ethyl propionate, ethyl valerate, heliotropin, hydroxyphenyl-2-butanone (10 percent solution in alcohol),  $\alpha$ -ionone, isobutyl anthranilate, isobutyl butyrate, lemon essential oil, maltol, 4-methylacetophenone, methyl anthranilate, methyl benzoate, methyl cinnamate, methyl heptine carbonate, methyl naphthyl ketone, methyl salicylate, mint essential oil, neroli essential oil, nerolin, neryl isobutyrate, orris butter, phenethyl alcohol, rose, rum ether,  $\gamma$ -undecalactone, vanillin and solvent. Sounds tasty!

### Scratching the Surface

Feeling they had eaten better than normal, the America family went home content. They enjoyed the tastes and textures, and ended up feeling full.

Artful creators of illusion in the artificial food industry and marketing moguls slap each other on the back with glee for achieving this type of reaction in the public.

This article just scratches the surface. Much more information about the murky goings-on and practices of those making the furtive changes—in many cases under the blind eye of the

U.S. government—is out there for the reader to discover.

If permitted, greed will take these food industry powers further. Some are considering the use of by-products and offal meats, which up to this time have only been used to make pet food, as ingredients in processed food products—with their own invented, market-studied flavors prettied up, packaged and marketed for human consumption! (*Antioxidative Processing for Animal By-Products*, Dr. Youling Xiong).

Just how far will they go, if the government doesn't implement stricter controls?

Alarming reports are beginning to surface. According to the Washington D.C. Environmental Working Group, every day, nine out of ten American children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years are exposed to combinations of 13 different neurotoxic insecticides in the food they eat. "While the amounts consumed rarely cause acute illness, these 'organophosphate' insecticides (OPs) have the potential to cause long-term damage to the brain and the nervous system, which are rapidly growing and extremely vulnerable to injury during fetal development, infancy and early childhood" ([www.ewg.org](http://www.ewg.org)).

A March 23 *International Herald Tribune* article announced that "Most Americans carry detectable amounts of plastics, pesticides and heavy metals in their blood and urine, a government survey has shown for the first time. The substances include many that cause brain damage, reproductive problems, cancer and other toxic effects in animals."

The impact of fast food and food processing industries on modern North Americans is hard to overstate. It's all about power and making more money. That's the bottom line! Governments have been wholehearted in supporting "advances" in this industry. Their *modus operandi* seems to be to generally allow a product's viability to be tested on the market until it is conclusively proved to be detrimental to people's health! In doing so they are playing with lives—and not those of a far-off enemy nation, but of their very own people.

#### Broken Law

Is what is happening on American farms, coupled with an ever-present, ever-bolder, national food processing industry, a time bomb waiting to ex-

plode? How far can America continue in breaking God's health laws and not expect to pay some terrible consequences?

What has happened in Britain with mad cow and foot-and-mouth diseases is horrendous. It has practically destroyed the British meat industry—once a world leader. Many are calling it a plague—saying that Britain is cursed!

So far the U.S. has escaped that plague. Until recently, America, having much more space for its cattle, never felt as inclined to dabble with modern intensive farming methods as the small, sea-encircled United Kingdom and Western European nations did. But now the United States has moved out leagues ahead in fiddling with the rules of nature established by the great Creator God!

Ironically enough, of the tribes of Israel, God promised to bless Ephraim (Great Britain) and Manasseh (U.S.), because of the obedience of Abraham, more than any nations on the face of the Earth! Now Britain and the U.S. are turning those immense blessings into curses, fast.

If we disobey God and follow our own ways—the way of GET—here is a clear prophecy: "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and *cursed shalt thou be in the field*. Cursed shall be *thy basket and thy store*. Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and *the fruit of thy land*, the increase of *thy kine* [cattle], and the flocks of *thy sheep*" (Deut. 28:15-18).

Herbert W. Armstrong accused mankind of wanting to play God, rather than to prove Him and really submit to Him. In his booklet *Does God Exist*, he mentions how man can't even create the food he needs to survive—not even a single grain of wheat!

Now, not content with the immense blessings God has poured on the U.S. and Britain, their peoples greedily want even more. Trying to re-create food for their own further gain, they are in the process of creating a nightmare!

The United Kingdom has already been cursed in the field. Watch out for the time bomb of America's own making—of similar, and perhaps worse, plagues and curses—to be unleashed in the land of the star-spanned banner soon! ◆

# America's War

Obesity in America is now epidemic. Here is what can be done about this national health crisis.

BY DENNIS LEAP

**W**ATCH MOST EVENING TELEVISION commercials and it is not difficult to see that Americans are obsessed with food. Advertisers know what we want. With snappy music and fast-paced images we are offered *bigger-size* hamburgers, *larger-size* fries and *taller-size* sugared soft drinks. Competing food companies let us know which *larger* pizza tastes better. Often, before the night is through, we are left drooling over the thickest milkshake or multiple-topped sundaes.

It should not be surprising then to recognize that many Americans are overweight—seriously overweight.

In the 1950s John Kenneth Galbraith wrote, "More die in the United States of too much food than of too little" (*The Affluent Society*). This means that over five decades ago Americans were beginning to show signs of overweight problems.

Recent statistics show just how bad things have gotten. Even though 20 percent of the American population is on some kind of diet, over 50 percent of Americans are now considered to be overweight. Even worse, approximately 25 percent of Americans are suffering from life-threatening obesity. It is alarming to note that the age group with the highest increase in obesity is 18-to-29-year-olds.

Health professionals recognize that obesity is widespread in the United States. In 1999, Jeffrey P. Koplan, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated, "Obesity is an epidemic and should be taken as seriously as any infectious disease epidemic."

In 1998, the U.S. surgeon general's report on nutrition and health stated clearly that obesity is a known risk factor for chronic disease that often leads to death. Many have not listened to such warnings. Obesity is one of the known causes of heart disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, stroke and some forms

With

# OBEESITY

of cancer. It is estimated that 300,000 premature deaths occur each year in the United States because of our overweight health condition. Health care costs directly related to obesity amount to approximately \$100 billion dollars each year. It is estimated that another \$33 billion is spent annually on weight-reduction programs and special diet foods.

All this simply means is that our love affair with food is not only costing us, it is killing us. And yet the pounds we carry are ever increasing. Only 10 percent of Americans who lose 25 pounds or more are able to keep the weight off beyond two years. Many discover that they often gain back double what they originally lost. Why are Americans losing their war against obesity?

## Obesity Defined

Overweight Americans have difficulty admitting there is a problem. So, what is obesity? It is most simply defined as an excess of body fat. We need a certain amount of fat for energy, heat, insulation, shock absorption and other functions. However, when our body fat exceeds a certain percentage of our total body weight, then we are considered to be overweight. As a rule, women need more body fat than men. Most health professionals generally agree that men with more than 25 percent body fat and women with more than 30 percent body fat are obese.

Accurately measuring body fat is not simple. Health clubs often use skin calipers—scales that rely on a harmless electric shock sent through the body. The most common measurements used by medical doctors and insurance companies are the height-to-weight ratio tables. Even though these tables do not take into account indi-

CORBIS

vidual body structures that could contain heavier bones or more muscle mass, they are a good indicator of a weight problem. The most accurate—and expensive—means to measure body fat is to weigh a person underwater. This procedure is often limited to laboratories with very sophisticated equipment. The easiest method of all is to measure your own waistline. More than 35 inches for women and more than 40 inches for men is considered a high-risk or obese waistline. Using any one of these methods can help us to truly evaluate our weight condition. And of course, we need to be honest with ourselves.

## The Causes of Obesity

Why have Americans gotten so heavy? It is true that genetics and other medical conditions can play a role with some people being overweight. But a majority of Americans are overweight because we take in more calories than we use. These excess calories are stored as fat.

Compared with other peoples of the world, Americans are well known for

having high-calorie diets and a sedentary lifestyle. Surveys show that our daily caloric intake has increased nearly 10 percent since the late '70s. At the same time, our activity level has decreased. Why these changes in diet and activity level? If we truly want to solve our weight problems, we must honestly investigate the causes for obesity.

Putting genetics and medical problems aside, there are several other factors that contribute significantly to the American weight problem. The first factor: Americans have developed a fast-paced, time-crunched society. This demands a lifestyle of convenience. Many of our conveniences involve food. Because most households have both parents working, it has become far easier to either eat in restaurants or buy take-out. Most such food has higher calorie content, especially that of the popular fast food industry. The fast food industry has boomed since the late '70s. So has America's waistline. Very few people take the time to cook meals from *scratch*, which is generally much healthier. As a result, Americans are growing ever weaker physically.



Some food manufacturers actually know to do better. Motivated by greed and catering to our desire for convenience, marketing specialists have heavily promoted *quick and easy* microwaveable meals and snack foods. Take an objective look at your grocery store. The variety and types of easy meals and snack foods are endless. Americans love out-of-the-box meals and snack foods.

These highly processed packaged foods may save us time, but they also have a higher calorie content. It is always shocking to discover how many calories snacks and prepackaged foods contain.

Americans love to socialize. We look for any excuse to have friends over for a get-together. Very few Americans socialize without the presence of ample amounts of snack foods. Food and fun have been locked together in the American mind. Can you imagine a Super Bowl party without high-calorie snack foods?

A second contributing factor to American's overweight problem is our preference for taste over nutritional substance. Americans will eat just about anything that tastes good—even if it is bad for our health. We shy away from eating fresh fruits and vegetables and lean cuts of meat because they do not taste good to us, preferring high-fat or heavily sugared foods like hot dogs, sausage, hamburgers, french fries, soft drinks, beer and desserts. These foods are easy to prepare and taste good but are wrecking our health.

One final cause for our overweight problem that we must consider involves the well-established fact that America simply does not exercise. Some would doubt that fact, considering the number of infomercials selling exercise equipment. But the truth is, a lot of that exercise equipment becomes expensive clothes racks.

The CDC lists physical inactivity as the major contributing factor to America's obesity. Americans avoid opportunities to burn calories. We will drive our car before walking anywhere, even over short distances. We will choose the elevator over the stairs. Our children spend an average of 25 to 35 hours in front of the television each week. Many children would not even know how to play outdoors. American inactivity has

had a devastating toll on our health.

We could list other causes for America's problem with obesity. But if the majority of overweight Americans would take the time to tackle the problems discussed, we could produce a thinner America. We do not need to have a weight problem in this country.

Now, what is the way to a thinner, healthier you?

### The Healthy Way

First of all let us say that it is a real challenge to lose weight. But restored health is worth the challenge. It is always advisable to seek the advice of a health professional before starting any weight loss program.

**It is a real challenge to lose weight. But restored health is worth the challenge.**

You should be wary of any program that offers quick weight loss. Generally, it takes months to put weight on—and it is only reasonable to expect that it should take months to take it off. America is plagued with many fad diets that often do more harm than good. Extreme deprivation diets that limit you to certain foods or just liquids do not promote good health. In fact, some of those diets can even kill.

Also beware of diet programs that promise to make you look like the models in the pictures used to advertise weight-loss products. Let's be realistic. Very few of us have the time or the body structure to come to look like those models. Building a well-chiseled physique takes hours each day in a gym. Models admit that developing a magazine-cover body only comes with great pain. Most have to live a very unbalanced lifestyle to maintain that Greek-statue look.

Remember, it is *health* we should be after—not image. The over-emphasis on looks has led many people into the life-threatening behaviors of bulimia and anorexia.

Even though Americans are some of the best-educated people in this world, we need to educate ourselves better about *good nutrition* and *exercise*—the

two major keys to healthy and effective weight loss. In other words, to lose weight and maintain health, we must eat healthier and increase our activities.

Experts have studied people who are successful at maintaining a healthy weight. These people restrict their food intake in some way, watch their portions, count calories and avoid fat. All persons studied said that they ate fast food less than once a week. Exercise was considered a staple in maintaining weight loss. It was discovered that women burned 2,000 calories each week while men burned 3,000. Walking was by far the most common exercise, followed by aerobics and competitive sports like basketball.

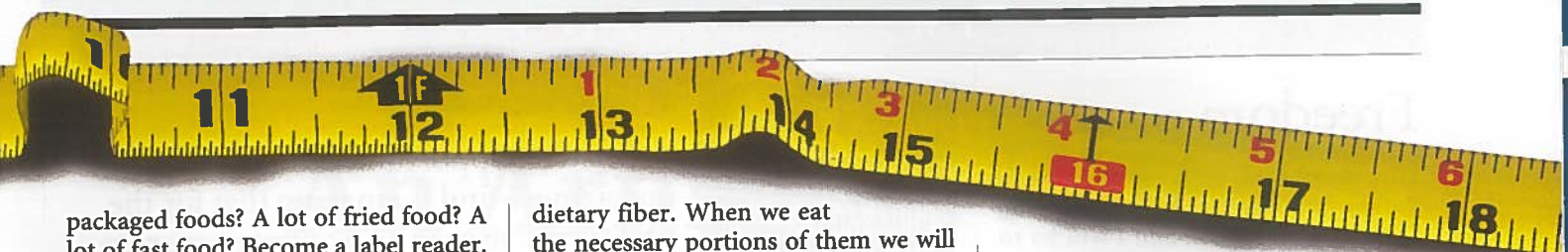
### Developing a Plan

Nearly all of those successful at weight management had developed a plan for maintaining a healthy weight. The majority of people's plans involved nutritional analysis, education, a health-conscious approach to food, and other lifestyle changes. In other words, to successfully lose weight, people have to make some changes in the way they live.

Many Americans have learned to eat food on cue or because of emotional upset, rather than for hunger. Understanding why you eat is as important as knowing what you eat.

The easiest way to do nutritional self-analysis is to keep a daily journal of what you eat. Make notes of the times you eat, what you eat, how much, when and why. Be honest and detailed. For example, if you eat potato chips as a snack, list the amount. Did you eat five chips, one quarter of a 12 ounce bag, or the whole bag? It is also important to note *why* you ate the chips. Ask yourself, were you upset? Were you visiting with a friend? Were you alone and watching television? When keeping a journal, do not be critical of yourself—just do it! Keeping a journal will reveal both positive and negative things about your eating habits.

After a week of journaling, go back through your notes and do some nutritional analysis. Are you eating natural whole-grain foods? Are you eating several portions of fresh fruits and vegetables? Are you eating lean meats and fish? Or are you eating mostly pre-



packaged foods? A lot of fried food? A lot of fast food? Become a label reader. Begin to look at the calorie content of the foods you are eating. On the average, 17 potato chips have about 160 calories. That is not so bad. Yet, a whole bag of chips contains 4,480 calories. Eating a whole bag of chips is not good, considering that the nutritional content of the chips is very low.

Also understand this: Experts discovered that the women who were successful at weight loss eat approximately 1300 calories each day; the men ate approximately 1725 calories each day. Eating a whole bag of chips would represent nearly three days of food for the women and two days for the men.

### Education on Nutrition

Be sure to educate yourself on good nutrition. Most Americans have little understanding of it. Unfortunately this common ignorance is a matter of choice. There are numerous good and easy-to-understand books and pamphlets available about nutrition. A lot of nutrition educational materials are given free. We are really without excuse.

Did you know that the best diet that will produce a slimmer you is a balanced diet that includes at least five servings of fresh fruits and vegetables, whole-grain cereals and breads, lean proteins and dairy products?

The foods highest in nutritional content are often lowest in calories. The foods that are good for us also fill us up. For example, fresh fruits and vegetables are very low in calories and high in

dietary fiber. When we eat the necessary portions of them we will automatically feel more full and satisfied. Unfortunately, many of us have lost our taste for such foods. But if we desire to manage our weight, we will retrain ourselves to enjoy the foods that are good for us. We must become more health conscious in our eating.

Did you know that it actually takes a lot of fat to make us feel satisfied? Notice how difficult it is to eat just a few high-fat chips or fries!

Once you get a better understanding of good nutrition, develop a food plan for yourself. Seek the help of a professional nutritionist if you cannot decide what is best for you. Most effective weight loss plans recommend three small meals and two snacks each day. That actually is a lot of food if it is high in nutritional content.

In addition, all healthy diets must include ample amounts of clean water. Most diet plans recommend a minimum of eight 8-ounce glasses a day (not including other beverages). The right amount of water promotes healthy liver and kidney function, which helps our body eliminate fats. Medical professionals recognize that most Americans are chronically dehydrated. Thirst often masks itself as hunger.

When planning your meals, remember to cut back on your portions. If you choose fast foods that are "bigger," remember—you'll become bigger too! Avoid high-fat and fast foods. Those most successful at sustained weight loss made simple changes in their eating habits. Do you realize how many calo-

ries you can save by eliminating second helpings? By having desserts only once per week? By being conscious of how much snack food you eat? Even limiting alcoholic drinks to one or two times a week can save thousands of calories per year.

It is a known fact that deprivation diets do not work. We all need to enjoy our food—even snack food on occasion. But we should eat all foods in moderation. Even the Bible teaches, "Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it" (Prov. 25:16). Too much of a good thing can make us sick. Practice self-discipline in your eating.


### Exercise Is Vital

Americans always seem to want to do things the quick and easy way. How often have you heard ads that say, "Take this pill—no need to exercise!" The truth is, it is the diet plans and exercise programs that bring true success—not the pills. Let's be honest. Most Americans have chosen a sedentary lifestyle. Busy with our jobs and family, we simply don't allow time for exercise.

A moderate but consistent exercise program will speed your weight loss success and help you manage your weight. Starting an exercise program does not need to be expensive or painful. The three most important investments you can make will be in a good pair of walking shoes, some comfortable clothing, and your TIME. A 30-minute walk at a good pace five days a week will help shed pounds; a 30-minute walk three days a week will help you maintain your weight. Moderate weightlifting is also valuable to help build more muscle mass and strong bones. To lose weight and maintain a healthy weight, we need to be physically active. You can even do some beneficial exercise while watching television.

But before starting any exercise program, seek some medical advice. Devise a plan that is best for you. Just get yourself moving again.

Many Americans are losing the war with obesity. But we can win. Let's all take the steps necessary to regain our health. When we do we will see a happier, thinner America. ♦



**GET MOVING**  
In controlling weight, nothing takes the place of exercise.

## Freedom *from page 10*

after those days, saith the Lord; *I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people*" (Heb. 8:8-10). We need to write God's law on our hearts indelibly—to etch it on our hearts and minds so it will never go away! THAT WILL BRING TRUE FREEDOM INTO OUR LIVES!

We have been deceived to believe just the reverse—that God's law somehow enslaves us. That is false! Beware of men—no man can give you true freedom! Only God can do that.

God's law brings us the ultimate, most wonderful freedom of all. It protects our families. It protects our children. It protects us from all the evil in this world.

We should have joyful freedom. I want to be free! "LIVE AS FREE MEN, yet without using your freedom as a pretext for evil; but live as servants of God" (1 Pet. 2:16; RSV).

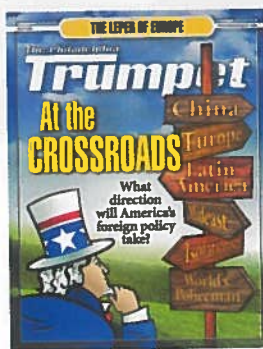
How beautiful and precious is freedom! True freedom is a wonderful gift! The greatest gift God can give us is to make us truly free. ♦

## Russia *from page 19*

Check up and prove the warnings in this magazine. Write now for your free copy of *Russia and China in Prophecy*, come to know what the Bible foretells your future holds, and be prepared for its consequences.

Our long-time readers know that the warning we send out concerning just where current world events are leading always comes with a message of *hope!* The Almighty God will be forced to allow mankind to feel great pain as the result of their sinful ways. This is the only way He can gain our attention! But, after we acknowledge Him as the one true God and humbly seek to obey His loving rule in our lives, the wondrous, *incredible human potential* is opened up to us.

Write for your copy of our booklet *Repentance Toward God*. It will open your eyes to the most scintillating way of life any human can live. It will help you prepare to reap the great *gain* that will follow the pain that this world must shortly suffer as the precursor to *the coming Millennium of peace for all mankind!* ♦



## At the Crossroads

“I had an opportunity to read your magazine. I find it amazing that for the first time I’ve seen an accurate coverage on subjects like the economy and international politics, written with no prejudice.”

N.S.W., Australia

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL MAGAZINE. I am always so pleased to read and study it. I had always felt so sad about what had befallen the *Plain Truth* magazine, and the Worldwide Church of God, because of Mr. J. Tkach Sr. and Jr.’s (and others’) management. I know that the late Herbert Armstrong (a wonderful pastor and prophet, author and educator) would be very proud and happy to know you are carrying on the old traditions of everything he had held so dear and precious. Keep up the good work, Mr. Flurry (and your helpers and co-workers, also). I wish great success to your new college of learning. May your work prosper, to make this world a better and honest world for the generations of the future.

Vic., Australia

I AM IN THE U.S. ARMY AND RECEIVE THE *Trumpet*. I also received the *Plain Truth* magazine while Mr. Armstrong was its chief editor. I read articles on many subjects, but pay close attention to those relating to the new Euro-army. I realize I am seeing the re-birth of the Holy Roman Empire as prophesied by Mr. Armstrong and now Mr. Flurry. I cannot thank you enough for enlightening me on this and other prophecies. I only hope the rest of the world will open its eyes to the evil that will soon engulf this world. Although I am not a member of your church, I will continue tithing to the Philadelphia Church of God, as I know in my heart you are the true Church of God and are proclaiming the true gospel.

Annandale, Va.

## Vital Knowledge

I HAVE RECEIVED, AND READ MORE THAN once, the March/April issue, with its cover story “The Book of Revelation.” I must say that your articles are excellent, giving facts and evidence that appear nowhere else, and providing vital knowledge of the duplicity and false information promoted by politicians, governments and a corrupt

press. I fully support your action in an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, and hope that Joe Tkach will be shown up as the traitor he is to his office, and for his ruin of the Worldwide Church of God, now just a watered-down shell of the once-powerful church of Mr. Armstrong.

Hertfordshire, England

I WAS RAISED A SOUTHERN BAPTIST AND ATTENDED church regularly when I was young. I now have a family of my own and have stopped going to church because I have become disillusioned with people going to church just to socialize, or thinking that going to church automatically gets them into heaven. I have watched your TV show on and off for several years now. Just recently I decided to order some of your literature. It has touched my life and has opened my eyes to what is happening in the world today. Your literature makes perfect sense to me; more sense than anything else I’ve been taught up until now. I hope to learn more of your church and its teachings in the near future. Thank you so very much for offering your literature. It may end up saving me and my family.

Plainfield, Ind.

I ENCOURAGE YOU FOR THE STEPS THAT YOU have been taking to help Mr. Armstrong’s books reach the “largest audience possible.” I wish you success in the legal battle.

India

## Trumpet

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 faxed to (405) 359-6280 or e-mailed to [letters@thetrumpet.com](mailto:letters@thetrumpet.com). Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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ERIC ANDERSON

# An Army of None

Signs of the times: The military's telling manpower shortage.

**T**HE U.S. ARMY HAS A MAJOR PROBLEM. IT IS FACING ONE OF the largest manpower shortages in its history.

Consider this fact: From the Korean War until Vietnam, 75 percent of male high school graduates and 70 percent of all college graduates in the U.S. served in the military.

All that changed with Vietnam. The fighting and dying in Vietnam was done principally by the sons of factory workers, secretaries, farmers and waitresses. Those who scored well enough on scholastic aptitude tests, and who had a family bankroll and the right connections, were able to avoid the service.

Since that time, recruitment numbers have declined in all branches of the U.S. military—most notably in the Army. The Army has reportedly “missed its recruiting goals in three of the past six years, and barely met them in the other three” (*U.S. News & World Report*, Jan. 22).

There are several possible explanations: The economic boom of the late 1990s and the lure of get-rich-quick jobs in the private sector might have siphoned off many potential recruits. Some might be disenchanted by the nature of recent military decisions, or worried about cut-backs in defense spending.

But possibly the most significant factor is the mindset of America's youth. It appears Generation Y simply no longer views the military as a viable career option. High school and military academy recruiters say today's youth simply don't care about what is going on in the world. Neither will they abide the rigorous physical work of enlistment. Moreover, they are averse to the strict hierarchy and regimentation among the ranks. Soldiers must follow orders, work selflessly as a team, and risk getting shot at from time to time.

To deal with the dilemma of lackluster recruiting campaigns in recent years, the Army looked for how to update its *image*. “On the basis of the findings...the Army apparently concluded that the current generation of young people is so individualistic, so resistant to authority and rules, that it has to market military life as the natural home of the free-wheeling unfettered spirit” (*ibid.*). Consequently, the U.S. Army has abandoned its 20-year-old slogan, “Be All You Can Be,” and adopted a new one: “An Army of One.” The Army launched its new \$150 million recruiting campaign in January, with prime-time television spot ads airing during popular youth-oriented programs, as well as radio, Internet and print advertising pitched to 18-to-24-year-olds.

In addition, Army recruiting battalions are being sent onto city streets and into subway stations like Grand Central and Times Square to hand out recruitment pamphlets. “The

subway strategy is a sign of how the military has had to beat the bushes extra hard across the country to meet its enlistment quotas” (*New York Times*, Jan. 20).

The situation is equally bleak across the Atlantic Ocean, among the British armed forces. The March 21 edition of *Jane's Defence Weekly* reports that enlistment numbers in the British Army during the fourth quarter of 2000 were 11 percent less than the similar period in 1999. Presently, the Army is “at least 8,000 recruits short of [its] target,” according to Col. Bob Stewart (*Daily Mail*, April 30).

The British Army, like the U.S. Army, turned to a civilian recruiting agency—Glasgow-based recruitment firm Search—for help. Last April it began a 12-month multimedia marketing campaign aimed at “ambitious young people seeking to acquire well-paid skills that could last a lifetime both within and outside the Army” (*Press Association Newsfile*, March 12). Other branches of the military are using similar tactics.

In addition to trying to attract new enlistees, Britain's Ministry of Defense is bending over backward to try to keep hold of existing military personnel: Drill sergeants are required to lower their voices on the parade grounds so as not to upset the troops with the traditional “bark.” Fitness standards have been lowered to suit the needs of a modern generation that can barely tolerate wearing boots because they have spent their whole lives in tennis shoes and flip-flops.

Additionally, more attention is being given to the sexual health of conscripts. Condoms are made available. Regimental health officers give AIDS awareness advice. Free cosmetic surgery and sex change operations are offered to help deal with those who, according to the Ministry of Defense, have “serious psychological problems.” (Ironically, despite these efforts, AIDS cases in the military have doubled in four years. More than 1200 British servicemen and women are now HIV positive.)

Needless to say, both America and Britain seem to be ignoring the fact that the armed forces require hierarchy, discipline and a certain ruggedness. Soldiers should be physically tough and mentally balanced.

The personnel problems in the U.S. and British armed forces might not seem like a big deal to some. Nevertheless, these problems indicate an underlying attitude of licentiousness which, if not corrected, will undoubtedly spell disaster for these two once-great and blessed nations.

God has already broken the pride of our military power (Lev. 26:19). He prophesies in Ezekiel 7:14 that in the near future, when the alarm of war sounds, **NOBODY** will go to battle.



**NO THANKS** Youth won't join a military they see as too harsh and regimented.



## THE KEY OF DAVID

# Tomorrow's News Today!

### Television and Radio Listings

#### United States

**Nationwide satellite**—Galaxy 3R/3 11:00 am ET, Tue; 11:00 am ET, Thur (Key of David satellite uplink)

**Nationwide cable & satellite**—Goodlife Network 6:30 am ET, Mon

**Northeast cable**—WWOR 7:30 am ET, Sat

Arkansas, Little Rock—KKYK 8:30 am, Sun  
California, Los Angeles—KCOP 7:00 am, Sun  
California, San Diego—COX cable channel 4 9:30 am, Sun

Connecticut, Hartford—WCTX 7:00 am, Sun  
Florida, Orlando—WRDQ 11:30 am, Sun

Georgia, Atlanta—WATL 8:30 am, Sun

Illinois, Chicago—WJYS 12 noon, Sun

Illinois, Harrisburg—KBSI 7:30 am, Sun

Illinois, Mt. Vernon—WDKA 7:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Louisville—WBNA 9:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 7:30 am, Sun

Kentucky, Paducah—KBSI 7:30 am, Sun

Michigan, Detroit—WADL 9:00 am, Sun

Missouri, Cape Girardeau—KBSI 7:30 am, Sun

Missouri, Kansas City—KCWE 8:00 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 8:00 am, Sun

North Carolina, Raleigh—WKFT 8:00 am, Sun

Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCB 7:00 am, Sun

South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg—WASV 8:00 am, Sun

Texas, Tyler—KLTV 10:30 am, Sun

Vermont, Burlington—WVNY 7:00 am, Sun

Virginia, Roanoke—WDR1 10:30 am, Sun

#### Canada

**Nationwide satellite**—Galaxy 3R/3 11:00 am ET, Tue; 11:05 am ET, Thur (Key of David satellite uplink)

**Nationwide satellite**—WWOR 7:30 am ET, Sat

Alberta—CKRD 9:30 am, Sun

British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00 am, Sun

New Brunswick—CIHF 7:00 am, Sun

Nova Scotia—CIHF 7:00 am, Sun

Ontario—CFMT 8:30 am, Sun

Prince Edward Island—CIHF 7:00 am, Sun

Quebec, Montreal—WVNY 7:00 am, Sun

#### Latin America

**Regional satellite**—Galaxy 3R/3 11:00 am ET, Tue; 11:00 am ET, Thur (Key of David satellite uplink)

**Argentina**—WWOR 8:30 am Sat

**Belize**—Goodlife Network 5:30 am, Mon

**Brazil**—WWOR 8:30 am, Sat

**Chile**—WWOR 7:30 am, Sat

**Colombia**—WWOR 6:30 am, Sat

**Mexico**—WWOR 6:30 am, Sat,

Goodlife Network 5:30 am, Mon

**Puerto Rico**—WWOR 7:30 am, Sat

**Venezuela**—WWOR 8:30 am, Sat

#### Caribbean

**Regional satellite**—Galaxy 3R/3 11:00 am ET, Tue; 11:00 am ET, Thur (Key of David satellite uplink)

**Bahamas**—Goodlife Network 6:30 am, Mon

**Cuba**—WWOR 6:30 am, Sat

**Grenada**—CCN 8:00 am, Sun

**Jamaica**—WWOR 8:30 am, Sat

**Tobago**—CCN 8:00 am, Sun

**Trinidad**—CCN 8:00 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

**Saudi Arabia**—Star World 12:00 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; Star World 5:00 am, Sun

**Fiji**—Star World 5:00 am, Sun

**Singapore**—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

**Victoria**—Ten Victoria 4:30 am, Sun

**New Zealand nationwide**—TV3 6:00 am, Fri

**Nationwide satellite**—Sky TV 6:00 am, Sun

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\*\* Indicates a new station or time change

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Post Office Box 3700  
EDMOND, OKLAHOMA 73083 U.S.

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