

HEROIN AT YOUR HOUSE?



The Philadelphia

Trumpet

June 1998

Vote Nazi

The scariest
European election
in 60 years!



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Personal...

Gerald Flury



The Day Hope Died

In 1963, America was the most powerful nation in the world. But America was still struggling. We had not won the Korean War. There were serious civil rights problems between blacks and whites. The world was filled with horrifying, seemingly insoluble problems. People were struggling to find hope anywhere on this earth.

John F. Kennedy was elected President of the United States in 1960. He had an ability to stir hope more than any of this world's leaders I have known. Mr. Kennedy not only inspired hope in America, he inspired hope over much of this earth.

The world held its breath as President Kennedy and the Russian Premier, Nikita Khrushchev, clashed over Cuba. The world was deathly afraid of nuclear war. Was there going to be a nuclear World War III? Finally, Mr. Khrushchev backed down. This helped make America look invincible. America appeared to be able to control the world's military bul- lies. The possibility of a nuclear war became remote (but only in people's minds).

President Kennedy captured the world's attention and gave them hope. The world had a stronger vision of peace. President Kennedy became a force around the world.

Mr. Kennedy made the bold decision to go to the moon and outer space. He wanted to go, not because it

was easy, but because it was hard. His words stirred the human spirit. He caught the world's imagination. People became more hopeful. They were expanding their vision into outer space.

President Kennedy established the Peace Corps. He sent young people around the earth to help and serve

needy countries. This also captured the imagination of many in the world. The Peace Corps held high promise. The best of the U.S. went to serve humanity. This effort gave hope to many people around the world.

America appeared to be at its best under John F. Kennedy. He held a world view, and many in the world internalized this view. JFK developed the "new frontier" slogan. It became like a religious movement to many in the world.

Mr. Kennedy's speech in Berlin galvanized the Germans. He talked of unifying Berlin. This one speech went a long way in changing American-German relations. He filled the Germans with

hope. Indeed, JFK had a gift for inspiring hope in so many people.

Then, on November 22, 1963, Mr. Kennedy was assassinated. One crazed gunman, Lee Harvey Oswald, shot and killed the president in Dallas, Texas. The world had been stunned when President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. But the impact was far greater when JFK

(continued on page 27)



Kennedy:
Embodied the
hope of the nation



German elections:

Not since Adolf Hitler has a pro-Nazi party won state parliament seats. The world was shocked. But we weren't. You urgently need to understand WHY.

BY GERALD FLURRY

PRO-NAZI PARTY'S First Win



A Shocking Win: Newly-elected Frey fights through the press to the parliament building in Magdeburg, Germany.

IT WAS AN ELECTION HEARD ROUND THE WORLD. A PRO-NAZI PARTY WON nearly 13 percent of the vote in Saxony-Anhalt. This racist party will have 14 members in the state parliament.

This is the first time a pro-Nazi party has won parliament seats since the vile era of Adolf Hitler! That madman committed the worst crimes ever in a war, and his ghost is back to haunt us. Even most of the German press labeled April 26 a "black day" for Germany. Jewish leader Ignatz Bubis said, "I have great fears."

A story was aired May 2 by NBC News. NBC showed footage of Hitler and stated how this party gained more votes than Hitler's did just a few years before he took control of Germany.

The election victory was followed a few days later by a three to four thousand-man neo-Nazi rally. It was the largest Nazi rally in years.

Gerhard Frey is the leader of the pro-Nazi party, called the DVU, or German People's Union. According to the news publication *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, HE HAS DENIED THAT THE HOLOCAUST EVEN HAPPENED! Even at a recent news conference, he refused to renounce this diabolical belief.

Mr. Frey ran an anti-immigrant campaign in a state that only has a 1.9 percent foreign population. It is the lowest of any state in Germany. Still there is an attack on foreigners by gangs of skinheads almost every week!

The Nazis love to hate. Their hatred is what motivates them. That is why they are so terribly dangerous. They spew out their Nazi hatred and do their violent deeds, using foreigners as a scapegoat for any problems they face. Just like Hitler, they hate Jews and almost every other race. This method is used to stir up violence.

News headlines around the world read, "Echoes of Hitler." Europe was understandably more concerned than other continents.

The news was probably heard less in the U.S., as we continue to bog down in scandal and trivial matters. This keeps us from being alert to a very serious crisis developing in Europe.

Echoes of Hitler: Frey's party received over four times as many votes as Hitler's did five years before he seized power.

"Not Since Hitler"

Here is what Germany Alert wrote on April 27 (emphasis mine): "Seventy years ago, in 1928, Adolf Hitler's National Socialists managed to get 2.5 percent of the vote in national elections. That's not much compared with nearly 13 percent polled by the pro-Nazi DVU in Saxony-Anhalt's state vote yesterday. Hitler portrayed Germany's problems in racist terms, just as Gerhard Frey's DVU does today. Then, like now, youthful energies of the pro-Nazi movement become attractive to large numbers of people tired of being ruined by economic and social disaster. HISTORY IS SCREAMING ITS SOLEMN WARNING."

It was 1928 when Hitler won 2.5 percent of the vote. Only five years later he disbanded parliament! Only five years! Today this one pro-Nazi group has received over four times as many votes.

"HISTORY IS SCREAMING ITS SOLEMN WARNING"! Germany has already plunged the world into two world wars. How can we not be profoundly stunned by the pro-Nazi election win? Especially since the world is now glutted with nuclear weapons and Germany is the great economic superpower of Europe.

Also their military is much stronger than most people realize.

Today there is no Winston Churchill to warn us. There is only God's Church. But who wants to listen to God?

"ONLY FOOLS CANNOT BE WORRIED ABOUT GERMANY IN THE LIGHT OF THE CHILLING ASCENDANCY OF PRO-NAZIS IN SAXONY-ANHALT'S STATE ELECTION.... The anti-Euro appeal to fear and loathing has turned into a horrific success in Saxony-Anhalt. WATCH NOW FOR THE NAZIS TO MARCH INTO OTHER KEY, SELECTED STATES. The results threaten all of Europe..." (ibid.). The Nazis are going to force the major political parties to accept much of their message of hate! And that means hatred for America and Britain most of all. These are primarily the nations that beat them in World Wars I and II. The great American industrial power was very instrumental in the Allies' victory.

That means we are at the top of their hate list. America and Britain are the nations they plan to destroy first! That is what the Nazis have been planning since World War II!

The U.S. State Department recently released classified documents in which the Nazis laid their plans for a future World War III just before the close of World War II.

How utterly shameful that our own government has kept that plan from the public for so long!

It's as if there was a design to deceive the American and British people. What deceit could be more dangerous?

Already Germany dictates the



direction of the European Union. The Germans should be fleeing such a blatantly dominant role, in view of their recent history.

Germany was left in 1947 to denazify themselves! The spirit of Hitler is very much alive in Germany today! How could we intelligently think it would be any other way?

Gerhard Frey owns two newspapers. He continually publishes articles glorifying German victories in World War II. His party won 14 seats in parliament with such slogans as "Foreigner Bandits Get Out." Thirty percent of the young people under 30 years of age voted for these pro-Nazis. Many young people said they "wanted a new man with NEW IDEAS." Or is it a new man with old ideas that they desire?

Hitler also had an enormous

appeal to Germany's youth. This age group knows less about their own history.

Between 1993 and 1997, attacks against foreigners in Germany increased from 6,000 to 9,000 per year! And these statistics keep soaring!

Dangerous Direction

Chancellor Helmut Kohl was the big loser in Saxony-Anhalt. He is behind Gerhard Schroeder in the polls by 10 percentage points. The national elections for chancellor will be held in September this year.

Here is what the European newspaper said about Mr. Schroeder in its March 9-15, 1998, issue (emphasis mine): "He is a man trying to live down his political past. Having been an ANTI-AMERICAN pacifist firebrand in his

youth, in political maturity he is the friend of big business who goes to the opera in a private jet. Ostensibly a man of the left, HE IS PREPARED TO PLAY ON PEOPLE'S FEARS about immigrants and safety on the streets for political gain. 'We must not be afraid of foreign delinquents,' he cried last summer. 'There is only one thing to say to those who abuse our hospitality in this country. Get out fast.'"

This is the leading candidate for chancellor, AND HE IS ENCOURAGING GANGS OF SKINHEADS TO ATTACK MORE FOREIGNERS! He is playing on people's fear and hatred—fanning the flames of violence. That is inexcusable behavior, but very little is said or written about it in the media!

How could any thinking person not be concerned about where this is leading? The tide of hate continues to grow. Now even Helmut Kohl is being influenced. Mr. Kohl "pointed out that foreigners had invested large sums of money in Saxony-Anhalt's chemical industry, but said that while foreigners had 'the right to hospitality,' they should be thrown out of the window or the door if they misbehaved" (Daily Telegraph, London, April 28, 1998).

The Nazi extremists are impacting the major parties. The politicians are saying whatever things will win them votes. Politics as usual.

This tide of hate is a serious problem that is growing fast.

I believe there is going to be a backlash against the extremist parties in Germany. But that is not going to change the dangerous direction Germany is going. It is only going to make these political parties more subtle and deadly.

The Bible says that it is Israel's (America's and Britain's) "lovers" that conquer them—not their obvious enemies. Our nations are going to be so deceived that we fall victim to the greatest double-cross in the history of man! "Wherefore I have delivered her into the hand of her lovers, into the hand of the Assyrians, upon whom she doted" (Ezek. 23:9). Our Assyrian or German "lovers" are going to destroy us unless we repent. (Write for our free booklets The Ezekiel Watchman and The United States and Britain in Prophecy.)

Britain and America are deeply deceived and refuse to understand what is really happening inside Germany—until it is too late (Ezek. 33:3).

The Party Line

Gerhard Frey won 13 percent of Saxony-Anhalt with an anti-foreigner campaign. Is he isolated in his views? Look at what the two leading contenders for chancellor are saying:

Gerhard Schroeder



We must not be afraid of foreign delinquents. There is only one thing to say to those who abuse our hospitality in this country. Get out fast.



Helmut Kohl



While foreigners have the right to hospitality, they should be thrown out of the window or the door if they misbehave.

AP/WIDEWORLD (2)

That means the decision to destroy us is made by “respectable” politicians who are our close allies.

Germany Dominating Europe

The Simon Wiesenthal Center in Jerusalem tracks Nazi criminals. They said the Saxony-Anhalt election results reveal “an ominous development that will have far-reaching implications in Germany and beyond its borders.” Why an impact beyond its borders? BECAUSE THE EUROPEAN UNION IS ALREADY ECONOMICALLY STRONGER THAN RUSSIA AND JAPAN BY FAR! And the military power is following the economic power. It routinely does in Germany.

What will Germany do with all that power? Can we afford to ignore this issue?

Here is what Margaret Thatcher, former prime minister of Britain, said in October of 1995: “You have not anchored Germany to Europe; you have anchored Europe to a newly dominant, unified Germany. In the end, my friends, you’ll find it will not work.”

Mrs. Thatcher lost her job for making such unpopular statements.

Now Germany is “newly dominant.” They are not passive anymore. They dominate a European Union (EU) that is fast becoming a superpower in the world.

Now combine what is happening economically with the political scene inside Germany. Considering Germany’s warring history, how can we not be deeply concerned?

Here is what Patrick Nichols said in November 1994 as he resigned as a vice chairman of Britain’s ruling Conservative party (emphasis mine): “I have no great liking for a continent dominated by two countries, the unique contribution of one of which has been TO PLUNGE EUROPE INTO TWO WORLD WARS IN LIVING MEMORY....

I have no great liking for a continent dominated by two countries, the unique contribution of one of which has been to plunge Europe into two world wars in living memory. Patrick Nichols

“I wish I was not in the European Community. It is far from the merely economic community we were led to expect, and if I thought it was feasible

to leave it, I would be off tomorrow.”

Now the EU is “far from the merely economic community we were led to expect.” What went wrong? If you have been reading The Trumpet, you know this Union is domineered by Germany and strongly guided by the Catholic Church. That is exactly what Herbert W. Armstrong proclaimed for over 50 years. He simply believed what God’s word prophesied.

Germany in Prophecy

Here is what Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in October 1962 in The Plain Truth: “Once the political union of Europe is achieved, the Germans will try to mount on top of the others—to dominate—to take over the rule, even over other European nations!”

Political union could be here as early as 1999. It’s almost here. How did Mr. Armstrong know this in advance? How did he know this union wouldn’t divide or collapse? Or that Germany would be the dominant power? Because the Bible reveals in Daniel, Isaiah and Revelation that there will be a 10-nation European power that will be led by Germany. Mr. Armstrong prophesied this for over 50 years before his death in 1986.

Today those prophecies are literally exploding on the world scene.

Here are two headlines from his Plain Truth magazine in 1961: “Now! New Power Bloc Stronger than Russia! —For 27 years we have warned, while others scoffed. Now the public press sees it coming. But here is what the world does not see!” “Giant World Power Rising out of Common Market —Prophecy is leaping to life! The fastest moving, most powerful military machine of all time is developing at lightning speed! You need to know the

Voice in the Wilderness: For over 50 years, Herbert Armstrong issued warnings about Germany, such as these Plain Truth articles from 1961.



It already is, economically!

Mr. Armstrong simply believed the prophecies of the Bible.

In a signed document with Franklin Roosevelt after World War II, Winston Churchill wrote, “It is our inflexible purpose to destroy German militarism and Nazism and to ensure Germany will never again be able to disturb the peace of the world.”

After two world wars caused by Germany, the Allies were determined to destroy German militarism forever. Did they succeed? They were horrifying failures!

While attending the first United Nations conference, the very same year that Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt signed that document, Herbert Armstrong said this: “This San Francisco conference is the greatest, most important conference of heads of nations held in world history. Here the top statesmen of the whole world are gathered. And WHY? To build a HIGH TOWER—a super WORLD ORGANIZATION—man’s nearest approach toward (continued on page 25)

FACTS about the Common Market!”

How did he know the European Union would even exist today? Or that it would be stronger than Russia?!

The Vatican:
Behind-the-scenes
power broker



Germany: The
new European
heavyweight

Unholy Union

BY RON FRASER

THE CHURCH OF ROME IS IN FACT FOUNDED UPON A political dogma. It claims that the Pope is a ruler, or more precisely, the supreme ruler of the world. Cardinal Bellarmine put it quite starkly: "The pontifical supremacy is the fundamental article of the Christian religion."

In other words, the Christian religion is founded upon this, that the Pope is the first authority, ruler and monarch on earth. Nothing of this has been revoked or rescinded. Both the spiritual and the temporal supremacy of the Pope are

still fundamental dogmas of Roman Catholic teaching" (David N. Samuel, *European Union and the Roman Catholic Influence in Britain*).

This "world's longest surviving international organization," in addition

to her ecclesiastical influence, is, at heart, an extremely political enterprise. "Wherever Rome is at work she seeks not only spiritual but also political power" (*ibid.*).

In the twentieth century, the strongest evidence of this political influence of the Roman Catholic Church is its drive to support and lead the nations of Europe into a European Union, dominated by its own spiritual influence. Yet this dogged commitment of the papacy to unite Europe has roots which go way back beyond this present century of man's history.

"A project is being mooted, which, if carried into effect, will have far-reaching consequences indeed.... It is nothing less than to erect a European Council with the Pope as president. This will be found a great stride towards grasping anew that temporal supremacy of Christendom which the pontiff wielded in the Middle Ages.... This proposal is a very specious one. It has come from the Roman side; it has been ventilated in the London newspapers by way, doubtless, of feeling the pulse of Europe. The object put in the foreground is confessedly a philanthropic one—the saving of Europe from ruinous wars. We are likely to hear more of this proposal in time to come" (Dr. J. A. Wylie, *Which Sovereign—Queen Victoria or the Pope?*, circa 1880).



Ancient Idea

In fact, the idea to unite Europe under the Pope's rule goes clear back to Charlemagne and the Holy Roman Empire. "The papacy ever since the days of Charlemagne has not ceased to lean upon the Germans in order to impose its authority and extend its influence throughout Europe" (Edmond Paris, *The Vatican Against Europe*).

"In the year 782, Charlemagne, the King of the Franks, became the military champion of the papacy, stepping into the vacuum created by the separation of Constantinople and Rome, and defending the papacy from the Lombards who kept threatening it. Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne emperor in Notre Dame Cathedral in 800. The future of Europe was bound up in that event, and the alliance between the papacy and Germany has been of great significance ever since" (David N. Samuel, *op. cit.*).

The Protestant Reformation was a great setback to Rome's drive to rule Europe. However, Rome is tenacious in its aim and calls upon vast experience in terms of its history of intelligence-gathering and diplomacy. As a senior CIA representative was informed when asking a Jesuit priest, "How come the Vatican's intelligence on Poland was well ahead of the CIA's during the

Solidarity years?" "Ah!" replied the priest, "But we have 2,000 years practice behind us!"

Following World War I, the progressive liberalization of education in the West did much to lay open to question the concept of absolute law ruling an absolute universe. Einstein's theory of relativity was seized upon by philosophers, theologians and social scientists who misused and misapplied it to the realm of moral authority. Traditional values in society were laid open to question and their authority attacked. Traditional religion, the world's principal bastion of moral authority, collapsed into decline. The influence on society of both Protestant and Roman Catholic churches waned. Rome proved the more resilient of the two main strands of Western religion.

"Step by step, in more recent times, with infinite patience, the Roman curia [papal government], gradually and without pause, regained the influence lost, at the same time placing at the service of Germany the spiritual ascendancy enjoyed by the Vatican among the Roman Catholics in Germany and the rest of Europe. Thus Germany the Great, like the Habsburg Empire, was to serve as the secular arm in order to annihilate the influence of Orthodox Russia in the Balkans and to restore the Holy See's authority in secular France. That game was lost in 1918 but was resumed in 1939 with the Vatican pur-

it becomes that there exists a traditional alliance between the Roman Catholic Church in the spiritual sphere and Germany in the civil sphere.

Teuton and Papal Politics

During World War II, as it became apparent to Germany's top Nazis that the possibility of defeat by the Allies was in prospect, the Nazis formulated a strategy to take the movement underground in the event of an allied victory. "When, in 1943, certain top Nazis realized that there must be at least a 50:50 chance that they would lose the war, Berlin established the Nazi International Organization at the German Geopolitical Centre which was located in Madrid, with satellite branches in Johannesburg, Rome, Lisbon and Buenos Aires. The strategies developed there are known to historians.... The Nazi International developed a 'gradualist' (quasi-Fabian) strategy to achieve Hitler's aims by stealth.... The time frame was governed by a 40-year framework for German occupation.... This became the accepted time frame for the development of both German and Soviet control strategies. Forty years from 1948 takes us to 1988; the Berlin Wall was removed in 1990" (Economic Intelligence Review, March 1998).

The full integration of Europe was not possible prior to the tearing down of the Berlin Wall and the disintegration of the Soviet Union. It has only emerged

Since the tearing down of the Berlin Wall the EU has taken on new momentum, driven by a German-led bureaucratic blitzkrieg.

suings the very same end that it is still pursuing today through the European Union" (*ibid.*).

As a Roman Catholic French patriot of World War II experience commented, "The church seeks not virtue but herself.... Her true concern is the constant swelling of her ranks, the strengthening of her power. Are you then surprised at her predilection for Germany.... Both love themselves alone and are hypnotized by their own powers" (Edmond Paris, *op. cit.*). The deeper we dig into history, the clearer

since the unification of East and West Germany, combined with the progressive Vatican-instigated separation of the Balkan states of Europe from Russian control. Since that emotion-soaked night, when the first fractures appeared in the concrete slabs of the dividing wall that separated East from West in Germany, the European Union has taken on a new momentum. It's now driven by a German-led bureaucratic blitzkrieg aggressively applying pressure to member states to conform to a single monetary policy

Baron Norman Tebbit



CHANCELLOR KOHL OF GERMANY is at it again. Speaking in Belgium last week he threatened us all that if he does not have his way in Europe, then there will be another war.

Chancellor Kohl wants to impose the Euro single currency on us all. He wants us to give up control of our foreign policy and even our armed forces.

He wants a single Euro superstate in which Germany, being the biggest and most powerful country, would get its way more often than anyone else.

And presumably if the rest of us didn't go along with what the Germans wanted we would again be threatened by war.

It is time someone asked Chancellor Kohl who he thinks would start the European war. Not the poor Belgians. They've never started a war. Nor the Dutch, nor us, because we have not started one for several hundred years.... Well, there is only one country which has started three European wars in the last 125 years—in 1870, 1914 and 1939.

Daily Mail, Feb. 8, 1996

and currency and leading to the lifting of border controls between member states.

“To say that the European Community was based on the Nazi version of Europe or that there are parallels would be an understatement. The entire ‘European’ enterprise since the founding of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951 (and given an enormous boost by the Maastricht Treaty on European Union) is an exact replica of the Nazis’ ideas for Europe. If there is a major difference it is that unlike Monsieur Delors, Hitler was at least elected by universal franchise, and by 1942 Hitler spoke for far more (albeit conquered) countries than does the EU today” (Treason at Maastricht, p. 133).

In their startling little book, *Treason at Maastricht*, Rodney Atkinson and Norris McWhirter reveal the proximity of goals that exists between Hitler’s Nazi regime and those of the European Union: “But the most significant common thread running through both the Nazi and modern versions of the European State is the contempt for ‘the English system’—i.e. a belief in democratic government based on the individual, the nation state and free international trade. The defeat of Hitler and Mussolini was far more significant for its social and economic implications than for its military triumph. The ideas of collectivism, statism, trade protectionism and corporatism are not so physically apparent as the blitz and marching armies, which is why they have so successfully re-established themselves in Europe, under the guise of the ‘European’ Union” (pp. 124-125).

Atkinson and McWhirter reveal very clearly in their book that the European Union presents a great threat to British and American sovereignty! Clearly, Germany is emerging as an increasingly powerful, bullying civil powerhouse dominating Europe, allied with a politically active spiritual power, the Vatican of Rome. Each is intent on pursuing the common goal of a united Europe. That this European combine will work to the detriment of Britain, America and their traditional allies is now readily seen by an increasingly concerned, clear-thinking and growing band of commentators, particularly in Britain. (Read the comments, at left, of Lord Tebbit, previous minister serving in Lady Thatcher’s cabinet,

The Vatican and European Federalism

ONE OF THE GREATEST PROOFS OF the Church is prophecy. The Church which Jesus Christ established on earth was prophesied by Christ Himself to be a constant object of persecution by the world (John 16:33).

Search the Bible and it is not possible to find, under the most demanding analysis, any prophecy that the Church, prior to Jesus Christ’s return to this earth, would become popular and gain universal acceptance. To the contrary, prophecy foretells that the Church will be small, reduced to a mere remnant in the latter days, attacked by the great political institutions that exist in these times, constantly harried by heresies, wracked by occasional internal division, but always protected and given faith, hope and strength by the one who has overcome the world, Jesus Christ (I Cor. 11:17-19; III John 1:9; II Tim. 4:14).

In fact, following its first century of existence, the original Church, which the Son of God established, was so

after Chancellor Kohl threatened war if Germany did not get her way in the European Union.)

So much for Chancellor Kohl’s aggressive brand of Euro-politics. Concerning the Vatican’s political role, though it be more subliminal in approach, it is, nonetheless, just as effective as Mr. Kohl’s politics in practice.

The influence of the Vatican on swaying the national vote to get its way has been evident in this current decade: “There is a natural affinity between the powerful state and the Roman Catholic theocratic ideal. The Church of Rome makes no bones about calling on its members to vote in a particular way, as it did in the Italian elections of 1992” (David N. Samuel, op. cit.).

Such papal influence is part of a well-considered and progressive plan for the Vatican’s dominance of Europe.

harassed and persecuted that it broke up into fragments. These remnant groups of the faithful scattered into the areas of Western Europe and Asia Minor to escape persecution from the Roman brand of political pseudo-Christianity.

Following his declared vision of a flaming cross in the sky (after his victorious military adventures), the Emperor Constantine converted to the religion of Rome. Most of those attracted to Christianity subsequently also became captivated. "It was not until Constantine began a process of syncretism that Christians began to understand the nature of the beast which was evolving" (Adrian Hilton, *The Principality and Power of Europe*).

"Syncretism" refers to Constantine's efforts to merge Christianity with other religions. Constantine replaced the God-ordained seventh-day Sabbath with the pagan Day of the Sun (Sunday). He declared the observance of the Passover illegal under threat of death to its practitioners and replaced it with the Babylonian festival of Queen Ishtar, the pagan Queen of Heaven (Easter).

As it was from the beginning of Church history, so it is at the end of this Church age. Just as the majority of Christians fell under the spell of the universal influence of the new religious entity in Rome 1900 years ago, so history is in the process of repeating itself as the end of the current millennium approaches. Under

Constantine there was one empire under one emperor, heading a singular church under one god. In those days Christians wondered about whether they had perhaps misunderstood the idea of the Kingdom of God. Perhaps it was the church itself? Or perhaps the Roman Empire in its new "Christian" guise. It was thus that the union of the Roman church and state was sealed and became the major influence on the political and socio-economic development of Europe to this day.

Repeated efforts at revival of the Roman Empire have followed its initial fall. Repeated attempts to reconstruct a unified Europe have continually impacted European history. "The vision of one empire under one emperor, belonging to one church under one God, has caused more bloodshed than anything in the history of the world" (*ibid.*).

Emperor Justinian, under what is now known as the "Imperial Restoration," was first to succeed in restoring the Roman Empire to some of its former glory. In concert with the Pope of Rome, he restored both the eastern and western legs of the empirical edifice. Following a further four resurrections, the most recent and sixth revival of the Holy Roman Empire was Hitler's Nazi regime. The seventh and final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire is now being cemented by the Christian Democrats in the European Union and Pope John Paul II's papacy. Englishman Adrian



Dubious Conversion:
Constantine became "Christian" after a vision of a cross.

A Sunday Telegraph article in 1991 had the title "Hatching a New Popish Plot" and spoke of the Pope's plans for the "evangelization" not only of Great Britain but the whole European continent. "Karol Wojtyla [the Pope]," the article goes on, "is calmly preparing to assume the mantle which he solemnly believes to be his Divine Right—that of new Holy Roman Emperor, reigning from the Urals to the Atlantic" (Sunday Telegraph, July 21, 1991).

David Samuel goes to the heart and core of the issue: "What is on offer is not federalism at all, though it masquerades under that name, but an unelected politico-bureaucracy or Euro-Fascism. The government of Europe will be an unelected body, with the European Parliament simply to give it an air of democratic legitimacy....

Present indications are that the future of the European Union is more likely to resemble the Habsburg or Ottoman Empires than a democratic federal state" (David N. Samuel, *op. cit.*).

Spiritual Influence

On January 16, 1604, at the Hampton Court Conference in England, John Rainolds presented to King James I the motion that the Bible be translated into the English language and thus made accessible to the common man. The very next day the king gave his assent to the motion, which led to the publication of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible.

In their Epistle dedicatory, to be found printed in every edition of the AKJV since, the translators point to the Vatican's resistance to making the Bible generally accessible to the popu-

lace. Anticipating Roman Catholic resistance to their published efforts, the translators state: "...So that if, on the one side, we shall be traduced [slandered] by Popish Persons at home or abroad, who therefore will malign us, because we are poor instruments to make God's holy Truth to be yet more and more known unto the people, whom they desire still to keep in ignorance and darkness."

The Vatican fathers were not successful in their resistance to having the word of God made available to the public. However, their efforts to use episcopal power for political control have continued to this day.

To understand the Roman Catholic Church, one needs to realize that historically it has, from its earliest beginnings, been both a religious and a political body. "Wherever Rome is at work

Hilton's book, *The Principality and Power of Europe*, is the clearest and best documented secular treatise on this phenomenon yet published. It is well worth reading.

Too few observers on the world scene are waking up to the sinister nature of what has occurred since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Pope John Paul II, against all prevailing political dogma at the time, held firm to his conviction that the motivation of the former USSR's subject populations to rise and resist their communist taskmasters would prove the one significant crack in the Soviet's armor that would lead to its total collapse. He provided the inspiration for his own home nation of Poland to provide that crack; the USSR fell with a resounding crash that ricocheted around the world, and the whole face of global politics changed in short order. The Pope has called for the eastern European countries to return to their "Common European Home." This is but a call for them to return to the mother Catholic Church.

John Paul II has also proven undeniably and hugely successful in turning the Latin countries back to the Vatican from liberation theology. His multitudinous visits around the world have strengthened his hold on the vast network of institutions, papal offices and diplomatic connections which supply such excellent global intelligence to the Vatican on a daily basis.

Indeed, when an appropriate catalyst provides the need, no other institution on earth is so well established with a chain of "embassies, emissaries, institutions [churches, real estate,



All Hail the Power:
The Pope's political influence is largely underestimated

hospitals, clinics, schools, clubs, etc.] and networks around the world" to exert a consolidated, concerted and powerful influence on world affairs (ibid.).

In his insightful book, *The Keys of this Blood*, former Jesuit priest and Vatican resident Malachi Martin shows little doubt that the Vatican is in a prime position to lead any emerging system of imposed world order. "If tomorrow or next week, by a sudden miracle, a one-world government were established, the Roman Church would not have to undergo any essential change in order to retain its dominant position to further its global aims."

The Roman Catholic Church is the only religious body on earth that has the right for its head to address the United Nations General Assembly, and to actually be involved in UN meetings. It is well positioned for its future role.

Your Bible reveals that two religions of influence will impact this world. One is the pure religion which God gave to the apostles and prophets of old. The other is that great false spiritual institution, founded in the first century by Simon Magus, in the ancient tradition of Babylon, which is now preparing to move her headquarters to Jerusalem. Continue to watch Pope John Paul II. Continue to watch the consolidation of Christian Democrat political dominance in Europe, as the Pope ropes in the errant eastern block children of the church to form the traditional eastern leg of the final resurrection of that ancient "Holy" Roman Empire. Watch—and pray! ♦

she seeks not only spiritual but also political power and influence. One experienced commentator has written, 'No political event or circumstance can be evaluated without the knowledge of the Vatican's part in it. And no significant world political situation exists in which the Vatican does not play an important implicit or explicit part.' If this be true of world politics, how much more must it be true of the politics of Europe which is in the Vatican's own backyard, so to speak" (David N. Samuel, op. cit.).

Bearing this in mind, it should not be surprising to hear voices of concern being raised in relation to the politico-spiritual specter on the rise in Europe. "The predominant religion of the confederation will be Roman Catholicism, and its spiritual head will be the Pope, to whom all who profess the

Catholic faith owe allegiance—it is possible that the papacy and the Vatican could re-acquire political power at the same time.... The European Community, from its inception, was an idea in the mind of the Vatican to re-Catholicize Europe..." (The Monarchy in Peril—Ecumenism and the Throne, Spirit of 88, pp. 4-5).

The rule of the papacy, the cardinals, bishops and local priests, is extended down through the laity. The Vatican imposes upon its laity the duty to enlarge "the orbit of the apostolic light of the hierarchy. Thus wherever a Roman Catholic layman is placed, at any level in society, he must see it as his duty to extend the influence and authority of the Roman Catholic priests and bishops and ultimately, of course, the Pope, for this, it is claimed, is the same as extending the Kingdom

of God" (David N. Samuel, op. cit.).

Having this in mind, it is interesting to note the high-flying Roman Catholics who have been influential in the evolution of the European Union. The generally recognized instigator of the Franco-German coal and steel production plan, launched in the 1950s, upon which the European Community was founded, was Robert Schumann. Born in Luxembourg, Schumann was a devout Catholic, now being considered by the Vatican for elevation to sainthood.

Jacques Delors, principal architect of the Maastricht Treaty and past president of the European Commission, had, at the roots of his Euro-federalist agenda, an ardent commitment to the furtherance of Roman Catholicism.

Here is what Boris Johnson wrote in the Sunday Telegraph: "Few...imag-

ined there could be any connection between the Commission president's enthusiasm for religion and his Euro-federalism. Few, that is, apart from a handful of his closest advisers, including a Belgian ex-priest, who believe there is now a spiritual void in Britain and other EEC countries; and that Mr. Delors should fill that void by subtly turning European federalism into a semi-religious crusade.

"Religion—or at least some kind of peculiar new Euro-spirituality inspired by Brussels—is the answer to the Community's spiritual crisis" (Feb. 28, 1993).

Delors is Jesuit educated, as is former Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, another dedicated champion of the Maastricht agenda. Together with Germany's Chancellor Kohl and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzales, these leaders, all devout Catholics, hail from the Roman Catholic social movement which believes that the most noble of tasks is the unifying of the European continent.

Konrad Adenauer, a contemporary of Robert Schumann and zealot for European unity, in addition to his office as a post-war chancellor of Germany,

was privy chamberlain [personal aide] to the Pope. Mr. Adenauer declared in 1953 that "Germany has a divine mission to save Western Europe." From its inception, the European Community has been a vehicle to unite Europe under a common religion—Roman Catholicism, the glue that has traditionally bound together the Holy Roman Empire in its various resurrections.

Just as Britain is the thorn in the flesh of the European Union today, so it was in the past. Never conquered by empirical Rome, Britain was historically resistant to the Vatican's influence till "relativism...[and] tolerance stretched the bounds of morality beyond the limits of Scripture" (ibid.).

Until the time of George V, when the concepts of moral relativism and German rationalism began to raise their heads (both concepts having their genesis in German intellectual thought), the coronation oath of British monarchs specifically prohibited adherence to Roman Catholic mysticism. The old coronation oath stated: "I do solemnly and sincerely, in the presence of God, profess, testify and declare that I do believe that in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper there is not any

Transubstantiation of the Elements of Bread and Wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, at or after the consecration thereof by any person whatsoever; and that the Invocation or Adoration of the Virgin Mary or any other Saint, and the Sacrifice of the Mass, as they are now used in the Church of Rome, are superstitious and idolatrous" (The Monarchy in Peril—Ecumenism and the Throne, p. 6).

Yet within Britain, the idea of Europe becoming a spiritual entity under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, leading to a revival of its temporal power, is being subtly developed. The British Cardinal Basil Hume, in his book entitled Remaking Europe, points out that there exists a spiritual vacuum at the heart of Europe. He then expounds on Roman Catholic social and political theory, warmly advocating the idea of a European (non-sovereign) citizenship, as proposed in the Maastricht Treaty. This is in direct line with the Pope's public assertion, while visiting Austria in 1983, that Europeans should work for the tearing down of all "national and artificial borders all over Europe.... Europeans should overcome the men-

Mysticism Rejected

I do solemnly and sincerely, in the presence of God, profess, testify and declare that I do believe that in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper there is not any Transubstantiation of the Elements of Bread and Wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, at or after the consecration thereof by any person whatsoever; and that the Invocation or Adoration of the Virgin Mary or any other Saint, and the Sacrifice of the Mass, as they are now used in the Church of Rome, are superstitious and idolatrous.

**Excerpt from the former
British coronation oath**



King Edward VIII
With Queen Alexandra

acing international confrontations of states and alliances and create a new United Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.”

Pagan Origins—Pagan Mark

This is the church that has historically overseen and commanded the slaughter of those who would not bend the knee to its will. The church that silenced Galileo and which ordered the assassination of Elizabeth Tudor. It is a church that has its roots in the pagan mother-son relationship of Nimrod and Semiramis of ancient Babylon—rooted in superstition, mysticism and anti-God paganism.

“Superstition, the granting of supernatural powers and agencies to natural things, is the most striking feature of Roman Catholicism, quite absent from the Protestant world view. The veneration granted to images, holy water, holy oil, buildings, vestments, and the Host; the place given to dead saints for intercession and help; the absurd regard for such pointless miracles as weeping statues—these are as animistic, and as savage, as the beliefs of any illiterate Polynesian” (The Herald [Glasgow], August 26, 1995).

This is the church that has raised, educated and molded the spiritual focus of the most influential political leaders and bureaucrats in the European Union. It is this Catholic mind that dominates Brussels! Writing for the Glasgow-based newspaper, The Herald, John Macleod bemoans the loss of a purer religion that “has supernatural elements: belief in an unseen God, who has revealed Himself through inerrant Scripture, and who gave His Son for sinners of mankind, identified by His miraculous birth, death, and resurrection. But it is free of superstition, and founded on Scripture alone; a church of which Christ was head and not the Pope, a church in which... the function of ordained ministers was to preach in the common tongue, not to con-

duct bizarre rituals in a dead language.”

Macleod fears that the loss of scriptural knowledge that once underwrote a system of law, jurisprudence, education and economy, that generally produced a more decent society, is being destroyed by an unwelcome alternative being subtly forced upon Britain.

Already the mark of this church is bound in European law, awaiting its enforcement. It was upon a German-Catholic initiative that Sunday was legislated as a “day of rest” by the Brussels bureaucrats, and received the approval of the EU states.

“It was for obeying God’s FOURTH Commandment—keeping the Sabbath—that millions were put to death. The local Council of Laodicea, in A.D. 363, passed this decree: ‘Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, resting rather on Sunday. But, if any be found to be Judaizing, let them be declared anathema from Christ.’

“The church caused them to be killed. When the church branded one ‘anathema’ [a heretic], the state police of the Empire began torturing

him. Unless he recanted, he was tortured until he died!

“Laws became so strict no man could hold a job, or engage in business, unless he worked on Saturday and rested on Sunday.

“This is the ONLY COMMANDMENT which was altered by the Roman Empire! In Daniel 7:25 we read the prophecy of this ‘BEAST’ and the little horn (papacy) rising up, which was to think to CHANGE ‘times and laws.’ That is, change God’s LAW in respect to TIME—the time for the Sabbath!” (Herbert W. Armstrong, The Mark of the Beast, p. 13).

Could such a state of affairs resurrect and establish itself in a Europe, dominated increasingly by the Vatican and its old ally Germany, in these “enlightened” times? Your Bible guarantees it.

The relocation of Germany’s seat of government from Bonn to historic Berlin will have deeply symbolic meaning to the German populace. Berlin, traditional seat of the Kaisers. Berlin, city of celebration of Germany’s past glory. Berlin and Rome, ancient cities

each possessing a historic past which has had profound impact on world history.

“By the year 2000, a huge new government complex, including the Chancellery and the remodeled Reichstag, will occupy the eastern edge of the city’s Central park, the Tier Garten” (Condé Nast Traveler, February 1998, p.102).

The countdown to the year 2,000 ticks away, a year in which the Vatican will lead global celebration of its almost 2000-year history, a year in which Europe’s largest construction site, the city of Berlin, will light up as the reborn capital of a reborn Germany. Stay attuned to the spirit of prophecy behind today’s world news (Rev. 19:10). Grasp the vision of the meaning of the climactic events which will usher in a genuine new age; an age of global peace, harmony and unity under the supreme authority of the one true God, which He will bestow upon the shoulder of His only begotten Son (Isa. 9:6-7). ♦



Enforcing the 'Day of Rest': After A.D. 363, millions were martyred for Sabbath-keeping.



Heroin at Your House?

Heroin, one of the most powerfully addictive opiates known to man, is making a strong comeback in America. Here is the current status on America's war on drugs and how you can prevent heroin from entering your house!

BY DENNIS LEAP

AS YOU READ THIS ARTICLE, THERE is an American special forces soldier stationed in a hot, humid jungle. As in any war, his life is in grave danger. But the war he is fighting is a different kind of war. He is not fighting in Guadalcanal—but the fighting is just as fierce. He is not fighting in Vietnam—but his guerrilla enemies are just as deadly. Where is this soldier? He is in South America. He could be in Columbia, Peru, Bolivia, Venezuela, or even Mexico. We must ask, who is the enemy?

Three recent Presidents, Reagan, Bush and Clinton, have identified the evil empire for us. It is not Nazism, or the Soviets. It is not Red China or any other Asian communist threat. Our 90s

adversary is the international drug cartels. All three Presidents have warned Americans that the greatest threat to our national security is illegal drugs. So, our soldier is fighting a war on drugs! But we must ask ourselves: How goes the war?

America: at war with drugs; sounds appealing and convincing. But when we look at the facts of this war's decade-long history, we must admit that the war on drugs involves a confusing combination of politics, CIA covert operations, high price tags, lies, scandals and cover-ups. And, if we look at America's rising drug use, we must ask, are we winning the war?

Short History of Drug Abuse

We must face an unnerving reality. America has failed miserably in its effort to solve its drug-abuse problem. Our history with drugs is a sad and

sobering one. The land of the free has suffered several waves of drug epidemics. People in the 60s experimented with hallucinogenic drugs such as LSD, mescaline, peyote and psilocybin. These dangerous drugs were considered to be mind expanding. In reality they were mind destroying. Many young people blew their minds—permanently! The use of heroin also became popular in the 60s.

People in the 70s popularized marijuana. Many reasoned that pot was just harmless fun. Yet long-term medical studies now show otherwise. In the 80s, people flocked to cocaine. Celebrities, actors, sports stars and even high government officials used it. Of course, this only helped to expand the problem. Soon after, in the 80s, we also learned that cocaine was a killer. Some actors and athletes became casualties of the cocaine monster. For example, in 1986, Len Bias, one of the Boston Celtics' most promising draft choices, foolishly ended his career and life with a massive intake of cocaine. Len Bias' proven sports ability would have made him a superstar.

Now, in the 90s, the use of heroin is becoming immensely popular. Later in this article, I will show you how serious the heroin problem is today.

Cause for Concern

By stating these facts, I do not intend to oversimplify our drug-abuse problems. In other words, there have been other drugs popularized during these same time periods. Americans have struggled with tobacco and alcohol for decades. But it would take too much space to list more drugs. The facts I have presented lead to one main question: Have we gained ground in our fight against drug abuse? Some politicians would like us to think so. But the facts speak otherwise. It is time we as a nation and as individuals rethink our strategies for conquering drug abuse.

A 1995 Gallup poll showed that many Americans recognize the seriousness of the drug problem in this country. This is cause for concern. And this same poll showed that Americans expect our government to solve the problem. However, some deep-thinking investigative journalists believe the American government shares a large part of the blame for our nation's drug problems.

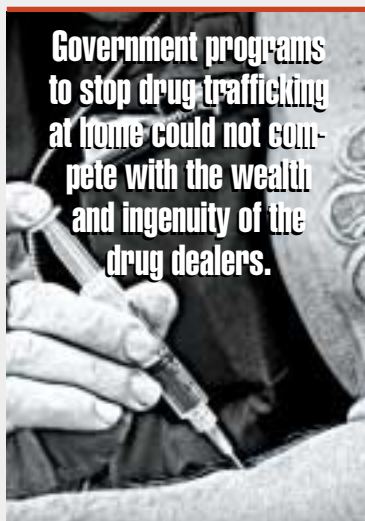
Drug Politics

Recent history shows that drugs and politics make for a bad mix. In the early 80s, many city, state and federal government officials realized that they were losing the battle against drug trafficking in their own backyard. Illegal drugs were easy to obtain. In essence, drug dealers have been able to live the American dream. Some drug dealing operations are so organized and so wealthy, they rival some of America's most solid large corporations.

One of the most sophisticated and profitable illegal drug-trafficking corporations was developed by the Chambers brothers in Detroit, Michigan. Their story is told in William M. Adler's book, *Land of Opportunity*. These four men approached drug dealing like any major corporation would conduct business. Their family grew to great wealth and prominence by selling crack cocaine!

The point is, government programs to stop drug trafficking at home could not compete with the wealth and ingenuity of the drug dealers. So a new plan was devised to stop drug trafficking. The strategy? Stop illegal drugs from reaching our golden shores. The new plan called into action the United States military. War was declared on drugs.

In 1991, Peter Scott and Jonathan Marshall wrote a ground-breaking book, titled *Cocaine Politics: Drugs, Armies, and the CIA in Central America*. Using well-documented facts, they show that the war on drugs has not even begun to curb the drug-traffic problem. In fact, they feel it has contributed to an increasingly scary drug nightmare. Their book, updated in 1998, is an exposé of how CIA covert operations in Central America have actually facilitated the trafficking of drugs into our country. They write, "The most dramatic increases in drug smuggling since World War II have occurred in the context of, and indeed



partly because of, covert operations in the same regions. CIA involvement in Southeast Asia contributed to the U.S. heroin epidemic of the late 1960s, just as CIA involvement in Central America contributed to the cocaine epidemic of the 1980s. Although the CIA did not actually peddle drugs, it did form gray alliances with right-wing gangs deemed helpful against a common enemy" (p. 4). *Cocaine Politics* is thorough in its documentation. It is well worth reading.

One shocking revelation in the book focuses on the fact that many of today's South American drug lords are former, highly-trained CIA operatives left over from the aborted Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961. These drug lords are using their sophisticated training to smuggle drugs into this country.

But basically, Scott and Marshall show that our government looked the other way when it came to drug trafficking in order to achieve political ends. These two men reveal a shocking history of events that show Iran-Contra-like operations are still happening. In other words, as some politicians shout WAR ON DRUGS, hidden political agendas are being carried out. Scott and Marshall feel if our American government continues the current politics for the war on drugs, America is about to lose another war.

Colombian Heroin Dominates

Journalists working to expose CIA ties with gray political factions allied with powerful drug cartels were originally met with much skepticism. But the problems exist. And the facts do add up. Earlier this year, MSNBC featured a report on the newest CIA/military effort in Columbia. Michael Moran, in an article titled "Planning the CIA's Next Secret War," writes on MSNBC's website, "On one side sits a corrupt government, commanding an increasingly restless military which, in turn, has encouraged the growth of a shadowy and murderous collection of 'paramilitary' death squads. On the

other side are the Cali, Medellin and other drug cartels and their hired help: at least two left-wing guerrilla movements—possibly numbering 50,000 armed insurgents—allied with sympathetic peasant and Indian groups concentrated primarily in the country's southern border provinces. And of course, stuck in the middle are millions of poor human beings who wish only to be left alone.

"Out of this cauldron of political, ethnic and ideological hatreds, the CIA and its military counterpart, the Defense Intelligence Agency, believe they can choose sides to fight the good war against drugs. As the Washington Post reported this weekend, the Clinton administration has cut a deal with Columbia that will send about \$37 million in military aid to specific units of the Colombian armed forces—but only those not implicated in the country's death-squad atrocities.

"This concept—sold to the Post as a unique policy approach—actually differs little from past American doctrine. Whether exploiting factions in El Salvador's military junta, Japan's Liberal Democratic Party or South Vietnam's dictatorship, American officials always claim to know the good guys from the bad guys and channel money to them with abandon. In every case, U.S. officials exaggerate both what they know about their protégés, and their ability to understand their motives." Mr. Moran feels that if we use history as our guide, trouble is on the horizon.

In fact, trouble is already here. On January 1, 1998, the New York Times reported that Colombian heroin dominates the U.S. illegal drug market. The Times article stated, "Lower prices and a purer product have given Colombian heroin the largest share of the market in the United States with New England being the fastest-growing segment, Drug Enforcement Administration officials said today....

"Traffickers in Colombian heroin are using their well-established cocaine distribution networks to offer free samples and make the drug available in smaller, cheaper quantities. The result is that after decades of a market once dominated by Asia, Colombian heroin now accounts for more than 60 percent of the heroin smuggled into the United States, the Drug Agency said." Is there a connection between the stepped-up CIA presence in Colombia and the



Not Just a Big City Problem: A concerned mother listens at a town meeting in Plano, Texas. In less than two years, 10 youths have died of drug overdoses.

dominance of Colombian heroin on our streets? Historic evidence shows that there very well could be. Heroin is our 90s drug. Its popularity is now very much on the rise. Are we not seeing a repeat of the 60s, 70s and 80s? Will we, as a people, ever learn the lesson of history? It appears we quickly forget even recent history.

Heroin Moves to Burbs

In all fairness to our American government, we would be remiss if we put all of the blame on officials for our nation's drug-abuse problems. It is true that our national drug policies are not working well. But should the government be expected to solve the drug-abuse problem anyway?

The decision to use drugs is an individual's choice. Taking illegal drugs reflects a serious character flaw. Only a weak people expect their government to regulate character. There is good logic in the thinking, "If there were no users, there would be no pushers." The most vital battle with the war on drugs is being played out, not in some jungle, but on American streets and in American homes. The battle is a brutal one. If we are going to win the war on drugs we must face the problem here on our own turf.

Drug interdiction specialists are now concerned over the increased use of heroin in this country. But heroin is not just being used by some burned-out musician or some inner-city junkie. It is reaching into all economic levels and age groups in America. Heroin can now be found in our backyards and in our houses! In this arena the special-forces soldier becomes meaningless. We must learn how to protect our families and ourselves. We must face the drug problem head on and at home.

In late 1997, the nation was stunned by reports of an increasing number of heroin overdose deaths in a wealthy Dallas suburb of 190,000 named Plano. It is full of new homes. In 1989, the average annual income in Plano was estimated at \$54,000. It is not the typical place you would expect to find pushers and heroin addicts. However, from January 1996 to November 1997, 10 teenagers

died of heroin overdoses. These tragic deaths represent a growing phenomenon in this country. Rational adults wonder how this could be happening. How do we explain such tragedy?

Writing about the Plano deaths, New York Times reporter Carol Cropper stated, "Although the number of heroin deaths is startling for a city of this size, drug experts say that the rising use of heroin among young people is a growing phenomenon. The number of high school students nationally who have used heroin almost doubled last year—rising to 2 percent of all students—as what was once considered a narcotic for down-and-out junkies became fashionable and moved to the suburbs, said Alan I. Leshner, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

"Heroin coming into this country is now much purer, allowing it to be snorted like cocaine, ingested in a capsule or smoked with marijuana, Dr. Leshner said, adding, 'Kids who would never inject themselves will snort it.' At the same time, Dr. Leshner said, the price of heroin dropped and some fashion industry advertising seemed to glamorize the use of heroin" (New York Times, Nov. 23, 1997). All of the Plano victims were under 21. The youngest Plano victim was 14 years old.

What was once considered a narcotic for down-and-out junkies became fashionable and moved to the suburbs

Parents in Plano were perplexed that they even had to deal with a hard drug like heroin. The kids that overdosed and died lived in comfortable homes, had nice cars and money to spend. On the surface, heroin and the Plano lifestyle don't seem to mix. But law enforcement officials and drug experts are working to educate parents that heroin use is becoming more the norm than the exception. In fact, since the news about Plano, the problem has grown ever worse.

Heroin at Your House

In an article titled, "Heroin in Your Backyard," Andrea Kannapell

reported about heroin's new popularity in New Jersey suburbs. She wrote, "There's an illegal drug making huge inroads in New Jersey, trapping not only the most hardened of inner-city users, but also the fresh-faced youngsters who weren't even born when the nation started its war on drugs.

"The drug is heroin: same old powerfully addictive opiate derivative, brand new pattern....

"Changes in the international drug trade are bringing heroin within the price range of even a 12-year-old's pocket, and a much purer product means users are guaranteed a satisfying high without having to contend with fearsome needles....

"These kids will sprinkle it on Jell-O"

"'These kids will sprinkle it on Jell-O!' said Raymond Farley, the superintendent of Hunterdon County school district, where random drug testing was started two years ago, after a survey commissioned by Hunterdon Central Regional High School found that the 2,100 students at the school show drug use rates, including heroin use, significantly higher than averages across the country—which have been rising over the last few years. 'This is a national epidemic,' Mr. Farley said" (New York Times, April 12, 1998). Check any newspaper. You can find similar articles in Chicago, Atlanta, St. Louis and Miami. All of this information shows that America's drug problem is real and it can be very close to home—at your home. We must realize, the youth of this country are the drug cartel's number one target. Some reports show that of the 141,000 new heroin users last year, the majority were under the age of 26. The warning is being broadcast. How well are we listening?

Can our drug-abuse problem be solved? Is there a real solution? Yes there is!

An Addictive Society

To solve any problem, we must first admit that there is a problem. Americans must wake up to the fact that we are an addictive society. We love our alcohol, our cigarettes and yes—our drugs. We are a nation hooked on pleasure.

The prophet Isaiah was commis-

sioned by God to write down certain prophecies for our day (Isa. 30:8). God warns us through Isaiah about our weakness for pleasure seeking. Isaiah wrote, "Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them! And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts: but they regard not the work of the Lord, neither consider the operation of his hands. Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. Therefore hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure: and their glory, and their multitude, and their pomp, and he that rejoiceth, shall descend into it. And the mean man shall be brought down, and the mighty man shall be humbled, and the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled: But the Lord of hosts shall be exalted in judgment, and God that is holy shall be sanctified in righteousness" (Isa. 5:11-16). God warns here that our national weakness for pleasure seeking, which includes drug abuse, will be our undoing. Essentially God is saying that we are a nation which likes to party. Human history shows that any nation gluttoned on pleasure seeking quickly falls. Ancient Rome is a prime example.

Our drug and alcohol abuse problems have also caused us to forget who we are. America and Britain are the descendants of ancient Israel. God intended for Israel to set an example for righteous living. America's drug problem shows how far short we are falling.

Our drug problems have also caused us to forget and ignore our God. As a nation we will be humbled. We must come to see the seriousness of our national drug problem. In essence, it is a reflection of our deep spiritual problems.

Change You First

It has been said that Plutarch observed, Drunks beget drunkards. It is a known fact that young people desire to imitate adults. Before we can solve our kids' drug-abuse problem, we must first solve our own. As adults, have we set the right example for our kids? Do you have a drug-abuse problem? Before you exclaim a resounding no, remember that the most accepted drug-abuse

problems in this country are the abuse of tobacco, alcohol and prescription drugs. All are killers.

Do you abuse alcohol? Alcohol abuse is one of man's oldest addictions. Solomon, the wisest man of his time, had it all. Much like today's Americans, he had great possessions. But Solomon also had to deal with his own drug-abuse problem. He wrote, "I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that good for the sons of men, which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life" (Eccl. 1:3). In other words, Solomon had conducted his own experiment using and abusing alcohol. He acquired. He lived the good life. He partied. He didn't deny himself anything. What was the result? He wrote, "Therefore I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun is grievous unto me: for all is vanity and vexation of spirit" (Eccl. 2:17). Solomon's drinking and pleasure seeking brought him to the brink of suicide.

Solomon's experience is similar to many people's today. He learned that the best drug-abuse strategy is to never develop one. He warned the young of his day. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Prov 20:1). There is much publicized information about the signs of alcohol abuse. Are you courageous enough to look for those signs in your own life? If you do, your own example will inspire a young person to do the same.

Americans pop pills to keep us going. The message we send our young people is: Got a problem? Some drug can solve it!

What about prescription drugs? Do you abuse them? What about over-the-counter drugs? Do you abuse them? Americans are known as people who don't have time for pain. So we pop a pill to keep us going. This does send a strong message to our young people. The message is: Got a problem? Some drug can solve it! The message we should be sending to our kids is: Got a problem? God will help you solve it!

(continued on page 26)

“CLARISSA, WOULD YOU PLEASE take those dirty glasses into the kitchen?”

“Why? They’re not mine.”

“I don’t care if they’re not yours, Clarissa. You live in this house and I am asking you to take those glasses out into the kitchen.”

“But they’re not mine. I don’t have to do it.”

“Clarissa, you’re asking for it.”

“You’re asking for it.”

Ah—parents and their teens. Who else would share such an exchange? In times past this conversation would have been a rarity (“I never would have talked to my parents the way she talks to me!”); now it is commonplace.

This kind of mouthiness highlights a monumental shift in teen attitudes toward authority. Respect is simply gone. And the problems that creates go far beyond dirty glasses. They fill our homes, our schools, our streets.

Voices that say teens have always been such a matter of concern to adults, that today’s teens are no different, are drowned out by common experience. In fact, today’s teens ARE different. The world they are inheriting is different. Not only do they confront a different set of problems from previous generations, they PRESENT a different set of problems. Look up the statistics on drug use, illegitimate births, teen violence; more and more teens (even the “good” ones) are doing the things only “bad” teens did a generation ago, that no one did two or three generations ago. And none of them seem to be immune from the respect problem. Though the world is more complicated for them than it was in the past, it is also much more permissive. Add to that changes in teen consumer habits, education, social concerns and technology. Statistics are one thing; just spending time with teens tells you as much: teenage life today is unique.

There are a lot of reasons why this is the case. In this article we will focus on ONE of them, one that has had more impact on the teen scene than any other. It is the single greatest change teenagehood has ever seen. And it has only developed very recently—never a real factor until our CURRENT generation.

If you are unhappy with teenage behavior today, especially if you are a parent, deeply understanding this cause will put you on the road to SOLVING

your problem.

The world has never seen teenagers like today. And the biggest reason is that WE’VE NEVER HAD PARENTS LIKE THE PARENTS OF TODAY!

PARENTS WHY TEENS



REBEL

BY JOEL HILLIKER

Half a Family

Let’s take a good look at today’s parents of teens and see just how their being who they are has made teens who they are.

Consider this. Statistically, of 100 children born today, 17 will be born out of wedlock. A full 48 will be born of parents who divorce before the child is

18, and 16 more will be born to parents who separate. Six will be born to parents of whom one will die before the child reaches 18.

That leaves 13 kids out of 100 who will reach age 18 with two parents and their marriage intact. A mind-blowing figure.

So what about those other 87 teens? They spend an average of about five years in a single-parent household. These kids’ concept of family is being shaped in an environment once uncommon, one that used to be considered unnatural. Single-parent homes, in the numbers we see today, are a distinctly modern phenomenon.

So what kind of parents do they make? Regardless of other factors, they are alone, solely saddled with the responsibility for being the family’s breadwinner, homemaker, caretaker and disciplinarian. They tread a hard and lonely road. Quality family time is at a premium. Some make a valiant effort to maintain high involvement with their kids; many surrender in the face of the demands, and the teens virtually raise themselves.

Another fact about single parents: only 10 percent of them are dads. That’s a lot of kids with no adult male influence or example in their homes; and a lot with a mom who may be openly bitter about men.

Weighed down by responsibility, single parents are very needy for companionship. And today, many of them actively pursue their OWN boyfriends or girlfriends in a way much like teens do; they may spend nights on the town or have sleepovers. We can begin to see how such affairs may drastically affect teens’ views of parents, of authority in general, and of how to lead their own lives.

This situation gives rise to another fairly new, now common, circumstance in teen life: stepfamilies. Consider these facts: “Because more than 75 percent of divorced parents remarry, the majority of youngsters whose parents separate also experience living in a stepfamily at some time. And, because the rate of divorce is higher for second marriages than first marriages, the majority of youth whose parents remarry will experience yet a second divorce. Moreover, because divorces generally occur faster in remarriages, many children must confront a second divorce before they have finished adapting to having a step-

parent” (Lawrence Steinberg, *Adolescence*, 1990).

In the March/April Trumpet we examined the problem of divorce in the United States and God’s perspective on it as revealed in the Bible. Malachi 2:15-16 says, “Take heed to yourselves, and let none prove unfaithful to the wife of his youth, for I detest divorce and cruelty to a wife, the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, declares. Take heed to yourselves, never be faithless” (Moffatt translation).

When you examine the profound effects in the lives of the kids (let alone the parents), you begin to understand why God is so intent against it. Just think about the difference between teens with strong parents with a solid marriage as an example and a stabilizing force in their lives, and teens with a parent who has been wounded by a divorce, has no mate to go to for support, and is working the single scene. Think about kids who have to choose between living with mom or dad, who may regularly hear one complaining about the other. In times past, even in a family where dad was shipped off and killed in war, a teen’s attitude toward authority would not be so severely rocked as it would with parents who just “couldn’t make it work.” America’s second President, John Adams, said, “Children learn the meaning of morality, religion, and respect for law from the habitual fidelity of their parents to one another.” These words have never been more poignant than they are today.

The Vanishing Homemaker

In 1955, 60 percent of U.S. households had a working father, a stay-at-home mom and two or more school-aged kids. A “model family.” Most 14-year-olds could expect mom (or their grandmother, or at least their neighbors) to be home during the day. These kids had full-time moms. Obviously there was a lot of parental involvement in their lives.

That was only 43 years ago. Soon such families virtually evaporated—within a single generation. By the 1970s, both parents worked in 50 percent of families with school-age children. In 1986 the 1955-family model made up only 7 percent of our homes. Today, three of four moms with school-age kids have left home to join the work force.

Sociologists studying this trend plainly state how this change has affected the lives of today’s teens. Many cite it as one of the most drastic changes in modern times. But they will not say this is a bad change. In fact they tend to highlight the positive effect on teenage girls of having a working mother. (They do not note a positive effect in teen boys, however; in fact it tends to lower their academic performance.) The criterion they use for defining “positive” effect? That the girls have higher career aspirations!

The real effects on teens, again, go back to parental involvement and monitoring. A family with two working parents, in one way, has the same problem as a single-parent home: the adults are so caught up in providing for the family that caring for and actually REARING the family get neglected!

“The Carnegie Corporation points out that 30 percent of eighth graders are on their own after school, some as long as five hours a day, which gives them much more private, personal space than their post-war predecessors ever enjoyed. Seventy-five percent of sexually active teenagers cite their home (or their boyfriend’s home) as their usual meeting place, since the coast is inevitably clear. ‘Unsupervised time after school,’ the Washington Post reported in 1992, ‘is the most common occasion for adolescents to have sexual intercourse, often at a boy’s house while his parents are at work’” (Grace Palladino, *Teenagers: An American History*, 1996).

When teenagers spend a full day at school packed in with other teenagers, and then spend most of their spare time either alone or in completely unsupervised social situations with other teenagers, there are bound to be problems. Again, God has given us plain instruction that largely goes unheeded: “The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame” (Prov. 29:15). Later we’ll go deeper into the instruction contained in that verse.

Parents have traditionally been very present in their kids’ daily lives. It hasn’t been until recently that teens have been, in many cases and for a lot of the time, cut loose. What unhappy results this self-governance has yielded.

Now let’s step away from the present for a bit. We will be able to learn a

lot more about the parents of today’s teens by looking back at the time when they themselves were teens.

Where Did Teens Come From?

Did you know that 100 years ago, TEENAGERS DID NOT EXIST? The term “teenager” didn’t come into common use until about 1940. And there is a reason for that.

Kids worked. In 1900 only 6 percent of 17-year-olds in the U.S. graduated high school. Public education just wasn’t a priority. Most kids spent the bulk of their time with family or in the adult world. There was no “youth culture.” No movies, MTV or malls.

In the 20s, high schools revamped to attract more students (they adapted their traditional, scholarly education to include practical classes like bookkeeping and home economics), and it paid off. By 1930 almost half the teen population were high school students, and



the trend continued upward. More than ever, teens were ripening in an environment composed almost entirely of their peers. High school was now a full-out teenage social experience.

Savvy businessmen were quick to pick up on this emerging demographic. In the 40s, advertisements aimed directly at the teen market, mostly middle-class, began to appear for household furnishings, hope chests and fashions. The products were wholesome, an extension of, say, home economics in school, preparing youths for adulthood. But money was clearly bottom-line: marketers promoted to advertisers a picture of the “copy cat” high schooler: “and what a break for you”! they said. Teens “speak the same language, wear the same clothes, eat the same foods.... You’ll see them shopping together, sipping Cokes at the corner

candy store, going to the movies... together”—clearly an impressionable consumer target. The onset of the “teenager” had everything to do with their increase in buying power.

The teen market burgeoned in the wake of America’s post-World-War-II prosperity. Suddenly even working-class teens had the chance to cast their dollar votes. “Once a mixed group of



Teenage Passion: The emergence of rock 'n' roll in the 50s

teenagers were encouraged to speak in their own, distinctive voices, they shifted the market’s focus to an uncharted world of teenage passion and excitement in the form of rock ‘n’ roll, leather jackets, fast cars, and drive-in movies” (Palladino, op. cit.).

Hence, the world flipped upside down within a generation. As teen numbers and economic clout swelled, so did an onslaught of rock ‘n’ roll culture and delinquency. The 50s and 60s saw an unprecedented upsurge in youth’s spite for authority and parental control; the war between parents and teens came into full swing (it was in the 60s that the term “generation gap” was coined). Youth culture rocked the entire world: the entertainment industry, the universities, the government. The atmosphere of protest gave rise to gangs, beatniks, rockers and hippies, bent on casting off all constraint, high on the heady fumes of hedonism.

Parents who turned in their Bibles to scriptures like Romans 1:30 and II Timothy 3:1-2, which describe disobedience as being a sign of the end of the world, had a pretty good case to

make. While these youths spoke out against the mistakes of the previous generation (which had only succeeded in bringing the world to the brink of nuclear annihilation), the only alternative they seemed to offer was a self-destructive one.

But by that time, the economic value of the teen market had silenced all but the most determined critics; it had become the CENTER of commercial attention. And it would continue to be stoked and exploited in the decades that followed.

Now, we are a full generation beyond the development of modern youth culture. The students who protested at colleges around the country were absorbed into the system and are now the professors and administrators. The teens who once declared WAR on parental control are the parents of today.

Consider that: the average parent



Down With Authority: Protesting the war in the 60s and 70s.

of a child entering adolescence is between 35 and 45 years old, which means they were born in the 50s or early 60s; and that they went to high school roughly between 1967 and 1981. Pretty tumultuous—and influential—years in the history of American youth.

So, what do you do if you’ve grown up REBELLING against authority, against

parents and everything they stood for, and suddenly realize one day that you’re a parent?

The answer is very telling.

Parenting Today

“I feel better knowing where my child is, so I decided that his room is his territory, his privacy.” That is one mother’s explanation, as printed in a New York Times feature (April 4, 1991), of why she allows her teenage son to entertain girlfriends in his bedroom—overnight.

Just a generation or two ago parents were trying to keep their teens from dating the wrong people; now some parents’ biggest concern seems to be the comfort of the bed their teens fornicate in! If such a degree of permissiveness seems rare, just think of the movement within school systems to distribute contraceptives to students. The attitude of, “Well, they’re going to do it anyway so they ought to do it right,” pervades not only modern parenting, but modern education in general.

Perhaps it’s too easy to overlook just how very NEW this development is. Where the previous generation’s authorities violently resisted letting go of their control over teens, with youth fighting bitterly for every freedom, today’s authorities seem to be bending over backwards to AVOID CONFRONTATION with youth. Fear of confrontation is NOT a helpful quality in authority figures. It leads to parents with no control. It leads to youth able to have whatever they want by intimidating adults.

This problem was prophesied very specifically. “And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them.... THE CHILD SHALL BEHAVE HIMSELF PROUDLY AGAINST THE ANCIENT, and the base against the honourable.... As for my people, CHILDREN ARE THEIR OPPRESSORS, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths” (Isa. 3:4-5, 12).

Modern books on parenting and education will speak frankly of how out-of-control most teens are, and will even link the problem directly with laxness in modern child rearing. A typical assessment: “This is the era of ‘permissiveness.’ As a result, the most effective weapons have been taken out of a parent’s arsenal.... It’s inevitable that with-

out these harsher forms of enforcement, children's behavior has changed. This is just human nature. The new teenager does feel freer to do as he or she pleases, especially at home.... Old-style respect is gone. We have entered a new era in child rearing. Perhaps the old way was both easier and more pleasant, but it is gone" (Anthony E. Wolf, *Get Out Of My Life*, 1991).

Having pinpointed the problem, these "authorities" ("they which lead thee") will never say the solution lies in returning to those methods that once worked. Instead they look for answers in new, progressive forms of parenting, "cooperative discipline" and the like. These new methods have been around for several decades; what's different now is that they are 100 percent mainstream. A handout given to teachers in an Oklahoman junior high school on "Tips for Anger Management" includes this point: "Acknowledge the student's power—the more we try to control, the more the student resists. When we GIVE UP CONTROL, the student has nothing to resist. Once their resistance is lowered and the confrontation calmed, we can use a consequence [which may be something like depriving the student of tokens for good behavior which can be cashed in for free candy] to influence

ents with their hands tied! They can SEE that their "solutions" are not working. But because of their past they don't feel they have any right to say anything; they don't want to be "parental," for fear of feeling hypocritical. They have never been taught the way an active, loving, authoritative parent should act. And they are too absorbed in their own selves (just as they were taught to be by the youth culture they embraced) to do anything significant about it!

Truly, the PARENTS of today's teenagers are totally unique in history!

A Parent's Responsibility

What's wrong with these methods of modern parenting we've been discussing? They completely deny the way of TRUTH God explains to us in scripture!

Remember the proverb we read earlier. It talked about the importance of "rod and reproof" in raising a child who will not bring shame to his parents. God says that a proper level of control must be maintained over children. This verse is talking about DISCIPLINE—corporal punishment—and INSTRUCTION. God COMMANDS that parents use both!

Proverbs 13:24 says that parents who fail to physically discipline their

respect Commandments they were not brought up by their parents to respect.

In fact this is a towering expectation God has of parents. "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart. And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deut. 6:6-7). A parallel passage in the New Testament is found in Ephesians 6:1-4.

Logic tells us that, regardless of the world's state of affairs, parents' example and instruction to their teens STILL DO have considerable influence on their character in the long run. Recent studies back this up. "Many surveys... show that while youth tend to value their peers' evaluations over parents' on things like music, clothing and what's 'cool,' they continue to look to parents for basic values and guidance in the more important areas of life, such as life and career goals" ("Is There a Generation Gap?", MSU Communications Services).

So parents must be very cognizant of the example they set. Very deliberate in the choices they make in their own lives. And very clear in the instruction they give. There are so many appealing and destructive "lifestyle alternatives" out there for teens, parents must ensure they are offering something genuine—offering the TRUTH.

This is a point that was made in a Plain Truth article 32 years ago. It should convict us today all the more. The article stated, "Today's leaders failed their duty—they did not teach the younger generation the real purpose of life. Why? Because they themselves did not know the purpose of life. Society never taught them. Their teachers never taught it in school because they in turn had never learned it. People simply don't know why they were born!" ("The Beat Generation," March 1966).

Later the article said, "The trouble is society has taught its 'children' directly or indirectly THAT THERE IS NO REAL PURPOSE TO LIFE!"

What about you?

Do YOU understand the purpose of life well enough to teach and CONVICT your children of it? Are you willing to LEARN? It will be the MOST IMPORTANT THING you could EVER GIVE YOUR TEENAGER! ◆

THE TROUBLE IS SOCIETY HAS TAUGHT ITS CHILDREN DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY THAT THERE IS NO REAL PURPOSE TO LIFE



them to choose a more appropriate behavior" (C.A.F. Associates, *Anger Management: Developing Options to Anger*, 1997).

Do these strategies work? Are they easing teen problems? Are they stabilizing out-of-balance lives? Are they producing peaceful, character-driven adults? Not at all! The only "good" that comes from these parenting "options"—if we would just be honest about it—is that they demonstrate beyond doubt just how MIXED UP things get when our understanding of and respect for AUTHORITY is ambiguous and topsy-turvy.

Grasp this point! We have set up a grand experiment to see what will happen if we take a bunch of kids who "knew better than their parents" and shucked off every restraint imposed upon them—and give them their parents' jobs. Now we are seeing these par-

children actually HATE them. That their concern for themselves exceeds their concern for the long-term well-being of their children. That may rankle modern parents. But remember, it is GOD—the Creator of heaven and earth, of mankind—who gave these instructions. Rather than dismissing it off-hand, shouldn't we try to UNDERSTAND it?

Unlike so many raising teenagers today, God has keen interest in maintaining parents' authority over their kids. "Honor your father and mother" is Commandment number five—just above "Thou shalt not kill." Teens break it routinely without second thought. You may think the fault lies with the teens themselves, since the law is directed at them (it is not written, "Make sure kids honor their father and mother"). But who teaches kids the sanctity of the law? No teen will

Asian Financial Meltdown: Round Two



The land of the rising sun is sinking in a sea of red ink! It seems Japan is unable to save itself, its Asian neighbors or the world from financial collapse. Has round two of the Asian financial meltdown arrived?

BY J. TIM THOMPSON

In an article entitled, "If Japan Should Crash," The April 11 Economist stated, "Flat on its back for years and showing few signs of life, Japan's economy was nonetheless still in the world of the living. When we last checked, that is. Reports of its imminent demise are now coming thick and fast. A world that had grown bored with the 'Japan isn't growing' story is suddenly paying attention to the new 'Japan will collapse and take the rest of us with it' story."

The April 15 Wall Street Journal (WSJ) paints quite a picture of Japan's faltering economy when it states, "The accumulated debt of Japanese corporate bankruptcies in the fiscal year ended March 31 soared 64 percent from the year before, hitting the highest level in five decades, according to a leading credit-research firm.

"Swollen by instability in the Japanese financial system, a weak overall economy and the reluctance of banks to extend new loans, total liabilities from corporate bankruptcies reached 15.1 trillion yen (\$115 billion), Teikoku Databank Ltd. said.

"The number of bankruptcies rose 17.4 percent to 17,439, the highest level in 12 years. Of those, 11,675 were directly attributable to Japan's economic downturn. They were the result of sharp sales declines, bad loans, flagging exports and difficulties collecting payments, Teikoku said.

"Japan's economy experienced one of its worst stretches in decades during the past fiscal year. The year began [in April 1997] with an increase in the consumption tax that eventually ravaged consumer spending and sent the economy into a tailspin. Then, in November, the failure of Japan's tenth-largest bank and the fourth-largest securities

company led to a credit squeeze for other companies perceived to be weak. Finally, banks began restricting lending to meet capital requirements as the end of the fiscal year approached....

"The situation may not improve in the coming year. Despite a large injection of public funds into the banking system at the end of the fiscal year, banks 'will be forced to deal stringently with their customers' as Japan's economy teeters on the brink of a deflationary spiral, Teikoku warned."

Should We Care?

Does such a scenario of a collapsing Japanese economy actually pose any real threat to the United States and the rest of the world? The answer is a resounding YES! Japan's economic problems ARE America's problems! For the last 15 years, Japan has financed America's mountainous national debt. If that financing stops, America's \$5 trillion indebtedness will most likely crush the life out of its economy. And if the first and second largest global economies, America and Japan respectively, are teetering on the brink of disaster, that means the rest of the world is also on the crumbling edge of the same financial abyss.

The Economist of April 11 discusses some worrisome direct effects of an impending "severe Japanese recession." And then it states, "But two possible indirect effects are more worrying—a rise in [U.S.] protectionism as Japanese imports rise, and the risk of a [U.S.] stock market crash.

"America's trade deficit is likely to widen sharply as a result of problems in Japan and the rest of Asia. If this encourages America to raise trade barriers and others to retaliate, a global recession may follow. But the biggest risk to America, and hence to the world economy, lies on Wall Street. It [the stock market] looks dangerously overvalued, yet share prices continue to climb. Some unexpectedly bad news from Japan might just be the event that brings investors back to reality and so CAUSES A CRASH. Awkwardly, America's economy is more vulnerable to a drop in share prices than ever before. Almost twice as many Americans hold shares today as in the mid-1980s (either directly or through mutual funds or pension funds). A fall in share prices will make a much bigger dent in the economy." Actually, such a reality

check by investors will likely mean a PANIC and a global stock market crash more severe than even the Great Depression!

Total Collapse Is Possible

The Washington Times of April 12 says, "The chairman of Sony Corp. sharply criticized [Japanese] Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto April 2 as a modern-day Herbert Hoover leading his nation toward collapse and the world into recession.

"The Japanese economy is on the verge of collapsing," Sony Corp. Chairman Norio Ohga told reporters. If Japan's economy doesn't improve, he said, it could lead to a dangerous deflationary spiral that would damage the world economy." As we will read later in this present article, Jeremiah 25:32 prophesies that "evil shall go forth from nation to nation...." Deflation in Japan could spread insidiously and unhaltingly to other nations like a rapidly growing financial cancer!

The Washington Times article continues, "In an attempt to balance the budget, Mr. Hashimoto's government raised the national sales tax last spring [1997], a move that most analysts credit with turning a fledgling economic recovery into a full-fledged recession."

More Financial Crises Foreseen

Associated Press writer Harry Dunphy wrote in the April 15 Houston Chronicle that "International financial crises are like the sinking of the Titanic. No one can see disaster coming but afterward everyone can agree on the iceberg." Long-time readers of The Trumpet know that this magazine has proclaimed for years that such a financial crisis was in the world's future. The late Herbert W. Armstrong warned the world for over 50 years of this impending disaster! And now it looks as if it is finally going to occur. The Chronicle article continues, "Economists and bankers say they know the financial firestorm that swept through Asia last year WILL HAPPEN AGAIN, but they can't say where or when."

It appears that the global economic ship of state has STRUCK AN ICEBERG and is soon headed to the bottom! The land of the rising sun is sinking in a sea of

red ink and may well take America and the rest of the world with it! Herbert Armstrong clearly understood God's prophecies; however, he was just off a little on his dates. These cataclysmic events are about to snap shut on an unsuspecting and naive world with the sudden ferocity of a STEEL BEAR TRAP! (See Eccl. 9:12; Lam. 3:45-47; Jer. 4:19-20; Ezek. 12:9-13; 17:19-21 and Luke 21:35.) And the main sitting ducks in the cross hairs are America, Britain and

God's own warning prophecies—that this greatest multiplied intensity of corrective punishment will fall on Britain and America—including British peoples in Commonwealth countries. And it will strike them down first!

"But they are not the only nations to suffer corrective disaster. God is Creator of all other nations, too! God is concerned about the people and races we have called 'heathen.' They, too, are human. They, too, are made in God's own likeness, with the potential of being molded into God's spiritual and character IMAGE! God sent the apostle Paul to gentile nations!

"All mankind has rebelled against, rejected, and turned from God and his ways! There can never be peace on earth until all nations will have been turned to God and his ways, ruled by his supreme government!

"All mankind, right now, is caught in the vortex of the swiftly accelerating crisis marking the utter destruction of this world's man-built, Satan-inspired civilization.

"Through Jeremiah God says: 'A noise shall come even to the ends of the earth; for the Lord hath a controversy with the nations, he will plead with all flesh'—how?... The next words tell HOW God is now about to plead: '...he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the Lord.... Behold, EVIL shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth' (Jer. 25:31-32).

"God will use a United Europe to punish Britain-America. Then He will use the Communist hordes to wipe out the Roman Europe.

"We are entering a time of world trouble—utter WORLD chaos! There is war, strife, violence in Asia, Africa, South America, Central America, Ireland, the Middle East—as well as Europe and North America. The population explosion is a worldwide threat to human existence. Crime, violence, sickness, disease, inequality, poverty, filth, squalor, degeneration, suffering—these infest ALL nations!

"But, as salvation is given first to Israel, so is corrective punishment!"

Mr. Armstrong then went on to vividly describe from God's word the



If Japan's economy doesn't improve, it could lead to a dangerous deflationary spiral that would damage the world economy.

the other nations of biblical Israel. To get a better grasp on this vast subject, write for your free copy of Mr. Armstrong's booklet, The United States and Britain in Prophecy.

Financial crises like the Asian meltdown are a snare which will weaken the nations of Israel so they may be conquered by a soon-coming superpower the world little understands. Mr. Armstrong wrote on pages 194-195 in his final and finest book, Mystery of the Ages: "It will now be made plain—from

Great Tribulation which is soon to come upon this world. However, he ended that fifth chapter with words of great hope when he wrote, “The time is just before the RESURRECTION of the just, at Christ’s coming. Christ’s second coming will end this world’s civilization and start the wonderful, peaceful, happy world tomorrow.”

Understand What Is Happening

This is the “time of the end” or the “last days” spoken of so many times in the Bible (for example, Dan. 11:40; 12:9; II Tim. 3:1). That time of unprecedented destruction (Matt. 24:21-22; Dan 12:1) immediately precedes the glorious return of Jesus Christ. But during that time prior to the second coming, the nations of biblical Israel, including America and Britain, are going to be severely punished for their godless ways! Today, as part of that corrective punishment, America and other global economies as well, are being besieged financially!

Deuteronomy 28:52 tells of this financial siege on America and the nations of Israel when it says, “And he [foreigners] shall besiege thee [Israel] in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall besiege thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, which the Lord thy God hath given thee.” The word “besiege” primarily means a financial attack through commerce and trade, as can be seen by the context in verses 43 and 44. Verse 15 tells us why. “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.” And as verse 52 shows, being “besieged” financially is one of those curses. This is exactly what is occurring today, and it appears that Japan may be the tool which God has chosen to bring America and the other nations of Israel to their knees financially and open the way for a military conquest by a German-led united Europe.

Japan on the Brink

The April 11 Economist uses an

interesting choice of words when it writes, “The invisible hand is giving Japan an almighty whack. First to feel the pain were the country’s banks. Having lent immoderately large sums to just about anyone that wanted the money, they have been on the ropes ever since the collapse of stock and land prices earlier this decade. But another wave of casualties is coming, this time in the non-financial parts of Japan’s ailing economy. The implications for output



It seems no matter what Hashimoto’s government does in this crisis, it fails. Can it be because God is giving Japan an almighty whack?

and jobs are SERIOUS, more so than many Japanese yet understand.

“The news gets worse by the day.... Japan’s economy is in a horrible state....

“Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese prime minister...admitted that Japan faced its biggest economic crisis since 1945.” The article then points to the underlying problem: “a MOUNTAIN OF DEBT.”

“Many companies are in danger of going bust.... Another series of con-

struction bankruptcies—bigger and scarier than last autumn’s—is looming, as stronger banks choose to pull the plug on firms with no prospect of recovery.

“Much of Japan’s manufacturing industry is struggling too.... Mitsubishi Motors, Nissan and Mazda are on their knees....

“But the biggest time-bomb hidden in Japanese accounts is the horrifying amount of unfunded pension obligations that have been piling up and now threaten to topple many firms. This is happening just as the graying of Japan’s population gathers pace. [This should be a warning to America as well, because that ‘time-bomb’ is also going to hit America’s Social Security system.]”

Japan’s economy is not a pretty picture. Many experts believe it is even worse than outsiders can see. The April 13 WSJ says that some U.S. officials’ “greatest fear is that Japan’s banking system is saddled with much bigger bad loans than official numbers show, and that a weak economy and markets will only exacerbate those woes.... U.S. officials don’t rule out more large bank failures and bank runs in Japan.”

Failing Japanese Efforts

It seems no matter what Prime Minister Hashimoto’s government does in this crisis, it fails. Can it be because the “invisible hand [the Creator God!] is giving Japan an almighty whack”?

The April 12 Financial Times reported on the likely impact of Japan’s sixth recent attempt to stimulate its economy in an article entitled “Tokyo Markets Begin to Suffer ‘Package Fatigue.’” The article states, “It was billed as Japan’s biggest ever economic package. Yesterday, though, the market yawned. As traders digested the government’s latest ¥16,000 billion (\$125 billion) stimulus measures, the Nikkei 225 closed on Friday at 16,481—some 55 points down on the day.

“The reaction partly reflected ‘package fatigue.’ The measures announced late on Thursday, are the sixth high-profile announcement that the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has made since late October

[1997]. They are also one of a string of 'stimulus' measures introduced this decade."

On April 27, BBC News wrote that "Share prices in Tokyo plunged and the yen took a hammering against the dollar as the markets gave the thumbs down to the Japanese Government's [seventh] economic rescue package.

"On the stock market, growing pessimism about the deal sent equity [stock share] prices into a nose dive. The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average plunged 361 points, or 2.26 percent, to close at 15,649.... Meanwhile, the dollar rose above 132 yen for the first time in four sessions."

The next day, April 28, the Tokyo stock market dropped another 1.63 percent or 254 points to 15,395. ALL SIGNS POINT TO THE IMMINENT COLLAPSE OF THE JAPANESE ECONOMY. If the Nikkei stock index drops below 15,000, a series of bank and corporate bankruptcies may follow as the value in their balance sheets and financial statements simply evaporates into financial never-neverland.

In the cover story for the Far Eastern Economic Review of April 23, entitled "How the Experts See It," a dire warning was put forth when it wrote, "Markets across Asia may have spent the first quarter of 1998 on the upswing, but our panel of fund managers WARN: Don't be fooled. Sustainable recovery won't come until Asian exports flex their muscles, and the chances of that happening anytime soon look bleak. Meanwhile, the region is under siege on numerous fronts. At home it could take only the Japanese yen slumping to 145 to the dollar, the devaluation of the Chinese renminbi, or intense social unrest in Indonesia—all real possibilities—to lead to ANOTHER MELTDOWN. Overseas, the possibility of higher U.S. interest rates and, by one forecast, an American stock market crash, would be all that's needed to send a tentatively mending Asia back to the operating table."

Has round two of the Asian Financial Meltdown arrived? Every indication is that it has. Business Week of May 11 states, "Ten months after the crisis started, it seems that Asia is entering a second stage of turbulence."

The Japanese Threat

In the Vancouver Sun on March 27, an article appeared entitled "Asian Nations Dumping U.S. Treasury Securities." It stated that "All the Asian countries combined, including Taiwan, Malaysia and Singapore, sold a net \$17.73 billion of Treasury securities [bonds, etc.] in the final three months of 1997, nearly six times the net \$3.05 billion worth they sold during the third



quarter."

The April 14 Wall Street Journal reported that U.S. Treasuries "came under pressure as speculation about Japanese selling of Treasuries and worries that the Federal Reserve could raise interest rates swept the market....

"The magnitude of the T-bill sale [by Japan]—estimated to be about \$12 billion—meant that the Fed couldn't handle this customer-related transaction in its usual way: parcel the order out among a few primary dealers [meaning secretly sell Japan's U.S. bonds to avoid a panic]." In one day, Japan sold almost as much as all of the Asian countries together sold during the last three months of 1997. Japan must raise cash and it must raise it quickly, even if it means pulling the rug out from under the United States,

financially speaking. This is exactly what God means by Israel's "lovers" abandoning her (Jer. 30:14; Lam. 1:2, 9; Ezek. 23:9, 22). America is very quickly alienating itself from the rest of the world because of its arrogance, and disasters such as the Asian financial crisis are hastening that alienation.

The April 14 Financial Times asks, "Can Japan escape from a deflationary spiral? Despite the more detailed plans for income tax cuts and public spending announced by Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto...the risk that the world's second-largest economy will suffer a precipitous decline remains disturbingly high.

"Rising unemployment, a seemingly endless banking crisis and a debt hangover from the bubble economy of the 1980s have all combined to cause Japanese consumers to go on strike. Collapsing business confidence has produced an equally worrying investment strike. Hence recent data showing falling domestic demand, shrinking industrial output, rising inventories and a sharp fall in imports.

"A credit crunch, stemming from the banks' problems, is now affecting the big companies as well as small. And the Nikkei 225 index, whose level is vitally important for the solvency of Japanese banks, ended the March 31 financial year 8 percent down on its level the year before....

"This underlines the global implications of Japan's plight. Without a Japanese recovery, the rest of Asia's problems will be harder to solve. With a Japanese deflation, the risk of a protectionist backlash grows. Japan can and should expect continuing international pressure for more radical action. This is DANGEROUS TERRITORY indeed."

Or as Andrew Alexander wrote in the April 3, 1998, Daily Mail, "These are, to put it mildly, uncertain times—even though the London and Wall Street markets do not seem to think so.... What is special now is that we have the Asian problem being compounded by Japan's particular problems, plus sky-high stock market valuations in the West, plus the potentially unsettling effects of [European] Economic and Monetary Union [EMU].... THE INGREDIENTS FOR REAL TROUBLE ARE IN PLACE." ◆

Nazis *(From page 5)*

WORLD GOVERNMENT—an armed organization, with the power of armed force to guarantee world peace. But since world leaders do not know the way to peace, it cannot succeed.

“The war is over, in Europe—or is it? We need to wake up and realize that right now is the most dangerous moment in United States national history, instead of assuming we now have peace!

“Men plan, here, to preserve the PEACE of the world. What most do not know is that the Germans have their plans for winning the BATTLE of the peace. Yes, I said BATTLE of the peace. That’s a kind of battle we Americans don’t know. We know only one kind of war. We have never lost a war—that is, a military war; but we have never WON a conference, where leaders of other nations outfox us in the BATTLE for the peace.

“We don’t understand German thoroughness. From the very start of World War II, they have considered the possibility of losing this second round, as they did the first—and they have carefully, methodically planned, in such eventuality, the third round—World War III! Hitler has lost. This round of war, in Europe, is over. And the Nazis have now gone UNDERGROUND. In France and Norway they learned how effectively an organized UNDERGROUND can hamper occupation and control of a country. Paris was liberated by the French UNDERGROUND—and Allied armies. Now a Nazi underground is methodically planned. They plan to COME BACK and to win on the third try” (Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong, vol. II, pp. 114-115).

NOW THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY RELEASED THE CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS THAT PROVE EXACTLY WHAT MR. ARMSTRONG SAID!

And remember, Mr. Armstrong made those statements when Germany was almost totally destroyed and in rubble! Almost everybody scoffed then. But not today!

How could he have known? Only God could have revealed this to him.

“O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation” (Isa. 10:5). This book was written for the end time (Isa. 30:8). So, who is Assyria? (Write for



our powerful booklet, *The History and Prophecy of Germany*.)

“I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets” (Isa. 10:6). GOD is going to send the nation of Germany against an hypocritical, or immoral, nation—Israel. It is speaking of America and Britain—nations which believe it is all right for their leaders and themselves to be immoral. But God has a vastly different view. God uses one nation, or one group of nations, to punish other nations. The punishment is all God’s doing—not German ingenuity.

“Howbeit he meaneth not so, neither doth his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off nations not a few” (v. 7). Let’s suppose you know nothing about the Bible. You only have to know a little history to know that Germany has destroyed many nations. It is in their military “heart” to do so.

Still, we must remember, God is responsible. God is raising them up. Germany’s rise to power is the work of

Tide of Hate: The DVU victory was all the neo-Nazis needed to get stirred up. The days following the election saw a slough of hate-inspired rallies.

God! They are God’s tool to punish us! Here is another quote from Herbert Armstrong in his 1956 booklet, 1975 in *Prophecy!*, about what Europeans were thinking: “They are thinking more and more about the coming UNITED STATES OF EUROPE!

“We Americans, with the British, gave them the idea. We’ve tried to organize the European nations together against Russia. They are going to unite against us! And now Europe is about ready for it! The stage is all set! All that’s lacking now is the strong LEADER—the coming FÜHRER! The Germans are coming back from the destruction of World War II in breathtaking manner. Germany is the economic and military heart of Europe. Probably Germany will lead and dominate the coming United States of Europe.

“But Britain will be no part of it!

“This astounding resurrection of the ROMAN EMPIRE is the very NEXT

prophesied event. The world will be dumfounded when this military colossus actually emerges.”

How could he possibly speak with such authority in 1956? Now it is happening before our eyes. Only God could have revealed such prophecies! Only God knows the future.

It is time for all of us to awaken before it is too late!

Anti-Euro

Gerhard Frey’s pro-Nazi party is against the new European Union currency—the euro. He doesn’t want Germany to give up their famous Deutschemark. But he is going to lose that battle.

How do I know? Because the Bible reveals that 10 nations are going to unite politically and economically in Europe and destroy mightily. And who is the real power behind these nations? God, in Isaiah 10:5, only mentions the Germans as the real power. Germany will use the European Union to conceal their nationalistic ambitions and give them a certain dignity.

Already the extremist parties are uniting to exert more influence. Franz Schönhuber, the former leader of the extreme far-right Republicans, is working with Gerhard Frey to stop the infighting in the extreme parties. Franz Schönhuber was an officer in Hitler’s violent Wafen SS. After the war, he retained his pro-Nazi views.

Did that make him an enemy of the German people? No—he became a media star on Bavarian radio and television! German commentators have said for years that a wealthy party like the DVU, combined with a stirring orator like Schönhuber, could create a powerful force! He is getting a little old, but there will be others.

The denazification of Germany has proven to be a shameful joke!

Here is what the Thueringer Allgemeine wrote on April 27 (emphasis mine): “THE DAM HAS BROKEN. Until now, it was only sporadic appearances in some of the state legislatures of western states. Now the right-wing extremists are sitting in an eastern parliament, too. And THERE IS FEAR THAT IT WILL NOT REST AT THAT. That means, regardless of whom the future chancellor may be, the pressure in the east to come up with new ideas will be all the greater. In particular (the election results indicate), the mistakes of the GDR [the former communist power of East Germany] are increasingly being felt by the young, who, on account of age, HAVE ONLY HAZY IMPRESSIONS OF WHAT ONCE WAS.”

The young have hazy memories of Hitler’s evil goals and his downfall. “The dam has broken,” and “there is fear that it will not rest at that.” There is a spirit moving Germany in a very evil direction.

A German panel has quickly closed the probe into the numerous Nazi incidents in the army. The panel indicated there were only “two or three evildoers.” People who know the facts understand that was a disgraceful conclusion.

Watch for some spectacular and sudden changes for the worse in Germany. Perhaps the biggest change may come in the September election. That election is probably going to lead to many more shocks in the near future.

There is still great hope in this very bad news. Because it is a sign that Christ is about to return and destroy the Nazi war machine forever!

Still, we must brace ourselves for the worst time of suffering ever—just before Christ returns. ♦

Heroin *(From page 16)*

Not Looking Cool

Americans glamorize their addictions. Over the decades, companies have invested billions of dollars in advertising cigarettes, alcohol and even drugs. These commercials generally feature the young, the tough and the beautiful. Is it any wonder we have drug-abuse problems? In 1997, fashion photography featured young models who looked like heroin addicts. Using great lighting and expensive clothes, heroin addiction was made to look in and glamorous. Is it any wonder then that we have a new generation of young people getting hooked on heroin?

Advertisers, film makers, fashion designers, photographers, pop musicians, actors and sports figures must begin to accept the responsibility that what they do affects the lives of young people. Young people need role models to look up to. If the role model lives a clean life, so will the young follower. But the opposite is all too true. We have too many role models today who lead our young people into wretched lifestyles.

Stopping drug abuse means we must educate our young people to the stark realities of drug abuse. Being hooked on hard drugs is anything but glamorous. One adult described heroin addiction this way: “It is like being possessed by the devil.... You have no freedom. You can’t go anywhere or do anything. You can’t have relationships. Everything is just about getting the heroin. It’s a horrible way to live” (New York Times, April 12, 1998). This miserable lifestyle is never communicated in a fashion-magazine photo. Medical professionals know that heroin addiction is the hardest addiction to break. Overcoming heroin addiction is a very ugly struggle. Real drug users do not look cool. We must make sure our kids see this aspect to the drug-abuse problem.

Give Your Time

Realize how vulnerable our kids are to trends and other kids. One young heroin addict, now in recovery, warned how easy it was to get hooked. He was quoted in the above-mentioned Times article as saying, “The first time I tried it was at a party, when I was 17.... This kid passed a little bit out. I sniffed it. We were playing cards, and the next thing I knew was...I feel good!” The author of the article then comments, “And the next thing he knew after that, he said, he was an addict, a dropout and a convict, prey to an obsession that has been ruining lives since the drug was developed around the turn of the century” (ibid.). If your impression of a drug pusher is an evil-looking adult, you must update your image. Today, most kids get hooked on drugs from other kids.

Peer pressure is one of the strongest pulls in your child’s life. The only way to combat this problem is for parents to stay in a close relationship with their children. Our most effective weapon against drug abuse is spending time with our kids. We should be deeply involved in our children’s lives and activities. Too many parents are not there for their children. Absentee parents open up a great void in a young person’s life. We must recognize that someone or something will fill that void. Today, that something could be heroin.

America’s problems with illegal drugs are complex. Yet there are some very simple solutions. Let’s all individually face our nation’s drug-abuse problem. Let’s take the steps to be sure that heroin doesn’t make its home at our house. ♦

Personal *(From page 1)*

was assassinated. Thirty years later, the U.S. and many in the world still seem transfixed by the death of JFK. Why?

President Kennedy embodied a great hope for many people. The whole world knew of his death that very day because of modern communication. The assassination sent shock waves around the world. For many people, their hopes died with John F. Kennedy.

A Stressful Time

It was a stress-filled time for U.S. citizens—and still is for many people. People drifted home from work in a daze the day JFK was shot. The stock market went down sharply. Businessmen had far less hope in America's future. Kennedy had embodied the national confidence. Now many Americans wondered, "What is happening to the U.S.?" What could be worse than an inspiring President being assassinated? Hordes of Americans wanted to be just like him. Some, including ex-senator Barry Goldwater, thought JFK could have become our greatest President ever.

A white beverage-truck driver knelt and prayed for America with his black customers. A male teacher, built like a football player, cried before his class. Then he said, "Children, we need to pray for our nation." Others went to church.

Pierre Salinger, Kennedy's press secretary, continued to work for President Lyndon Johnson after the assassination; but he drank a bottle of scotch daily for three to four months. JFK's death changed his life. He thinks the world would have been a far better place if JFK had lived.

Nobody understood why the assassination happened. People were deeply confused. The President wasn't supposed to die like this. Mr. Kennedy had brought a great surge of hope. Suddenly, the hope collapsed in this monumental tragedy! It was one of the worst tragedies in modern times, and it happened right here in the U.S. The event defied understanding—but only to people who don't understand God's plan for this earth.

World Impact

People in Germany, Japan and other nations thought the assassination could cause World War III. There were rumors of a communist plot. Japanese people cried at a U.S. base in Japan. Tough German cab drivers wouldn't take pay from American customers.

In South Africa, ships sounded their horns in a salute to the fallen President. They followed an American ship's lead in lowering their flags to half-mast.

Shortly after JFK was dead, Pierre Salinger visited Laos. A Laotian man walked 100 miles to meet Mr. Salinger—a man who knew JFK.

Citizens in Senegal, Africa, came to visit Peace Corps volunteers and tell them their President was dead. Many Senegalese citizens came to visit, shook hands, stayed five minutes or so without saying a word and then left.

The impact on the world was phenomenal.

U.S. Decline

Many Americans thought everything was going well, until November 22, 1963. After that, nothing seemed to go right. The assassination seemed to be a forerunner of a U.S. decline. We became bogged down in the Vietnam War. Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy were later assassinated.

Is there hope for the U.S. today? America's problems are far worse now than they were when JFK died. Violent crime is out of control. There are serious racial problems. Drugs are spreading like wildfire. AIDS has reached epidemic proportions. Families are disintegrating. Will the tree of hope blossom again for America and the world?

Great Hope

The Kennedy hope was a grandiose illusion! This world desperately needs hope. But there has never been hope in man, in spite of what men think. We are about to learn this vital lesson. There is no hope in man. None! "Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be

accounted of?" (Isa. 2:22). When will we cease looking to man, who lives and dies like an animal? Why should we ever put hope in man? God says we must put our hope in Him. He doesn't die and He is omnipotent.

There was a man who walked this earth almost 2,000 years ago who was younger than JFK when He was assassinated. His name was Jesus Christ. He came with a message of hope. That message got Him killed. But hope didn't die when Christ died. In fact, for the first time there was real hope for mankind. Our Saviour had successfully lived a sinless life and was able to pay for our sins. Then there was a great abundance of hope for man.

Still, men continue to place hope in men "whose breath is in his nostrils." How foolish!

Every man who commits that faithless mistake is destined to have his hopes shattered. America and the world are going through a process of learning the hard way that there is no hope in man. When we finally learn that lesson, we can then turn to the great God where there is super abundant hope! May God speed that day.

Fleeting Hope:
Kennedy's coffin
in the Capitol
rotunda.



STEPHEN FLURRY

A Nation Divided

One hundred and thirty-five years after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, slavery is still a thriving industry.

"The time has come," Abraham Lincoln assured his advisers, "when these sentiments should be uttered; and if it is decreed that I should go down

because of this speech, then let me go down linked to the truth—let me die in the advocacy of what is just and right." Lincoln was preparing for perhaps the most controversial speech of his life. It was 1858. His future as a presidential candidate was on the line. All of his advisers pleaded against delivering the speech. But he was determined to do so, even if it meant ruin politically.

In the late 1850s, political debate raged in the United States over the question of slavery in new states. Lincoln's lifelong political rival, Stephen Douglas, had successfully lobbied for Congress to allow the people of

each state to decide for themselves if they wanted slavery or not. Lincoln felt slavery should be kept in the South, hoping that, if contained, it would eventually die there.

In 1857, the Dred Scott decision struck a further blow to Lincoln and those in favor of abolishing slavery. Dred Scott was a slave who sought freedom through the courts because he at one time lived in a free state. The court denied his request on grounds that as a slave, he was his owner's property, not a citizen of the United States.

This is what led up to Lincoln's famous "House Divided" speech, given at the Republican State Convention in Springfield, Illinois. Lincoln's speech publicly established his position on the slavery issue and instantly set him apart as the foremost authority on abolitionism.

Lincoln began his speech by saying that if we know where we are and where we are going, then we might better understand what to do and how to do it. For those answers, Lincoln turned to history. He said, "In my opinion, [slavery] will not cease until a crisis shall have been

reached, and passed. 'A house divided against itself cannot stand.' I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not expect the

Union to be dissolved—I do not expect the house to fall—but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other."

He said, "Either the opponents of slavery will arrest the further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in course of ultimate extinction; or its advocates will push it forward, till it shall become alike lawful in all the states, old as well as new—North as well as South." For Southerners, those were fighting words.

Lincoln's "house divided" metaphor was familiar to most Bible-reading Americans back

then, as it is mentioned in three of the Gospels.

There were those in Christ's day who said His ability to cast out demons was in fact of the devil. Quickly perceiving this obvious contradiction, Jesus responded, "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand" (Matt. 12:25).

Lincoln was quoting a reliable source during his "House Divided" speech! No wonder he was so determined. No wonder he adamantly defended that speech a year after he delivered it. One hot summer evening in 1859, while dining with friends, he said, "Well gentlemen, you may think that speech was a mistake, but I never have believed it was, and you will see the day when you will consider it was the wisest thing I ever said."

Lincoln (and Christ) knew that there has not been one good thing in man's 6,000-year history to come out of division. Lincoln knew that division, unless some great crisis corrects the chasm before it is too late, can only end in ruin.

*Division,
unless some great
crisis corrects the
chasm, can only
end in ruin.*

Today, America faces a crisis comparable to that of the mid-19th century. And once again, it revolves around this issue of slavery.

“Slavery,” like the “house divided,” is a Biblical metaphor. It is used throughout the Bible to depict the oppressive, demanding nature of sin. We find in Hebrews 11:24-26 that Egypt is pictured as a type of sin, and when the Israelites came out of Egypt, it typed our flight out of the ways of this world; the ways of the flesh; THE WAY OF SIN. Paul said in Romans 7:14, “For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.”

This way of sin is defined throughout the Old and New Testaments. Of course, I John 3:4 says sin is the transgression of the law. But there are many verses which are more specific. Paul clearly defined this law in Romans 13:9: “For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” In other words, Paul said, if you break any of these laws, that is sin. And sin, as we have seen, is slavery.

Elsewhere, Paul wrote, “Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind [homosexuals], Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God” (I Cor. 6:9-10). It’s God’s will that we be emancipated from that way of life. So He sent His Son to pay for our past sins (Rom. 3:25), that we might live in freedom—free from the slavery of sin—free to live in righteousness.

Now, for the most part, people in our society are hostile to Christ’s message of freedom. In fact, it has gotten much worse in these last days than at any other time in our history. Most today even reject the deeply religious morality the United States of America was founded upon. To them, it is old-fashioned; outdated. Instead, they preach a new morality. The preachers of this new religion advocate ABSOLUTE FREEDOM—not the kind of freedom preached by our Founding Fathers which they based on religious principles; not the kind of freedom from the sins of the flesh preached by Christ. Their message of “absolute freedom,” as Jesus clearly explained, actually means slavery.

The apostle Peter spoke about these “absolute freedom” preachers in his second general epistle: “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).

The “absolute freedom” agenda proclaimed by higher education and popular culture is actually a message advocating slavery. Its proponents favor enslavement to lust, competition, sexual perversion and deceit. They are able to persuade a large majority to this agenda because being enslaved by lusts does at first seem pleasurable and right. But in time, it always ends in misery, pain and suffering. The “absolute freedom” party used to be in the minority; it used to be a counterculture. But like cancer it has spread across the Union, from state to state. Now it is the popular culture.

There are still a handful of abolitionists though. This party, now in the minority, would have all men to be free—free from the slavery of sin. This party advocates real liberty—freedom to live according to God’s spiritual law; the way of life which produces honest, successful lives, happy marriages and well-behaved children. The abolitionists’ ultimate objective is to emancipate all who live in slavery.

Once again America is deeply divided; and once again, our great division revolves around slavery. It is not as visible or as obvious as it was in the 19th century, but it is equally divisive, and far more dangerous, for one simple reason: This time there is no national leader to lead this nation out of the evils of slavery. There is no Lincoln to save the Union.

A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. Given time, it will either become all one thing, or all the other. The Union will either be saved, or the pro-slavery agenda will win. Look around you to see which moral agenda is winning. We live in one of the nastiest societies man has ever developed. Every kind of perverted sin has multiplied. Nothing has been able to curb our immoral appetites. More and more supporters are converting to the pro-slavery party. Like in the 1850s, the pro-slavery party is on the verge of winning.

But soon, as Christ immutably prophesied in numerous scriptures, just as slavery appears to engulf the whole nation—the entire world, in fact—He will return to this earth with His proclamation of emancipation. He originated the “house divided” metaphor; more than anyone else, He knows what it takes to build a stable society that works. When Christ sets up His Kingdom, all slaves, everywhere, will finally come to understand what real freedom is.

God speed that day. ♦



THE KEY OF DAVID

TELEVISION PROGRAM

TELEVISION LOG

United States

WGN—6:30 am ET, Sunday (Nationwide cable)
WPHL—6:30 am ET, Sunday (Northeast United States cable)

Alabama, Montgomery—WHOA 7:00 am ET, Sunday
 Arizona—KUSK 9:30 am MT, Sunday
 Arizona, Phoenix—KSZA 6:30 am MT, Sunday
 Arkansas, Little Rock—KASN 8:00 am CT, Saturday
 California, Concord—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday
 California, Fort Bragg—KFWU 10:00 am PT, Sunday
 California, Fresno—KNSO 8:00 am PT, Sunday; 9:00 am PT, Monday
 California, Los Angeles—KCBS 7:00 am PT, Sunday
 California, Oakland—KICU 8:00 am PT, Sunday
 California, San Diego—KGTV 7:00 am PT, Sunday
 California, San Francisco—KICU 8:00 am PT, Sunday
 California, San Jose—KICU 8:00 am PT, Sunday
 California, Sacramento—KTNC 10:00 am PT, Sunday
 Colorado, Alamosa—KOB 8:30 am CT, Sunday
 Florida, Jacksonville—WTEV 6:30 am ET, Saturday
 Florida, Orlando—WRBW 7:00 am ET, Saturday
 Florida, Tallahassee—WTLH 8:30 am ET, Sunday **
 Florida, Tampa—WTSP 7:00 am ET, Sunday
 Georgia, Atlanta—WGNX 6:30 am ET, Saturday
 Illinois, Chicago—WCIU 6:30 am CT, Saturday
 Illinois, Chicago—WGN 6:30 am ET, Sunday
 Illinois, Decatur—WAND 7:00 am CT, Sunday
 Indiana, Indianapolis—WNDY 6:30 am ET, Sunday
 Kansas, Topeka—WIBW 6:30 am CT, Sunday
 Kansas, Wichita—KSAS 10:00 am CT, Sunday
 Kentucky, Louisville—WBNA 10:00 pm ET, Saturday
 Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 11:30 pm CT, Sunday
 Louisiana, Shreveport—KMSS 8:00 am CT, Sunday
 Maryland, Baltimore—WUTB 7:00 am ET, Sunday **
 Massachusetts, Boston—WFXT 8:00 am ET, Sunday **
 Michigan, Detroit—WADL 9:00 am ET, Sunday
 Minnesota, Minneapolis/St. Paul—WFTC 6:30 am CT, Sunday
 Minnesota, Rochester—WFTC 6:30 am CT, Sunday
 Missouri, Cape Girardeau—WDKA 11:30 pm CT, Sunday
 Missouri, Kansas City—KCWB 6:00 am CT, Saturday
 Missouri, St. Louis—KPLR 6:00 am CT, Sunday
 New Jersey—WPHL 6:30 pm ET, Sunday
 New Mexico, Albuquerque—KOB 8:30 am MT, Sunday
 New Mexico, Farmington—KOB 8:30 am CT, Sunday
 New York, Buffalo—WIVB 6:30 am ET, Sunday
 New York, New York City—WPXN 12:30 pm ET, Sunday
 North Carolina, Asheville—WHNS 7:00 am ET, Sunday
 North Carolina, Charlotte—WAXN 8:00 am ET, Sunday
 North Carolina, Kannapolis—WAXN 8:00 am ET, Sunday
 Ohio, Cincinnati—WKRC 5:30 am ET, Sunday
 Ohio, Cleveland/Akron—WVPX 8:00 am ET, Sunday
 Ohio, Columbus—WWHO 7:00 am ET, Sunday

Oklahoma, Tulsa—KOKI 9:00 am CT, Sunday
 Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCO 6:30 am CT, Sunday
 Oregon, Eugene—KLSR 7:00 am PT, Sunday
 Oregon, Portland—KPDX 7:30 am PT, Sunday
 Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WPHL 6:30 am ET, Sunday
 Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh—WPGH 7:30 am ET, Sunday
 Pennsylvania, Red Lion—WGCB 8:30 am ET, Sunday
 South Carolina, Columbia—WOLO 8:00 am ET, Sunday
 South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg—WHNS 7:00 am ET, Sunday
 Tennessee, Memphis—WLMT 9:00 am ET, Sunday
 Texas, Corpus Christi—KDF 7:30am CT, Sunday **
 Texas, Dallas—KDFI 8:30 am CT, Sunday
 Texas, San Antonio—KSAT 6:30 am CT, Sunday
 Texas, Tyler—KLTV 10:30 am CT, Sunday
 Virginia, Richmond—WRIC 7:30 am ET, Sunday
 Washington, D.C.—WUSA 7:00 am ET, Sunday
 Washington, Seattle—KONG 8:00 am PT, Sunday
 Washington, Spokane—KXLY 6:00 am PT, Sunday

Australia

Network 10—4:30 am, Sunday
 —Channel 10, Melb., Syd., Brisb., Perth, Adelaide
 —NRTV, North New South Wales
 —Capital TV, South New South Wales
 —Southern Cross TV, Victoria
 —QTV, Queensland

Canada

VISION Network—9:30 am ET, Sunday (Nationwide Canadian cable)

Alberta/Calgary—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday
 Alberta/Edmonton—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday
 Alberta/Red Deer—KXLY 7:00 am MT, Sunday
 British Columbia, Prince George—CKPG 8:30 am PT, Sunday
 British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00 am PT, Sunday
 New Brunswick—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday
 Nova Scotia—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday
 Prince Edward Island—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday
 Quebec, Montreal—CKMI 11:00 am Sunday

Fiji

FIJI TV—12:00 pm, Sunday

India and Southeast Asia

Asian Television Network—5:30 pm, Sunday (India Standard Time)
 (Pan Am Sat 4)

New Zealand

TV3—6:00 am, Friday

Philippines

IBC TV—7:00 am, Sunday

** Indicates a new station or time change

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