

WHY THANKSGIVING?



The Philadelphia

Trumpet

November 1998



BUBBLE ECONOMIES



◆ **COVER STORY**

Economy

2 System Failure!

As we advance toward the close of 1998, global economic peril looms large on the horizon. Will 1999 be the year of the big crash?

4 Fifty Years in the Making

Today's crisis began as nations rebuilt from the rubble of World War II.

7 Mortgaging the Nation

The origin of the fiat money system

8 Financial Destruction of America

16 God Doesn't Charge Interest

How would God solve the world's money woes?



ON THE COVER: Following other economies worldwide, the long-inflated U.S. economy is a pinprick away from bursting. (Joel Hilliker)



2



7



19

PUBLISHER and EDITOR in CHIEF Gerald Flurry
SENIOR EDITORS Dennis Leap
J. Tim Thompson
Vyron Wilkins
MANAGING EDITOR Stephen Flurry
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR Joel Hilliker
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Gary Rethford
Ryan Malone
Nancy Coffey
Deborah Leap
Paula Powell
Melody Thompson
Magda Wilkins
CONTRIBUTORS Eric Anderson
Gareth Fraser
Ron Fraser
Shane Granger
Andrew Locher
Wilbur Malone
CONTRIBUTING ARTIST Gary Rethford
PHOTOGRAPHERS David Jardine
Stephen Flurry
PREPRESS PRODUCTION Mark Carroll
CIRCULATION Shane Granger
INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS EDITOR Wik Heerma
German Wik Heerma
Italian Daniel Frendo
Spanish Jorge Esparza
OFFICE DIRECTORS
Australasia Alex Harrison
Canada Wayne Turgeon
Central and South America Ron Fraser
Britain, Europe, Middle East, Africa John Durrad

THE PHILADELPHIA TRUMPET (ISSN 10706348) is published monthly (except bimonthly March/April and September/October issues) by the Philadelphia Church of God, 1019 Waterwood Parkway, Suite F, Edmond, OK 73034. Periodicals postage paid at Edmond, OK, and additional mailing offices.
©1998 Philadelphia Church of God. All rights reserved.
PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

HOW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION HAS BEEN PAID: The Philadelphia Trumpet has no subscription price — it is free. This is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Philadelphia Church of God and others. Contributions, however, are welcomed and are tax-deductible in the United States, Canada, and New Zealand. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide Work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers in the effort to "hold fast" to the traditions established in the true Church by Herbert W. Armstrong and to proclaim a final warning to the world. Contributions or letters of interest may be sent to one of our offices nearest you:

United States: PO Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083.
Canada: P.O. Box 61541, Fennel Postal Outlet, Hamilton, ON L8T 5A1
New Zealand and the Pacific Isles: P.O. Box 38-424, Howick, Auckland, 1730
Australia: P.O. Box 6626, Upper Mount Gravatt, QLD 4122
Philippines: P.O. Box 1372, Q.C. Central Post Office, Quezon City, Metro Manila
Britain, Europe, Middle East: P.O. Box 1, Abbots Langley, Herts WD5 OBS
Africa: P.O. Box 2969, Durbanville, 7551 South Africa

Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. Please include your old mailing label and the new address.

The publishers assume no responsibility for return of unsolicited artwork, photographs or manuscripts. The "LETTERS" section is made up of various letters from our readers. The editor reserves the right to use any letters, in whole or in part, as he deems in the public interest, and to edit the letter for clarity or space.

Unless otherwise noted, the scriptures quoted in this publication are from the King James Version of the Holy Bible.

U.S. POSTMASTER — send address changes to: The Philadelphia Trumpet, PO Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083

◆ **ARTICLE**

Part Two

19 Winston S. Churchill: The Watchman

◆ **DEPARTMENTS**

1 Personal: A Nation of Cowards?

14 World News Watch:

Backlash Against the West — The EU's New Prize — Bankruptcy Down Under — Cosmic Dust Devil — Rude Awakening

24 Bible Study: The Sabbath—Only for the Old Testament?

26 Commentary: The Measure of Humility

28 Letters

Personal...

Gerald Flury



A Nation of Cowards?

In January 1996, Assistant Secretary of Defense Chas. W. Freeman Jr. warned senior Chinese officials that the United States would respond militarily to a Chinese attack on Taiwan.

According to Freeman, the Chinese responded, ‘No you won’t. We’ve watched you in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia, and you don’t have the will’” (John A. Gentry, “Military Force in an Age of National Cowardice,” *The Washington Quarterly*, Autumn 1998).

America is called the world’s only superpower. Many nations have looked to the U.S. for protection. But that trust is rapidly fading.

Nations like China know that Americans are too fearful to fight. We no longer believe that “the mission comes first.” We do all we possibly can to avoid any human casualties. We do this to the point where we have become a nation of cowards.

Adolf Hitler preyed on that kind of weakness before World War II. In fact, Winston Churchill believed that weakness CAUSED World War II!

So few nations opposed Hitler that he thought he could conquer the world. He almost did!

Weakness only encourages strong, dictatorial leaders. (Please read the article in this issue on Winston Churchill.) How can we correct this deadly disease of a broken WILL?

“It seems unlikely that we will alter our basic course during the Clinton administration—or before a major military defeat” (ibid.). Mr. Gentry is saying it will probably take a major military defeat to correct the deep-seated problem of our fear. But in this nuclear age, a major military defeat would probably mean our nation’s destruction!

There is a marvelous solution to this problem, if only we would listen to God’s warning. God even prophesied about our broken will. What’s more, He had a strong hand in producing this broken will. It is actually connected to God!

“And I will break the pride of your power.”

—Leviticus 26:19

The book of Daniel is an end-time book of the Bible (Dan. 12:4, 9). Daniel said that the books of Moses also contain prophecy for this end time (Dan. 9:13).

Let’s look at one of those prophecies: “And I will break the pride of your power” (Lev. 26:19). This chapter is called the blessing and cursing chapter. We should be living in the midst of God’s abundant blessings. Instead, we are being cursed by the living God! Our broken will is one of those curses!

What a curse to have a broken will in a world full of dangerous, dictatorial leaders. We simply cannot survive unless the problem is corrected.

God knew that we would have great power—that we would be the world’s only superpower—but lack the WILL to use that power.

Read, in the preceding verses of that chapter, about our sins. Then you will see WHY God has broken the pride of our power, or our national will. The U.S. is a major part of end-time Israel (write for our free booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.)

We gained our freedom through much bloodshed and courage. And our freedom cannot be sustained by cowards. We can easily deceive ourselves. But our enemies know the truth and will one day soon put us to the test!

The further we get from God, the more cowardly we become. The closer we are to God, the more we manifest courage.

God wants us to avoid a major catastrophe. We can do so only by heeding His warning message.

God has broken our national will. Only God can heal it. That is the sobering truth.

God sees our broken will. The world sees it. But do WE see it? And if we do, are we willing to let God show us how to correct it? May God help us to choose the way of blessings and not the path of curses. Our future is in our own hands!

**AS WE ADVANCE
TOWARD THE CLOSE
OF 1998, GLOBAL
ECONOMIC PERIL
LOOMS LARGE ON
THE HORIZON.**

System Failure!

**WILL 1999 BE THE
YEAR OF THE BIG
CRASH?**



ED ECKSTEIN/COMBIS

BY RON FRASER

1998 WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS A record-breaking year. Record-high temperatures warmed the globe during the first half of the year. The El Niño and La Niña effects produced records in all types of weather around a world battered by hurricanes, tsunamis, tornadoes, floods, ice storms and devastating drought.

As the year reached its apogee, a storm of a different nature threatened to break records on a grand, global scale. The year which produced the biggest-ever corporate merger (Amoco/BP) and the world's biggest-ever corporate collapse (Brunei-based Amedeco) felt the ground swell of an economic tsunami.

BY MID-SEPTEMBER, U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan, who only weeks previous had touted the strength of the U.S. economy as the stock market ran the gamut of its 1990s bull ride, used very measured terms to touch on a creeping fear in world financial markets. Commenting on the evident deepening of global financial turmoil, Mr. Greenspan declared, "The crisis in emerging market economies is now pressuring Latin America. There is little evidence to suggest that the contagion has subsided. The collapse of the Russian economy reveals evidence of a deepening of the contagion, leaping from Asia." Then, mindful that finance ministers worldwide would be wracking their brains for ways of limiting the effects of this "contagion" on their national economies, Mr. Greenspan issued a note of caution. "Policy makers are warned to be sensitive to deepening signs of global distress." Finally, as if to inject a note of reality into those economies which have seemed, to date, least affected by the "Asian contagion," the Fed's Chief cautioned, "It is impossible for Europe and America to remain an oasis of prosperity in such an emerging situation."

In an unprecedented move, finance ministers of the major nations and representatives of all the world's major economic policy formulation bodies (the World Bank, the IMF, the G7 and G22), met in October to consider ways and means of dealing with the emerging, global financial crisis.

An Ominous Equation

Take the attributes of the East Asian financial meltdown, add in the Russian economic collapse, the domino effect on Latin American economies, the looming year 2000 computer problem and the impending introduction of the euro in January 1999; factor in the proven ineptness of world leaders in dealing with this international socio-economic cauldron, and the result of this unhappy equation is the prospect of unprecedented global instability.

The congruence of this extraordinary and unprecedented combination of special factors, following decades of worldwide economic growth and comparative stability, suddenly stares the U.S. bleakly in the face. As some economic pundits have put it, these are



What to say? Greenspan touted U.S. economic health, then warned optimistic investors, then lowered interest rates to sustain an unsustainable consumer boom.

"uncharted waters."

No one predicted nor prepared for such a world scenario. Wasn't this to be, following the cessation of over 40 years of cold war, a new world order? Was not this to be the decade of convergence, to use the economists' buzzword, with all its promise of progress toward equality, the generalization of international health, wealth and happiness?

Well! Although a fundamental tenet of the economist and the futurist is eternal optimism, the hard experience of man, documented through millennia of histories, is another matter. Economic theorists, it seems, tend to neglect the fact that so many things can go wrong in this world—revolutions, coup d'états, war, ethnic cleansing, natural disasters, crime, the resistance of deeply rooted cultural and religious practices which impinge on economic progress, plain bad government—all these are the unknowns. It is such influences which ultimately reach out to impact the world's stock markets, creating the greed- and fear-driven bull and bear markets which produce the boom and bust cycles of this world's economies.

Confusing Signals

LESS THAN THREE WEEKS AFTER THE Federal Reserve's last interest rate cut, an additional quarter-point cut was announced October 16 due to "growing caution by lenders and unsettled financial markets, as well as the need to sustain economic growth" (Wall Street Journal).

Yet, only four months earlier, Alan Greenspan called American economic conditions "as impressive as any I have witnessed in my nearly half-century of daily observation of the American economy."

What's going on here? Is the Fed trying to "sustain economic growth" by pumping unwarranted confidence into investors? Or did they react out of panic, trying to force growth for fear of further deterioration? Are there more bad loans and impending hedge fund collapses they aren't yet making public (like the recent \$3.6 billion bailout of the highly speculative private investment Long Term Capital Management which lost big when its sophisticated trading strategies went wrong)? Is the Fed trying to sustain the unsustainable?

The China Factor

Earlier this year, Economic Intelligence Review editor and publisher Christopher Story stated, "The entire cycle of currency depreciations can be traced back to the huge devaluation of the Chinese yuan in January 1994—an aggressive and unfriendly 'beggar-thy-neighbor' devaluation by any standard, probably motivated by political as much as by economic considerations..." (Economic Intelligence Review, Jan.-Feb. 1998).

The result of this action is now plain for all to see. On October 23, 1997, the Hong Kong stock market crashed, creating a powerful flow-on to East Asian stock exchanges. The much-touted tiger economies of East Asia, having gone into free fall, are now caught in a slough of deep recession, with IMF policies having actually worked to exacerbate their negative condition. Japan admits that it faces its worst financial crisis since World War



A Mess in Asia

FIGURES FROM UN AGENCIES suggest that the Asian economic crisis has pushed upwards of 100 million people into poverty (defined as less than one dollar per day per person).

In Indonesia, as much as half the population, or 100 million people, are now unable to buy 2,100 calories of food a day per person, which experts say is the minimum requirement for an Asian diet. This is an increase of 60 million to 80 million from a year ago. In Thailand, 10 percent of the 60 million population has slipped into poverty since the baht was devalued in July 1997. Urban unemployment has grown to 3 million. In South Korea, unemployment has reached 7.6 percent, with 8 percent seen as the point at which social unrest becomes likely.

—INTELLIGENCE DIGEST

II and, in fact, latest figures show her national economy bordering on depression.

One obvious consequence of all this is the flight of capital from East Asia pouring into U.S. dollar holdings. The risk in this is that, should U.S. interest rates run firm, the dollar will be driven further upwards, driving Asian currencies further down in terms of the dollar. This would then further destabilize the world trading system, as the U.S. and Western economies attract a flood of low-priced Eastern goods. The result would be closure of non-competitive domestic industries in the West. This is a sure recipe for global economic disaster.

The Euro Risk

Germany's Bundesbank has issued its verdict on the European Economic and Monetary Union (EMU). Clearly, from all reports, it believes that the EMU will be a disaster. What is most apparent to the Bundesbank leadership is that most nations accepted for European monetary union have fudged their financial figures to gain entry to EMU.

"Thus even the best-managed EU Governments will need TEN YEARS of fiscal balance or surplus even to bring their public-sector debt positions within the limit of 60 percent of GDP required by the European Union's collective treaty. In other words, the start-up conditions breach the considered and agreed Treaty requirements so comprehensively that there can be no prospect of the Euro Zone surviving peacefully over the medium term" (Economic Intelligence Review, May-June 1998).

The brilliant British economist Peter Jay has described EMU as "Europe's engine of destruction." A few astute observers have noted that, despite the drop in the value of gold, leading European central banks have been hoarding the yellow metal. One reason for their retention of bullion stocks may well be as a hedge against the prospect of a euro collapse, providing a support for new national currencies.

System Breakdown

The UK and U.S. stock markets were pumped up powerfully over the past 20 years, shrugging off regular corrections until September this year when the U.S. stock market commenced its roller coaster ride in the wake of reality

50 Years in the

Today's crisis began as a result of the rubble of World War II

SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF THE Second World War, and more particularly since the decolonization of this century's empires, we have tended to divide the world into first, second and third world categories, generally according to David Landes' portrayal of the economic division of nations. To gain an idea of the distance between the two extremities, the difference in income between a leading first world country such as Switzerland and the poorest non-industrial nation, Mozambique, is about 400 to 1, AND THIS GAP IS NOT DECREASING.

Following the Allied victory in World War II, Western nations concentrated on rebuilding their domestic economies together with the restoration and repair of facilities and infrastructure damaged and destroyed in war. The world became split between the capitalist nations, largely of the West, and the socialist and communist societies. The magnanimity of the American nation, which emerged as the leading economy following World War II, came to the fore as the U.S. plowed multiple billions of dollars into reviving their defeated German and Japanese former enemies. The German currency was worthless in 1945. By 1948 the reviving Germany issued their new currency, the Deutsche mark (DM), exchanging 1 DM for 10 of the old reichsmarks. The German economy took off like a VII rocket! By 1965 the Deutsche mark, together with the Swiss franc, became the strongest currency in Europe. The German Wunderschaft (economic miracle) was born.

At the same time, a similar economic miracle was occurring in Japan. The Japan that went to war to seize territory and raw materials by force, now, utilizing the same tactics as the German industrialists, started to gain both capital assets and foreign land by the strategy of international investment, particu-



TRUMPET

e Making

nations rebuilt

ld War II

“This world is divided roughly into three kinds of nations: those that spend lots of money to keep their weight down; those whose people eat to live; and those whose people don’t know where the next meal is coming from.”

—DAVID S. LANDES

The Wealth and Poverty of Nations

Aftermath Germany began after the war from the ground up—with American help.



larly inside the nations which had allied to defeat her in war. Japanese industry thrived on the process of reverse engineering—buying Western manufactures, disassembling them, then copying them with substantial improvements. Within 50 years, Japanese goods progressed from a pre-war shoddiness to match and, in many instances, surpass the best of quality goods produced in the West. By the early 1990s, according to some economic measures, the Japanese had become the richest people in the world. Meanwhile, their old Axis partner, Germany, had without question become the powerhouse of Europe, to the point that she was flexing her political muscle on the world scene. This became most apparent when Germany arrogantly engineered the destabilizing of the whole complex of Balkan nations by her recognition of Croatia and Slovenia as separate nations, forcing the break-up of the former Yugoslavia in 1991.

Even as the economies of the former vanquished leaders of the Axis powers were rebounding under massive injections of Western funds, the Western market economies of the so-called “free world,” putting their Great Depression and wartime losses behind them, began a period of unprecedented growth. This was nowhere more apparent on the continent of Europe than in France.

In the three decades following World War II, in “what became known as the *trente glorieuses* (the 30 wonderful years from 1945-1975), France moved in with alacrity. New construction, new industrial installations, a new road network—new, new, new...” (David S. Landes, *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations*). With a weather eye on her old arch-enemy, Germany, France developed her “*force de Frappe*” (nuclear force), building her economy and defense infrastructures to the point where she believed she could become equal partners with Germany in the drive to European Union. Only the most naïve of political commentators failed to grasp that this cozying up to Germany was but an obvious strategy to keep her old enemy bound in a political, military and economic union which they thought would constrain Germany from acting unilaterally, and particularly militarily, against the interests of France.

Then came 1989 and the fall of the Berlin Wall, which heralded the ultimate collapse of the Soviet Union. As we entered the final decade of the millennium, the cold war between Western capitalism and Soviet communism ceased. Much publicity was given to the prospect of a “new world order.” The rhetoric spoke of a period of unprecedented peace, the harmonizing of international relations, especially between America, Russia and Europe, and the raising of second and third world standards more in line with the wealth of the West.

Nowhere was the drive to equalize world economic standards more appar-

ent than in Eastern Asia; Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia. The World Bank reported that no group has grown “more rapidly and more consistently” since the 1960s than the nations of East Asia (World Bank, *East Asian Miracle*, p. 28).

America, Britain, Japan and Europe all threw capital at East Asia. Investment flowed on from country to country in the East Asian region with concomitant escalation of wages. In a reversal of the process of colonization, where Britain built a huge international economy upon cheap, often Asian, labor, the United Kingdom found herself the domicile of more than 30 Korean companies. Wales patted herself on the back as Asian investors found a ready pool of cheap labor in that long-depressed country. The establishment of foreign manufacturers on British soil seemed quite at odds with the concept of the mother country having spawned the Industrial Revolution.

But, suddenly, it all went wrong. Over the past two years the bubble burst in East Asia. Slow to react to events seemingly so far away, the Western stock markets ignored the massive East Asian slump—until it started to bite at home. Ten significant Japanese banks failed between 1995 and 1997. Now, as 1998 draws to a close, the Japanese economy, second largest in the world, following 50 years of boom performance, stands on the edge of depression.

After loudly declaring that their economy could weather such a storm, boasting the “best economic performance on record” in mid-1998, the U.S. ends the year a more worried nation. Sensible Americans face 1999 asking how long the dollar will remain a fashionable haven for the flight of capital from the depressed Asian, Russian and Latin American economies. It seems the global economic bubble has burst. ♦

—RON FRASER

dawning following the East Asia, Russia and Latin America collapses. The world shudders under the pressure of this bursting fiscal balloon. Global economic chaos looms ahead of us all. What will be the outcome? Have we forgotten recent history? Should a global financial collapse occur, we ought to remember that under similar conditions Adolf Hitler came to power and launched this world's most devastating war.

As Peter Jay has stated, "There is a possibility of a breakdown in existing economic systems in the West, leading maybe to anarchy, maybe to governments ruling more by strong-man tactics. What would our daily life be like if that forecast were fulfilled?" (The Crisis of Western Political Economy, p. 58).

Your Bible predicts such a scenario. In Revelation 18 we read of a powerful geo-political power, described as a "beast," influenced by a great false church, typed as a whorish woman, which will dominate world trade. Herbert W. Armstrong predicted that, just as a similar "beast" power rose out of the great depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s to wreak havoc on the earth, this beastly power would, in the future, arise with even greater force. He further predicted that this powerful ten-nation combine would arise out of great social and economic depression. That is exactly in line with Mr. Jay's scenario. Stand by for the fulfillment of these remarkable prophecies of your Bible. The world is indeed on the brink of catastrophe!

The Solution

What will solve this world's economic and financial woes? Peter Jay puts it this way: "I have come to the conclusion that the problem lies right in the very heart and nature of the type of economic system which we are trying to operate, and that once one has perceived this one realizes that one is confronted with an infinitely more serious problem than it would be if it were merely a matter of bad management or bad luck" (ibid., p. 31).

Mr. Jay hits the problem right on the button! But he, like all world economists and financial commentators, fails to come up with a replacement to the current world system of trade and economics. The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank have met to consider this vexing question, yet, predictably, with little result.

A fundamental problem that all wrestle with is the fact that economic performance, culture and religion are inextricably linked. As David Landes has noted, any changes in one will work back on the other. At the source of these converging influences on our world economy lies human nature. Our systems of finance, economics, politics, societal organization and administration are set to ultimately fail, for they are rooted in a nature that feeds on vanity, jealousy, lust and plain greed.

Only a system founded upon an opposite nature, which engenders a global human attitude of humility, generosity, self-control and an innate desire to produce and GIVE goods and services to the collective benefit of all mankind, will succeed, grow and yield profit for all.

A pipe dream? No! A godly vision! A vision which is shared by those who support the publication of this magazine. A vision which grows in the minds of a scattered band of people, from all walks of life, all classes and creeds of mankind. This dedicated body of loyal supporters share a great common hope of a future, founded upon a world government which will enforce a perfect economic system in this world for 1000 years of growth and stupendous prosperity. Write now for your copy of Isaiah's End-Time Vision, grasp the vision of that future and start training now to install that perfect system under the loving and authoritative reign of its perfect Creator (Isa. 9:6-7). ♦

The Euro: A Tower of Babel



GUSTAVE DORE/HARBOUR PRESS, LTD., 955 MASSACHUSETTS AVE, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

WHILE THE PRESS HAS GIVEN A DEAL of exposure to the Asian and Russian crises, little has emerged in the media about the gravity of the dangers posed by the introduction of the euro, the European Union's collective currency due to come into effect on January 1, 1999. Described by former British Ambassador to Washington Peter Jay as "Europe's engine of mass destruction," the euro is looked upon with jaundiced eyes by many serious investors in Europe. This has led to a transfer of funds from traditional European currencies (Deutschemarks, guilders, francs, schillings, pesetas, lire, escudos, Finnish markka and Irish punt) into sterling holdings and the dollar.

The prime reason for this is that the conversion rates between the collective European currency (the euro) and each participating national currency unit will be irrevocably fixed in

1999, under criteria prescribed by the Maastricht Treaty.

Financial correspondent Christopher Story, in acerbic commentary on this phenomenon, stated, "Taken literally, this means of course that the brilliant 'builders of Europe'—the constructors of this new 'Tower of Babel'—know, by means of some occult power (since, how else could they know?) that the rates selected for 'irrevocable' fixing will be suitable for the participating countries concerned for the whole of eternity.

"This is a recipe for economic, social and political disaster" (Economic Intelligence Review, Sept. 1998).

Far from ushering in a glorious new world order of peace, wealth and stability, the beginning of the new millennium looks increasingly like it will engender a period of great social, economic and financial instability which could shake the entire globe.



Mortgaging the Nation

The origin of the fiat money system

BY CHRISTOPHER STORY

THE GLOBAL FIAT MONEY CASINO known as the international financial system originated, in its modern form, in England. Before sailing for London to replace the Catholic James II on the English throne, William III received a loan of 2 million Dutch gulden to take him across the channel. Safely on the throne, the new King nevertheless found himself short of money to finance his war against Louis XIV. Unable to ask the English Parliament to vote him the money because the war, though important for Holland, was of no interest to England, William persuaded the Government to accept the offer of a loan of £1,200,000 made to him by a Mr. Paterson, acting on behalf of a private syndicate, the composition of which has remained obscure.

The proposal in question was that a corporation to be called the Bank of England should raise the sum from the public and lend it on to the King at 8 percent per annum plus £4,000 a year

by way of expenses. Since these terms were somewhat more favorable than could have been obtained from the goldsmiths of the city of London, the offer was accepted.

Overnight, the Bank of England, a private corporation, became the beneficiary of a number of privileges, the most important of which was that it was entitled to issue notes under the “common seal” of the Crown and the Bank up to the value of the loan and on the security of the Government. Thus, when a holder of the Bank’s notes presented them to be cashed, the Government would be obliged to raise the same amount in taxation, in order to refund the Bank. This meant that the Bank used the wealth of the nation as guarantee for its notes—which, as Mr.

Paterson subsequently explained, were made by it at zero cost (apart from the cost of printing and paper). “The Bank hath benefit of the interest on all the moneys which it creates out of nothing,” he added.

The author Christopher Hollis, writing in *The Two Nations* [London, Routledge and Sons, Ltd., 1937, on pages 30 and 33-34], explained that “the £1,200,000 was easily subscribed. The Bank, however, did not hand over the whole sum to William in cash. It handed over £720,000 in cash and the remaining £480,000 in notes ‘under their common seal.’” Since the Government then began using the Bank’s notes, the Bank of England gained prestige, and was the possessor of £720,000 in notes “under their common seal” and £480,000 in cash. Hollis continued: “Now William, in the difficulties of previous years, had been reduced...to issuing tallies in lieu of payment of his debts. The Bank now determined to use its spare cash and notes to buy up these tallies at a considerable discount, usually of 7 percent.” Thus the Bank acquired at no cost to itself the title to real wealth in the amount of £480,000 in notes lent to the Government and the additional amount of the tallies bought up with more notes. Before long, the Bank began to print notes beyond the autho-

fiat money, paper currency made legal tender by a fiat of the government, but not based on or convertible into coin.

riized amount of £1,200,000, issuing them signed by the Bank of England’s cashier alone, instead of jointly with the Crown “under their common seal.” Bishop Berkeley described this scam as a “a public cheat,” but the Bank got away with it—as the Crown was preoccupied, indifferent to or ignorant of what was going on, or else considered itself powerless to intervene.

Accordingly, in 1696, within two years of the Bank’s foundation, although the King had only received £1,500,000 (the original £1,200,000 plus £300,000 borrowed in Holland), he was now in debt to the Bank in the sum of **£3,034,576 16s 5d**. In the meantime, by August 1695, the price index has risen from 100 to 137. By 1698, the National Debt totalled **£16,000,000**, and it went on increasing thereafter. As Christopher Hollis pointed out, “As an abstract proposition in financial theory...the King might have cancelled the

privileges of the Bank and have filled the gap with paper money of his own. But...by the Bill of Rights in 1689, he was prevented from doing this without the consent of Parliament—which meant in practice without the consent of the Bank of England.”

Previous practice had been for the sovereign to make the nation’s money, in amounts corresponding to the estimated needs of the economy, and to spend or issue it into circulation. Under the new system introduced at the end of the 17th century, the King not only authorized the banks to make the nation’s money, but also agreed to borrow it from them at interest to finance his administration. The interest would be paid by the taxpayer; and since the money paid by the bankers was guaranteed by the wealth of the nation, the taxpayer ended up paying interest on what was really his own property.

THUS THE REVISED SYSTEM EFFECTIVELY MORTGAGED THE WEALTH OF THE NATION TO THE BANKERS, PLACING THE BANK OF ENGLAND EFFECTIVELY IN CHARGE OF ECONOMIC POLICY, AND FIRMLY ESTABLISHING A MONETARY SYSTEM BASED ON USURY. ♦

—Reprinted by permission from
ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE REVIEW

AMERICA HAS LONG BEEN THE SAFEST PLACE ON EARTH FOR FOREIGN INVESTORS' MONEY. BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY TAKE THEIR MONEY ELSEWHERE?

Financial Destruction of America

BY J. TIM THOMPSON

A MERICAN TREASURY BONDS ARE backed by the “full faith and credit” of the United States government. Whenever there is economic turmoil in the world, many investors make a “flight to quality” by investing in America’s bond market. American Treasuries (bonds, bills and notes) are a “safe haven” for foreign investors in the present nightmarish world of collapsing global economies.

But what if that all changes? CAN it change? As many international journalists are quick to point out, we Americans deceive ourselves by arrogantly thinking we are invincible.

In the August 5 USA Today, an eye-opening article by Rich Miller states (emphasis mine throughout), “Ratings agency Fitch IBCA warned Tuesday that the USA is living beyond its means and said a weaker stock market and dollar would likely be the result.” If we honestly assess today’s global economic news, anyone should recognize that America is most likely going to experience the same kind of precipitous stock-market fall and currency devaluation being seen in Southeast Asia and Russia.

In spite of recent stabilization in the U.S. stock market caused by the Federal Reserve lowering interest rates,

the value of the “almighty dollar” has begun to fall like a rock off a cliff. In a nasty reversal, Japanese investors have watched the value of the foreign-currency mutual funds, stocks, bonds and cash accounts drop sharply as the dollar fell as low as 111 yen in Asian trading October 9, from a high of over 145 yen in August. Such dramatic losses can quickly turn foreign investors away from America in search of more stable investments.

The article continues, “While reaffirming the USA’s top-tier AAA credit rating, Fitch voiced concern that the economy as a whole is becoming too dependent on foreign capital to finance [its] growth.... The USA became a net debtor nation—owing more to foreigners than foreigners owe it—in the late 1980s after years of big trade deficits. Those deficits now look set to BALLOON AGAIN as the Asian crisis slashes demand for U.S. exports.”

The U.S. owed the rest of the world \$1.3 trillion at the end of 1997 over and above its national debt of \$5.5 trillion. “Behind America’s deepening debt: a paltry domestic savings rate. That means the government and U.S. companies NEED FOREIGN CAPITAL TO KEEP GOING.... So far, that has not been a problem. Foreign investors, attracted



JOEL HULLNER

by America’s exceptional economy and frightened by the Asian crisis, have poured money into the USA. In the first quarter [of 1998], they invested a record \$29 billion in U.S. stocks.... But Fitch...says that can’t go on forever.... A lot of countries around the world have found you get yourself in an uncomfortable position if you rely on foreign capital too much.”

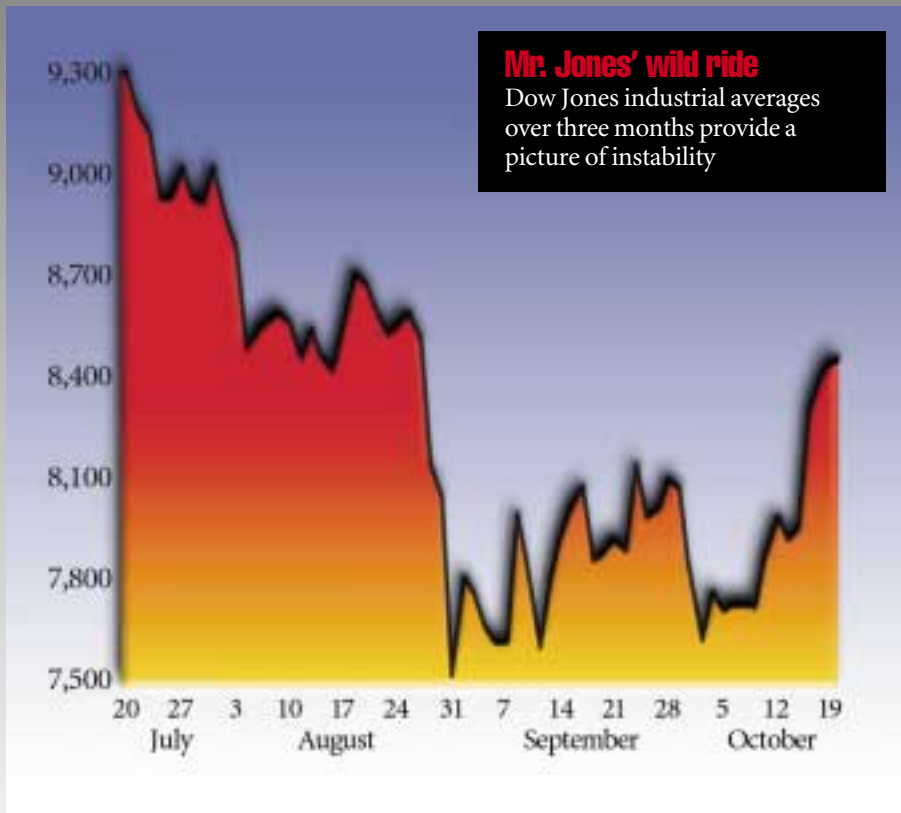
A Moody’s Investor Service executive summed it up by saying, “A big sell-off of U.S. Treasury bonds by foreign holders is not a threat if U.S. investors are prepared to step in and buy what’s sold. But if they’re not, WATCH OUT.”



Loss of Confidence in America

Americans will not be able to “step in and buy” the Treasury bonds which finance our national debt and keep our government running. They can’t! As Fitch Managing Director Lionel Price said, “The [U.S.] population as a whole is spending all its income. The economy needs savings, and it’s being sucked in from abroad.”

The New York Times of August 7 sarcastically spelled it out: “The world economy is spinning crazily on the axis of the unsustainable Japan-U.S. relationship. They sell to us. But we can’t afford to keep buying. So we borrow



from them with the money they earn from selling to us.”

For the last 15 years, America has been on this unsustainable financial high that was and is made possible only by the injection of enormous amounts of foreign money into American bond and stock markets. But that will come to a screeching halt as soon as the American dollar and markets lose their “reserve currency” and “safe haven” status.

The Dictionary of Economics pointedly defines reserve currency as “a currency used as foreign exchange reserves [savings] by other countries.... Reserve currency countries receive cheap loans from the holders [through bond sales] while the system lasts, but their currencies are exposed to severe speculative pressure if confidence in them declines....”

Confidence is a very fleeting and uncertain thing. It is based on trust, which can be betrayed easily and just as easily shattered. Confidence can be likened to a gossamer balloon blown about by the winds of whimsy. Likewise, investor confidence is nothing more than a delicate balloon waiting to be burst by the buffeting gales of economic crises.

What could cause the beginnings

of a loss of confidence in America? In the middle of August, a senior currency strategist at the Deutsche Bank in London made the comment that the dollar’s fluctuations—at least against continental European currencies—are “a reflection of President Clinton’s problems, which Americans shrug off but foreigners take more seriously. Foreigners see it as WEAK PRESIDENT, WEAK DOLLAR.”

On the international level, strength of character is equated with strength of economy, and both are extremely lacking today in America! Regardless of the “full faith and credit” of the U.S. government, global investors are becoming increasingly aware that AN INVESTMENT IN AMERICA IS NO LONGER AN INVESTMENT IN STRENGTH. There is only an illusion of strength being propped up by foreign capital.

Once a loss of confidence occurs, the reaction is similar to the effect of adultery in many marriages today—victims of such a breach of trust start looking for a way out, and many times they take every financial advantage they can on their way out the door. Through such devices as credibility-destroying scandals, a mountainous and expanding national debt, a hugely overvalued stock market, record-low-yielding

SJG 2s10³ UGR 34s28¹ ECO 58s21⁴ DIX 8s11⁷ BNP 6s4¹ BUI 8s9³ UNO 12s9³ HPR 3s11⁷

"A BIG SELL-OFF OF U.S. TREASURY BONDS BY FOREIGN HOLDERS IS NOT A THREAT IF U.S. INVESTORS ARE PREPARED TO STEP IN AND BUY WHAT'S SOLD. BUT IF THEY'RE NOT, WATCH OUT."

—an executive at Moody's Investor Service

THE DOLLAR'S RECENT WOBBLER ARE "A REFLECTION OF PRESIDENT CLINTON'S PROBLEMS, WHICH AMERICANS SHRUG OFF BUT FOREIGNERS TAKE MORE SERIOUSLY. FOREIGNERS SEE IT AS WEAK PRESIDENT, WEAK DOLLAR."

—a senior currency strategist at Deutsche Bank in London

"THIS IS A SERIOUS GLOBAL EMERGENCY... IT'S LIKE HURRICANE BONNIE. THESE PROBLEMS ARE NOT OF OUR OWN MAKING, AND THEY ARE BEYOND OUR POWER TO ELIMINATE."

—Greg Mastel of the Economic Strategy Institute

bonds and other "confidence shakers," America is becoming increasingly vulnerable to the devastating effects of foreign capital flight.

Look at Russia's continuing dilemma, where foreign investors expected a 100 percent return on investment, but now will be lucky to receive 20 cents on the dollar! Investors, in droves, have pulled up stakes and run in sheer panic! The resulting catastrophe shows that foreign capital flight implodes an economy, drying up the international loans and credit needed for survival, leaving nothing but a devalued and bankrupt skeleton with vultures picking the last shreds of financial meat off the bones!

Financial Feeding Frenzies

Jesus Christ, in Matthew 21:12-13, called many of the currency speculators (the "moneychangers") of His day nothing but thieves, and in the last 2,000 years that has become even more accurate. TRILLIONS of dollars per day are exchanged on today's world currency markets. That amount of money attracts every kind of con-artist and crook known to mankind. And every possible innuendo and financial sleight-of-hand is used to take advantage of the naïve and inexperienced.

The economic problems plaguing Hong Kong reveal the financial blood-sucking and highly speculative advantage-taking which has been at the heart and core of the Asian, and now global, financial meltdown. The Economist of August 22 states, "The [Hong Kong] monetary authority's aim [by intervening in their falling stock market] was to slap down hedge funds [speculators] that had been shorting shares (selling borrowed shares in the hope of buying them back later at a lower price). As

central bankers see it, these funds have been playing a no-lose game. First they short shares. Then they sell Hong Kong dollars [causing a surplus and thus lower value in the HK dollar], which, under the rules of the territory's currency board, automatically shrinks the money supply [takes HK dollars out of circulation to end the surplus] and pushes up interest rates. The higher rates then suck money out of the stock market [into then higher-interest bonds, for example], driving [stock] prices down and creating profits for the short-sellers...."

Once the scent of blood is in the nostrils of currency speculators, the piranhas of the worldwide monetary system, there is no mercy shown to the hapless victim. Any dirty trick in the book is used, as efficiently as razor-sharp teeth in a feeding frenzy, to strip every ounce of value possible from an economy and its currency.

When a greed-driven feeding frenzy begins, ever-increasing numbers of investors begin pulling their money out of the ill-fated economy for fear that their money will also be consumed by the voracious financial predators. The more successful the attacks, the quicker foreign capital flees in panic, until finally nothing of value is left to consume and no international credit dares to make itself available to try to save the economy and currency from collapse. And so the financial feeding frenzy proceeds around the globe from victim to victim to victim until the momentum of the frenzy itself is strong enough to topple even the strongest economies.

Nightmare Scenario for U.S.

Reuters News Service on August 24 released a story entitled "Global

Meltdown Poses Nightmare Scenario for U.S." It stated, "A nightmare scenario is threatening to unfold for the global economy that could be beyond the reach of U.S. policymakers.

"The financial crisis that started in Asia last year once looked manageable, but analysts warned on [August 24] it may turn into a GLOBAL EPIDEMIC. Billions of dollars in international emergency aid have failed to contain the turmoil. There is hardly an emerging market left that has been spared. Russia's economy is crumbling fast, and now Latin America threatens to become the next victim.

"This is a SERIOUS GLOBAL EMERGENCY," said Greg Mastel of the Economic Strategy Institute, a Washington-based think tank. "It's foolish to think that this problem is going to go away overnight." [U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert] Rubin has warned time and again that U.S. prosperity and jobs, among the greatest achievements of the Clinton administration, could be at risk if Asia's economic sickness infects other emerging economies.

"The speed with which it is spreading around the globe has left U.S. policymakers scrambling for new solutions. But as they struggle to keep up with the crisis, officials are running out of fresh ideas. 'I don't think there's really much left that Washington can do,' said Jay Bryson, international economist at First Union Corp. 'Nothing really sticks out that they haven't tried yet.'...

"An IMF-led \$23 billion bailout package for Russia, concluded a month ago, unraveled faster than Washington could have forecast even in its worst-case scenario. What's more, the IMF's kitty has been all but emptied out, leaving the international community ill-

SFM COX UPR
58 5s4 7s10 22s

WHAT TO WATCH

"THE ASIAN CRISIS IS OFF THE RADAR SCREEN OF HISTORY IN ITS SERIOUSNESS, SCOPE AND EVENTUAL POTENTIAL TO DO SEVERE DAMAGE TO THE [U.S.] ECONOMY."

—Alan Sinai, chief global economist at Primark Decisions Economics, Inc.

prepared financially for whatever problem might spring up next....

"The Asian crisis already has caused the U.S. trade deficit to soar, and all that combined with a collapse of wobbly Latin American economies might all of a sudden ring closer to home than most Americans would like. 'It's like hurricane Bonnie,' said Mastel, referring to the storm [which recently smashed] the eastern U.S. seashore, 'These problems are not of our own making, and they are beyond our power to eliminate.'"

Can America Really Be Next?

The WSJ of July 7 predicts, "Just when it looked as if the U.S. economy may have escaped serious harm from the one-year-old Asian financial crisis, ECONOMISTS SEE TROUBLE AHEAD: They say the brunt of the crisis will hit the U.S. during the next six to nine months [by the end of 1998 or the first quarter of 1999]."

"By an overwhelming majority, the 55 economists participating in The Wall Street Journal's latest semiannual forecasting survey named the Asian crisis as the major threat facing the U.S. economy and believe that a deep and prolonged recession in the world's most populous continent [Asia] will prompt U.S. companies to slow production and reduce employment levels.

"The Asian crisis is off the radar screen of history in its seriousness, scope and eventual potential to do severe damage to the [U.S.] economy,' says Alan Sinai, chief global economist at Primark Decisions Economics Inc. 'We see a scenario of falling export sales, rising inventory levels and slower domestic sales as American consumers substitute imports for domestic prod-

"WATCH THEREFORE, AND PRAY ALWAYS THAT YOU MAY BE COUNTED WORTHY TO ESCAPE ALL THESE THINGS THAT WILL COME TO PASS, AND TO STAND BEFORE THE SON OF MAN."

—Luke 21:36



WATCH THE U.S. STOCK MARKET

WILL STOCKS CONTINUE THEIR RAPID DECLINE? That could mean consumer spending, which accounts for about two-thirds of America's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), will also dry up, sending the U.S. and the world into a deflationary spiral unparalleled since the 1930s.

WATCH THE EURO

IN JANUARY, 11 OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S 15 MEMBER NATIONS will adopt a single currency. Will it spur stronger economic growth or produce economic and political paralysis? Bible prophecy says this European economic system is destined to replace America as the economic leader of the world, though only for a short time, until she likewise comes crashing down in financial ruin.



WATCH THE YEAR 2000 PROBLEM



CALLED "Y2K," THIS DEBACLE MAY HAVE A SIMULTANEOUSLY devastating effect on the world banking and business systems because it reads the new century as "00" instead of "2000." These problems will begin to show up in 1999 as future dating in computer databases becomes more of a problem.

ucts. Corporations will respond to the weakness by cutting back on workers."

Another major problem is surfacing in that America's dependence on foreign capital to finance her ever-widening trade deficit comes at a time when foreign investors are buying fewer Treasuries.

Sales of U.S. bonds finance America's national debt and provide the government with operating capital. That sad state of affairs has been going on for the last 15 years. Yet that is all changing. Foreign investors' appetite for Treasuries is falling along with U.S. bond yields, or returns on investment.

In the first quarter of 1998, foreigners purchased a net \$11.8 billion of Treasuries. As recently as the fourth quarter of 1996, that figure was \$92.7 billion.

With a growing current account (trade) deficit expected to reach in excess of \$200 billion in 1998, compared to \$155 billion in 1997, America needs to attract growing quantities of foreign capital, but in the face of declining confidence in America's President and in its stock and bond markets, as well as the USA's inability to end her own and the world's falling economic conditions, it is becoming much more diffi-

WHAT TO WATCH: WATCH THE SPREADING EFFECTS OF ASIA'S CRISIS—IT'S GROWING WORSE.

U.S.—IMF

WILL THE U.S. CONGRESS approve funding for the International Monetary Fund or will it recognize that the IMF's prescriptions are killing their patients?

RUSSIA

WILL IT STABILIZE after its bankruptcy, or must it rely on nuclear weapon and technology sales to rogue nations in order to beef up its economy?

CHINA

WILL IT DEVALUE ITS currency, the yuan, thus causing more currency devaluation throughout Asia and the rest of the world?

JAPAN

WILL IT RESCUE ITS economy and pull Asia out of financial trouble, or will the yen and the Nikkei stock exchange be like an anchor around the world's neck?

LATIN AMERICA

ARE THE LATIN AMERICAN economies, particularly Venezuela and Brazil, falling deeper into collapse, revealing the spreading tentacles of the Asian crisis?

SOUTH KOREA

WILL SOUTH KOREA and Thailand finally show signs of recovery, or will they also sink like the Titanic and take billions of the international community's dollars with them?

HONG KONG

CAN IT HOLD ITS currency peg to the U.S. dollar, or will currency speculators win the struggle and destabilize the world for their own profit?

cult to attract foreign investors to America's life-blood, the U.S. Treasury bond.

Where the Money Is Headed

News reports around the world are headlining the fact that American and foreign investors alike, flush with cash, are betting on the rising star of Europe. Industry Week of July 6, in an article entitled "U.S. Slowing and Europe Growing," talked "of Europe overtaking the U.S. to become the long-term-growth-rate LEADER among the world's industrialized economies."

Most of the 55 economists (30 of them) mentioned above in the July 7 WSJ semiannual forecasting survey "believe that Europe will be the fastest-growing international market in the next 12 months." An American economist with typical arrogance and naïveté is quoted in that issue as saying, "The U.S. might suffer harm by losing some of its reserve currency status, but we should more than offset that by selling to a strengthening customer [Europe]."

The Far Eastern Economic Review

of August 27 says, "The fact that the euro will be the currency of the world's most important and powerful trading and economic bloc—backed by an independent central bank—WILL INSPIRE CONFIDENCE." The article then all but blames the ongoing Asian financial meltdown on America by saying, "It's a question of rebalancing global monetary relations.... There is an imbalance between the United States' economic and commercial role and the influence of the dollar. And this imbalance creates instability—of which the recent Asian experience is one example."

Another article in that same Far Eastern Economic Review states that the advent of the euro "signals a seismic shift in the world economic system—the kind of reordering that comes about only a few times each century and which hasn't been seen since 1972, when the Bretton Woods system of fixed [currency] exchange rates collapsed." The article says later that "thinking and dealing in euros...could quickly erode [Asia's] heavy reliance on the dollar."

Investor confidence is aimed at a German-led Europe, the new darling of the monetary world, and away from America, the self-centered, overconfident and spendthrift wench. The powers of Europe will control world economies and will produce confidence in her to the point of awe. Flying on the heels of that confidence in Europe will be investor capital, seeking the highest possible return on investment, regardless of consequences for the rest of the world.

Foreign capital flight is on the horizon for America, yet Americans, in all their haughtiness, refuse to see it coming. America is going to be blindsided and totally shocked when she is REJECTED by the investors of the world. In fact, foreign capital flight is one of the primary mechanisms whereby America will be ABANDONED by her former "lovers."

The Fall of Israel

The identity of biblical Israel is one of the major keys to unlocking the truth of your Bible. In this 20th century, the

Church of God has proclaimed that identity to the world for over 60 years. Without an understanding of the identity of biblical Israel, approximately 90 percent of your Bible will be a mystery to you. Primarily, America and the British nations around the world are the modern-day descendants of ancient Israel. To receive more on the fascinating truth about this subject, please write for your free copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* by the late Herbert W. Armstrong.

Isaiah 46:10 says that God foretells the future of mankind. II Peter 1:20 states that “no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.” And John 10:35 tells us that “scripture cannot be broken.” God’s word stands as the **ONLY GUIDE TO SURE TRUTH!** Understanding that truth requires a humble mind which is yielded to being taught.

Jeremiah 4:30 reveals God’s word concerning a time when Israel will try to make herself appear financially attractive to other nations, but all in vain. God says, “And when you [Israel] are plundered, What will you do? Though you clothe yourself with crimson, Though you adorn yourself with ornaments of gold, Though you enlarge your eyes with paint, In vain you will make yourself fair; **YOUR LOVERS WILL DESPISE YOU; THEY WILL SEEK YOUR LIFE**” (New King James Version).

America is rapidly entering a time when she will need to entice her “lovers” back to her with high interest rates and other economic premiums which will cost the U.S. hundreds of billions of dollars. Just look at Russia and the many other nations which have recently spent their wealth in futile attempts to attract foreign capital back to their shores. Why would anyone think America is different? To do so is nothing but vanity. America is not immune to the lessons of history, nor able to defy the prophecies of the Living God!

Jeremiah 30:12-15 clearly reveals **WHY** America and the nations of Israel receive this fierce punishment. “For thus says the Lord [to Israel]: Your affliction is incurable, Your wound is severe. There is no one to plead your cause, That you may be bound up; You have no healing medicines. All your lovers have forgotten you; They do not seek you; For I [God] have wounded you with the wound of an enemy, with



HAGGAI 1:6 PROPHESES THAT Americans will earn “wages to put into a bag with holes.” In fulfillment of that prophecy, American savings today are at record lows and personal bankruptcies are at record highs.

The personal savings rate of Americans has dipped to 0.2 percent, meaning only two-tenths of one percent of income goes into savings—the lowest rate since the government began tracking savings on a monthly basis in 1959.

At the same time that savings have fallen, 1.4 million Americans filed personal bankruptcy in 1997; almost 40 percent higher than in 1996 and over twice the total for 1990.

the chastisement of a cruel one, for the multitude of your iniquities, because your sins have increased. Why do you cry about your affliction? Your sorrow is incurable. Because of the multitude of your iniquities, because your sins have increased, I have done these things to you.”

National sins and leadership scandals are a stench in the nostrils of the Eternal! And what is worse is that the people of America **DON’T CARE** as long as their gods of money and economic well-being are satisfied. But the riches of this world are going to be stripped from Israel to leave her bare and naked in all her shame! (See Ezekiel 7:19; Luke 23:30 and Revelation 6:15-16.) God’s word says that soon their false gods will desert them, and, along with the rest of the world, they will be throwing their money into the streets and crying out for death to end their torment!

Ezekiel 16:35-39 describes Israel’s desolation. “Now then, O harlot [Israel], hear the word of the Lord!

Thus says the Lord God: Because your filthiness was poured out and your nakedness uncovered in your harlotry with your lovers, and with all your abominable idols, and because of the blood of your children which you gave to them, surely, therefore, I will gather all your lovers with whom you took pleasure, all those you loved, and all those you hated; I will gather them from all around against you and will uncover your nakedness to them, that they may see all your nakedness. And I [God] will judge you as women who break wedlock or shed blood are judged; I will bring blood upon you in fury and jealousy. I will also give you into their hand, and they shall throw down your shrines and break down your high places. They shall also strip you of your clothes, take your beautiful jewelry, and leave you naked and bare.”

Israel, led by America, is going down if she doesn’t repent. God is her judge, and He will **NOT** be denied! His prophecies are true and will surely come to pass! Because of America’s meteoric fall from unprecedented heights, all nations on earth are about to go through a time of world trouble like no other time has been or ever will be (Matt. 24:21; Dan. 12:1).

God has promised in His word that, if America does not repent, He will drive her down into the dirt so that she **WILL** finally repent and see herself for what she really is: as Isaiah 40:15 says, nothing but a drop in the bucket of history!

God’s Mercy Extended

After the lessons of these terrible times are written in the annals of human history, God, in all His mercy through His Son Jesus Christ, will show mankind the way to perfect peace and economic well-being.

Gone will be the cunning and predatory currency speculator. Gone will be greedy investors, willing to do anything to net a profit at the expense of others. Nations and people will learn the loving way of “give” and will reject the selfish way of “get.”

Jesus Christ is going to return to this earth in only a few years to teach mankind the way of God’s loving government. All of mankind who learn those marvelous lessons from God will finally find the harmony and happiness that has eluded us throughout history! ♦

◆ RUSSIA

Backlash against the West

News from Russia looks bleak. Still suffering from aftershocks of the Soviet Union's collapse in 1989, the country is neck-deep in economic and governmental instability which could have serious global consequences.

After a slight reprieve in 1997, Russia's near-decade-long economic contraction resumed this past summer, inflamed by the growing Asian financial crisis. Her gross domestic product began to fall in May and got progressively worse until an 8.2 percent slump in August. Inflation is soaring, with consumer prices up 43.3 percent in the first half of September.

Meanwhile, post-communist Russia is suffering from her worst harvest in 40 years. 1998 is bringing in about half

the grain yields gathered in 1997. As yet, the resilient Russian people are weathering the shortage fairly peacefully, but with winter looming, more serious hardship lies in store, and some are anticipating a major explosion of popular anger.

Many Russians are looking for scapegoats. In a backlash against the democratic steps Russian governments have tried to take, an anti-Western, Orthodox-nationalist-communist alliance is rising, and they are unafraid to point fingers at Western influence.

This backlash is asserting itself in various ways.

Russian-Iranian relations have been strengthening since the USSR's demise; the new government has made it

clear that's the way things will continue. Russia's new foreign minister, Igor Ivanov, says they will "vigorously follow" the expansion of their partnership. Iran's sole interest in Russia lies in her weaponry. Russia seems more intent on re-asserting itself in the Middle East at U.S. expense.

Russia's tensions with the West are also on display over the Kosovo crisis. The U.S. is using NATO to force Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic into accepting a diplomatic resolution. Russia has emphatically stated that any use of NATO force in Yugoslavia would be "an unmitigated threat to the Russian Federation." Leonid Ivashov, from Russia's Defense Ministry, claimed

that Russia would change its partnership with NATO and seek "possible new military allies to maintain the necessary military balance."

Granted—with its current woes, Russia itself may not pose much of an immediate



Protesting NATO in Russia

threat to international security (its economy is producing not much more per year than Spain). But the anti-Western revival will find willing collaborators which could cause more serious problems, particularly in the Middle East.

Russia possesses 70,000 nuclear warheads mounted on missiles capable of reaching sites in the U.S. within an hour of a decision to launch them. Graham Allison of the Washington Post says there are another 12,000 nuclear weapons in storage facilities, "protected by guards whose salaries have been delayed for months."

As authority crumbles in Russia, it becomes increasingly easy for rogue states to get their hands on some of this arsenal.

Also at risk is the security of the nuclear and military know-how Russia has acquired. Cutbacks will find 45,000 workers from Russia's nuclear and military industries laid off before year's end. Some analysts fear the brain drain could easily flow into volatile areas like Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Libya and Syria. ◆

◆ MALTA

The EU's new prize

On September 5, the Maltese electorate ousted their socialist government, formally led by Alfred Sant. The Labor Party leader was previously voted in during elections in October 1996. Replaced now by the conservative leader of the Nationalist Party, Eddie Fenech Adami, Mr. Sant's anti-European Union Labor Party will sit in opposition to the pro-EU conservatives. Shortly before his taking office as Malta's new Prime Minister, Fenech Adami renewed his commitment to pursuing EU membership.

Throughout history, Malta has been a strategic Mediterranean sea gate to numerous nations under which it has suffered invasion and forcible possession. The Maltese people's stoic endurance under the Nazi siege during World War II was recognized by King George VII in his awarding the whole island nation the Victoria Cross for bravery.

The real power brokers in the EU recognize Malta's importance as a strategic Mediterranean gateway. Already they are moving to give Cyprus, a crucial gateway for

The Sentry Post, overlooking Valletta Harbor in Malta



Europe to the Middle East, early entry to the European Union.

With both Cyprus and Malta in the EU camp, it would only remain for the Union to take over Gibraltar from British control for them to possess the three prime choke-points controlling access to and the movement of shipping throughout the entire Mediterranean. The liberal-socialist government of Tony Blair yet may prove to be the facilitator of this handover of the final link in this chain of Mediterranean sea gates formally possessed by Britain [biblical Ephraim] in fulfillment of the promises of God to the seed of Abraham (Gen. 24:60). ◆

◆ AUSTRALIA

Bankruptcy down under

Australia is waking up to an economic nightmare. It is a nation living high on the hog, enjoying the best of first-world standards in her lifestyle and trying to pay for it on a third-world budget. National consumption simply cannot be matched by the means to finance it. In short, Australia is broke—bankrupt!

The combined impact of the loss of her traditional British and European markets, plus the huge wage push since the 1970s, has finally caught up with Australia's 17 million population. The country has literally priced itself out of its markets.

Having hitched itself over the past decade to the East Asian region, the combined impact of high wages at home, cheap Asian imports and the effect of the Asian economic meltdown on the Aussie dollar has decimated the Australian economy. The effect has been a weak and vulnerable exchange rate, declining commodity prices impacting her huge mineral reserves, per-

sisting trade and current account deficits, increased external debt and a net increase in external liabilities. The Aussie dollar has devalued by 21 percent over the past 18 months. By September 1997, her huge net external liabilities amounted to US\$199,550.

The Australia of today lives on cash flow and does its best to bury its head in the sand to ignore its liability to those who've underwritten its gluttonous consumptive habits. To match its net external liabilities, Australia's foreign-exchange reserves would need to grow by more than 15 times their present rate. The effect of the Australian dollar's devaluation, combined with continuing repayments on existing foreign debt obligations, is setting the nation's government an impossible task in attempting to steer Australia through the rough economic seas ahead. ◆



Just Paper: Aussies are facing a currency devaluation and the bankruptcy of their nation.

◆ ECONOMY

A rude awakening

For those who have brushed aside dire financial warnings from smaller publications like *The Trumpet*, the October 12 issue of *Newsweek* must have been a rude awakening. Mainstream is now concerned.

Newsweek offered this explanation for why so many news sources have been slow to issue a wake-up call to the impending global financial meltdown: "One reason that few economists predict a recession is that the consequences are hard, EVEN HORRIFYING, to contemplate. If strapped countries can't sell to the American market, their prospects will deteriorate—and that would further hurt the U.S. economy through still lower exports. Indeed, almost everything would get worse if there were a U.S. slump."

How typical of Western analysts. The fact that the consequences of a global financial meltdown are HORRIFYING to contemplate is why mainstream should have been sounding the alarm long ago! ◆



◆ TECHNOLOGY

Cosmic dust devil



November 17 and 18, many satellite engineers and communications companies will have a watchful eye on the heavens. That's when the earth passes through this cosmic cloud of debris, causing an event called a Leonid meteor shower.

Space-based communications platforms, navigation systems, scientific experiments and military spacecraft all will face their greatest threat in two separate waves of inbound space dust travel-

ing over 155,000 miles per hour. The particles, smaller than a grain of sand, pose no threat to the surface of earth (they will burn up in the atmosphere miles above the ground). But for satellites in orbit, they pack the same destructive punch as a bullet fired from close range.

Nobody can say for sure how many of the more-than-500 satellites currently in orbit will be affected; speculation runs the gamut from conservative warnings to doomsday predictions. The United States House of Representatives Committee on Science issued a recommendation stating, "While it is very unlikely that the storm will have any major effect on satellites, the 'A-team' of controllers should be on duty during the time of the storm, and operators should check

the state of health of their satellites frequently, looking primarily for electrical anomalies and glitches. It was also recommended that, if possible, satellites be oriented so that sensitive components are shielded from the oncoming stream of particles, and that recovery plans be in place should there be a spacecraft system failure during the storm."

The meteor storm of 1998 should prepare the engineers for the second wave due to hit in November 1999. The timing of that wave comes at an unsettling time—just weeks before the year 2000 (Y2K) computer glitch. Disaster could abound if Y2K has the comprehensive impact many are predicting, especially if the problem is compounded by loss of spacecraft in the Leonid meteor shower. If the meteors wreak serious damage, the resultant loss of communications will only deepen the impact of Y2K. ◆

God Doesn't Charge Interest

How would God solve the economic problems of the world today?

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

THIS IS A MATTER OF FINANCE, NOT religion, an economist might say after reading this issue of *The Trumpet*. The fact that many assume God is silent on financial matters reveals just how ignorant most are of what the Bible actually says.

God's Ancient Nation Israel

A little more than 3,500 years ago, God led the children of Israel out of Egyptian slavery and made these captive people a new nation. To His chosen people at the base of Mount Sinai, God said, "And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel" (Exod. 19:6). Yes, God was restoring true religious worship to this kingdom of priests. But He was also raising up a nation—the nation of Israel.

God told the Israelites He would be their King if they would agree to obey His commands. "And all the people answered together, and said, All that the Lord hath spoken WE WILL DO" (v. 8). So what did this nation, we should ask, agree to? Above all, the Ten Commandments. These were the ten broad principles God gave to regulate human life—to regulate how people lived. In God's nation, all subjects were required to put Him, their Creator, first. Six days the Israelites were commanded to work hard—producing fruit, making money. On the seventh-day Sabbath, God commanded them to rest—to remember the Sabbath, to keep it holy. In this nation, God did not tolerate disobedient children, violence, lying, cheating, stealing, cursing, adultery, fornication

or lusting after your neighbor's goods. The intent of these ten principles of living can be summed up in two great commands: love God above all (first four); and love your neighbor as yourself (last six). In short, abiding by these laws meant living the way of love, or give.

Most people are familiar with these broad commands known as the Ten Commandments. Most people are not, however, familiar with the fact that God also revealed hundreds of lesser laws to Israel, in addition to the Ten Commandments, which had to do more with national affairs. Israel, remember, was a nation!

These lesser laws were known as statutes and judgments—a civil law that magnified the ten basic principles. In the Ten Commandments, God commanded Israel to love God first. How? Well, among other things, by faithfully observing His annual holy days, laws explained in the statutes and judgments (see Exod. 23:14-16; Deut. 16).

In addition to the annual holy days they were to observe, God went so far as to teach them what they could and could not eat (Deut. 14:3-21). There were other health laws and basic rules of hygiene. There were environmental laws—how to care for fruit trees, when to plant crops, when to rest the land, what to do with the fruit yielded during a land Sabbath, even laws designed to protect nesting birds. There were property rights written within the civil law. Laws which regulated the work force—building codes to prevent unsafe, slipshod construction; even worker's compensation. There were laws of just recompense—paying a neighbor back for damaging his property (love your

neighbor as yourself!).

And on top of all that, there were economic laws. To Israel, God revealed a definite and practical economic system—a system unlike anything you've ever known. To begin with, God told them to tithe one-tenth of their earnings—their increase—to Him. He was their God, the Creator of all things. He gave Israel everything they had and only asked for one-tenth back for the purpose of supporting church and national affairs. Beyond the tithe, God revealed dozens of lesser economic laws which He expected His nation to abide by.

Borrowing and Lending

In today's society, there are two classes of people: creditors and debtors. Most fall within the second group. It's hard to imagine our society without loan officers, interest rates and monthly payments. Homes, cars, appliances, furniture, vacations, even groceries—you name it! Just put it on credit. The increasing ease with which we can purchase goods and services on time payment at heavy interest has led to a ballooning debt. The national debt in America has escalated to an incomprehensible \$5.5 trillion. Individually, America's consumer debt, largely because of credit cards, is not far behind at \$1.4 trillion (not including home mortgages).

The reason we are now steeped in financial quicksand is because we have been living the way of get! Government officials who took out huge loans in the 1970s and '80s did so because they wanted "good times" to continue. Few involved acted on selfless concern for other parties or for future generations that would have to repay the debts.

Even today, in this so-called '90s boom, the fundamental reason behind the Federal Reserve lowering interest rates (which at first glance might seem selfless) is so that people might keep taking out loans to buy things! Who among us might honestly say, even at the risk of losing his job, "We're coming upon tough times, so let's all work hard to save our money and get out of debt"? Instead, "educated" men tell us that everything is going to be all right—just keep spending. And we do, at least in the United States. Americans now save less than one quarter of one percent of their incomes! That does not bode well for a country on the brink of a recession or worse.

The United States bubble economy, still floating by consumers willing to spend what banks are willing to lend, but increasingly weighted by an ever-expanding, irreversible debt, is about to burst! It's all heading toward a disastrous end. As God said in Proverbs 22:7, "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender." As any debtor knows when he can no longer make payments, it is the bank, the lender, that actually owns the car or the house that has not been paid off. What happens when America can no longer make its payments? At that point, all will finally see where decades of selfish living have led us. The way of get does not work.

The guiding principle in God's society, on the other hand, is the way of give. God's financial laws are based on this premise. First, above all, give your tithe to God. But what about giving to your neighbor? Did God make provisions anciently for giving loans? For borrowing? Yes, He did!

In Exodus 22:25, God said, "If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be to him as a creditor, and you shall not exact interest from him" (Revised Standard Version). Several things to notice here. First, it says "if you lend." So it was permissible to offer loans, if you were able. Creditors were commanded to be generous and giving, yet wise and prudent, not loaning more than they were able. Second, loans could be given to the poor, the Hebrew word meaning humble and needy. So if a poor Israelite had genuine needs—not wants—he could ask for a loan. (Loans were not given to those who just wanted to buy things.) And finally, the loan was interest-free!

What a difference that is from today. In fact, God took it one step further. God told those able to loan money to give freely to the needy even if they might not be able to repay! That's because God said He would repay the lender if the poor borrower couldn't (Deut. 15:10; Prov. 19:17). God is the greatest giver of all!

Jesus Christ taught this same principle, or law, in the New Testament. "And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your re-



J. JAMES TISSOT

Ancient Israel's Finance Lessons

Through His servant Moses, God instructed Israel in a definite and practical economic system. The guiding principle? Like everything else in God's law, it is based on the way of give.

ward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:34-36).

Now God is not advocating giving handouts to those who don't deserve it. To the debtor, God says, if you are truly humble and in need, go ahead and seek a loan, but then do everything possible to repay it. To the creditor, God says, if you are able, loan to the needy at no interest, and don't worry if they might be unable to repay. You see, God doesn't take sides with either group—lenders or borrowers. He advocates give for both sides. How utterly different than what we are used to today.

A Sabbath Release

God's economic laws were not only designed to reward hard work and wise financial decisions, they were set in motion to prevent poverty—something this world has never been able to do. (In fact, the '90s "boom" has done nothing to eliminate poverty. The gap between the rich and poor is increasing, not decreasing.)

In Deuteronomy 15, knowing the long-term destructive effects of increasing debt, God inserted a safety valve within His economic system. It's called the Sabbath year of release. Every seventh year, as commanded within Israel's civil law, all short-term debts were canceled. The balance, as we have seen above, was paid in full by God Himself.

God told the Israelites to be careful not to take advantage of this safety valve. The Sabbath release was instilled to prevent poverty, not to allow free-spending. In Deuteronomy 15:7-11 God cautioned lenders not to despise

God on Economics

God on loans

"IF THOU LEND MONEY TO ANY OF my people that is poor by thee, thou shalt not be to him as an usurer, neither shalt thou lay upon him usury [interest]."

Exodus 22:25

God on the debt

"AT THE END OF EVERY SEVEN years thou shalt make a release. And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbour shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the Lord's release."

Deuteronomy 15:1-2

God on land hording

"AND YE SHALL HALLOW THE fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.... And if thou sell ought unto thy neighbour, or buyest ought of thy neighbour's hand, ye shall not oppress one another...but thou shalt fear thy God: for I am the Lord your God."

Leviticus 25:8-17

the poor because the seventh year draws near. Again, God admonished both lenders and borrowers to abide by the principle of give.

Additionally, Israel's civil law set forth provisions to make sure each citizen owned property. If, by chance, an Israelite came upon hard times and had to sell his land and work as a servant for another (whatever it took to repay his debts), he could rejoice in the fiftieth year when his debts would be freed. It was called the year of the jubilee! (Lev. 25:8-17). On that year, not only were the debts canceled, the Israelite returned to his forfeited real estate. The creditor returned his property to him!

How decidedly different that is from today. God's law prevented generational poverty. It protected future generations from the mistakes and mismanagement of their fathers.

Now there was one notable exception to this rule concerning real estate in cities (Lev. 25:29-31). According to this law, if someone sold urban property to an investor, the seller could buy it back within a year of the sale. After that, however, if it wasn't redeemed, the property belonged to the buyer permanently. But as for rural land, at least in God's nation, every citizen was given his fair portion. And if, by chance, through mismanagement or to pay off a debt, a citizen had to sell his rural estate, it was returned to him in the year of the jubilee.

Why Poverty and Debt

Perhaps now when you read of Israel's response to God when they were assembled together at the foot of Mount Sinai, you will better grasp what they agreed to. They agreed to abide by, and obey, all of God's commandments, His statutes and judgments. They agreed to practice and teach these laws to their children so that the resultant blessings and prosperity might pass on from generation to generation.

Yet if we jump forward hundreds of years in the story, we find Israel again in captivity—the worst poverty imaginable—because they failed to obey all of these commands! And every nation since has also disobeyed these financial laws, not to mention the Ten Commandments. Thus, we live in a society where poverty is increasing and the gap between the rich and poor is widening; a society where every 50 years or so there's a depression, not a

jubilee; a society where there is runaway inflation and skyrocketing interest rates; a society where national economies collapse.

Shame on Israel for not heeding God's commands, whether in finance or any other law God set in motion. And shame on every nation today for not learning the lesson of history. The nations of this world are almost totally ignorant of God and His laws.

Today, secular governments and chief financial economists determine and ratify the same kinds of laws you have read about in this article, except most all of those laws are based solely on the way of get. And where have these laws and this way of get led us as a civilization? To the brink of worldwide financial ruin. And when economies crumble, social, political and religious upheavals soon follow.

God has allowed man to live the way of get for 6,000 years now. And He has allowed it all for a supreme purpose—to finally teach man a lesson he will never forget. The soon-coming, international economic crisis is the trigger that will set off a worldwide nuclear conflagration, the likes of which mankind has never seen (Matt. 24:21-22). Yet after our financial bubble bursts, after all of our property is forfeited to creditors, after three-and-a-half years of being servants and slaves in the Tribulation, there will be cause for rejoicing.

Millennial Jubilee

Jesus Christ will return and restore God's government over all the earth. As King, He will administer and enforce God's commandments, statutes and judgments. This world will be given a fresh start. The problems of the world will be solved; the wounds healed; the debts canceled.

Notice Luke 4:16-19: "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are

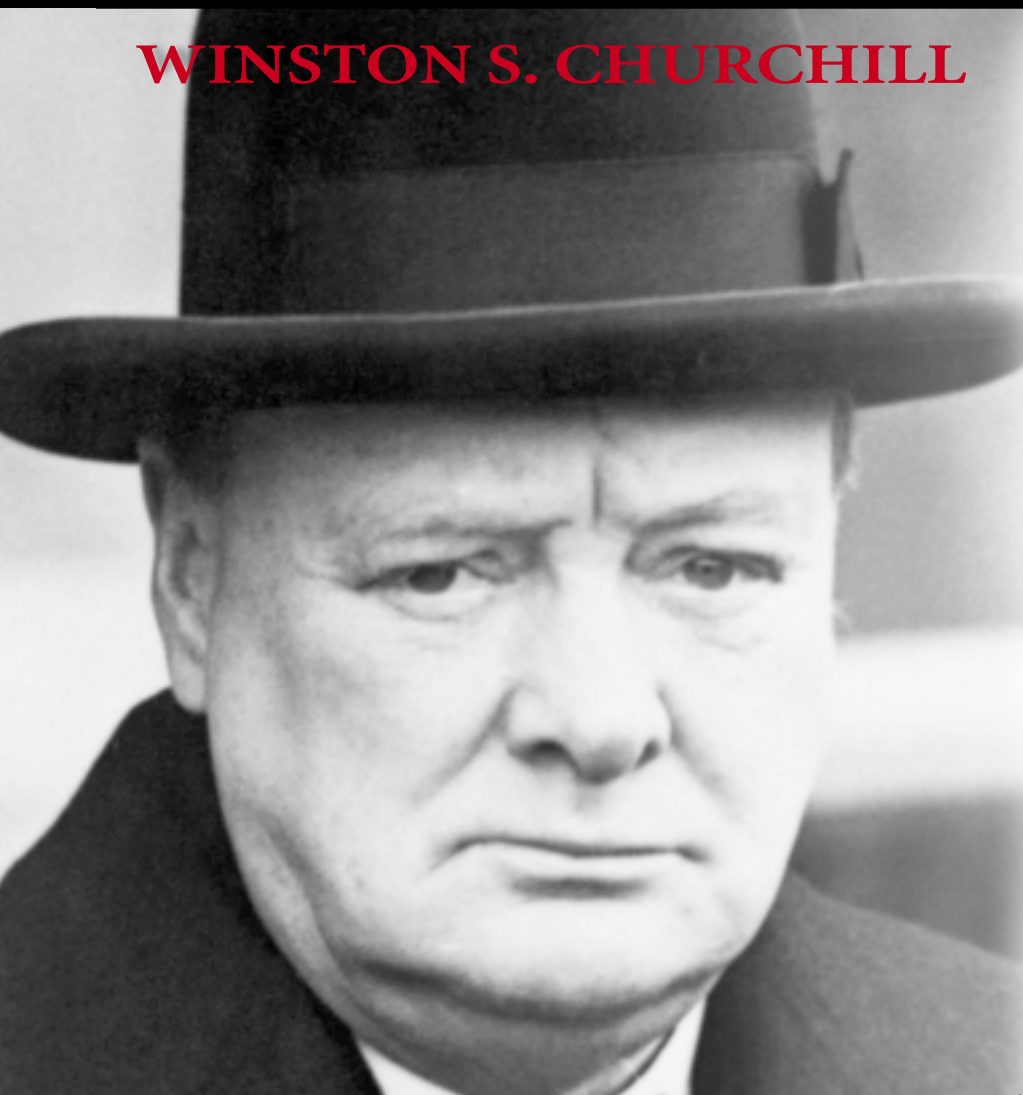
bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Christ was quoting Isaiah 61:1-2. And the last part of that quote, "the acceptable year of the Lord," is an allusion to the jubilee year. But He's talking about a much greater jubilee—a millennial jubilee.

Imagine! This time around, Christ will raise up His spiritual nation, Israel, to be built on the foundation of the same laws He revealed thousands of years ago. And Christ will begin this millennial reign by first restoring the jubilee! Everyone will have a clean slate financially—all debts will be canceled. Christ will then determine fair and equitable boundaries in which all will live. All will be given their fair portion—their inheritance. Micah 4:4 says every man shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree. In God's nation, all citizens will own property. And as God always intended for ancient Israel, all laws, including financial laws, will be based upon the supreme law of love—the way of give.

We should point out that, anciently, Israel did charge reasonable interest rates on short-term loans to foreign countries. But they were a carnal people who did not have God's Spirit. They didn't have God's love. In the World Tomorrow, however, God will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. All will be expected to live the way of give. No more interest on loans. No more skyrocketing inflation. No more poverty that grows worse with each passing generation. No more financial disasters like what has happened in Russia. No more recessions.

There will be peace, happiness, prosperity and abundance for all mankind. What a beautiful time that will be! If you would like an in-depth look into this future utopia, defined in Acts 3:19 as the "times of refreshing," please ask for your own free copy of *Mystery of the Ages*. The final chapter of this 363-page book gives a concise, yet detailed, description of this coming age. Most people do not know how much the Bible describes this refreshingly new society. *Mystery of the Ages* puts these many biblical passages together in one uninterrupted narrative so that you might understand the Bible. Write for your free copy today to get a glimpse of tomorrow's world—a time when God's economy will be set up to prevent poverty and reward those who work diligently. ♦

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL



THE WATCHMAN PART TWO

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT ACTED like the German dangers were abating in 1935. Winston Churchill, however, warned that the dangers were growing worse.

Churchill stated on July 9, “There lies before us a period of strain and peril which I do not think has been equalled—no, not even in the Great War [World War I]...”

Hitler continued to make and break treaties. Some Europeans condoned his doing so. Others even praised him.

Then Britain made a Naval Agreement with Germany. The British leaders and people rejoiced. Here is what Churchill said about the treaty on July 11, 1935 (emphasis mine throughout): “I cannot feel that this German Naval Agreement is at all a matter for rejoicing. I remain still under this impression, that the one great fear of Europe is the power and might of the rearmed strength of Germany, and that the one great hope is the gathering together of Powers who are conscious of that fear.”

The British leaders kept hiding from the “one great fear of Europe”—Hitler. Churchill warned that the one great hope was uniting with other nations who had the courage to face their fears.

The people were easily deceived, because they didn’t want to face the painful truth. They were looking for signs of hope which were only delusions.

Hitler used such tactics as the Naval Agreement to lull the British people to sleep. They took it as a positive sign, because they were so weak. This caused them to reject Churchill’s warning and return to their pleasures. Hitler was playing them like a fiddle.

Most people will not face their national fears. It takes strong leaders, like Churchill, to clarify and stir the people to confront the critical issues—where the people’s energies should be focused. If they lack that leadership, then the people continue, like the Titanic, until a great disaster strikes and perhaps destroys the nation. Britain and the free world came dangerously close to that end in World War II. Have we forgotten?

“During the election campaign [Prime Minister] Baldwin effectively dashed Churchill’s hopes that rearmament would become a leading Conservative election cry. In its own Manifesto, the Labor Party had accused the Conservative Party of endangering world peace by ‘planning a vast and expensive rearmament program.’ Speaking to the Peace Society on October 31, Baldwin answered this accusation by declaring: ‘I give you my word there will be no great armaments....”

“‘There may be Governments deliberately planning the future, leading reluctant or unsuspecting people into the shambles. It sometimes looks as if it were so. I confess that in my own political experience I have not encountered Governments possessed of all these malevolent qualities.’...”

“Churchill, however, throughout his campaign at Epping, and at Hull and Biggleswade, continued to press for much greater rearmament, and to warn of the aggressive nature of Nazism. Writing in the Daily Mail on November 12, two days before the poll, Churchill declared, in contrast to Baldwin’s view: ‘Terrible preparations are being made on all sides for war,’ and he added: ‘I DO NOT FEEL THAT PEOPLE REALIZE AT ALL HOW NEAR AND HOW GRAVE ARE THE DANGERS OF A WORLD EXPLOSION. Some regard the scene with perfect equanimity; many gape stolidly upon it, some are angry to be disturbed by such thoughts in their daily routine

CORBIS

and pleasures” (Martin Gilbert, Winston S. Churchill—The Prophet of Truth, p. 684).

Prime Minister Baldwin later admitted that he PUT HIS OWN POLITICAL INTEREST AHEAD OF THE NATION’S WELFARE! And his country came perilously close to death. The people wouldn’t face Churchill’s warning until it was almost too late. He talked about the possible “end” of Britain’s glories. But the people did not want to think about the bloody dangers of a world explosion. They didn’t want to be disturbed from their comfortable routine and pleasures. So they voted for politicians who spoke to them about more pleasures and a prosperous world.

The same is true today. WE FACE A FAR WORSE WORLD EXPLOSION. But we are too glutted on sports and entertainment to heed a strong warning. As Churchill said, history continues to repeat itself! We have not learned from the powerful lessons of World War II.

The Bible prophesies that our enemies in the end time are going to be more sophisticated and subtle than Hitler was. We are going to be betrayed and attacked by our “lovers,” or allies. And this in the midst of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons! (Write for our free booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.)

That means we can’t afford the kind of mistake we made with Hitler. We must learn from that disaster or face a far greater catastrophe!

Mr. Churchill’s writings just before World War II could teach us some vital and urgent lessons.

As in World War II, if we fail to heed the warning, then we must experience the indescribable disaster of a nuclear World War III!

The Great Delusion

The British leaders kept rejecting the facts about Germany’s accelerating military strength. But Churchill kept proclaiming the facts and having his views reinforced by events.

Churchill said, “I do not mention this to claim demonic powers for myself, but only to remind you of the very long and careful thought I have given to these questions, and that it has sometimes been vindicated by the results.

“Another instance occurred last year in November 1934 when I drew attention to the secret growth of the German military air force, and made

certain statements about its strength relative to our own. These statements were disputed by Mr. Baldwin, who I presume after full consideration of all the Intelligence information at the disposal of the Air Ministry, put forward other statements. But only a few months later in the spring MR. BALDWIN WAS FORCED TO CONFESS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WITH THEIR OFFICIAL INFORMATION WERE WRONG, ADDING, ‘WE WERE ALL IN IT.’ Here then was a case in which an independent outside judgment was proved to be nearer the truth than the estimate from the Government based on all their secret sources” (ibid., p. 702).

This was a stunning revelation to the British people and many in Parliament! The Prime Minister and all of his cabinet had to confess that they were wrong. Winston Churchill, an outsider, was right.

The government, with all of its secret sources, committed a nation-threatening error. The big question is, WHY? They put themselves and their party ahead of the nation’s welfare. They lacked the courage to face the hard truths. THESE “INTELLIGENT” MEN WERE LEADING THE NATION, AND THE WHOLE WESTERN WORLD, TO ITS DEATH!



This is a common mistake in the history of governments. Can

“ I DO NOT FEEL THAT PEOPLE REALIZE AT ALL HOW near and how grave are the dangers of a world explosion. Some regard the scene with perfect equanimity; many gape stolidly upon it, some are angry to be disturbed by such thoughts in their daily routine and pleasures.”

we trust our government? Our leaders? Only in proportion to their passion for the truth!

This is the lesson we should be learning from Winston Churchill and World War II. There is something dangerously flawed about man’s governments and human reasoning. BEING DECEIVED LEADS TO THE DEATH OF NATIONS. This is not a subject to be taken lightly!

Only Churchill stood in Nazi Germany’s way. He was our watchman who warned all of us what was coming. We were barely awakened before it was too late.

Mr. Churchill had secret sources who would send him many of the extreme statements from Hitler’s speeches which were not printed in the German press. Then he believed what Hitler said and warned accordingly. That seems simple enough, but most people didn’t believe Hitler’s words about war and destruction. That would have meant disrupting their thinking about pleasure and prosperity. That is why they became the victims of a towering delusion.

The British leaders wanted Churchill, their watchman, to go away. Even one of his friends, Duff Cooper, said, “One would have thought that at Winston’s present age, and after holding so many high offices, he would have been content to settle down philosophically to become an elder statesman and to devote himself to letters” (ibid., p. 705).

Churchill was 62 years old in 1936. Most people wanted him to be a more passive elder statesman and a quiet man of letters!

Parliament didn’t want anyone to upset their smooth-running machine. They wanted to believe that there was only peace and prosperity ahead. But Churchill warned of the MOST DANGEROUS TIMES HIS NATION HAD EVER FACED—even worse than World War I!

Britain didn’t need another elder statesman or man of letters. They needed a man who would deliver a thunder-

ous message about the danger of Nazi Germany!

Perhaps no leader has ever been more scorned by so many leaders and people as Churchill was in those pre-war years. But he was never deterred—never discouraged. He kept warning because he loved his nation and his people.

Winston Churchill had been a soldier for many years of his life. A warrior attitude was manifested in his political life also. So this man had the courage to withstand a most withering attack from his own people.

Most leaders would have faltered because of a weak will. This is where the whole nation failed. They followed their leaders. They (and America) lacked the courage to face the brutal truth in the early days of Hitler's reign. In time, Churchill was able to strengthen their will through his strong warrior spirit. He believed that every British citizen should be willing to die, choking on his or her own blood, before surrendering to Adolf Hitler.

must not be a man who would warn about a coming war. And he must have little interest in the military of Britain or Germany! Their idea of a defense minister was a man who would be easily controlled. In short, he must not be a leader!

Hitler knew how weak the British people were. So he decided that his troops should march.

"That same week, grave events were taking place in Europe. On March

glorious opportunity to help Churchill watch and warn. Instead, they made Churchill's job much harder!

This is a subject most people in the press don't want to discuss today. That is because, generally speaking, they were so wrong about Germany and Churchill before World War II.

The press failed to learn a crucial lesson. Therefore, don't expect them to

WHERE DO WE SEE A WATCHMAN LIKE Churchill today? Where is there a man who will stand up and challenge the whole government during this time of unparalleled danger?

Where do we see a watchman like Churchill today? Where is there such a man who will stand up and challenge the whole government? And even the entire nation? Where is there a political leader who has the character to boldly proclaim to our people that they have degenerated into the sewer—at a time when the world is filled with unparalleled dangers?

I see no such leader in the U.S. or Britain.

German Troops March

Some people wanted Churchill to be made the Minister of Defense. But he was not the kind of defense minister those in power wanted.

"After today's debate,' Sir Maurice Hankey wrote to Sir Warren Fisher, 'I am afraid we have got to make some concession for a Minister of Defense. What I want is something that will work and not upset the psychology of the whole machine.' Both Hankey and Warren Fisher—the two most senior civil servants, were determined that THE NEW MINISTER SHOULD NOT BE A DISRUPTIVE INFLUENCE. 'THE MINISTER SHOULD BE A DISINTERESTED TYPE OF MAN,' Warren Fisher wrote to Neville Chamberlain on February 15, 'with no axe to grind or desire to make a place for himself'" (ibid., p. 706).

They wanted a Minister of Defense who would speak to them of "smooth things." A man who would help perpetuate the grand delusion of continuing peace and prosperity. Certainly he

7 Hitler ordered German troops to cross into the demilitarized zone of Germany. Within hours, the Rhineland, whose demilitarized status had since 1919 provided France and western Europe with at least the illusion of security, became the potential starting point for any German aggressive action westwards. Two days after the remilitarization of the Rhineland, the House of Commons debated the Defense White Paper. For the Labor Party, Clement Attlee moved the rejection of the Government's proposals on the grounds that they were too bellicose, and would contribute to world unrest" (ibid., p. 710).

Germany had just violated a treaty they made after World War I, which they also started!

Germany marched, and the House of Commons debated and did nothing. The British were fearful of being "too bellicose," or warlike, in their words—not deeds!

Germany's aggressive military move clearly pointed toward war. Still, the British didn't want to contribute to "world unrest" by opposing Germany, even with their words—certainly not by military action!

The Times newspaper, perhaps the best in the world at that time, had a headline which proclaimed, "A Chance to Rebuild." The Times discussed rebuilding just before the greatest destruction this world has ever experienced! This world-famous newspaper helped lull people to sleep. They had a



be receptive toward a strong warning today about a dangerous and militant Germany rising once again in Europe, which is about to shatter the peace of this world.

America, Britain and most of the entire world opposed the breakaway of Croatia and Slovenia from Yugoslavia. But Germany and the Vatican approved it. The world caved in to Germany's views.

This started a civil war in Yugoslavia. Warren Christopher, U.S. Secretary of State at that time, said Germany had a certain responsibility for CAUSING that war.

He was quickly silenced because of pressure from Germany. Most of the press also kept silent.

Today America, Britain, Germany and most of Europe (NATO) are ready to launch an attack against Yugoslavia because of what is happening in the state of Kosovo.

We are not trying to defend the brutal acts of the Serbs, but how much of this Yugoslavian unrest was caused by Germany, the nation most responsible for the Yugoslavian civil war?

And we should not forget that Yugoslavia was our ally against

Germany in World War II. GERMANY ALONE HAS TURNED ALL OF THAT AROUND TODAY.

A powerful Germany is back and bullying the world again. But as in World War II, most people want to ignore it. We are too involved in our sports and pleasures to be bothered.

How can our leaders and the press keep virtually silent when they know that Germany caused World Wars I and II? And both of those WORLD wars are still in the memory of some older people.

On reading one of Churchill's speeches, Sir Clive Morrison-Bell wrote to him: "It is quite one of your best I think. You are so right about not being MEALY-MOUTHED just now; the tone everywhere is far too APOLOGETIC, and YOU SEEM TO BE ALMOST THE ONLY PERSON WHO EVER SPEAKS OUT" (ibid., p. 721).

Isn't the tone in Britain and America apologetic and "mealy-mouthed" today? Who is there that speaks out with a strong voice in foreign policy?

Many critics say America's military has been gutted in the last few years.

The leaders and people had become their own worst enemy!

On April 13, he wrote his wife: "WE ARE REALLY IN GREAT DANGER" (ibid.).

Does it make sense to think we can confront dictators without weapons, or if we have weapons, without the WILL to use them?

As the danger grew worse, the British Parliament showed more peace films and kept resisting a strong defense! And if it hadn't been for Churchill, they would have been "smashed up."

The British leaders lacked the WILL

CHURCHILL SAW THAT HIS NATION WAS NOT mentally and physically prepared for war.

General David A. Bramlett, who recently left as commander of the U.S. Army Forces, said, "We do not have enough money in forces to maintain readiness." Senator Jim Inhofe of Tulsa said that "the military has been stretched to the limit and that readiness is on the verge of collapse." Today America has about 50 percent of the air power that we had at the time of the Gulf War. And only a little more than 60 percent of those machines are READY for action. So that means we really only have slightly more than 30 percent of the air power ready for action that we had for the Gulf War!

That is one of the main ways we created a budget surplus.

Today we lack the WILL to even prepare for a possible war. That means we certainly lack the will to fight a war!

At the same time our enemies are growing in military might.

Churchill wrote on April 9, 1936, "It seems a mad business to confront these dictators without weapons or military force, and at the same time TO TRY TO TAME AND COW THE SPIRIT OF OUR PEOPLE WITH PEACE FILMS, ANTI-RECRUITING PROPAGANDA AND RESISTANCE TO DEFENSE MEASURES. Unless the free and law-respecting nations are prepared to organize, arm and combine, they are going to be smashed up. This is going to happen quite soon. But I believe we still have a year to combine and marshal superior forces in defense of the League and its Covenant" (ibid., p. 722).

to even prepare for war. They certainly lacked the will to lead in such dangerous times. Weak men will never face the brutal facts until it's too late.

A few more people were beginning to see that Churchill was right. "Three months later, at an Independent Labor Party summer school, Eleanor Rathbone declared: 'I have described Winston Churchill as a new recruit to pro-League forces. Watch that man carefully. You may feel distrustful. So did I. I'm not certain yet. BUT I ASK YOU TO DISPEL PREJUDICE AND CONSIDER FACTS. Churchill for three years has pointed out extensive German rearmaments. Later facts have justified his estimates" (ibid., pp. 722-723).

Those people who listened closely to Churchill's message and watched the terrifying events unfold knew he was right about Germany.

Surprise Attack?

Churchill saw that his nation was not mentally and physically prepared for war. He gave this warning in 1936: "Europe is approaching a climax. I believe that that climax will be reached in the lifetime of the present Parliament."

"At the end of his speech Churchill called for a Ministry of Supply, or a Ministry of Munitions, to provide the necessary armaments in good time. As he told the House of Commons: 'Surely the question whether we should be working under peace conditions depends upon whether working under those conditions will give us the neces-



Only two years after World War II, Germany was left to denazify themselves. Still our peoples vainly hope that a militant Germany won't resurface in this dangerous nuclear age. Like little children, we act as if the problem will go away if we ignore it.

Where is our Winston Churchill today?

Have we really learned any lessons from that recent and most destructive war ever in history? If we haven't learned some lessons from World War II, then our future is very bleak.

No Time to Lose

The danger was intensifying in 1936. Still, only Churchill was playing the watchman role.

sary deliveries of our munitions—upon whether the gun plants and the shell plants and, above all, the airplane factories, can fulfill the need in time. If they can do so, then peace conditions are no doubt very convenient; but if not, then we must substitute other conditions—not necessarily war conditions, but conditions which would impinge upon the ordinary daily life and business life of this country. There are many conditions apart from war conditions—preparatory conditions, precautionary conditions, emergency conditions—AND THESE MUST BE ESTABLISHED IN THIS COUNTRY IF PROGRESS IS TO BE MADE, AND

nals and the red lights are flashing. But people are prone to ignore their watchmen until it is too late.

Churchill was accused of having a “strong anti-German obsession.” Sometimes we are so accused. But some of our own members are German. We believe in facing the truth. Those who fail to do so are going to learn by the sledge hammer of events!

“What woke them up was a series of horrible shocks, and intelligence from every quarter streaming in.... If I read the future aright, Hitler’s government will confront Europe with a se-

Churchill to lead the Western world to victory.

But there is no Winston Churchill to lead us to safety this time. God is not going to save us again unless we repent (v. 11).

We can’t hide and escape from the series of shocking events that are about to bombard America and Britain!

“Churchill was one of the speakers at a Raleigh Club dinner, telling the assembled students and dons: ‘When I came to Oxford to make a speech, five years ago, I said you must re-arm. I was

TODAY WE LACK THE WILL TO even prepare for a possible war. That means we certainly lack the will to fight a war!

IF PARLIAMENT AND THE NATION ARE NOT TO FIND THEMSELVES DELUDED IN THE FUTURE BY MERE PAPER PROGRAMS AND PROMISES WHICH IN THE RESULT WILL BE FOUND TO BE UTTERLY UNFULFILLED” (ibid., p. 727).

What a deep lesson in this statement! If only we would so examine every phase of our individual lives and the life of our nation today, we would not be easily deluded. You can tell so much about people by how easily they are deceived. Deceit is our main enemy. THE WHOLE WORLD IS DECEIVED ABOUT TRUE LEADERSHIP AND GOD (Rev. 12:9). But who really believes that today?

America and Britain are deeply deceived about leadership today. And we are facing a greater crisis today than World War II! The very same nation—Germany—is going to trigger that crisis—just as they did in World Wars I and II! (Write for our free booklet *The History and Prophecy of Germany*.)

War is ready to explode in Europe and the Middle East. The global economy is on the verge of collapse!

The time for polite words is past. It is time for the blunt truth.

Churchill said, “Something quite extraordinary is afoot. ALL THE SIGNALS ARE SET FOR DANGER. THE RED LIGHTS FLASH THROUGH THE GLOOM. Let peaceful folk beware. It is a time to pay attention and to be well prepared” (ibid., p. 731). And so it is today. The danger sig-

ries of outrageous events and ever-growing military might. It is events which will show our dangers, though FOR SOME THE LESSON WILL COME TOO LATE” (ibid., pp. 732, 733).

He read the future beautifully. But most people still didn’t listen to his words and awaken until it was almost too late!

Prime Minister Baldwin publicly accused Churchill of a serious lack of judgment. But events eventually revealed who had good judgment.

Ezekiel is an end-time prophetic book. God prophesied that He would send a watchman (Ezek. 33:6-7). That is the good news. But there is also some very bad news. “And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come,) then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them” (v. 33). The people don’t recognize the watchman until it is too late physically. They ignore his words until they are in the midst of a nuclear disaster.

Churchill once said, “There is a purpose being worked out here below.” He sensed that God was working out His plan. And so He is. God even used



Present-day warnings
Senator Jim Inhofe

“THE MILITARY HAS BEEN STRETCHED TO THE limit and that readiness is on the verge of collapse.”

laughed at. I said we must make ourselves safe in our island home, and then laughter arose. I hope you have learned wisdom now” (ibid., p. 742).

Did Oxford learn a lasting lesson from Winston Churchill? No! Has higher education today learned from Churchill’s World War II experience? Mostly they scorn his political views today. Would they listen to a Churchill today? The answer is no! They would treat him just like they did in World War II—only worse! If he were alive he would have some strong views on what is happening today in Germany, and other monstrous problems facing the world.

Some people also laugh at our warning today. But God prophesies that the laughter is about to be totally silenced!

(continued on page 28)

The Sabbath: Only for the Old Testament?

Using the New Testament alone, can you prove that the Sabbath is still in effect today?

BY RYAN MALONE



WE LIVE IN A COUNTRY THAT celebrates religious freedom. Visit many cities, any college town especially, and you will most likely find several different buildings used for worship—a Muslim mosque, a Jewish synagogue, and numerous Christian churches. Of course these religions are vastly different. The most obvious way they differ is the actual day of the week their buildings are used for worship. The Muslims worship on Friday, the Jews on Saturday and the Christians on Sunday. But still, the majority of Sunday church-goers really haven't proved why they worship on Sunday.

Ask any member of the Christian faith why he or she attends worship services on Sunday, and you'll receive a variety of answers. The Bible says to go to Church on Sunday, one might respond. But you, being the astute Bible student, point out that there are a significant number of passages in this Book that command observance on the seventh day of the week. Now, watch the responses. Some will reason that the seventh day of the week is Sunday—assuming that it has been that way since the Bible was canonized. But probably a more convincing argument and, by far, the most popular is: the Sabbath was only for the Old Testament.

Point out any contradiction to their theology with the Ten Commandments, and they will quickly retort that that was under the Old Covenant. The general rule they follow is, if it's in the Old Testament, it's out of the equation. They reason that because they are Christian, and follow Christ, and He came about in the NEW Testament, that makes anything before His birth irrelevant to the Christian faith.

Is the seventh-day Sabbath just for the Old Testament? Does the Sabbath stand a chance if we only use the latter half of our Bible? Let's tie one hand behind our backs and prove the Sabbath using only the New Testament!

We'll do this by dividing the New Testament into three parts: the time of Christ—seeing whether or not He kept the Sabbath, the time after Christ—just in case some argue that certain things were nailed to the cross, or that a possible Sunday resurrection might have changed things, and the time we live in right now—seeing if we are still required to keep it “in the '90s.”

A sincere Christian usually looks heavily toward Christ as the example in everything, hence the common Bible-belt phrase: What would Jesus do? That is a good question. But a better might be, What DID Jesus do? Did Christ keep the Sabbath? If so, that should certainly prick someone's conscience.

“And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught” (Mark 1:21). So one has to admit, Christ kept the Sabbath. But was this just a one-time event? He did come to preach the gospel, and maybe this was His only chance to preach it to the Jews in Capernaum.

Notice: “And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read” (Luke 4:16). Here is Jesus Christ of Nazareth back where He grew up, where He was trained, where He learned ABOUT THE SABBATH as a child. This is where the custom developed.

It's easily provable that Christ kept the Sabbath and, in fact, that it was His custom to do so. But notice, even further clinching it, Mark 2:28: “Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.” Christians believe that Christ existed, as spirit, before His physical

birth. Therefore, He was part of the creation of the Sabbath. In fact, since God created all things through Him (Eph. 3:9), Jesus Christ actually CREATED the Sabbath!

What about the time after Christ? He came, kept the Sabbath, was crucified and resurrected. Did Christ do away with the Sabbath? Was it “nailed to the cross”? Many believe He was resurrected on a Sunday, and that is precedent enough for the church to change its day of worship. How do we answer these arguments? We must go to our second division of the New Testament. Did the Church after Christ keep the Sabbath?

The most prominent figure in the New Testament, simply due to the quantity he wrote, is Paul. Surely, within his 14 epistles plus the book of Acts—written by Luke, but mostly about Paul—we can find something about which day he worshiped.

First, there are many who believe we should observe Sunday because of references to the first day of the week in this part of the New Testament. Let's consider the “first day of the week” argument.

There are eight New Testament passages that contain the phrase “first day of the week,” the word “day” not even being in the original Greek any of those times. Acts 20:7 is probably the verse most refer to: “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.” Yes, Paul preached, and the disciples broke bread—meaning they ate a meal on the first day of the week. And remember, in the Bible, the day begins at sunset (Lev. 23:32). Here the disciples are eating a meal at night, since there were “many lights in the upper chamber” (v. 8), and Paul spoke “until midnight” (v. 7). If

this was the first day of the week, it had to have been Saturday night, for if it were Sunday night, it would already be the second day to Luke, the writer of these verses. Concluding his stay in Troas (v. 6), Paul was departing “on the morrow,” or on the next morning. He was merely meeting with the disciples to have one last meal and speak to them one last time before leaving the next day.

The other seven passages that refer to the first day of the week, if they even allude to God’s people coming together at all, do not give any evidence whatsoever of Sunday being a day of worship. The late Herbert W. Armstrong, a minister of God and founder of Ambassador College, was challenged about the Sabbath early in his life. In his book *Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?*, he examines each instance the New Testament refers to “first day of the week,” and proves that no worship services were held on this day. Refer to this book for deeper study into these passages. You may be able to locate a copy in a used bookstore.

In fact, others realize that these eight passages give no precedent for a day change—the Catholic Church among them: “You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day we never sanctify” (Cardinal Gibbons, *Faith of Our Fathers*).

Now let’s prove which day Paul actually kept. “Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures” (Acts 17:1-2).

Here Paul is keeping the Sabbath. And he kept it with the Jews, meaning that this was the SEVENTH DAY of the week, as the Jews have always observed. Understand, this wasn’t a one-time deal. He did it “three sabbath days.” And he didn’t do it simply because he was in town for three weeks, and it was convenient. Luke wrote, “as his manner was.” The word for “manner” is the same Greek word Luke used when he wrote “custom” in Luke 4:16. So just as it was Christ’s custom to keep the Sabbath day, it was Paul’s—years after

Christ had been resurrected!

There is also an account in Acts 13 where Paul preaches to both the Jews AND Gentiles in the synagogue—on the Sabbath, which proves that it wasn’t just for the Jews. In fact, the Jews were offended by Paul’s message, and “the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath” (v. 42). If Paul kept Sunday as well, why didn’t he just tell the believing Gentiles to come the next day (Sunday) where he’d preach at the Christian Church? The fact is, Paul was a

***Here Paul is keeping the Sabbath, “as his manner was.”
So just as it was Christ’s custom to keep the Sabbath, it was Paul’s—years after Christ’s resurrection.***

Christian who, like the rest of the New Testament Church, observed the Sabbath. “And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God” (v. 44).

Yes, this is all very convincing, one might argue. But it’s the ’90s! Could God and the resurrected Jesus Christ expect us to observe the Sabbath in this fast-paced, hustle-bustle society? The way to answer this is by looking at prophecy to see if people in the future will be keeping this day.

Matthew 24 is referred to by most Bible scholars as the “Olivet prophecy,” where Christ privately discussed with His disciples the time just prior to His return. Notice, concerning the end time, Christ says to these very elect, “But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day. For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (vv. 20-21). God is offering His very elect protection from this Great Tribulation. And he tells them to be concerned about two things when they travel: the winter and the Sabbath.

Now, if the skeptics can see that winter is still in existence in the end time, why do they believe the Sabbath wouldn’t be? Even if some doubt that we actually live in the “end time,” they cannot dispute that these verses refer to the time right before Christ returns. So, even if that time is far off, we know that the Sabbath will continue to be in effect until that point! AND THOSE WHO ESCAPE WILL BE CONCERNED AS TO HOW THEY KEEP IT.

We have seen that Christ kept the Sabbath while on earth. The New Testament Church after Him did as well. We have also seen that the Sabbath is to be in effect up until the return of Jesus Christ.

The Sabbath is not only for the Old Testament, but is still in living effect today! Those who once closed their minds to the Old Testament can now GO BACK to this half of the Bible and see why and how to observe the Sabbath. They can go back to Genesis and see how God put His presence in this day, thus making it holy (Gen. 2:1-3). They can see that the depth and meaning of this weekly observance goes far beyond merely entering a building.

The Sabbath means resting from the labor of the week and remembering the Creator. But, more importantly, it typifies a time of REST from this hectic world, of which Satan is now deceiver and god (Rev. 12:9; II Cor. 4:4). The 6,000 years Satan has had man in his grasp are a type of the six-day work week, since 1000 years is as one day to God (II Pet. 3:8). When Christ returns to stop mankind from erasing himself from the face of the planet (Matt. 24:21-22), He will rule this earth for 1000 years (Rev. 20:4-6)—the seventh day of God’s 7,000-year plan. It will truly be a rest from the great deceiver, who at that time will be restrained in a bottomless pit (vv. 1-3). And it will be a time when the Sabbath will be kept (Isa. 66:23)—a time when its true meaning couldn’t be any more evident!

On top of the ample proof we have seen from the New Testament alone, there is enough vision attached with it to clinch the argument that we must observe this day. It was one of the Ten Commandments delivered thousands of years ago at Mt. Sinai (Exod. 20:8-11) and commanded to be kept forever (Exod. 31:13). Our very salvation depends on this commandment! ♦

GARY RETHFORD

The Measure of Humility

A Thanksgiving message



ONE OF AMERICA'S GREATEST PRESIDENTS WROTE, "Therefore, I, ... President of the United States, do appoint the last Thursday in September next, as a day of humiliation, prayer and fasting for all the people...in all humility, and with all religious solemnity, to the end that the united prayer of the nation may ascend to the Throne of Grace, and bring down plentiful blessings upon our country.

"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed, this 12th day of August, A.D...."

Humiliation, prayer and fasting! A day of humility! What a perceptive man this President had to have been to see the need for a day of humility for the American people.

Herbert W. Armstrong noticed this tremendous attribute in this President and commented, "How far from God has our nation gone since that Proclamation was signed, in 1861, by Abraham Lincoln."

The act which brought President Lincoln to see the immediate need for the nation to be humble was precipitated by a shot from a heavy mortar fired against Union Fort Sumter at 4:30 a.m. on April 12, 1861. This was the act which began the American Civil War.

Volumes have been written on what the war was about. Many theories have been postulated as to causes: economics, slavery, politics, states rights. Possibly more important, however, was the intended purpose for a civil war.

The basic goal, the main thought which brought about the Civil War, is noted in the banner headlines of the Charleston Mercury, which shouted, "EXTRA: Passed unanimously at 1:15 o'clock, p.m., December 20, 1860. An ordinance to dissolve the Union between the State of South Carolina and other states united with her under the compact entitled 'The Constitution of the United States of America.'

"We, the People of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordained...that the union now subsisting between South Carolina and other states, under the name of 'The United States of America,' is hereby dissolved.

"THE UNION IS DISSOLVED!" (American Heritage...History of the Civil War, 1960).

There, stated, was the intended purpose of the Civil War: to destroy the Union of the United States.

Abraham Lincoln was never confused about this purpose. As he rode to his inauguration on that chilly and cloudy day of March 4, 1861, he was already a dedicated man. With his address in hand, he ascended the platform and delivered a speech which few look to, today, as one of his best—but one which is nonetheless as impressive in its composition as any he gave.

At the conclusion of that inauguration speech, he issued a grave warning to those in attendance. "In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine," he said, "is

the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail you. You can have no conflict, without yourselves being the aggressors. You have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the government, while I shall have the solemn one to preserve, protect and defend it."

Our own history is a testimony that his words went unheeded by the vast majority. And so, as the guns of war erupted in the surrounding countryside and as civil war tore a nation asunder, President Lincoln called for a day of humility by the American people.

A Need for Humility Today

President Lincoln recognized the grievous need for God's intervention in human affairs in the 19th century. We should recognize this need today. We all would profit from submitting to a day of fasting and prayer, because, as a nation and individually, we suffer from a lack of humility.

As world events rapidly advance toward the arrival of God's government upon this earth, the need for godly humility has become more and more apparent.

"God's law," Herbert Armstrong once wrote, "regulates human relationship—with God, and with neighbor. God's way is love—outflowing concern for the good of others—humility, obedience to God, cooperation, serving, sharing with neighbor. Satan's way (this world's way—human nature) is the way of rebellion, competition, strife, violence, disagreement" (Co-worker letter, Jan. 26, 1983).

He said this often. Notice also: "God's government is based on God's law. God's law is love. It is love to God, and love to neighbor. It is serving, helping, sharing. It is humility, love and obedience toward God, loyalty, trust, faith and reliance upon God. Satan turned to iniquity—vanity, lust, greed, spirit of competition and taking, disloyalty, selfishness, jealousy, envy, resentment, rebellion, hatred" (Co-worker letter, May 2, 1974).

Humility toward God provides the ability to work out human problems. Pride destroys that ability.

What are the main characteristics of today's events? Read it in your own news source—if you can access the real happenings going on in the world today. Nation is rising against nation, wars and more wars, hatred and violence, murder, mayhem, pornography, destruction of families, RAMPANT IMMORALITY!

Do we think God doesn't notice? That God won't exact retribution for our filthy abominations? WE NEED TO THINK AGAIN!

We as a people need a day of humility immediately. A day to implore our God to forgive us for turning our backs on Him. We desperately need God's intervention, as a people and as a nation. We should ask ourselves, "When did God ever watch a nation commit the sins we have committed and not take notice?" The answer: NEVER! Whether we believe in God or not, history contains the record for us. Not one im-

moral nation went unpunished—not one. Sodom and Gomorrah are two examples. Rome is another.

In his *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Gibbons wrote, “The first of these periods may be traced from the age of Trajan and the Antonines, when the Roman monarchy, having attained its full strength and maturity, began to verge towards its decline.... The last and longest of these periods includes about six centuries and a half; from the revival of the Western Empire till the taking of Constantinople by the Turks and the extinction of a degenerate race of princes, who continued to assume the titles of Caesar and Augustus, after their dominions were contracted to the limits of a single city; in which the language, as well as manners, of the ancient Romans, had been long since forgotten.”

The truth is, the Roman Empire itself, which was built by conquering weaker and more degenerate societies, and which lasted for centuries, ceased because of degeneracy and debauchery, just as Sodom and Gomorrah. God does take notice—those who fail to heed will not escape.

But while God resists the proud, He gives grace to and protects those who are humble. In Isaiah 66:2, God says, “But this is the man to whom I will look, he that is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word” (RSV).

Being humble means taking God at His word and acting on it. It means allowing God to guide our lives. Striving to follow His way of outgoing love toward others. Loving government and desiring to be governed.

Failing to do so will only bring retribution upon ourselves. And trying to act religious, or behaving in a self-righteous way while actually rebelling against His laws, will not be accepted. Hypocrisy will not be accepted.

Why Thanksgiving?

Abraham Lincoln placed great importance on the attribute of humility. Few today realize that in October, 1864, it was he who proclaimed a day of giving thanks. Neither do we remember why the day of Thanksgiving was instituted, nor how he recommended it be observed. It would be well for us to read those words now.

In part, that proclamation says, “It has pleased Almighty



God to prolong our national life another year, defending us with his guardian care against unfriendly designs from abroad, and vouchsafing to us in His mercy many and signal victories over the enemy, who is of our own household...while he has opened to us new sources of wealth, and has crowned the labor of our working men in every department of industry with abundant rewards.

“Moreover, He has been pleased to animate and inspire our minds and hearts with fortitude, courage and resolution sufficient for the great trial of civil war into which we have been brought by our adherence as a nation to the cause of Freedom and Humanity, and to afford to us reasonable hopes of an ultimate and happy deliverance from all our dangers and afflictions.

“Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do, hereby, appoint and set apart the last Thursday in November next as a day, which I desire to be observed by all my fellow-citizens

wherever they may then be, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to Almighty God, the beneficent Creator and Ruler of the Universe.

“And I do farther recommend to my fellow-citizens aforesaid that on that occasion they do reverently humble themselves in the dust and from thence offer up penitent and fervent prayers and supplications to the Great Disposer of events for a return of the inestimable blessings of Peace, Union and Harmony throughout the land, which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwelling place for ourselves and for our posterity throughout all generations.

“In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Signed, Abraham Lincoln.”

We stand on the brink of world cosmocide. It is time, once again, to “reverently humble ourselves in the dust, and from thence to offer up penitent and fervent prayers for peace, union, and harmony.” It is time, once again, to reconnect the concept of thanksgiving to the great attribute of humility.

Before it is too late, as a nation—as a people—it’s time for a measure of humility toward God, “for ourselves and for our posterity throughout all generations.” ♦

Watchman *(From page 23)*

Only fools laugh at God's warning message!

"Also on June 12, Ralph Wigram sent Churchill copies of three further Foreign Office dispatches dealing with different aspects of Nazism. 'Will you kindly destroy them when you have read them,' he added. 'I have marked the important passages.' Six days later the Duchess of Atholl sent Churchill the transcript of a speech Hitler had made to the League of German Maidens. One paragraph, she pointed out, had been deleted in the broadcast version. In it Hitler had said that if war came, 'I SHOULD FALL UPON MY ENEMY SUDDENLY, LIKE LIGHTNING STRIKING OUT OF THE NIGHT'" (ibid., p. 749).

These words had a great impact on Churchill's mind. He also remembered Germany's history in warfare.

"Churchill...was convinced about the possibilities of surprise in the German organizational framework. Commenting on the 1200 machines and 1114 pilots for whom the Air Staff had located no specific squadron and only non-first-line duties, he wrote, 'This would be amply sufficient to duplicate every one of the 88 squadrons now believed to have been identified. WHEN WE REMEMBER THE FONDNESS EVINCED BY GERMANY IN HISTORY FOR THIS PARTICULAR FORM OF SURPRISE, and note the large number of machines and pilots which seem to have vanished into thin air and the hundred-odd aerodromes which have been constructed, THIS POSSIBILITY CANNOT BE EXCLUDED'" (ibid., p. 754).

He understood GERMANY'S HISTORY OF SURPRISE ATTACKS! The Air Staff fully agreed with him. Germany had been fond of such attacks. AND THIS IS THE METHOD OF WARFARE THEY FOLLOWED THROUGHOUT WORLD WAR II! This happened repeatedly to Hitler's enemy nations and even those who thought they were his friends! (Germany has a powerful Air Force Unit stationed in New Mexico and other military facilities in the U.S. today.)

Still, the British government reject what "might come as a great shock to the country and result in an upheaval of industry." They refused to do what the crisis demanded! Time was running out. ◆

(to be continued)



Crisis in Modern Leadership

“I have been reading The Trumpet. It deeply touches my heart. Thank you for continuing with the Work God did through His servant, Mr. Armstrong.”

John Phiri—Johannesburg, RSA

I THINK IT'S DISGUSTING TO SEE OUR COUNTRY going down so badly. I am a 73-year-old widow and have lived a lot of my life in what used to be a more God-fearing country. It seems the leadership has drifted too far away from the Bible, the book our nation was founded on. What has happened to our God-fearing country? Why have they left God out of their plans? Our country cannot be run correctly without the help of our Father-God. He is the only one who can lead our United States back to being run correctly.

Anonymous

WE OF THE WWII GENERATION STARTED this downside in modern leadership by giving everything to our children instead of making them earn it as we had to during the Depression. These are but a few of the steps leading to the fall of the U.S. I pray God will send us a Leader soon to prepare us for Christ's return.

H.N. Colburn
Spokane, Wash.

I WAS VERY FIRED UP BY THE THEME OF leadership in The Trumpet. I read a huge biography about Teddy Roosevelt years ago which had a strong impact on me when I needed a boost. Also thanks for again sending The Trumpet in French—it reinforces what I read in English. I'm looking forward to what occurs in the German elections and the coverage in the next issue of The Trumpet.

Howard Fleisher
Essex Junction, Vt.

An Explosive Re-education

EVERY TIME I PICK UP YOUR MAGAZINE, I get a unique and explosive re-education concerning events in this nation and world, past and present, along with spectacular biblical lessons and prophecies. On Death Row, I see the futility and utter despair and hopelessness of living the "way of get." Death Row is the ultimate testament to following and pursuing the

values and ways of this sin-fallen world at all costs. I have learned more reading The Trumpet than anything else. Your publication is filled with mind-shattering knowledge which can scarcely be found elsewhere in this modern, godless world. Each issue improves in terms of not only the articles themselves—which are fantastically written and researched—but also the look of the cover and pages.

Jermarr C. Arnold
Huntsville, Tex.

THE TRUMPET, MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, IS better than Time magazine because you look at the world events not with the eye of an average reporter, but also from a biblical perspective. It is really great to read all the extra views you come up with, and all the editors seem to be equally good at it.

La Nucia, Spain

TIME OUT FOR CONGRATULATIONS AND compliments. What I am reading is so well-digested and organized. Each issue I think I have read the best—then I receive another issue and another level of excellence. This is so multi-dimensional. Seems like every base is covered. As I read, it is obvious that input is from a wide variety of sources. I have read three or four of the books quoted.

Hugh Lemen
Bismarck, N. Dak.

The Philadelphia
Trumpet

Letters to the Editor must include the writer's name and address, and should be sent to The Trumpet, P.O. Box 1099, Edmond, OK 73083, or faxed to 405-359-6280 or e-mailed to letters@pcog.org. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

Subscription inquiries can be made by calling 405-340-7474 or writing Trumpet Subscription, P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083. Please provide complete address, including zip code.

THE KEY OF DAVID

TELEVISION LOG



United States

GOODLIFE NETWORK—6:30 am ET, Monday (Nationwide cable) **
KTLA—8:00 am PT, Sunday (Nationwide cable)
WGN—6:30 am ET, Sunday (Nationwide cable)
WPHL—6:30 am ET, Sunday (Northeast United States cable)

Alabama, Montgomery—WFOA 7:00 am, Sunday
Arizona, Phoenix—KSAZ 6:30 am, Sunday
Arkansas, Little Rock—KASN 8:00 am, Saturday
California, Concord—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday
California, Fort Bragg—KFWU 10:00 am, Sunday
California, Fresno—KNSO 8:00 am, Sunday; 9:00 am, Monday
California, Los Angeles—KTLA 8:00 am, Sunday
California, San Francisco—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday
California, San Francisco—KBWB 8:00 am, Sunday **
California, San Jose—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday
California, Sacramento—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday
Colorado, Alamosa—KOBF 8:30 am, Sunday
Connecticut, Hartford—WBNE 6:30 am, Sunday **
Florida, Jacksonville—WTEV 6:30 am, Saturday
Florida, Orlando—WRBW 7:00 am, Saturday
Florida, Tallahassee—WTLH 8:30 am, Sunday
Florida, Tampa—WTSP 7:00 am, Sunday
Georgia, Atlanta—WUPA 7:30 am, Sunday **
Idaho, Boise—KNIN 7:00 am, Sunday **
Illinois, Chicago—WCIU 9:00 am, Saturday
Illinois, Chicago—WGN 5:30 am, Sunday **
Illinois, Decatur—WAND 7:00 am, Sunday
Indiana, Indianapolis—WRTV 9:00 am, Sunday **
Kansas, Topeka—WIBW 6:30 am, Sunday
Kansas, Wichita—KSAS 10:00 am, Sunday
Kentucky, Bowling Green—WKNT 7:00 am, Sunday **
Kentucky, Louisville—WBNA 10:00 pm, Saturday
Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 7:30 am, Sunday **
Louisiana, Shreveport—KMSS 8:00 am, Sunday
Maine, Bangor—WPXT 7:30 am, Sunday **
Maine, Portland—WPXT 7:30 am, Sunday **
Maryland, Baltimore—WUTB 7:00 am, Sunday
Massachusetts, Boston—WFXR 8:00 am, Sunday
Michigan, Detroit—WADL 9:00 am, Sunday
Minnesota, Minneapolis/St. Paul—WFTC 6:30 am, Sunday
Minnesota, Rochester—WFTC 6:30 am, Sunday
Missouri, Cape Girardeau—WDKA 7:30 am, Sunday **
Missouri, Kansas City—KCWE 6:30 am, Saturday
Missouri, St. Louis—KPLR 8:00 am, Sunday **
Montana, Billings—KHMT 7:00 am, Sunday **
New Jersey—WPHL 6:30 am, Sunday
New Mexico, Albuquerque—KOBF 8:30 am, Sunday
New Mexico, Farmington—KOBF 8:30 am, Sunday
New York, Buffalo—WIVB 6:30 am, Sunday
New York, New York City—WWOR 7:00 am, Saturday **
North Carolina, Asheville—WHNS 7:00 am, Sunday
North Carolina, Charlotte—WAXN 8:00 am, Sunday
North Carolina, Kannapolis—WAXN 8:00 am, Sunday
Ohio, Cincinnati—WXIX 7:30 am, Sunday **
Ohio, Cleveland/Akron—WVPX 9:30 am, Sunday **
Oklahoma, Tulsa—KOKI 9:00 am, Sunday
Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCO 6:30 am, Sunday
Oregon, Eugene—KLSR 7:00 am, Sunday
Oregon, Portland—KPDX 7:30 am, Sunday
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WPHL 6:30 am, Sunday
Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh—WPGH 7:30 am, Sunday
Pennsylvania, Red Lion—WGCB 8:30 am, Sunday
South Carolina, Columbia—WOLO 8:00 am, Sunday

South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg—WHNS 7:00 am, Sunday
South Dakota, Sioux Falls—KDLT 9:30 am, Sunday
Tennessee, Chattanooga—WFLI 7:00 am, Sunday
Tennessee, Memphis—WLMT 9:00 am, Sunday
Texas, Amarillo—KAMR 7:00 am, Sunday
Texas, Dallas—KDFI 8:30 am, Sunday
Texas, San Antonio—KSAT 6:30 am, Sunday
Texas, Tyler—KLTV 10:30 am, Sunday
Texas, Wichita Falls—KAUZ 9:00 am, Sunday **
Virginia, Richmond—WRIC 7:30 am, Sunday
Washington, Seattle—KTZZ 9:30 am, Sunday **
Washington, Spokane—KXLY 6:00 am, Sunday
Washington D.C.—WDCA 6:30 am, Saturday **
Wisconsin, Green Bay—WACY 8:00 am, Sunday **

Australia

Network 10—4:30 am, Sunday
—Channel 10, Melb., Syd., 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, Sunday
Alberta/Edmonton—KXLY 7:00 am, Sunday
Alberta/Red Deer—KXLY 7:00 am, Sunday
British Columbia, Prince George—CKPG 8:30 am, Sunday
British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00 am, 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—11:30 am, Sunday

New Zealand

TV3—6:00 am, Friday

Philippines

IBC TV—7:00 am, Sunday

Sri Lanka

Dynavision TV 28—11:00 am, Sunday

Trinidad/Tobago/Grenada

CCN TV 6—7:30 am, Sunday

** Indicates a new station or time change

Check us out.



The Key of David
new television season
begins in November



www.thetrumpet.com
new website
begins as soon as
you flip your computer on
and dial in

PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD
Post Office Box 3700
EDMOND, OKLAHOMA 73083 USA

For a **FREE** subscription, call **405-340-7474**

Please mention code NS11