

# THE PHILADELPHIA **Trumpet**

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**EUROPE  
UNDER  
ATTACK**



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**COVER**  
**Europe is under attack.**  
(GARY DORNING/TRUMPET)



FROM THE EDITOR  
**GERALD FLURRY**

# Russia's War on Ukraine Is Reshaping Europe

One of the Bible's most dramatic prophecies is unfolding before our eyes.

**F**OR THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF, VLADIMIR PUTIN'S Russia has been brutalizing Ukraine in an effort to bring part or all of the nation under Moscow's control.

Putin has been leading a Russian attack on Ukraine since 2014 when he took the Crimean Peninsula and infiltrated eastern areas. In February 2022, he expanded what had been a simmering conflict into a full-scale war.

The violence his forces have unleashed since then has shocked the world. Most of all, it has shocked the people of Europe, on whose doorstep it is taking place.

The amount of *fear* that Russia's attack has generated among Europeans is deeply significant prophetically.

### More Military Might

"The threat perception in Germany changed overnight," German Army Lt. Col. Daniel Andrä said last year, shortly after the full-scale war began. "We felt safe, in the middle of the Continent, surrounded by friends. Now we have a full spectrum war in Europe and we are concerned, especially since we don't know how far the escalation spiral will turn."

As a result of this altered "threat perception," military spending in Germany and other Central and West European nations reached \$345 billion in 2022. That's 30 percent higher than it was a decade ago! In real terms, this amount is even higher than what they spent in 1989, the final year of the Cold War.

Germany is among the main nations pushing this spending surge. Last year, Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced that the country was at a *Zeitenwende*, a "turning point," in military power. "It is clear that we must invest much more in the





security of our country in order to protect our freedom and our democracy,” Scholz said. He promised an extra-budgetary \$105 billion. It changed its policy on armed drones and committed to buying new warplanes capable of dropping nuclear bombs. It also boosted its budgetary defense spending to some \$58 billion, making Germany the world’s seventh-largest military spender.

When Colonel Andrä heard the news of all these changes for his nation’s military, he was shocked. “I didn’t believe what I was hearing,” he said. “All of this would have been unthinkable only four weeks ago. It was historic.”

The *Zeitenwende* was a “turning point,” but less than hoped. The extra \$105 billion was watered down. Scholz said this money would come *in addition to* raising Germany’s defense spending to the

NATO minimum of 2 percent. Instead, even with money from the extra fund, Germany’s military spending is expected to fall short again this year.

But many Germans are clamoring for more. A March poll found that 62 percent of Germans want defense spending to go *beyond* that \$105 billion commitment.

The same type of turning point is happening in other European nations, in some cases to an even greater extreme. In 2022, Poland increased military spending by 11 percent, Sweden by 12 percent, Lithuania by 27 percent and Finland by a stunning 36 percent. These are immense increases that policymakers would have called outrageous before Russia sent all those tanks and troops across Ukraine’s border. Now many think that even these greatly expanded budgets are *still not enough*.

Europe’s fear can also be seen in countries rushing to reintroduce conscription. Most canceled the military draft after the Cold War. But Lithuania reintroduced it in 2015, after Russia invaded Ukraine the first time. In Latvia, conscription will return starting next January. Sweden reactivated its draft in 2017 and began plans to expand it this year. Debates on this are underway in Romania, the Netherlands, France and Germany.

Dr. Diego Lopes da Silva, a senior analyst with the Stockholm International

Peace Research Institute’s military expenditure and weapons production program, said 2022 would be only the start of Europe’s return to militarism. “The invasion of Ukraine had an immediate impact on military spending decisions in central and western Europe,” he said. This “included multiyear plans to boost spending from several governments. ... As a result, we can reasonably expect military expenditure in central and western Europe to keep rising in the years ahead.”

Poland has announced that it wants to boost its defense spending to *4 percent of its economy*—DOUBLE the NATO minimum—by the end of the year. By that time it wants to have finished doubling the size of its armed forces to 300,000, giving it the largest land force in the European Union. It has signed deals to buy 1,000 tanks and 600 pieces of artillery from South Korea. Though these are older, cheaper vehicles, Poland has also agreed to buy 250 upgraded M1A2 Abrams tanks from the United States, as well as 116 M1A1 versions.

A dramatic military revival takes time. But Poland and other European nations are in the midst of one right now.

### Unifying Militaries

Besides building up their national militaries, European leaders are also further combining these militaries with each other.

Over the last decade, partly due to fears of Russia, the Netherlands has merged all three of its combat brigades into the German armed forces. Now, 50,000 Royal Netherlands Army troops are subordinate to German command.

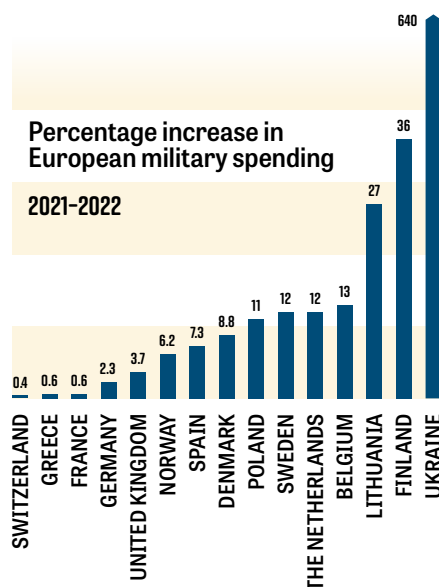
Shortly after the Crimean annexation, the Baltic nation of Lithuania opened its borders for 780 German troops and about 800 troops from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to be stationed there. But now the Lithuanians are saying even that is not enough! In June, plans were announced to permanently station a new brigade of 4,000 German soldiers within its borders. The last time German soldiers had a base in Lithuania was when they were occupying the nation during World War II! To see the Germans back there again—this time at Lithuania’s invitation—is a huge development.

Finland and Sweden are ending decades of neutrality to join NATO, a military alliance of mainly European nations with the United States and Canada. And now that all the Scandinavian

countries are part of NATO, they have signed a joint declaration of intent to create a joint Nordic air force.

Meanwhile, the leaders of Switzerland and Austria have announced plans to cast off their traditional neutrality to join Sky Shield, which is a plan to link missile interception systems across 19 EU countries and create a united European air defense zone. This initiative is led by Germany.

Meanwhile, the Czech Republic’s elite Fourth Rapid Deployment Brigade has been subordinated to Germany’s 10th Armored Division. Romania has directed its 81st Mechanized Brigade to work closely with Germany’s Rapid Response Forces Division.



Notice the nation that is growing more militarily powerful from these various agreements: *Germany!* This is not by coincidence or accident.

In recent years, the Germans have opened up 24 Bundeswehr training facilities to soldiers from other EU countries. German troops staff 55 training centers across Europe. Since the Germans have been laying this groundwork for a long time, it should not surprise us that smaller European nations are now rallying behind Germany and finding ways to led it their own firepower.

The result is that Germany is commanding an increasingly large, increasingly powerful European army. This is all happen-

## Notice the nation that is growing more militarily powerful from these various agreements: Germany. This is not by coincidence or accident.

ing quickly! And it is largely because these countries are terrified of Russian aggression and don't want to be left to face it alone.

Many East European countries endured decades of brutal occupation by the Russians. These countries were annihilated during World War II. They know from recent history what the Russians can and will do—and it fills them with a fear that is hard for us in the United States to even imagine.

### The Far Right Rising

At the same time that Europe is expanding and integrating its militaries, the European people are also voting more and more for far-right leaders. In Germany, the hard-right Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) is surging in power. Italy's government under Giorgia Meloni is more right wing than any since the reign of Benito Mussolini. Far-right leaders and parties are also gaining power in Austria, Finland, France, Poland, Spain and Sweden.

The popularity of the right wing is partly a backlash against “wokism,” migration and other aspects of multiculturalism. These parties generally stand for the opposite: the promotion of Europe's traditional “Christian” heritage and values.

This far-right surge is also partly because of Russia's aggression. When you see your neighbor being pummeled by a nuclear-armed military powerhouse, and it seems that violence could spill over into your nation, you do not want some naive, peacenik government in charge! As the people of Europe see international law and democracy failing, they increasingly crave strong leaders.

### How This Is Fulfilling Prophecy

The *Trumpet* and our forerunner magazine, the *Plain Truth*, have been prophesying for around 80 years that Eastern Europe would become a crucial part of a new European superpower—a resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire that has risen up so many times in Europe.

This prophecy is DIRECTLY RELATED TO RUSSIA'S WAR ON UKRAINE! The *terror* that is gripping so many Europeans because of Russia's brutal invasion is going to cause 10 leaders in Europe to unite their nations or groups of nations dramatically—and in *exact accordance* with the Bible's prophecies about that European empire!

I have written on several occasions about Ezekiel 38:2, which discusses the “prince of Rosh” (New King James Version) and the havoc he will wreak in this modern era. The way this prophecy is now coming to pass is impacting Europeans far more than any other people in the world.

That scripture describes this prince as the head of *Gog*, *Meshech* and *Tubal*—all prophetic names for Russia—along with *Magog*, which is an Asian area that includes China. Who could the man be who is ruler over all of Russia, and who also is positioned to lead China and other Asian nations? This is describing Vladimir Putin. He is the “prince of Rosh” whom



God inspired Ezekiel to write about 2,500 years ago! (Order your free copy of my booklet that examines these scriptures in detail, *The Prophesied ‘Prince of Russia.’*)

The “prince of Rosh” is a stunningly mighty man, and he is having a powerful effect on Europe. The *reaction* inside Europe to this Russian war is something you need to keep a close eye on: It is sculpting the future composition of the Holy Roman Empire! It is causing European leaders to take *urgent action* to tie this Holy Roman Empire together one last time—just as we have warned they would for many years.

### No Trust in the United States

Eastern Europe's history gives the people in those nations plenty of reason to fear. They suffered horrendously under evil men like Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin. And they have often been abandoned by the West. Britain and France shamefully betrayed Czechoslovakia in the lead-up to World War II, effectively turning the country over to Hitler. The situation with Poland was similar, as they let Hitler and Stalin carve the nation up between themselves.

After the peoples of Eastern Europe gained their freedom from the Soviet Union, they put their trust mostly in America. Many of them rushed to join NATO. When they saw Putin's Russia start charging down the warpath, they hoped America would stand up boldly to stop Putin's expansionism. But when Russia invaded Georgia in 2008 and took a fifth of its land, President George W. Bush did nothing. Again in 2014 after Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimea, the U.S. under President Barack Obama yawned.

These nations see that AMERICA'S WILL IS BROKEN!

Since Putin expanded the conflict into a full-scale war last year, the United States *has* done more to help. But in many ways, the Biden administration was pressed by European nations, especially the Baltic countries, to give Ukraine aid. Besides this, the Europeans were blindsided and terrified by the way the Biden administration retreated chaotically from Afghanistan in 2021, showing the whole world that America is erratic and unreliable. And the Europeans well know that the U.S. gets a new government every four or eight years and that there are no guarantees about how a given administration will face Russia.

European leaders understand that they can't depend on America. French President Emmanuel Macron said so plainly in April, demanding that the EU break free of America and develop its own "strategic autonomy." Macron knows, however, that a Europe with "autonomy" from America would

be A EUROPE DOMINATED BY GERMANY. In January, he had acknowledged as much, saying, "Germany and France ... must become pioneers to relaunch Europe." He even put "Germany" first in the list ahead of France! Has this man forgotten how brutal Germany's attempts to dominate France and other parts of Europe were in the Franco-Prussian War and World Wars I and II?

East European nations such as Lithuania are also ignoring Germany's bloody history and instead *encouraging Germany* to lead Europe. "WE WANT A STRONG GERMANY," Gen. Mindaugas Steponavičius, Lithuania's chief of the defense staff, said last year. Laurynas Kasčiūnas, chairman of Lithuania's National Security and Defense Committee, said, "The German military is great; we're so grateful to have them here."

When Germans occupied Lithuania during World War II, they killed more than 90 percent of the nation's Jews—over 130,000 people—and thousands of other individuals. But then the Russian-led Soviet Union drove the Germans out and turned Lithuania into a stifled Soviet republic, which it remained until the collapse of the Soviet Union.

It is incredible that the people in nations such as Lithuania are now calling for Germany to have more military power and more leadership and control over Europe. They know the history of German militarism well. They suffered *horrendously* under it! Despite knowing that recent history intimately, these peoples want a stronger Germany!

WHY? BECAUSE THEY FEAR VLADIMIR PUTIN AND RUSSIA EVEN MORE THAN GERMANY.

Lithuanians and others feel they have to choose between two evils. This gives you some idea of how much Europe fears Russia—and Eastern Europe fears Russia even more.

Europe's fear of Putin's Russia next door will help shape and form the Holy Roman Empire rather *suddenly*.

Europe's fear of Russia is intensifying because it knows America lacks the will to protect it as it did in the past. America has a broken will, and Europe and the world know it! That too was prophesied to happen (Leviticus 26:19).

### A Pivotal Prophecy

The late educator Herbert W. Armstrong prophesied for decades that a strong European power would rise up composed of nations from Eastern and Western Europe. He said this while the Iron Curtain cut Europe in two and the Soviet Union seemed invincible. How did he know?

For the answer, we have to look at a pivotal prophecy in Daniel 2. This chapter records God giving King Nebuchadnezzar a vision of an enormous statue representing the powerful Gentile empires that would rule the world from Nebuchadnezzar's time 2,500 years ago up to the still-future return of Jesus Christ. The image's head of gold was Nebuchadnezzar and his world-ruling empire. Following him came the Medo-Persian Empire, signified by the chest and arms of silver. Then came the belly of brass, which was Alexander the Great and the Greco-Macedonian Empire. Finally emerged the mighty Roman Empire, symbolized by legs of iron.

History reveals the significance of the *two legs*, as the Roman Empire was divided, with its western capital in Rome and its eastern capital in Constantinople (today's Istanbul, Turkey). But the symbolism gets even more specific.

The Roman Empire fell in A.D. 476. But the Bible says this prophecy is for the "latter days" (Daniel 2:28), meaning our modern age. Other prophecies—especially in Daniel 7 and Revelation 13 and 17—reveal in detail what was to become of that empire: Ten successive governments would grow out of it, and the last seven of these 10 would be united with a great false church. In this way the Roman Empire, symbolized by those two legs, would survive right up to the end time.

You can track the fulfillment of this prophecy through history. The centuries since have witnessed several leaders like Charlemagne, Otto the Great, Napoleon and Hitler who, time after time, *resurrected* the Roman Empire from the ruins! Starting with Justinian's restoration of this empire in A.D. 554, there have been *six resurrections* of what is called the Holy Roman Empire—the union of church and state. That leaves *one more* to occur before the return of Jesus Christ.

You can see by what is happening in Europe today that the final resurrection is now coming together very quickly.

### Ten-Nation Superpower Prophesied

Notice: Though the Roman Empire is symbolized in Daniel 2 by legs of solid iron, verse 41 says the *feet and toes* are made of "iron and clay." The 10 toes are the final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire—the one now forming. These 10 toes represent *10 kings* that will rule in this modern era in the seventh and final resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. These 10 are also described in Revelation 17:12.

Following the symbolism about the image, Daniel shows that those 10 toes are *divided*, probably with exactly five on the eastern leg and five on the western. This suggests that five of the kings that will band together to form this European superpower will come from Western Europe, and five from Eastern Europe.



CDU Member of the Bundestag Thomas Bareiß trains as a Bundeswehr reservist for crisis and disaster response, homeland security and national defense.



In 1981, Mr. Armstrong wrote: “When this Holy Roman Empire does happen, it will happen suddenly. So quickly it will take your breath! And the whole world will gasp in awe and wonder when they see the things that are prophesied. For example, 10 nations in Europe—probably five of them in Western Europe and five in Eastern Europe—reviving, resurrecting, the so-called Holy Roman Empire of the Middle Ages.” Mr. Armstrong prophesied of this for well over 50 years.

In April 1952, long before the Soviet Union collapsed, the *Good News* magazine, with Mr. Armstrong as its editor in chief, wrote, “Russia may give East Germany back to the Germans and will be forced to relinquish her control over Hungary, Czechoslovakia and parts of Austria to complete the 10-nation union.”

Then in a booklet published first in 1955, Mr. Armstrong wrote, “Some of the Balkan nations are going to tear away from behind the Iron Curtain. ... Russia probably will lose still more

## The world today is on the cusp of great conflict. Most Americans may not recognize this, but more and more Europeans do.

of her Eastern European satellites.” He said essentially the same thing again in 1956 and several other times. We compile all these statements in our booklet *He Was Right* (request your free copy).

These prophecies that Russia would lose its grip on these East European nations have now been fulfilled! The eastern leg and parts of the western leg of that empire are well into development.

Fulfilled prophecy is the great *proof* of God’s existence. And there is such a stunning amount of prophecy being fulfilled right now that mankind is without excuse!

### Europe’s Putin

Another landmark prophecy that Russia’s war on Ukraine will bring into fulfillment is the rise of a strongman in Europe. This is what will bind Europe’s many peoples and nations together with the power and unity of purpose necessary for facing Russia.

Daniel 8:23 tells us that “in the latter time,” we should expect “a king of fierce countenance” to arise in Europe. “And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people” (verse 24).

Europe’s intensifying fear of Russia will play a key role in hastening the fulfillment of this prophecy! The people see democracy and international law failing, so they want a Putin-type figure of their own. He will be the head “king” over Europe’s 10 kings, pictured by the 10 toes.

Besides that strongman, the Catholic Church will also play a major role in uniting all these disparate European countries.

So much of what the Creator God prophesied through Mr. Armstrong has *already* been fulfilled. Now we must watch for the final part of these prophecies to occur! “Ten kings” will arise! The 27 nations currently comprising the European Union are going to be pared down to 10. These are going to be led by an iron-fisted leader and unified by the Roman Catholic Church. At that point, they will be a global power greater than Russia or the United States!

The European Union today *already* has considerable power, and that is especially true of Germany. The Germans already lead Europe and call many of the shots *economically and politically*. And soon a German despot will be calling the shots *militarily* for 10 kings.

The world today is on the cusp of great conflict. Most Americans may not recognize this, but more and more Europeans do. They see an *urgent* need to be able to stand up to Russia. And since they question America’s reliability, they will join together and integrate all their military might.

The increasing urgency to protect themselves will cause European leaders to pare down the number of countries in their union and to throw their power behind a “king of fierce countenance”! That mighty man will then use the power of Europe to confront Vladimir Putin and some Asian nations such as China that ally with Putin (Ezekiel 38; Revelation 16:12).

Russia’s war on Ukraine is catalyzing the rise of a mighty power! Putin doesn’t understand that since he doesn’t know the Bible’s prophecies. But he will soon know it. And the colossal clash between these two powers will bring more suffering on the world than it has ever experienced.

### What Happens in the End

These prophecies may seem discouraging, but the Bible assures us that they have a positive conclusion. Daniel 8:25 says that the European strongman will “stand up against the Prince of princes.” This mortal man will try to fight against Christ Himself! The result is that “he shall be broken without hand.” The Messiah will return to Earth at the height of the violence and confront that man and *end* these cataclysmic wars. The 10-nation military superpower will be utterly crushed.

After describing all the kingdoms that have ruled the world from Nebuchadnezzar’s time to the future European superpower, Daniel 2 then shows the image being shattered by a stone from heaven. It is blown away like dust in the wind, and the stone from heaven grows into a mountain filling the whole Earth (verses 34-35). Daniel explains the meaning of all this with this deeply inspiring statement: “And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but *it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms*, and it shall stand for ever” (verse 44). That is describing the *end* of the Daniel 2 image and all of humanity’s ignorant, ineffective, violent, repressive human governments. God will *smash* man’s rule forever!

Is this a dark message? It does detail a great deal of suffering that will soon afflict the world—the greatest suffering ever in history. But it is all directly connected to the coming of Jesus Christ, when all suffering ends, and God ushers in an age of peace, accomplishment and joyous living for the world! That is the *most hope-filled and radiant* message you could ever hear! ■

## Germany in prophecy.

Get tomorrow’s news today. Request your free copy of ***Germany and the Holy Roman Empire***.





# Europe's Altered Personality

The days of the chic vegan metrosexual are past. Modern realities are toughening up Europeans. **BY RICHARD PALMER**

**T**HE AMERICAN IS A GUN-TOTING cowboy; the Russian is a corrupt oligarch; the Saudi is an oil-rich sheik. The European, meanwhile, is a vegan metrosexual; he cycles to work, takes a month of vacation each year, drinks soy lattes, and, with cool sophistication, preaches the virtues of his enlightened lifestyle to others.

These are crude stereotypes. Yet however true or false they once were, they are now obsolete.

The 2008 financial crisis and 2015 migrant crisis gave our European a whack on the head. His personality has changed. You might say that he now drives a truck, eats meat, and has started bodybuilding.

Most of the world hasn't noticed. Many who have noticed are happy about it. But *Europe's altered personality is about to alter the course of world history.*

## A Far-right European?

A new type of party is growing in Europe. In the press it is generally called "far right." But that term is so overused, it is practically meaningless.

For some of these groups, like France's National Rally, "far left" would better describe their economic policies.

Perhaps "fringe" is the better term. These groups are so different that the mainstream parties deliberately exclude them from politics. Journalists try to

stigmatize them so that no decent person would admit to voting for the "fringe."

But even the term *fringe* is outdated. Across Europe these politicians are adopting a new winning strategy and reaching new heights of electoral success. They have dropped the most odious parts of their programs. Anti-Semitism is out. Many have switched from supporting Vladimir Putin and Russia to supporting Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Ukraine.

Giorgia Meloni, who leads the successor party to Benito Mussolini's literal National Fascist Party, is now Italy's prime minister. Poland is run by this kind of fringe party. So is Hungary. Fringe parties are supporting the governments of Finland and Sweden.

More could follow. Right now, the Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) is Germany's second-most popular party, even as it shifts further right. In France, Marine Le Pen of the National Rally went up against Emmanuel Macron in last year's presidential elections, forcing, then losing, a runoff. She is still popular and is a leading contender for the next presidential election. The Freedom Party of Austria is polling well and seems set to win its election next year.

These parties have made another critical shift in their platforms that could prove more important than any other: They are now working together. They have been called "far right" because they are nationalist: They want their nation to be great again, and they don't care as much about other nations. The idea that they could work together to take over the European Union was preposterous. But that is just what they are doing.

To many of its supporters, the EU is the antidote to far-right nationalism. It is a multinational, globalist, progressive, left-wing project designed to destroy nationalism. It has been built by nations surrendering national sovereignty.

Europe's far-right parties have generally been euroskeptic. But their Europe-wide success means that they now have a shot not necessarily at destroying the EU, but at *remaking it*.

Elections in individual EU nations are part of a wider struggle. What will the EU look like; what is its purpose; what is its soul? At the heart of this struggle is a backlash against two key EU policies adopted in country after country.

## Backlash

Europe's old vegan lifestyle was simply not healthy, and many now see that.

In 2015, 1.3 million migrants applied for asylum within the EU; the next year, this slowed only slightly to 1.2 million. Many were Muslims fleeing the Syrian civil war. Chancellor Angela Merkel famously opened up Germany to any who came through its borders.

The ramifications were immediate. Cities felt dangerous. Women complained of assault. A hospital was forced to hire armed guards. Cologne infamously experienced the New Year's Eve mass sexual assault, in which 1,000 migrants gathered into a crowd and allegedly committed 331 sexual offenses, including two rapes.

Yet the mainstream media refused to talk about it. Police and local authorities hid statistics. Mainstream political parties refused to deal with it.

Their indifference continues. This summer, public swimming pools have become a hot topic in Germany. Some have shut down. Others have called for police protection. Why? Because of a spike in attacks, particularly on girls in revealing swimsuits. Mainstream journalists and politicians don't want to talk about this, but these attacks are mainly by immigrants from Muslim countries.



MELONI

LE PEN

JEANBRUN

France has experienced similar problems. On June 27, French police shot Nahel Merzouk during a traffic stop. Video of the shooting went viral and sparked accusations of police abuse of black and Muslim minorities. The nation exploded in violence for days: Over 700 businesses were burned and over 1,300 cars torched. People attacked schools and cultural centers. One fireman died trying to put out the flames in an underground car park. Forty-five thousand officers were deployed to stop the riots; over 500 officers were injured and 2,000 rioters were arrested.

Rioters also attacked the family of the right-wing mayor of L'Haÿ-les-Roses,

driving a burning car into his house. One of his children was injured, and his wife broke her leg as she escaped.

"People talk about riots," the police chief for L'Haÿ-les-Roses said, "but for those of us who have to deal with all this, it's not riots. It's war."

This violence took place against a steady backdrop of Islamist attacks in Europe. On June 8, a Syrian migrant stabbed four children between 1 and 3 years old in a park in southeastern France. On June 10, a 15-year-old boy was killed and three people were injured in a shooting in Stockholm, Sweden, shortly before another unrelated shooting in the area injured three people. Gang violence in Sweden has exploded since 2015, when the government opened the nation up to the second-highest number of migrants per capita in Europe.

In France the problems are much older than the 2015 migration crisis. Mainstream political parties have had *decades* to fix this, but they have failed.

In all these situations, the public reaction has been the same. As we wrote during the 2015 German migrant crisis: "Many of the Germans becoming disillusioned with mainstream politics ... don't want to persecute the migrants or see them imprisoned, beaten up or killed. They are not extremists seeking genocide. They are regular, sound-thinking, rational people, many of whom have terrific empathy for those suffering in Syria and elsewhere. These people are simply concerned about the impact millions of migrants will have on their nation, its institutions, its infrastructure, its economy, its culture and on the German people. ... But Angela Merkel's government refuses to give serious attention to these concerns and refuses to tell the truth about the impact the migrants are having and will have on the nation. ...

"The Merkel government's handling of this situation is turning the German people into a ticking time bomb! The more disillusioned, frustrated and angry the German people become, the more vulnerable they will be to radical politics and radical leaders with radical solutions" (*Trumpet*, March 2016).

Ignored by the mainstream, concerned voters have sought solace in the political fringe in country after country.

## Disastrous Environmentalism

Now we are seeing this trend merge with the seemingly unrelated issue of environmentalism. Our stereotypical European is conspicuously conscientious environmentally. But now this is starting to hurt.

Environmentally overzealous politicians in the Netherlands (the world's second-largest agricultural exporter) are actively shutting down farms. Members of the EU government are debating laws that would push these calamitous policies on farmers—and on people who eat—across the Continent.

The EU says it will ban new fossil-fuel gasoline and diesel cars by 2035. Germany's car industry makes up about 10 percent of its economy. But foreign companies lead the way on electric cars. This could devastate German manufacturing and lead to mass unemployment.



HÖCKE

GAULAND

CHRUPALLA

The German government will ban the sale of all oil- and gas-heating systems after the end of 2024. An EU-wide ban is planned for 2029. After that, if your boiler breaks, you will be forced to replace it with an expensive and often less effective "environmentally friendly" alternative.

All the major newspapers and political parties completely support these moves: They consider them indispensable for tackling climate change; there is no alternative. No alternative, that is—*unless* you turn to a fringe-right group like the Alternative für Deutschland.

If you don't want your farm shut down or you don't want to shell out thousands for an electric heat pump, that hardly makes you a Nazi. But if none of the mainstream parties will listen to your concerns, and the entire economy seems set to self-destruct, wouldn't you consider voting for one of these groups?

These concerns had already sparked mass resistance in the form of the "yellow vest" protests in France in 2018. In the Netherlands, the pushback prompted the creation of a new Farmers' Party—which has already become the largest party in the Senate. This



Farmer-Citizen Movement comes with no historical baggage—but that is not the case elsewhere.

In Germany, opposition to destructive environmental policies are a key reason the AfD has risen to new heights of power. If a German doesn't want his government to destroy the national economy, he has nowhere else to go.

### Nazi Links

As these “fringe” parties are becoming more popular, they are also becoming more extreme. In 2017, rising AfD star Björn Höcke attacked the idea that Germany should be sorry or atone for its Nazi history. This attitude, he said, is a “stupid coping policy.” He complained that “German history is handled as rotten and made to look ridiculous” and called for a “180-degree reversal on the politics of remembrance.” Germans should stop commemorating the Holocaust. He called Berlin's Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe “a monument of shame.”

Höcke's audience loved it, but he went too far. Moderate members of the AfD wanted him tossed from the party. The next year, party leader Alexander Gauland gave a similar speech, praising Germany's “glorious history that is much longer than 12 years”—the time span of Adolf Hitler's regime. In the face of an outraged public, he made a halfhearted apology.

Now, however, things have changed. In May, AfD leader Tino Chrupalla gave an interview to the right-wing blog “Sezession.” Asked about Germany's war history, he said: “I find it fundamentally problematic to always link commemoration with the question of guilt.” Germany's view of its history has to change, he explained. “Historical guilt should no longer determine the way we act,” he said.

This time, instead of outrage, the response was just crickets.

Chrupalla's coleader, Alice Weidel, is one of the party's more moderate voices—one of those who tried to force Höcke out five years ago. In April, she boasted in a campaign speech that the party was on the brink of breaking into government. She walked around the stage arm in arm with the AfD's local candidate: Björn Höcke.

Instead of receiving censure, the AfD is rising to new heights. They got their

first mayor, in the town of Raguhn-Jessnitz in Saxony-Anhalt, on July 2. The week before, they won their first regional district in the neighboring state of Thuringia. Friedrich Merz, leader of the mainstream Christian Democratic Union (CDU), opened the door to doing business with the AfD on the local level—breaking the precedent that had, until



then, kept the AfD from office. He swiftly backtracked, but for the AfD these days, defeat always seems only temporary.

The people who vote for the AfD because of the mainstream parties' misguided policies on climate change or immigration are not far-right extremists. But they are empowering a party with dangerous views. And mainstream parties have left them no choice.

This may soon change. Across Europe the mainstream parties are starting to follow the example of the fringe parties. They are slowly waking up to the dangers of immigration. Some are even softening their stances on climate change.

But they are doing even more: They are copying the fringe views of history, empire and national pride.

### Moving Right

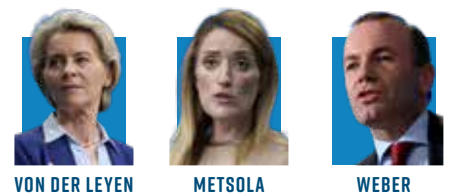
In June, the CDU announced plans for a Federal Program of Patriotism. It wants more flag-waving and anthem-singing, and more ties to the military. Plans include a new national day to celebrate the constitution on May 23 and another celebrating Germany's reunification on October 3. The German parliament would also get an upgrade with more pictures of great Germans and symbols of German history to boost the “patriotic self-assurance” of lawmakers.

In France, President Emmanuel Macron has become more and more extreme in his rhetoric. He has given police the power to shut down mosques and kick out preachers. He has outlawed homeschooling, primarily to stop Muslim children from avoiding the French educational system. The French interior

minister has dissolved dozens of French Muslim organizations and deported radicals. “Islam is a religion living through a crisis today, everywhere in the world,” said Macron in a landmark 2020 speech. Yet as Islamist attacks and mass riots continue, support for European fringe parties continues to grow.

At the EU level, conservative leaders are looking to Italy and Meloni as their solution. Leaders from across Europe are making the pilgrimage to Rome, including European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, European Parliament President Roberta Metsola and European People's Party leader Manfred Weber.

“Giorgia Meloni is steadily becoming the most important political leader in Europe,” the *Spectator* stated in an article dated March 4. “Some are even saying that it is her destiny to be the next Angela Merkel. If so, that would mean a dramatic change in direction for the European Union ...”



“Meloni is now leader of the European right,” said talk show host Massimo Cacciari. “And the traditional European coalition of social democratic forces and popular Catholic forces is losing water. ... Meloni and those around her will be able to move the axis of European politics at the next elections. That's the strategy they're pursuing” (ibid).

Spain's July 23 elections proved that this approach just might work. Neither side won enough votes to win a majority. But the mainstream right Popular Party did very well—at the expense of the fringe-right Vox party. Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery, but more and more European politicians can see that it is also a smart way to win elections.

“Fringe” beliefs and rhetoric, then, are taking over Europe in two ways. The fringe parties themselves are rising to the top. And when they're defeated, it's only because their ideas have infiltrated the mainstream parties. Either way, Europe's personality is changing.

## A Good Thing?

This rightward shift has caused some U.S. media outlets to sit up and take note. “A Far-right European Union Could Be Around the Corner,” headlined the *Washington Post* on July 21. In the Middle East, *Al Jazeera* warned: “We always assumed European unity would imply greater cosmopolitanism and multiculturalism. With the recent rise of the far right, that may not be the case” (July 19).

Many American conservatives are delighted by this trend. They connect the rise of the right in Europe to the

pro-Trump movement. The forces of globalism and environmentalism are being rolled back. But the trouble is, this view overlooks some vital history.

In truth, the EU’s origins do not lie with liberal do-gooders wanting to consign nationalism to the dustbin of history. Its origins are much older.

In World Wars I and II, Germany wanted to create a form of European Economic Union to make its domination of the Continent more palatable. In World War I, German Chancellor Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg said

he aimed to create a “central European economic association” where “all its members will be formally equal but, in practice, will be under German leadership and must stabilize Germany’s economic dominance over Mitteleuropa.”

Nazi propaganda in the 1930s advocated *Großraumwirtschaft*, (meaning a large economic area). In 1940, German Ambassador to France Otto Abetz wrote to Hitler recommending that Germany “usurp the European idea” to try to control Europe in the same way that Hitler had “usurped the idea of peace” before the war.

# The Nazi Billionaire Families and German Politics

It was the wealth of industrialists that enabled World Wars I and II. Many of these same industrialists also profited from the National Socialists’ policies through the regime’s Aryanization, slave labor or increased arms production. After the war they continued to shape German politics. One notable example is the late entrepreneur August von Finck Jr.

Finck Jr.’s father, banker August von Finck, helped finance the rise of Adolf Hitler and worked hand in hand with his regime. In postwar Germany, he donated large sums of money to Franz Josef Strauss’s conservative Christian Social Union (CSU). His son later donated to the election campaign of Strauss’s political heir, Edmund Stoiber. His grandson August François made the news in 2019 as the most important donor to Augustus Intelligence, an obscure artificial intelligence company with right-wing connections that include yet another prominent CSU member: Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg.

Revelations by *Spiegel* magazine published in November 2018 show that the family enterprise also enabled the rise of the far-right party Alternative für Deutschland (AfD).

In 2022, the family’s connections with the Nazi regime were illuminated in the book *Nazi Billionaires: The Dark History of Germany’s Wealthiest Dynasties*, by David de Jong. This revealed how Finck called for and then greatly benefited from the Aryanization of Jewish banks—it also detailed the family’s many connections to the AfD.

The Fincks are just one of many billionaire families that continue to influence politics today. De Jong also focuses on the family history of the Quandts, the Flicks, the Porsche-Piëchs,

the Oetkers and the Reimanns. The list can be extended to other companies and individuals that profited from the Third Reich and continued their business afterward, such as the heirs of IG Farben, Krupp, Siemens and Rheinmetall. Similar to the Fincks, their political involvement continued after the war ended.



Most famous of all is the Flick Affair—a large-scale political bribery scheme in the 1980s. The scandal preoccupied Germany for years, but it wasn’t until 2015 that it became public that legendary CSU politician Franz Josef Strauss was even more deeply involved than originally known.

In his more than 700-page biography on Strauss, Peter Siebenmorgen recounts that the heads of the Flick and Quandt dynasties took a particular interest in Strauss—and valued his advice. Additionally, Siebenmorgen reveals that Strauss received bribes through a shell company from 1964 to the 1980s. *Spiegel* wrote: “The list of payers ranges from BMW and Bertelsmann to Daimler-Benz and

Dornier to companies belonging to the Flick empire and media mogul Leo Kirch’s Taurus-Film GmbH.”

De Jong points to yet another connection between the Nazi billionaires and Strauss: In the 1960s, Krauss-Maffai under Flick’s control was awarded the first contracts of the Leopard tank thanks to “Strauss’s backing.” The design of the tank was created in cooperation with Porsche. In the following years, the Leopard tank and later versions were not only integrated into the German Armed Forces but exported around the world—and the Nazi billionaire families were once again involved in large-scale weapons production.

These Nazi billionaire families have laid the foundation of modern Germany and their present-day activity is often as equally mysterious as their past. But one historic event may shed light into the industrialists’ goals.

During the so-called Red House meeting in 1944, senior Nazis told representatives from Krupp, Messerschmitt, Volkswagenwerk, Rheinmetall and others that they must “prepare themselves to finance the Nazi Party, which would be forced to go underground ....” The United States declassified the document in 1996—but few believe that these underground plans were executed.

The Bible, however, reveals that some of the same industrialist families that backed the two world wars will once again play a role in shaping Germany’s destiny. Revelation 18:3 calls them “the merchants of the earth.” We have mentioned only a few examples of who could be among these merchants. To learn more, read “Rising From the German Underground” ([theTrumpet.com/25143](http://theTrumpet.com/25143)), by Gerald Flurry.

**BY JOSUÉ MICHELS**



That summer, Hermann Göring began plans for the “large-scale economic unification of Europe.” Walther Funk, economics minister and president of the German central bank, developed these plans, calling it the European Economic Community and outlining its characteristics in a series of papers in 1941. Not even two decades later, in 1957, the European Economic Community (EEC) became the name of what is now the EU.

The Nazis also called for a “European currency system” that would operate with fixed exchange rates among certain currencies—until a single currency could be gradually introduced. This is exactly what has happened with the euro.

After the war, the infamous Oswald Mosley, leader of the British Union of Fascists, became an ardent pro-European. Reich Credit Co. head Dr. Bernhard Benning, who spoke at the 1942 Nazi EEC conference on the “European Currency Question,” went on to become a senior figure in the Bundesbank.

Other EU figures had sympathies toward the Nazis before the war, such as Paul-Henri Spaak, one of the EU’s founding fathers. As a member of the Belgian Workers’ Party before the war, he praised “some of Hitler’s magnificent achievements.” In 1937, he said that “the hour of Belgian national socialism has come.” He urged Belgium to remain neutral rather than joining France to fight against Germany. (Germany went on to invade Belgium in 1930.)

Many saw the European Union as a tool to combat German nationalism. But others saw it as a way to unite Europeans behind larger goals.

Now we see European leaders with links to World War II’s fascist regimes taking power. Germany’s AfD wants to revise that history (sidebar, page 12). Italy’s Meloni isn’t merely leading the successor to Mussolini’s party; she is rebuilding his foreign policy, rebuilding Italy’s links to North Africa.

What we are seeing now is not an abrupt personality change in Europe. It is a slow removal of the mask.

### There All Along?

This is not be the only time Germany has rapidly changed its personality. In his book *The Europeans*, Luigi Barzini compared the Germans to Proteus,

the shape-shifter of Greek mythology, because of their tendency to change their identity. Throughout the 19th century, Germans were both mocked and loved for their pacificism and harmlessness. But all of that changed in 1870.

“They crossed the border of France as a gray tide of faceless, disciplined soldiers with spiked helmets, a relentless unstoppable war machine,” he wrote. “Where had they come from? Only a few Germans and no foreigner had suspected what the imminent metamorphosis would be like. ... Weeping French



Hermann Göring attends a Nazi mass meeting in the Berlin Sport Palace.

writers went on for decades telling innumerable heartbreaking stories of how ruthless, rapacious and contemptuous the invaders had been. How could these Germans be so dissimilar from those harmless and peaceful people Madame de Staël had described, those whom Europe had known and loved only a few years before?”

Then, during the 1930s, Berlin changed quickly from a den of hedonism to the center of military efficiency.

The rise of the AfD right now suggests a similar change is coming.

For those who will listen, the Bible gives an even starker warning than history does. Revelation 17 describes a “beast.” Throughout the books of Revelation and Daniel, a beast symbolizes an empire. This one is ridden by a woman, the biblical symbol for a church.

This beast is led by a series of kings. Revelation 17:10 says, “And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.” This tells us that these kings come one after another. This empire rises, is led by a strongman, and then falls, only to be resurrected by another.

Where is there an empire, dominated by a church, that has repeatedly risen and fallen? The only answer is *Europe*. The last half dozen times it has gone by the name “the Holy Roman Empire.” Most recently it was led by Adolf Hitler.

This prophecy in Revelation is frozen in time. It describes the state of this beast during its sixth leader, Hitler.

Verse 8 describes “the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.” This beast exists, then vanishes, only to later “ascend out of the bottomless pit.” You could say it emerges out of nowhere—from “underground.” This describes the state of this beast power today. The signs are there, but few recognize them. When this power fully ascends, “the people who belong to this world ... will be amazed at the reappearance of this beast who had died” (verse 8; New Living Translation).

The world thinks this beast has gone, and that the Europeans just want soy lattes, wind turbines and reductions in cow flatulence. But these issues only mask the truth.

Revelation 17 describes this beast during its sixth resurrection because it was at that time that a man was on the scene through whom God revealed these scriptures and exposed this beast. That man was Herbert W. Armstrong. He explained what was happening in Europe and warned that it would rise again.

“We don’t understand German thoroughness,” he said in May 1945. “From the very start of World War II, they have considered the possibility of losing this second round, as they did the first—and they have carefully, methodically planned, in such eventuality, the third round—World War III! Hitler has lost. This round of war, in Europe, is over. And the Nazis have now gone underground. In France and Norway they learned how effectively an organized underground can hamper occupation and control of a country. Paris was liberated by the French

underground—and Allied armies. Now a Nazi underground is methodically planned. They plan to come back and to win on the third try.”

Despite all the signs, this personality change will soon catch the world by surprise. But it doesn't have to surprise *you*.

The details about this beast power spelled out in your Bible point us to God the Father. The rise of this beast power will be terrifying. But these detailed prophecies assure us: God is in control. These events are all part of His plan.

Now is the time to get to know what is happening, to see what is happening in Europe behind the mask. Then, instead of being startled, terrified or victimized by what is happening, you can be encouraged.

Verse 17 states: “For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.” Ultimately *He* is the one behind Europe's personality change. Seeing God's role in these events is our only hope.

Man has tried left-wing and right-wing governments. He has tried a staggering range of political and economic systems. None have brought peace or solved all his problems.

God is allowing the final rise of this beast power for a very positive reason: to show mankind the failures of human-devised systems and solutions, and to help us see that He is the only sure solution to man's problems. Study these prophecies for yourself, and it will point you toward the only sure solutions to both your problems and those of this whole world. ■



## Holy (Catholic). Roman (European). Empire (Tyranny).

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# Europe Longs to Rebuild Its Empires



The love for the legacy of the Holy Roman Empire is the inspiration of dictatorships, past and future. **BY JOSUÉ MICHELS**

“**E**MPIRES HAVE GOTTEN SOMETHING of a bad rap lately,” Eduard Habsburg notes, blaming movies like *Star Wars*. Others blame British colonialism. Many radicals in America go further and hate anything that is old or traditional. In the meantime, the empire that the British Empire and the Americans fought to oppose is arousing feelings of nostalgia. Nostalgia is growing in Europe. It's a growing desire for a lost empire buried in the depths of history. Think tanks, politicians and academics are growing more and more eager to unearth, repair and rebuild it. Bit by bit, the Holy Roman Empire is emerging again from the underground.

In his 2023 book *The Habsburg Way: 7 Rules for Turbulent Times*, Habsburg advocates the revival of the Habsburg dynasty's values. He says that the Holy

Roman Empire is dormant but still very much alive today. What it needs is “real overarching leadership that embodies traditional European values, someone like an emperor who “reminded people of the things that united them.” What united people in the past? “While there were different nations in the empire, Christianity, the timeless idea of empire, and the person of the emperor himself were the unifying principles,” (ibid.). By Christianity, he, of course, means Catholicism.

Habsburg also recommends *The Habsburgs: Rise and Fall of a World Power* (also published as *The Habsburgs: To Rule the World*). This book emphasizes the religious aspect of the dynasty's mission. The Amazon book description states that the Habsburgs' “enduring power” was “driven by the belief that they were destined to rule the world as defenders of the Roman Catholic Church.”





Dutch writer Caroline de Gruyter also makes the case for a Habsburg-style new Holy Roman Empire in her 2022 book *It Won't Get Any Better: A Journey Through the Habsburg Empire and the European Union*. Gruyter points to the long duration of this dynasty that ruled from the 13th century to 1918.

“The idea of empire as an organizing form of politics is enjoying a rehabilitation in Brussels, pushed by the court philosophers at the Justus Lipsius HQ, and picked up avidly by exponents of a muscular ‘sovereign Europe’ to match China and America,” Ambrose Evans-Pritchard wrote for the *Telegraph* on June 15.

Of course, looking at the Habsburg empire as a model of stability isn't the same as calling for the resurrection of the Inquisition—which was almost equally enduring—in which the empire, in service of Catholic leaders, executed

heretics, Muslims, Jews and others. The Spanish Inquisition alone existed from 1478 to 1834, spanning over three centuries. Praising the empire's form of government is not the same as praising its violent executions and wars. *But can you have one without the other?*

De Gruyter's colleague, Luuk van Middelaar, argued that the EU should embrace the “heroic civilizing mission.” He said, “Anyone who thinks that good may impose itself on the world without struggle or the use of power is mistaken. That may require an army—a Napoleon.”

### A Cultural Revival

In 2018, the EU started a new project to remember the Continent's “cultural heritage.” That year, over 6.2 million people took part in more than 11,700 organized events across 37 countries, each celebrating the “European Year of Cultural Heritage.” Thousands of similar events have been hosted since.

“When we are not ready to love our culture, then others will start to define our culture,” former German Defense Minister Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg said in 2017 in response to the refugee crisis. “And it can't be our goal to leave that which grew over centuries and which is seen in the church towers, which is seen in the club culture, which is grown in a Christian-Jewish Western society, to others that come in to us.”

Upholding the traditions of a “Christian-Jewish Western society” sounds appealing. But is that really Europe's history? European leaders and the Catholic Church have repeatedly clashed with Jews. Pogroms, inquisitions, crusades and the Holocaust targeted Jewish life and even sought to annihilate the Jewish people. This happened in the name of Christianity, in the name of the churches, and even in the name of the club culture that maliciously excluded Jews. This is as much a part of Europe's history as the temporary phases of peaceful coexistence. Many want to overlook the grotesque when promoting the good. *But can you have one without the other?*

History warns against venerating the heritage of the Holy Roman Empire. Adolf Hitler, for example, praised the late-eighth century ruler Charlemagne. Charlemagne became a powerful European ruler, as did Hitler—and he killed

masses of people for his ideology, as did Hitler. According to renowned German medieval researcher Johannes Fried, Hitler's statements were “preparing for his own acts of violence; to praise Charles was a strategy of legitimacy.”

Few today would call Hitler a great example for Europe. Yet they would praise Charlemagne. The truth is, Europe's history is filled with mass murderers killing in the name of ideology—and of a certain religion.

### An Admonishment to Be Catholic

Many books have been written about the immorality of some Habsburg rulers, or the cruelty of the Inquisition and the Thirty Years' War. But the book *The Habsburg Way* is different, and the times we are living in are different. American conservative political commentator Michael Knowles called it “the single most important history book to appear in our troubled times.” In his foreword, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán sounds a rallying cry to fight together to “preserve” Christianity in Europe.

The book promises nothing less than “a roadmap for healing the world in which we live.”

As the author states: “[I]n a time where every Christian value is being increasingly driven out of public life and politics, the Habsburgs stand for timeless things like family, faith, the peaceful cohabitation of nations and languages, and the peaceful coexistence of diverse races and cultures.” Indeed, the Habsburg dynasty united a diverse group of people under one faith—Catholicism. Thus one of the seven admonishments of Eduard Habsburg is “Be Catholic.”

That may offend some, as “being a Catholic ruler often meant doing things that seem manifestly unchristian, including treating other Christian denominations harshly,” the author notes. Indeed, the torture and slaughter of other Christians is a sensitive topic. “But in those centuries gone by, people truly believed that only by living the Catholic faith could you get to heaven, so encouraging, indeed requiring, your subjects to be Catholic was not only part of your duty as an emperor, it was an act of charity because it helped others reach eternal salvation.” The author makes the appeal to include religion in private life

and politics and asks “for forgiveness if I am occasionally not as diplomatic or ecumenical as usual.”

In other words: *The time for sweet-talking other religions is over; now is the time for Catholics to stand up for what they believe is right.*

### Celebrating Emperors

If Charlemagne, Otto the Great or Napoleon Bonaparte were alive today, they would be recognized as intolerant, bloody dictators. With modern weapons, they would likely be even more dangerous than Adolf Hitler. Charlemagne infamously ordered 4,500 Saxons executed in a single day (quite a feat before the invention of gun powder and poison gas). Yet Europeans celebrate such leaders.



**CHARLEMAGNE** | In 2018, Aachen Cathedral held a weeklong festival featuring its founder: Charlemagne, who united Europeans

through war, extermination and conversion on pain of death and laid the foundation of the Habsburgs’ enduring dynasty. One of the most prestigious European Union awards today is the Charlemagne Prize, awarded to the highest elites who make a special contribution to European unity. Charlemagne is seen as the role model for later emperors. The Imperial Crown of the Holy Roman Empire was made in his honor.

When Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz held the rotating EU presidency, he made this crown the key feature of Austria’s cultural program. The crown is currently undergoing a three-year investigation to reveal more facts about it. A six-year-long restoration of the castle that housed this crown during the days of the Holy Roman Empire and the days of Adolf Hitler was recently completed. It is a fitting symbol of what many would like to see for the entire empire.



**OTTO THE GREAT** | Many Germans still view their history critically, but in 2023, they are celebrating Otto the Great. The Roman emperor

and king of the East Frankish Empire died 1,050 years ago on May 7, 973.

“Otto I from the dynasty of the Liudolfing was not just any regent,” *Die Welt*

noted in honor of his anniversary, “he is historically as important as Charlemagne. The ruler united the individual tribes above all in the fight against the Magyars, who had been plundering and murdering through Europe for decades. In the battle on the Lechfeld near Augsburg, Otto is said to have wielded the ‘Holy Lance’ against the wild hordes in 955—a weapon that is now exhibited in Vienna’s treasury and is said to contain a nail from Christ’s cross.”

Otto the Great laid the foundation of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation. “His subjects praised him as the ‘head of the whole world,’” *Die Welt* concluded. To be “the head of the whole world” is the exact stated goal of the Holy Roman Empire and the Catholic Church.



**MAXIMILIAN AND LEOPOLD** | In 2019, Austria celebrated the “Maximilian Year,” honoring the 500th anniversary of the death

of Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I. The Catholic Church and Austrian authorities organized more than 100

celebratory masses and other events. The Catholic news service *Crux* wrote at the time: “The country’s decision to publicly honor a former Catholic ruler, who died Jan. 12, 1519, marks a noteworthy change in mainstream Austrian culture, which has sought to distance the country from its Christian past and national history in recent decades.”

Austria even hosted a special exhibition, “The Emperor’s New Saint—Maximilian I and Margrave Leopold III in Times of Changing Media,” which showed how Maximilian I venerated Leopold III (1073–1136), ruler of Austria. The World of the Habsburgs website explains: “The ruling monarch saw himself as a successor of the saints, whose reliquaries served as attributes at the ruler’s accession as a sign of legitimate, divinely ordained sovereignty.”

This is some profound insight from history about why European leaders honor past emperors.

There are also parallels between the Habsburgs’ veneration of Leopold III and the Holy Roman Empire’s level of power. The more they venerated

## Is Germany the Victim of American

**G**ermany’s view of its own history and the world is changing. Instead of being the perpetrator, Germany is portrayed as the victim.

*Compact* magazine’s most recent history issue is called “The Death Camps of the Americans.” While everyone has focused on Germany’s death camps during the war, the magazine claims the cruelty of America has been overlooked. “The mass death of German prisoners of war on the Rhine meadows was not so-called collateral damage but was deliberately brought about,” it claims. “Responsible for the camps was the commander-in-chief of the United States and Allied forces, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, who despised our people beyond measure.”

The message cannot be missed: *America hates us and has suppressed us with malicious intent. They had death camps too.*

Forgotten are America’s generosityies. Also forgotten is the fact that many German war criminals went unpunished, that industrialists continued their

businesses, that Germany’s army was allowed to be revived, and that the U.S. protected West Germany from Soviet rule.

*Compact* is what the German mainstream media calls “far right.” Nonetheless, it has a readership in the tens of thousands, and the party it supports is currently the second-most popular party in Germany—the Alternative für Deutschland (AfD).

AfD leader Tino Chrupalla told the right-wing blog *Sezession* on May 11: “Historical guilt should no longer determine the way we act.”

Anti-Americanism is not just a problem among German fringe parties. Thorsten Schulte used to work as an investment banker and was a member of the mainstream Christian Democratic Union for 26 years. In 2017, his book *Kontrollverlust* (*Loss of Control*), which criticized the handling of Germany’s migration crisis, topped *Spiegel*’s bestseller list. Two years later, he wrote *Fremdbestimmt* (*Directed by Others*), which claims to unmask “the historiography of the victors, exposes



Leopold, the more powerful and *violent* the empire became in its confrontations with its opponenets and enemies, which included Muslim Turks, Protestant reformers and Jews.

In 2018, Guttenberg was invited to speak at a festival for the traditional regional Austrian holiday St. Leopold's Day. He said, "In Germany, it would not be possible to print St. Leopold on the front page of the invitation. We would have a monthlong debate on whose toes we could possibly step on by doing so." He and others would like to revert German and European culture to celebrate such heritage much more openly.

But Guttenberg may be biased. In 1663, Saint Leopold was promoted as the patron saint in *all* the lands of Austria by his namesake, Leopold I, who also elevated the Guttenberg dynasty to the status of *Reichsfreiherr* (Baron of the Empire). Eduard Habsburg calls Leopold I the "pinnacle of the Catholic Faith in Habsburg lands." Meanwhile, Guttenberg himself is a descendant of another Leopold—Holy Roman Emperor Leopold II (1747–1792).



**NAPOLÉON** | On May 5, 2021, France commemorated the 200th anniversary of the death of Napoleon Bonaparte. In response to criticism, French President Emmanuel Macron said, "Napoleon is a part of us."

That sums up how many Europeans are embracing their past rulers: *Focus on the good; ignore the evil.*

**BUT CAN YOU PRAISE THE ONE AND OVERLOOK THE OTHER?**

### Dangerous Precedent

At the *Trumpet* we often quote Otto von Habsburg. Herbert W. Armstrong—editor in chief of our predecessor magazine, the *Plain Truth*—met with him and discussed some of these ideas. It was Habsburg's dream to revive the old empire in the form of the European Union. But while the union seeks to unite its member states under one government, something is missing today: the role of the Catholic Church. This caused Mr. Armstrong to write: "In only one way can this resurrected Holy Roman Empire be brought to

fruition—by the 'good offices' of the Vatican, uniting church and state once again, with the Vatican astride and ruling (Revelation 17:1-5)."

The Bible reveals that this unification of European nations under the roof of one leader and through the Catholic Church is about to happen. It will be a resurrection of the "old empire."

"And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space" (Revelation 17:10). This verse is key to understanding the *timing* of the next resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. In his article "The Holy Roman Empire Goes Public—Big Time!" *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote, "God says that after five are fallen, He would send someone to explain this prophecy. This was Herbert W. Armstrong" (*Trumpet*, October 2018).

Mr. Armstrong first explained this prophecy during the days of Adolf Hitler. He was the "one is" in verse 10. The last king over the last resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire has "not yet come."

Now we are seeing this empire being revived a final time. "And remarkably," Mr. Flurry continued, "as they are reviving it, Europeans are doing something they have never done since the vile and murderous sixth head: They are publicizing the Holy Roman Empire! They don't publicize what *Adolf Hitler* did; too many people remember that bloody history. Instead they cloak it in the tradition of Charlemagne. And yet it is the same story! Not as many people died in the First Reich because they didn't have the same military technology then. But it is the same ambition!" ■

## Cruelty?

untruths, half-truths and the omission of important facts in our media," the Amazon description reads. This according to the author is the reason for Germany's "guilt complex."

Changing history also changes Germany's present view of America.

In a June 2022 article, Germany's *Die Welt*

newspaper highlighted how Germany's left blamed the Ukraine War at least partly on "U.S. imperialism." In other words: *The U.S. is worse than Russian President Vladimir Putin and the cause for enmity with Russia!*

The times when German and Russian cooperation caused the death of millions in Eastern Europe are forgotten. America is blamed. History is being rewritten.

God Himself is holding America accountable for the evil it propagates—and yet Isaiah, along with the book of Nahum and Revelation 17, shows that Germany's



anger and God's wrath are not the same. Germany may recognize some of America's flaws, but it resents God's great purpose for this nation as explained in *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. This stirs God's anger and causes Him to ask, "Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith?" (Isaiah 10:15).

In other words, *Who are you to question your Creator's decision? If I can use you to punish my people, can I not decide the purpose of that punishment?*

**BY JOSUÉ MICHELS**

## What's an empire without an emperor?

Europe is uniting but still lacks a head.

The *Trumpet* is watching one man to be the modern Charlemagne. To learn who it is, request our free booklet ***A Strong German Leader Is Imminent.***

**W**E JUST PUBLISHED A HARDBACK EDITION OF MY book *America Under Attack* with an added chapter. We did this because we feel this message is so important at this time.

*America Under Attack* explains what is happening in America today, as well as within Britain and the Jewish nation—the end-time descendants of ancient Israel. The United States and United Kingdom are the two birthright nations, and Judah is the scepter nation. God’s wrath is on these three nations most of all. (Prove this in our free book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.) He gave them unparalleled blessings, and they have failed to use

those blessings to show the rest of the world how to turn to God, how to solve problems and how to have joy, success and peace.

The book of Kings is part of the former prophets. This book was written by a prophet, and most of the prophecy contained within it is for this end time.

2 Kings 14:26-27 read, “For the Lord saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter: for there was not any shut up, nor any left, nor any helper for Israel. And the Lord said not that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.” The Ferrar-Fenton translation reads, “For the Ever-Living pitied the immeasurable miseries of Israel both without and within, when there was no ease for Israel.” *America Under Attack* explains how we are living through the end-time fulfillment of this prophecy.

God is going to save Israel temporarily through a modern-day Jeroboam. DONALD TRUMP IS COMING BACK. Of course, he has some serious sins and problems; it isn’t because of his *righteousness* that God is using him. But Mr. Trump is going to receive the opportunity to restore some stability to America, for a short time.

“Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he warred, and how he recovered Damascus, and Hamath ...” (verse 28). Mr. Trump will have to WAR HIS WAY BACK. Watch for him to do just that!

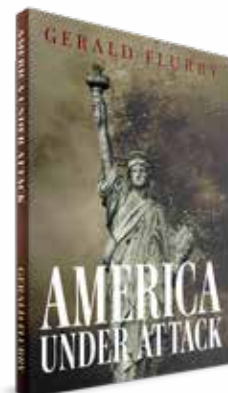
But the national revival that he oversees will be brief. Anciently, after Jeroboam’s reign, Assyria did conquer Israel. The same is about to happen again unless our peoples repent.

This is all explained in *America Under Attack*. It illuminates the catastrophe taking place in this nation today. This book shows how Satan is orchestrating it all by using one man in particular, an end-time type of Antiochus Epiphanes.

### Antiochus

Daniel 8 is an end-time prophecy that was fulfilled in type by Antiochus Epiphanes in the second century B.C. But its end-time fulfillment occurred in spiritual Israel, the Church of God, when an Antiochus gained high office and cast the truth to the ground, destroying the Church. This is explained in the first book I wrote, *Malachi’s Message* (request a free copy).

# AMERICA UNDER ATTACK WAS PROPHESED



God is pleading with you to heed the warning in this book.  
**BY GERALD FLURRY**



My latest book, the expanded *America Under Attack* (I wrote a much smaller version in 2013), shows that Satan used the SAME BLUEPRINT within the *physical* nations of Israel. He brought an Antiochus to power who destroys from within!

So it is interesting that both *Malachi's Message* and *America Under Attack* are about exposing a Satan-inspired leader. These two books are similar in important ways.

Both of these books explain Daniel 8 thoroughly. Both show how the language of ferocious warfare in this prophecy applies to the destruction within spiritual and physical Israel. Both expose how Satan uses a man to try to BLOT OUT the name of Israel!

This evil power wreaks enormous destruction, including “cast[ing] down the truth to the ground” (verses 10-12). These verses are dual: They are directed to spiritual Israel (the Church) and physical Israel (three nations especially). Among those three nations, the American superpower is most prominent because of all the power and riches God has given us. We didn't gain those riches from our own ingenuity but because GOD GAVE us that wealth—yet now many people are fighting against Christ and “casting truth to the ground”!

It is easy to see truth being cast to the ground in America today. Barack Obama has revealed that he hates the Constitution. He is *lawless* in the way he pursues his destructive goals. He is all about lawlessness! And he exalts *lies*, not truth! And so many other government officials follow his leadership.

Obama criticized the Constitution's “fundamental flaw” in 2001: the fact that it “says what the states *can't* do to you, says what the federal government *can't* do to you, but doesn't say what the federal government or state government must do on your behalf.” There is a reason the Constitution focuses on what the government CAN'T do: because it aims to RESTRAIN DESPOTISM AND TYRANNY! It was written so we won't have people ruling *according to their own will*—which means being ruled by the devil. Restraining that is the Constitution's GREAT STRENGTH. We need the Constitution, or we will have a *despot* ruling us!

The Constitution is based on many biblical principles. The framers said it would work ONLY for a moral and religious people. Immoral and irreligious America is proving the tragic truth of that insight today.

Many leftists say it's time to abandon the Constitution. One founding member of Black Lives Matter, Alicia Garza, said, “The people vowing to protect the Constitution are vowing to protect white supremacy and genocide.” That is right out of Satan's mind! The truth is, what these people really dislike most of all is God Himself! That is why they want to BLOT OUT the *name of Israel!*

The prophecy continues in verses 23-24: “And in the latter time of their kingdom, when *the transgressors are come to the full*—you see this today like never before—“a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences [this is of the devil], shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power [it's by Satan's power]: and he shall destroy wonderfully [mightily], and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.” This is talking about a *third* Antiochus, the man who will lead the Holy Roman Empire in conquering the physical nations of Israel. He will KILL THE HOLY PEOPLE, the lukewarm saints who repent in the Great Tribulation! This shows how vile and destructive these Antiochuses are!

Thankfully, verse 25 shows that this nightmare will end with Jesus Christ returning and breaking this man's empire!

So both *Malachi's Message* and *America Under Attack* expose these satanic trends.

### **Ezekiel's Scroll**

*Malachi's Message* was prophesied in Revelation 10. Here the Apostle John describes a “little book” being delivered by a mighty angel. When John asked for the book, the angel said, “Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey” (verse 9). John obeyed, and said, “[I]t was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter” (verse 10). Immediately after that comes the commission that God has given the PCG today: “And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings” (verse 11).

*Malachi's Message* is the little book. I prove this in my booklet *The Little Book* (request a free copy). It exposes Antiochus and the damage he did in God's own Church. It shows how he and his fellows cast truth to the ground and lied like the devil. It is sweet to receive understanding about what happened in the Church—but it is very bitter truth as well.

The Prophet Ezekiel spoke of a piece of writing similar to the little book of Revelation 10 (Ezekiel 2:8-10; 3:1-3). He wrote his book over a hundred years after the Israelites had gone into captivity, so his message wasn't for Israel then—it is for Israel *today*. He prophesies of nuclear weapons and cities being left without inhabitant! Ezekiel has some of the Bible's strongest prophecies, and they are clearly for the end time.

For years, I thought that the scroll Ezekiel describes as having “lamentations, mourning and woe” was the little book, *Malachi's Message*. I have come to understand that I was wrong—that it is, in fact, *America Under Attack*.

The CONTEXT shows this. As I wrote in *Ezekiel—The End-Time Prophet*, “Keep your mind on the story flow in Ezekiel 3. Remember, the book of Ezekiel has a story flow. So the *context* is a key to understanding this book.” The context gives evidence of *America Under Attack*. This book is about *another* Antiochus, a man who tries to blot out the name of Israel.

“And he said unto me, Son of man, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation ...” (Ezekiel 2:3). The Hebrew actually reads “rebellious NATIONS”—plural. This is directed at *nations* today. There were 12 tribes of Israel whose descendants are being cursed in this end time, and three in particular have REALLY stirred God's wrath! “For they are impudent children and stiffhearted .... [A]nd thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God. And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they are a rebellious house,) yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them” (verses 4-5). God is warning of terrible things coming, and *there is a prophet on the scene*. We must know who that is, or we could never understand this.

Verse 6 shows that we are going to experience some terribly stormy times—but God tells us not to fear. Amid trials and tests, He will care for us and give us wonderful miracles.

Up to this point in the prophecy, there is no little book. But there is something similar.

“And thou [one man here] shalt speak my words unto them, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear [refuse]:

for they are most rebellious. But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee” (verses 7-8). That sounds like the little book. I thought it *was* describing the little book. But I was wrong about that, and I’ll show you why.

In Ezekiel 2 and 3, God is giving us something. He says, *Eat it up—it will be sweet in your mouth and bitter in your belly*. The language is very similar to the little book. But these verses here are talking about *America Under Attack*.

Everything was falling apart in our Church, and people at the top, led by an Antiochus, were casting truth to the ground! There was widespread, rank deceit. We couldn’t understand what was happening. What were we to do? We were confused. What a catastrophe! But then the little book came and we knew exactly what was happening.

What is happening today in America? People don’t know. All over the world, people know something is terribly wrong. But they don’t understand! *America Under Attack* explains what this catastrophe is all about. And shortly, if we don’t repent, three nations are going to fall together (Hosea 5:5).

We already faced the Antiochus who destroyed the Church, so we understand the political Antiochus well. We know what it means for such a man to get control of our country. The Worldwide Church of God was *destroyed*, and 95 percent of God’s people are gone! This is a BLISTERING WARNING! So we tell people about the crisis in America and why it is here. America’s massive and growing debt is a deadly national security threat. People are pouring over the southern border; cartels are making billions bringing drugs and sick people and prisoners and terrorists into our nation. Everybody who loves this country is appalled! They can’t understand why God won’t stop that. Even religious people are puzzled. We explain why God isn’t answering their prayers to correct the situation. *America Under Attack* explains it, just like *Malachi’s Message* did for the Church.

### Sweet and Bitter

Revelation 10 speaks specifically about a “little book.” But Ezekiel 2:9 says, “And when I looked, behold, AN HAND was sent unto me; and, lo, A ROLL OF A BOOK was therein.” It wasn’t a huge scroll, but something you could hold in your hand. It is “a roll of a book,” but it doesn’t say the little book.

The little book, *Malachi’s Message*, is 157 pages. *America Under Attack* is 219 pages long. God didn’t call it a “big book,” but He called it a book, not a little book. I think that makes this one a little bigger, and certainly it is a book.

“And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe” (verse 10). There is bad news here—something very bitter!

Ezekiel 3:1 continues, “Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll [much like the little book], and go speak unto the house of Israel,” three nations in particular. Look at the context: There is no discussion of the Laodicean Church yet. HE IS AIMING THIS AT NATIONS OF ISRAEL. This is a warning we must publish! God says, *Eat this, and get this message out there!* IT IS TO NATIONS, NOT TO THE CHURCH.

Watch the story flow, because Ezekiel 2 and 3 are a single prophecy that leads into the Great Tribulation and beyond.

The Ferrar-Fenton reads, “You, however, Son of Adam, listen to what I say to you;—be not rebellious,—like that rebellious family. Open your mouth and eat what I give you. Then I looked and saw a hand approach me, with a Roll-book in it, and it spread it before me ...” (Ezekiel 2:8-9). The Jewish Publication Society translation of verse 9 says, “And when I looked, behold, an hand was put forth unto me, and lo, a roll of A BOOK was there.” It is about a book—a book about lamentations, mourning and woe that lead into the Great Tribulation!

I know of no book that fits this description like *America Under Attack*. And when you realize that an Antiochus is on the scene, that narrows this down even further. There are only three Antiochuses in this modern day that I know of. The spiritual Antiochus is called “the son of perdition” (2 Thessalonians 2:3), and the only other person called that was Judas Iscariot. He betrayed Jesus Christ, and Satan entered into him



**Everybody who loves this country is appalled. They can’t understand why God won’t stop that. Even religious people are puzzled. We explain why God isn’t answering their prayers to correct the situation.**

just before he did (John 13:27). These three evil men are emphasized, and God wants to make sure we have a book to explain this. By doing that, we expose Satan the devil.

Ezekiel 3:2-3 continue: “So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness.” That’s exactly what it says about the little book. The fact that God uses these same words shows the similarity in theme between these two books.

Verse 11 has the first mention of the Laodiceans, or spiritual Israel. That in itself tells you something: There is much here that doesn’t even address the situation explained in the little book!

“And go, get thee to *them of the captivity*, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord God; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear” (verse 11). “Them of the captivity” were Jews with Ezekiel in Babylon, and that was only a type of what is happening today. The Laodiceans are *in spiritual captivity!* Where it says “the children,” it should read “sons” (*Companion Bible*). These are the people of God—His *Spirit-begotten sons*—yet they are in captivity to the devil! That is 95 percent of God’s people. (Read more about this in Revelation 3:14-22.)

“So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in *bitterness*, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the Lord was strong upon me” (Ezekiel 3:14). In verse 3, *sweet as honey*; in verse 14, *bitterness*. These expressions match those about the little book.

The little book and *America Under Attack* explain the catastrophes inside the Church and inside a nation, America, along with two of its allies: the British and the Jews.

### Prelude to Tribulation

Ezekiel 3:15 says, “Then I came to *them of the captivity* ... and remained there astonished among them SEVEN DAYS.” Ezekiel—*The End-Time Prophet* explains these seven days and the day-for-a-year prophetic principle (see Ezekiel 4:6). These “seven days” are the first seven years of the Philadelphia Church of God when we focused on distributing *Malachi’s Message* to the spiritual captives of the Laodicean Church.

Then something changed: “And it came to pass at the end of seven days, that the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, I have made thee a watchman UNTO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me” (Ezekiel 3:16-17). Notice, now our focus is no longer on the Laodiceans but back on *the nations*. We have a watchman message for them—on *The Key of David*, in the *Trumpet*, the *Trumpet Daily* and so much more.

In verse 18 God says that if we fail to warn people, He will hold us *responsible for their BLOOD!* God has given His people a critical job that must be done.

In the story flow in Ezekiel, this leads right into God’s people being taken to a place of safety (verse 22). Verse 26 describes the famine of the word, when the watchman work is over. Then comes the Great Tribulation, beginning in Ezekiel 4.

What other book besides *America Under Attack* could possibly be referenced here?

Ezekiel 4:2 describes a “siege against” Israel. There is a trade war and a siege against America in particular, but also the UK, Australia, New Zealand and Canada. The besiegement is already beginning. This marks the start of the Tribulation.

Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28 describe what happens. Deuteronomy 28:52 says, “And he shall besiege thee in all thy gates ...” Have they done that? Britain and America had all the trade gates, and they are almost all gone! Now who will control the trade routes? The tyrants who rule during the “times of the Gentiles”! (Luke 21:24). Deuteronomy 31:29 says this “evil will befall you in the latter days.” This is for us today!

Ezekiel 5 shows how this siege sparks THREE PARTS of the Great Tribulation: “And thou, son of man, take thee a sharp knife, take thee a barber’s razor, and cause it to pass upon thine head and upon thy beard: then take thee balances to weigh, and divide the hair. Thou shalt burn with fire a third part in the midst of the city, *when the days of the siege are fulfilled*”—that’s part one. THAT SIEGE WILL PRECIPITATE THE DEATH OF OVER A HUNDRED MILLION PEOPLE! “[A]nd thou shalt take a third part, and smite about it with a knife [that’s part two: a nuclear attack]: and a third part thou shalt scatter in the wind; and I will draw out a sword after them [that’s part three: captivity]” (verses 1-2). This is a terrifying prophecy of how the nations of Israel will be conquered and destroyed!

“Thou shalt also take thereof a few in number, and bind them in thy skirts” (verse 3). THIS REFERS TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD, WHOM GOD WILL PROTECT.

This truly is a horrifying picture. People are fighting God—and now God is AGAINST THEM! (verse 8). “And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of all thine abominations” (verse 9). It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

### Getting to Know God

How bad will conditions get? Can you emotionally handle what Ezekiel 5:10 says will happen to America? If God isn’t protecting you, this is what you will have to live through!

Ezekiel 6:6 prophesies, “In all your dwellingplaces the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate; that your altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and your idols may be broken and cease, and your images may be cut down, and your works may be abolished.” This truly is terrifying punishment.

Then verses 8 and 9 say, “Yet will I leave a remnant, that ye may have some that shall escape the sword among the nations, when ye shall be scattered through the countries. And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives ...” This is saying that the Laodiceans will be slaves around the world—but there, in captivity, *they will be speaking for God!* That is inspiring.

“And THEY SHALL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD, and that I have not said in vain that I would do this evil unto them” (verse 10). Ezekiel says 23 more times by God’s inspiration that THEY ARE GOING TO GET TO KNOW GOD! These terrible crises will cause people to get to know God.

People need to be warned of what is coming. We need to do all we can to get *America Under Attack* out to this world. They need it! God has given this book at this time so we can be a witness to them, and give people time to repent before God. If they really understood what is coming, it surely would impact and motivate them. This is going to be the worst suffering man has ever experienced! And GOD HOLDS US ACCOUNTABLE FOR WARNING THEM. We should be *thankful* for what He has given us the opportunity to do.

Bad times are coming, but they will last only a short time. Then all these troubles will be gone forever, and the majestic prophecies of the wonderful World Tomorrow will come to pass before our eyes! And then, before long, we will be exploring and populating the fabulous, magnificent universe! ■

**A prophesied book—  
a book you need—  
yours free**

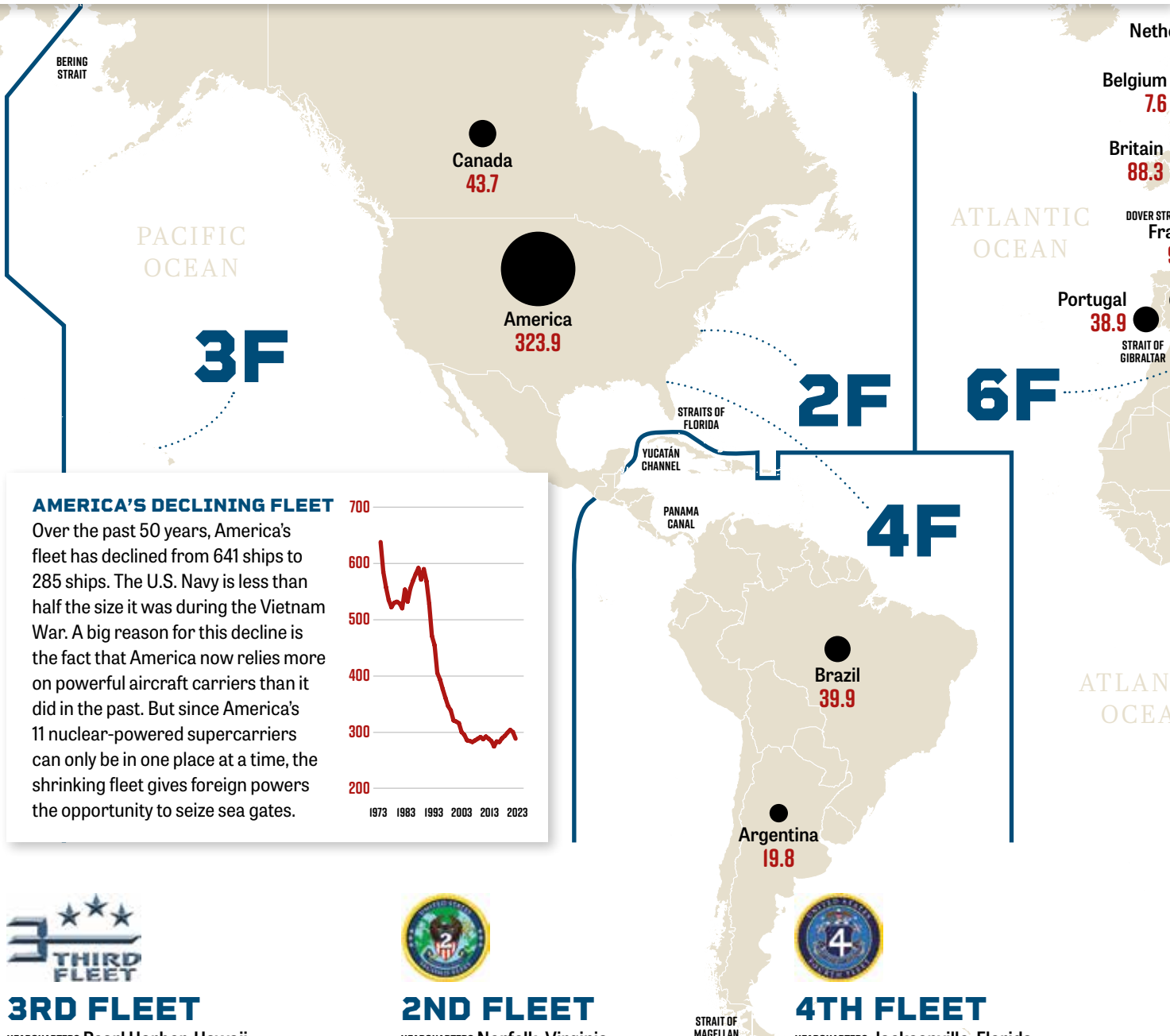
All you need to do is order **America Under Attack** on [theTrumpet.com](http://theTrumpet.com).





# Is America's Navy Still the World's Best?

With only about 290 ships ready to be deployed, the United States Navy certainly isn't the biggest in the world. But it is undoubtedly the strongest. Yet, in an age of rising foreign powers, just having the world's best navy might not be enough to ensure the world's sea lanes stay open. Russia has at least 40 icebreakers to America's one. Any military conflict in the Arctic will heavily favor Russia. Meanwhile, many military experts predict that China will soon be able to best American naval forces in the South China Sea. So while American ships may still be able to defend the homeland, their ability to defend the trade routes and maritime choke points the nation relies on is in doubt.



## 3RD FLEET

**HEADQUARTERS** Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

**SEA GATE** Bering Strait

**MAIN RIVAL** Mexico

**STRENGTH** 81 ships and submarines  
28% of total fleet power

**STATUS** Currently secure

The 3rd Fleet defends America's West Coast and the East Atlantic Ocean. Its main challenge is stopping fentanyl and other drugs from China from arriving in America. Like the 2nd Fleet, it is one of the best equipped.



## 2ND FLEET

**HEADQUARTERS** Norfolk, Virginia

**SEA GATE** Straits of Florida

**MAIN RIVAL** Cuba

**STRENGTH** 80 ships and submarines  
28% of total fleet power

**STATUS** Currently secure

The 2nd Fleet defends America's East Coast and the North Atlantic Ocean. Because this fleet is well stocked and America has no serious enemies in the region, it is one of the best-equipped fleets for its function.



## 4TH FLEET

**HEADQUARTERS** Jacksonville, Florida

**SEA GATES** Yucatán Channel, Panama Canal, Strait of Magellan

**MAIN RIVAL** Brazil

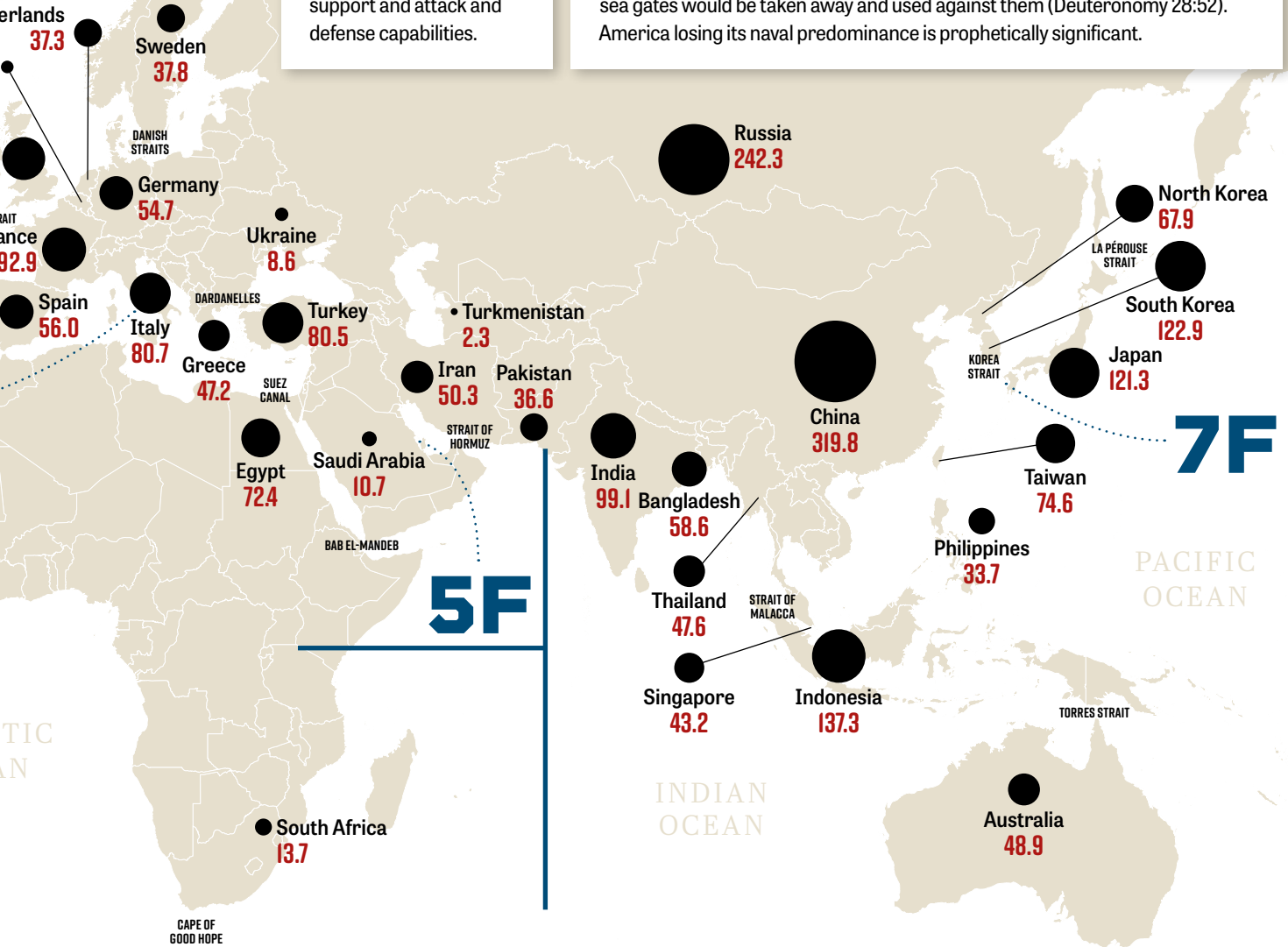
**STRENGTH** 4 ships and submarines  
1% of total fleet power

**STATUS** Vulnerable if allies betray U.S.

The 4th Fleet patrols the waters off the coast of South America. It is America's smallest and weakest fleet, yet it fulfills an important function as any foreign invasion of the U.S. would likely be launched from Latin America.

**BLACK DOT** The World Directory of Modern Military Warships assigns each navy a TrueValueRating, helping quantify each power based on overall strength, modernization, logistical support and attack and defense capabilities.

**FULFILLED PROPHECY** In *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, Herbert W. Armstrong explained that these two nations are descended from ancient Israel. They are the end-time recipients of a promise God made to Abraham that his descendants would control the “gates” of their enemies (Genesis 22:17). A gate is a narrow passage of entrance or exit. When speaking nationally, a “sea gate” is a narrow choke point like the Panama Canal. Control of these gates ensured America and Britain would become economic and military superpowers. But God warned that if America and Britain did not obey Him, those sea gates would be taken away and used against them (Deuteronomy 28:52). America losing its naval predominance is prophetically significant.



## 6TH FLEET

**HEADQUARTERS** Naples, Italy  
**SEA GATES** Dover Strait, Danish Straits, Strait of Gibraltar, Cape of Good Hope  
**MAIN RIVAL** Germany  
**STRENGTH** 40 ships and submarines  
 14% of total fleet power  
**STATUS** Vulnerable if allies betray U.S.

The 6th Fleet patrols the Western Atlantic. It is well stocked as long as the European Union remains an ally, but it would be ill equipped to handle a hostile Europe trying to cement its control over Africa or Latin America.



## 5TH FLEET

**HEADQUARTERS** Manama, Bahrain  
**SEA GATES** Dardanelles, Suez Canal, Bab el-Mandeb, Strait of Hormuz  
**MAIN RIVAL** Iran  
**STRENGTH** 22 ships and submarines  
 8% of total fleet power  
**STATUS** Currently in danger

The 5th Fleet patrols the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea and the waters off the coast of the Middle East. It also protects many other vital trade routes and oil choke points. Iran is currently this fleet's main rival.

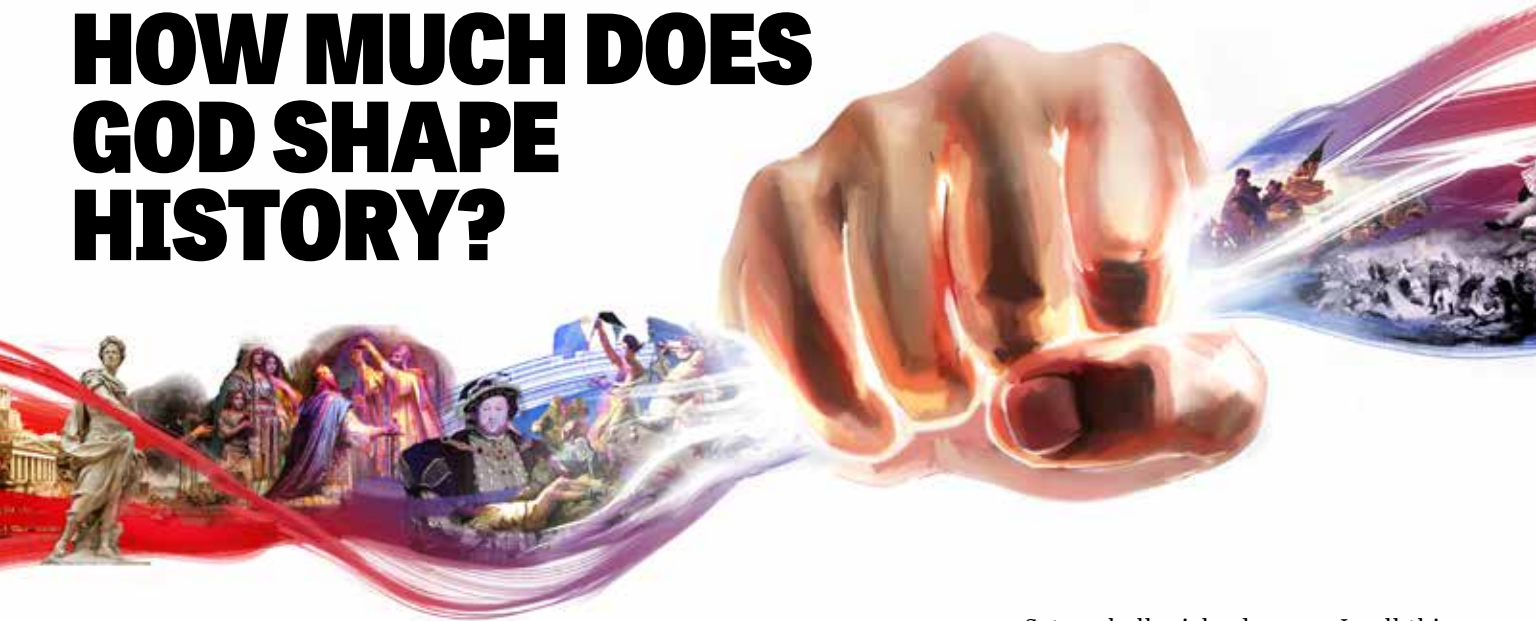


## 7TH FLEET

**HEADQUARTERS** Sasebo, Japan  
**SEA GATES** Strait of Malacca, Torres Strait, Korea Strait, La Pérouse Strait  
**MAIN RIVAL** China  
**STRENGTH** 60 ships and submarines  
 21% of total fleet power  
**STATUS** Currently in danger

The 7th Fleet patrols the Indian Ocean and Western Pacific Ocean. Its main rival is China. Its numerous assets may not be enough to protect the region from a resurgent China.

# HOW MUCH DOES GOD SHAPE HISTORY?



Understand this, and the study of history becomes an amazing wonder. **BY JOEL HILLIKER**

**W**HAT COULD BE MORE INTERESTING than human history? What could be a more educational or more useful tool for human beings today than an accurate record of the human beings of yesterday? Our past is full of fascinating lives, amazing stories, profitable knowledge, horrific warnings and worlds of information, and it flows right into the present.

Yet most people ignore history. Why?

One of the main reasons we are ignorant of our own past is that we do not understand the *flow* of history or the *purpose* of history. Educated people, even historians themselves, reject and fight against the idea that there is a flow or purpose at all.

But the past—and the present—*does* have a purpose, and it is not only *possible* to understand, it is *important* to understand.

Most people don't understand history because they have rejected the earliest record of human history and what it reveals about the Creator of human beings, the Observer of all human history, the Revealer of human purpose.

The Creator is *deeply* involved in what mankind has done and is doing. This is proved by biblical history, secular history and the pulsating present.

## Start at the Beginning

People think that the unknowable mists of time have enshrouded the beginning of human history, and that we cannot know that beginning, much less learn much if anything from it. But there is no such thing as human “prehistory.” The most important aspects of history are recorded in the world's oldest history book. In fact, it reveals the fundamental choice on which human civilization has been built.

Herbert W. Armstrong summarized

the Bible record of humanity's origin in his book *Mystery of the Ages*. The chapter “Mystery of Civilization” recounts that the human race was founded on the decision of the first human beings to rebel against their Maker. The Bible records that He then blocked them and their descendants from their original home and from having a relationship with Him, in effect sentencing mankind to 6,000 years of being cut off from Him and His Spirit. In Mr. Armstrong's words, “God said, in effect: ... ‘Go, therefore, Adam, and all your progeny that shall form the world, produce your own fund of knowledge. Decide for yourself what is good and what is evil. Produce your own educational systems and means of disseminating knowledge, as your god

To learn the main unifying thread that runs throughout human history, order your free copy of ***The United States and Britain in Prophecy***, by Herbert W. Armstrong.

Satan shall mislead you. ... In all this Satan will deceive your world with his attitude of self-centeredness—with vanity, lust and greed, jealousy and envy, competition and strife and violence and wars, rebellion against me and my law of LOVE. ... During this 6,000 years, when I myself shall cut them off from me, they shall not be eternally judged. Only, as they sow during their lifetimes, they shall reap.” This reality informs a true comprehension of human history.

Yet note too this foundational truth revealed in Scripture: that God “will have *all men* to be *SAVED*, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth”; He is “not willing that *ANY* should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9). God wants to save all men—yet He cut all men off from Himself! This is an apparent paradox. Resolving it is fundamental to understanding human history.

As human history has shown and is showing, human beings are definitely cut off from God, and we are reaping the horrible fruits of what we have sown. We are following a different god altogether and heaping up mountains of suffering for ourselves and our children.

*But God has not simply surrendered and abandoned mankind.* He is still working out His plan for *all men*. There are many fascinating proofs that He is not completely “hands off” regarding events in this world. In fact, God is *deeply involved* in history! He has been and is still shaping events to bring about His purposes.





### Clear Examples

History is the history of individuals, and there are plenty of examples of God intervening in some individuals' lives to alter the course of history.

To take one example, consider George Washington. For his role as a general in the American Revolution and as the nation's first president, he is called "the indispensable man" in America's founding. Yet several life-threatening dangers nearly erased him from history before he could take his place in it.

Washington once traveled through 500 miles of forest held by Indians to negotiate with them. At one point, an Indian guide who was leading his team ran ahead about 15 paces, turned and aimed a gun at him. The gun discharged, but even at that close range, the bullet missed.

Not long after, Washington was serving as a British Army officer when his unit was ambushed by Indians. "The officers on their horses were perfect targets. One



after another they went down," James Thomas Flexner wrote in *The Indispensable Man*. "Washington's horse was shot from under him. He leapt on another. Bullets tore his coat. ... Washington's second horse crumpled; his hat was shot off."

How often has God ensured a particular outcome by causing a marksman to

miss his target or his weapon to misfire? How many times has He ordered his angels to invisibly intervene?

Of combat, Washington once remarked, "I heard the bullets whistle, and believe me, there is something charming in the sound." How different would American history be if any one of those bullets had been an inch closer?

Washington went on to change the course of America, which changed the course of the world. And we should indeed believe him when he said, "I've been left in the land of the living thanks to ... the miraculous care of Providence, that protected me beyond all human expectation."

Study history, and you see "the miraculous care of Providence" literally everywhere.

*Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry has said that Winston Churchill, even as a child, was the subject of God's intervention. His trials as a child and youth were necessary to prepare him for Britain's most trying hour—as was his protection from drowning, a long fall, pneumonia, three car crashes, two plane crashes, a house fire, a prison escape, dozens of combat situations across five wars, not to mention political irrelevance and the "black dog" of depression.

Biographer William Manchester wrote in *The Last Lion* that Churchill "felt shielded by mysterious intervention, believing that 'Chance, Fortune, Luck, Destiny, Fate, Providence seem to me only different ways of expressing the same thing, to wit, that a man's own contribution to his life story is continually dominated by an external superior power.'"

Churchill, like billions of others, did not know the true God, but the true God knew him. And Churchill's feat of *saving Western civilization* was a clear example of God's intervention in history. (Ezekiel 33 prophesied the role Churchill played in World War II. Request your free copy of *Winston S. Churchill: The Watchman*.) If that external superior power was dominating the life of this man from the time he was a young boy in the 1880s, how many human lives is the Creator of human life involved in? Was He also considering other boys for that role? It is impossible to know the myriad ways God worked just in that life, let alone all other human lives.

This same man would later address the United States Congress on Dec. 26, 1941, with these words: "I will say that he must indeed have a blind soul who cannot see that some great purpose and design is being worked out here below of which we have the honor to be the faithful servants."

God has the power of wounding and healing, of life and of death (Deuteronomy 32:39). If He wants someone to live, to prosper, to rule—or to fall, to be shoved aside from history, to die and be forgotten—He can do that. God clearly uses this power to shape history as He wishes, for His reasons.

When you comprehend what you are looking at, human history becomes a wondrous study of what God is achieving.



### Does God Have a Favorite?

The Genesis record skims about 2,000 years of early human history in just a few chapters. In chapter 12, it abruptly stops and dwells, in detail, on the life of one man, Abraham. Then, the *entire rest of the Bible* is primarily the history of this man's descendants and the nation that came from him, Israel.

Israel is at the heart of the Bible. Did you realize that the Bible is essentially the history of this one people? Though God cut mankind off from Himself, He made a special exception for one nation, a nation that descended from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. To that nation, He revealed Himself and gave His law. Why? Why would God treat Israel differently?

Understanding what God did with Israel unlocks the knowledge of everything God is doing with the rest of humanity throughout history (e.g. Romans 9:3-5).

God chose that nation for a purpose: *for the benefit of other nations*. Israel was not God's "favorite" at all (Deuteronomy 7:6-10); in fact, God repeatedly points

out Israel's many shortcomings and sins. It was called to be an *example* nation to other nations, with greater opportunities and therefore greater accountability (Deuteronomy 4:5-9). Sadly, the Israelite nations have failed profoundly, much as Adam and Eve did. Yet God is *still* enacting plans to reach other nations—and rebellious physical Israel as well. God *is* love, and He really does love all men! He expresses that love in so many ways, and when you know what to look for in history, you can recognize it.

Biblical and secular history show that God has clearly shaped historical events for the descendants of the Israelites. But what about the *rest* of the nations, which have never had a history with God? Does He intervene in their history? The answer is a resounding *yes*.

For one thing, the Israelites have interacted with other nations. God has shaped events within these nations, hindering or empowering them for the purpose of exalting or punishing the Israelites. For example, He raised the Assyrian Empire to take captive rebellious Israel (e.g. Isaiah 10:5-6).

There are also many times when God has worked in other nations more directly, apart from Israel. For example, He has sent messengers to give them key understanding, if they will accept it. Consider the story of God warning the Ninevites through the Prophet Jonah, and, upon their repentance, withholding punishment against them.

God truly does want *all men* to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Everything He has done and continues to do in the affairs of human history is entirely consistent with this goal. The history of humankind is the history of God preparing to solve the tragic mistake human beings have been making since the Garden of Eden—to restore His government to Earth and to help *all men* be saved.

### God's Gift to All Nations

At the end of his life, Moses gave a parting song that shows God's deep involvement with the nation of Israel—and something more. Recorded in Deuteronomy 32, this song emphasizes knowing history, because truly *knowing history* means KNOWING GOD.

This chapter reveals that God not

only gave the Israelites their Promised Land but also “divided to the nations their inheritance” (verse 8). *Inheritance* is the word God used regarding Israel's Promised Land—but this says God gave *land* as an inheritance to ALL NATIONS. He has a plan for *all* peoples—not just Israel. Verses 20-21 refer to Israel failing in its responsibility and God offering salvation to the Gentiles. (The word *Gentiles* simply means “the nations.”)

Much later, the Apostle Paul referenced these words of Moses in Romans 10. Paul was writing soon after the Church had been established by Jesus Christ, into which God has called people from *many nations*. Paul traveled throughout Greece: Berea, Macedonia, Thessalonica. In fact, he and others were writing the New Testament in the Greek language. God also sent Paul to Athens—the capital of philosophy, bustling with sophisticated men who believed in many different gods—and Paul told them about the true God (Acts 17).

He reasoned with these pagans in a way they could understand to reach them with the truth.

Paul explained how the God of the Hebrew Bible “made the world and all things therein” (verse 24), witnessed all human history, and “hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation” (verse 26). Though God worked with Israel in a special way, He did not leave the rest of the world alone. Verse 27 says, “God *intended* that they would seek Him and *perhaps* [or *in the hope that*] reach out for Him and find Him ...” (*Berean Standard Bible*). Yes, God cut man off at the Garden of Eden—but He also has plans for when people seek Him! He truly hopes that they will *find Him*.

Paul boldly informed these people that God is “not far from every one of us.” God's presence is all over Earth

(2 Chronicles 16:9; Proverbs 15:3; Jeremiah 23:23-24). Paul knew the Greek poets and even quoted from them (Epimenides and Aratus), saying that “we are [God's] offspring” (Acts 17:28). He said their graven idols were false and that it was time for them to repent (verses 29-31). What a message for these pagans! And some of these Greeks *believed* (verse 34).

What does it tell you about God that He sent Paul to Athens, of all places, with this message?

Mankind *has* rejected God from the very first. God *did* cut off mankind from

Himself at the Garden of Eden, including all the generations and nations since. But He cut them off for a purpose. He wants them to learn and to come to know Him, whether in this life or in the resurrection, and He knows when people are seeking after Him and when is the best time to open that relationship up to them.

How many seeds has God been planting throughout 6,000

years of human history, across the ages, across the continents, across the races, anticipating the day that He will *resurrect* these individuals? (Ezekiel 37; Revelation 20). God is not far from anyone in this world—if they would just open their eyes.

### Nebuchadnezzar Proves God's Love

Nebuchadnezzar II (or Nebuchadrezzar) was the most prestigious king of the Neo-Babylonian Empire. “[H]e became the most powerful ruler of his time in the Near East, and the greatest warrior, statesman and builder in all the succession of Babylonian kings,” wrote historian Will Durant. “Palestine and Syria then fell easily under his sway ...” (*The Story of Civilization*).

That one clause, “Palestine ... fell easily under his sway,” includes the conquest of the kingdom of Judah and the destruction of Jerusalem. God exalted the Babylonian Empire under



Nebuchadnezzar and used it to correct His unruly people Judah. God was deeply involved in the rise of Babylon and the reign of Nebuchadnezzar specifically. He guided this king to seize some of the Jewish people he had conquered and use them as his servants.

Nebuchadnezzar worshiped Marduk, god-in-chief of Babylon. Yet God did something extraordinary with this proud, pompous, pagan king. He gave him a troubling, mysterious dream. Then, to one of those Jewish captives, Daniel, God revealed the meaning of this dream. You can read this history in Daniel 2.

In doing so, Daniel told the king—and He tells us—that *not Marduk* but the TRUE GOD is the one who removes and establishes kings—and not just the kings of Israel. This is a *specific way* in which God has guided human history.

Daniel then spoke about what God had revealed: The king had seen a great metallic figure, and that figure portrayed four world-ruling Gentile empires that would dominate Earth, from the rulership of Nebuchadnezzar to just prior to the rulership of Jesus Christ.

Imagine the effect of Daniel's words on this mighty ruler. All his advisers, priests and magicians couldn't tell him one thing about this disturbing dream. Yet a Jewish slave boy told him exactly what he had dreamed in his own mind—and precisely what it meant! Nebuchadnezzar recognized that his own religion was fake and that *Daniel's* was real. He appointed Daniel and his friends to the highest government offices in the Babylonian Empire.

As impressive as that was, however, it is nothing compared to the fact that GOD THEN BROUGHT THAT DREAM TO LIFE.

Over the next 25 centuries, God shaped world events, raised kings, removed kings, influenced decisions and actions of countless men, directed the flow of resources and wealth, determined the outcomes of battles and wars. The Babylonian-Chaldean "head of gold" of the statue was indeed overtaken by the Persian breast and arms of silver, which was conquered by the Greco-Macedonian belly and thighs of brass, which was overcome by Rome, split in two legs of iron representing its capitals at Rome and Constantinople, and ending with 10 toes representing 10 kings in the modern age.

This dream depicted the greatest overview of human history in all of literature.

God had wanted the kingdom of Israel, then the kingdom of Judah, to become the dominant power in the world. But the people rebelled, so God raised up Assyria to conquer Israel, then Babylon to conquer Judah—the first in a series of Gentile empires that would dominate the world in Israel's stead.

God has great power to forecast enormous events in great detail, to deeply involve Himself in human history, and to bring His prophecies to pass.

### The Greatest Lesson We Can Learn

"That image teaches the greatest lesson mankind could possibly learn," Mr. Flurry writes in his booklet *Daniel Unlocks Revelation*. What is that lesson? It is encapsulated in Daniel 4:17: "This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that THE MOST HIGH RULETH IN THE KINGDOM OF MEN, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men." Mr. Flurry explains, "God has given man 6,000 years to rule his own way, but He still makes certain that all events are shaped by His master plan. He FORCES EVENTS to shape the Daniel 2 image and work out His plan—He rules in the kingdom of men *today*" (ibid; emphasis added throughout).

Mr. Flurry continues: "We shouldn't be too impressed by leaders of this world. God rules them and sets up whomever He will in order to fulfill His master plan. Sometimes even the basest of men rule, because God put them there or allowed them to be there in order to fulfill His purpose. He allows all kinds of things to happen, but everything occurs in the context of His master plan. The Daniel 2 image didn't just evolve! How did these great world-ruling kingdoms from the time of Nebuchadnezzar down to the time we now live in take shape like that image? The only way that is possible is if GOD SHAPED AND MOLDED IT—TO PROVE

THAT HE RULES IN THE KINGDOM OF MEN! ... God is teaching men even as they rebel."

That is an extraordinary package of lessons taught by history. In a world cut off from God and rebelling against Him, God is still involved and is teaching mankind, even if they don't understand the lesson today. One day they will! "They are learning that man cannot rule himself—only God can bring men peace, prosperity, happiness and joy," Mr. Flurry continues.

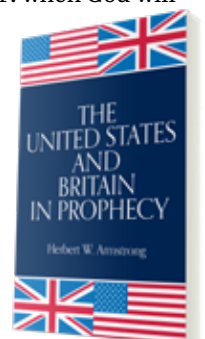
Then, notice this statement: "God gave us that Daniel 2 image to *humble people and help them fulfill their potential*." What an awesome purpose! This truth should humble us. Nebuchadnezzar forgot about this great God and he later glorified himself. God responded by making his mind like that of a beast for a time (Daniel 4). He was again teaching him to be humble and who really guides world events.

"God the Father wants a family. He loves the people of this world deeply. He wants to give them LIFE—but they won't accept it! God knows that, for most of them, it will take a lot of correction before they'll recognize His plan for them and accept an invitation into His Family." That correction will come in the Great Tribulation, a time of unparalleled suffering that is about to swallow the nations. Most people will not accept God's rule before experiencing that suffering.

Study the overview of history provided in the Bible and you will see the flow of events and the purpose behind them. You will see the hand of God in the epic movements of history and even in the quieter details. You will be inspired to recognize how all these events are leading to the grand fulfillment of God's master plan. Soon mankind will no longer be cut off from Him. With the painful lessons learned from a history *apart* from God, for the first time since the Garden of Eden God will bring all men to the knowledge of the truth and lead them to repentance. The climax of human history is about to occur: when God will open up salvation to all nations!

## There is a flow to human history.

Trace its course with your free copy of Herbert W. Armstrong's ***The United States and Britain in Prophecy***.





German Chancellor Scholz (left) and Turkish President Erdoğan meet for bilateral talks at the start of the 2023 NATO summit.



# Turkey Leans Away From Russia and Toward Europe

This sudden realignment is creating the conditions for the fulfillment of a mysterious Bible prophecy. **BY JEREMIAH JACQUES**

**S**OBERING NUMBERS ARE EMERGING about Russian casualties from the war on Ukraine, as well as casualties on the Ukrainian side. And there is another casualty of this war that has recently become clear: The bond between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

For the last several years, Erdoğan has closely cooperated with Putin's Russia. This was prompted largely by Erdoğan's anger at the way the Western coalition was operating in the Syrian civil war. It has always been a balancing act, with Erdoğan playing Russia and the West off each other so he can extract maximum concessions from both sides. But for the most part, in recent years Erdoğan has leaned Turkey toward Russia.

This was clear from the way Turkey bought a great deal of weaponry from

Russia, including the vaunted S-400 missile system. It was clear from Turkey's ramped up exports to Russia during the war on Ukraine and its ramped up imports of Russian energy, even while the United States and Europe worked to boycott that energy in order to punish Russia. It was clear from the way Turkey's banks served as middlemen for the sanctioned Russians. It was also clear from the diplomatic and political support Erdoğan gave to Putin during the first 16 months of the war. As recently as May, he touted his nation's "special relationship" with Putin. He said, "Russia and Turkey need each other in every field possible," and called Putin his "dear friend."

Another major aspect of Erdoğan's lean toward Russia was blocking Sweden's attempt to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a military alliance

of mostly European nations. The Swedes were terrified to see Russia's full-scale war on Ukraine, and in May 2022 that fear prompted them to end decades of neutrality to try to join NATO. This was great news for Europe since Sweden has one of the world's top-ranked air forces and a geographic location that allows a great deal of control over the Baltic Sea. Bringing Sweden in would add real might to the NATO alliance.

But the rules of NATO say every member of the group has to approve any new nation joining. Turkey is a NATO member, so Erdoğan blocked Sweden's bid. Turkey had its own reasons, related to some prisoners that Sweden refused to extradite. Nevertheless, Putin sees NATO as adversary No. 1. So Turkey's block on Sweden joining and thereby making NATO that much stronger was a godsend for Russia.

This was Turkey's general stance for the last several years. To many onlookers, it seemed the nation would remain indefinitely, perhaps even increasingly, aligned with Russia. But the *Trumpet* has been expecting Turkey to break with Russia and instead band together more closely with Europe. We have expected this because of a key Bible prophecy that says Turkey will be a close German partner in the end time.

And in early July, Erdoğan suddenly began steering Turkey in a starkly different direction.

## Turkey's Turnaround

On July 8, Turkey surprised the world by freeing five of Ukraine's most-feared commanders. These were high-ranking officers whom Russia had captured in Mariupol in May 2022. Some were from the Azov national guard that Russia accuses of being Nazis. In September 2022, Russia agreed to release them in a prisoner swap, but Putin didn't want these highly capable commanders back on the battlefield where they had previously done so much damage to Russian forces. So a deal was struck with Turkey acting as a third party, and under the terms, the men had to remain in Turkey until the war's end.

Turkey's sudden decision to return these men to Ukraine while the war is still raging blindsided the Russians. "No one informed us about this," said

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov. “The return of the leaders of the Azovites from Turkey to Ukraine is nothing more than a direct violation of the terms of the existing agreements,” he said.

If you realize how much is at stake for Russia and for Putin personally with this war, you realize that such a move by Turkey was a major slap in the face.

At the same time, Erdoğan issued a statement saying he now supports the idea of Ukraine joining NATO. It’s hard to think of a statement that would be more infuriating to the Russian leadership.

An even bigger bombshell came two days later: Erdoğan attended the NATO summit in Vilnius, Lithuania, and met with Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg. We don’t know what specifics were discussed in this meeting. But we know that after it ended, Erdoğan agreed to lift his ban on Sweden’s entry into NATO.

This was a vital win for Europe and a major black eye for Putin’s Russia, especially since Russia’s most important land and water transport hub, St. Petersburg, depends on access through the Baltic. Now between Sweden and Denmark, NATO could prevent Russian ships from getting in and out of the Baltic and St.

Petersburg. Politico summed it up well on July 13: “Sorry Russia, the Baltic Sea is NATO’s lake now.”

### Russia’s War on Food

In July 2022, an international agreement was reached that let Ukrainian food exports be shipped out of the Black Sea despite the war. Ukraine is nicknamed the “breadbasket of Europe” because of its abundant production of wheat, corn, barley, sunflower oil and other food products. Because of Ukraine’s food exports, millions of people around the world, especially in Africa and the Middle East, are able to put food on their tables.

This agreement, called Black Sea Grain Initiative, was a significant deal. It allowed about 36 million tons of food to be shipped out of Ukraine and to nations around the world. As a result of it, global food prices dropped roughly 20 percent.

But Russia said in July that it was withdrawing from the deal, and would

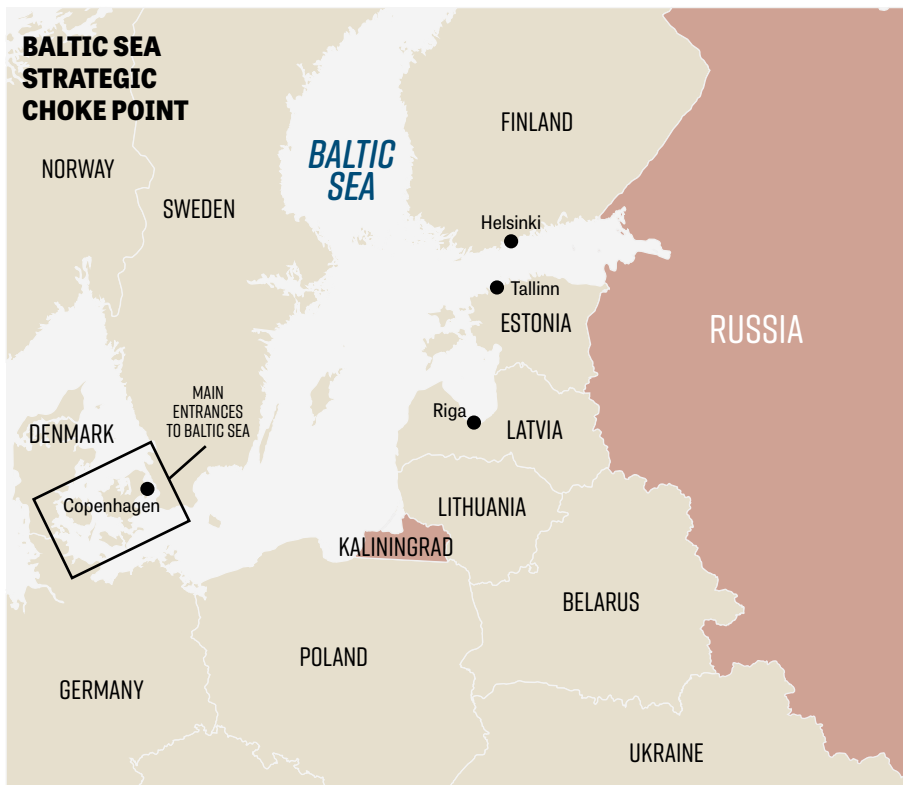


start targeting any ship that visited any of Ukraine’s Black Sea ports. Just after the announcement, the Russians began a series of missile attacks on Ukraine’s grain production, storage and export infrastructure; wheat prices around the world began soaring.

The Russians think if they can disrupt global food supplies and threaten to starve enough people, it will convince the West to drop sanctions against them and they will be better able to fund their war on Ukraine. “All our hope is in the famine,” RT editor in chief Margarita Simonyan said shortly after Russia announced its withdrawal from the grain deal. “The famine will start now, and they will lift the sanctions, and be friends with us, because they will realize it is necessary.”

United States Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield said: “Russia is simply using the Black Sea as blackmail .... It’s holding humanity hostage.”

But there is a problem with this diabolical Russian strategy. Turkey controls the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, the two choke points that allow ships into and out of the Black Sea. Turkey



also controls the lion's share of the Black Sea coast and has a powerful naval presence there.

Turkey played a key role in brokering the July 2022 grain export deal. And as part of Erdoğan's recent break with Russia, Turkey is now working with Ukraine to allow food exports to continue despite Russian objections. After a July 21 phone call with Erdoğan, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the two sides had "coordinated efforts to restore the work of the Black Sea Grain Initiative." Erdoğan's press service, too, said Turkey was working to find ways to safeguard passage through the Black Sea's grain corridor, despite Russian threats.



It is still early days, and the Russians may show the world that their threats to sink grain-carrying ships were not empty. But as of now, it seems that Turkey intends to override Russia's war on global food security.

### A Mysterious Prophecy

Many are asking why Erdoğan made this dramatic change, suddenly breaking with Putin's Russia and aligning Turkey far more with Europe. At present, his reasoning has not been disclosed, but it may have involved Turkey's desire to buy F-16 fighters from America, or the West softening its de facto sponsorship of the Kurds, or fears that Russia will lose the war, or worries about Western sanctions being levied on Turkish banks, or some kind of assurances about eventual Turkish EU membership, or some combination of factors.

We may never know the exact details of what prompted Erdoğan's sea change. But we do know that Psalm 83, written some 3,000 years ago, warned us that we should expect modern Turkey to align with a German-led Europe.

This psalm is about a group of nations who will form an alliance in the near future. Verses 6-8 give several names indicating which nations will be in this bloc: "The tabernacles of *Edom*, and the *Ishmaelites*; of *Moab*, and the *Hagarenes*; *Gebal*, and *Ammon*, and *Amalek*; the *Philistines* with the inhabitants of *Tyre*; *Assur* also is joined with them ...."

Here are the modern names of these nations, as explained in our booklet *The King of the South: Edom and Amalek*—Turkey; *Ishmaelites*—Saudi Arabia and its Gulf neighbors; *Moab* and *Ammon*—Jordan; *Hagarenes*—Syria; *Gebal* and *Tyre*—Lebanon; *Philistines*—modern Palestinian Arabs. We cannot be entirely confident in the exact accuracy of all these modern designations, but the general idea is crystal clear.

The other power mentioned in the passage cited above is *Assur*. This is related to *Assyria*, the term Bible prophecy uses to describe modern-day *Germany*. (For proof, order our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire*.) So Germany will clearly be a member of this future alliance described in Psalm 83, and in fact will be the main power behind the group. The Bible makes clear that Germany in the end time will lead a unified European military superpower (article, "Russia's War on Ukraine Is Reshaping Europe," page 1). So the mention of *Assur* in Psalm 83 is about more than just Germany itself. It connotes the whole German-led European bloc.

Most alarming is the Bible's revelation about what exactly this German-led alliance of European and Middle Eastern nations will *do* after it emerges. Verses 4 and 5 explain: "They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be

no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee."

The goal of this massive alliance is to destroy the modern-day nations of Israel. The Bible shows that the name "Israel" describes 12 nations. But this particular passage is directed to only three of them. The little Jewish nation in the Middle East now called *Israel* is one; America and Britain are the other two. (Order your free copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* for a thorough explanation.)

Right now, America, Britain and the Jewish nation are partnered with Germany and its European allies. But the Bible makes clear in this Psalm 83 passage (and numerous other scriptures) that this partnership will end in disaster for those three. Germany and other enemies of America, Britain and the Jewish nation aim to utterly destroy them.

That is Holocaust-level hatred and destruction. And this time around, it will go beyond the Jews, extending also to the Americans and British. That is what this prophecy in Psalm 83 is all about. It shows us that Turkey will continue to edge more and more into the German camp, as will the other Middle Eastern countries mentioned above. And when they are aligned with Europe, under the sway of a German strongman, they will war to ensure that "the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance."

If you understand your Bible, you should see special significance in Erdoğan's Turkey breaking with Putin's Russia and aligning with Europe. It shows that an era of unprecedented global war and suffering is rapidly approaching (Matthew 24:21).

But there is also deep hope tied into all this because God makes clear that He will not allow the Germans, Turks and others to accomplish their diabolical goal. Yes, there will be war, and the U.S., UK and Israel will be punished severely—more so than at any time in their history. But the Bible makes plain that before they are wiped out, the Creator will intervene and end the violence. He will usher in an age of peace for the peoples of Turkey, Russia, Germany, America, Britain, Israel and the whole world! ■

## What is prophesied for the Middle East?

Order Gerald Flurry's reprint article "A Mysterious Prophecy" for an in-depth study on a prophesied alliance.





# Break the Zero-Exercise Habit

BY JORG MARDIAN

**A**RE YOU ONE OF THE MANY PEOPLE who struggles to find the time and energy to break the habit of zero exercise? If so, you're not alone. Exercise is a vital part of a healthy lifestyle, but motivating yourself to get moving can be difficult. Many find the idea of a regular exercise habit appealing but also challenging and even discouraging.

Fitness requires a tough attitude and a resilient mindset. To achieve lasting success, a competent approach is needed.

One technique many people find helpful is "habit stacking." With this approach, you rely not only on willpower but on the benefits of "stacking" your new exercise habit onto an existing habit.

To illustrate, you may have a strong habit of brushing your teeth before bed each night or turning on the coffee machine when you wake up in the morning. James Clear, author of *Atomic Habits*, explains that you can use one of these ingrained habits to your advantage as a basis for a new healthy behavior.

Some examples might be:

While making my morning coffee, I will do 10 sets of countertop pushups.

Before eating my lunch, I will do 25 bodyweight squats.

When I change from my work clothes, I will change into my workout clothes.

The key to progress is **CONSISTENCY**, and these micro-workouts often lead to better results than infrequent gym visits. Incorporating enough of them into your daily routine can add a surprising amount of extra physical activity, no matter your situation.



**The time-strapped desk jockey** Are you willing and in good health, but unfamiliar with exercise? Try a low-impact, strengthening and cardio circuit training routine. Choose exercises that are gentle on the joints, such as push-ups, squats, lunges, planks, glute bridges, Russian twists, leg lifts, high knees, step-ups and pistol pushes. Select, for example, three of these exercises. Perform the first exercise for a specific number of repetitions (such as 20 reps), then, without resting, immediately move to the second exercise, then the third. Repeat those three exercises three times. Then perform three different exercises. Do this for 30 to 45 minutes. Since you aren't pausing for breaks, your heart rate will likely climb quickly and stay elevated, making circuit training an excellent strength-cardio challenge that you can complete, including changing and showering, in about an hour.



**The apartment dweller** A lack of equipment or space need not be an obstacle. Most of the exercises listed above can be performed in your bedroom or living room. You can build a new exercise habit using a routine that requires only a set of dumbbells or resistance bands and an optional exercise mat. Try a simple workout routine on a website like Fitness Blender.



**The road warrior** Perhaps you drive long distances for work or other reasons. You are frequently on the road or in hotel rooms. The approaches above might work for you, and so too might simple bodyweight exercises. No equipment is necessary as you perform sets of push-ups, squats, lunges, jumping jacks, walking or running, or even running in place at a motel room, workout area or other available space.



**The person battling illness** Depending on your illness, it may be wise to have a doctor give you clearance and guidance on exercise. But it is almost certain that exercise of some kind is needed to help you fight that illness and improve your overall health. The illness may be more of a barrier in your mind than it actually is to your body. Even many people who have chronic illnesses can and should build an exercise habit by starting with a combination of short cardio and some functional strength training.



**The person who is unfit but willing** Even if your body is badly out of shape but your mind is willing, you are most of the way toward starting an exercise habit. With a little more effort, that willing mindset can overcome obstacles such as lack of time, lack of space, lack of equipment, and inhibitions. Choose a habit to stack your new habit on, and use one of the approaches above or a simple beginner workout. This could literally start as a five-minute walk down the street and a five-minute walk back. It might feel simplistic at first, but once your willing mindset turns that last corner and becomes *action* in the form of an actual exercise habit, your walks will get longer, your workouts will get better, and your body and mind will feel stronger and stronger.

Even if you have a zero-exercise habit and face one or more of these obstacles, you *can* become consistent at exercising. Choose a habit you already have to stack this simple exercise habit onto. Set small, achievable goals for yourself, and with a little patience and persistence, you will break the zero-exercise habit. As soon as you do, you will have taken the first step on a fitness journey that can make you stronger, healthier and happier. ■



# Explained: The New Iran Nuclear Deal

This ‘new and improved’ JCPOA begs comment—but nobody in Washington is saying anything. **BY MIHAİLO S. ZEKİC**

**M**ENTIONING AN “IRAN NUCLEAR deal” may resurrect scary memories of a terrorist state flushed with billions of dollars to send to its worldwide proxies. Or Iran flagrantly breaking the deal without repercussions. Or the United States Congress being completely sidelined. This is what Barack Obama’s 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) brought about—and more. Since last spring, reports have emerged of a mysterious “mini nuclear deal” the United States is trying to make with Iran. Some have wondered if this means the JCPOA is making a comeback.

The answer is no: The 2023 nuclear deal is not the 2015 deal. It’s much worse.

One of its worst aspects is that we don’t know with certainty what’s in it. A new Iran nuclear deal *is* in the works; the public found out in June. But the government is so tight-lipped about it that few people know any details for certain. We can’t even know if it’s in force yet or not. That’s because the regime of Joe Biden—or rather, Barack Obama, the power behind the throne—is deliberately concealing information about

it. With the JCPOA, there was at least published text the public could read and compare Iran’s—and America’s—actions with. With the current agreement, the public gets next to nothing.

“[T]he U.S. spearheaded an international effort to negotiate a nuclear deal with Iran,” *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote about the initial nuclear deal in his 2016 booklet *Great Again*. “When the agreement was concluded, many people were elated, but there should have been no celebration. What is at stake is nothing less than HUMAN SURVIVAL. The world needed something that would have pulled us away from the brink of annihilation, but this deal did just the opposite.”

These words, written in regard to the 2015 deal, apply even more to this new negotiation. The original JCPOA was controversial both inside and outside of America. From the few details we can glean, the new deal appears even worse. Far from making the world a safer place, this deal ALL BUT GUARANTEES IRAN WILL OBTAIN NUCLEAR WEAPONS, as well as huge sums of cash with which to continue sponsoring global terrorism.

## What We Do Know

On April 3, Axios reported that the U.S. was discussing with Israel, the United Kingdom, France and Germany a planned “interim agreement” with Iran that would entail partial sanctions relief for partial freezing of Iran’s nuclear program. The proposal called for Iran to halt nuclear enrichment at 60 percent. Iran at the time rejected the proposal. Axios cited 10 anonymous “Israeli officials, Western diplomats and U.S. experts with knowledge of the proposal,” suggesting the ins and outs of the plan were common knowledge among the Western governments.

On May 8, U.S. National Security Council Coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa Brett McGurk made a secret trip to Oman, an Arab state on the southeastern end of the Arabian Peninsula that has good relations both with the West and Iran. At about the same time, Ali Bagheri Kani, Iran’s main nuclear negotiator, also arrived in Oman. The Iranian government confirmed on June 12 that talks had taken place in Oman.

Comments from a former Iranian politician shed some light on these talks. Heshmatollah Falahatpisheh has led Iran’s parliamentary Foreign Policy and National Security Committee. Though no longer in government, he still commentates on nuclear issues. In remarks translated by Iran International on June 12, he claimed Iran and the U.S. were close to agreeing on an “unwritten deal.” He told KhabarOnline, an Iranian news agency: “This means that the American side will no longer enforce the ‘maximum pressure’ policy [of the Trump administration], close its eyes to some of Iran’s energy deals, and [allow] the release of Iran’s frozen funds in return for Iran refraining from expanding its nuclear program more than the current level.”

Falahatpisheh also stated neither party was interested in reviving the JCPOA because they both see it as no longer desirable: “A return to the 2015 deal, he said, will force Tehran to give up much of the advancements it has made in its nuclear program at a very high cost, that is, giving up its new and more advanced centrifuges and a stockpile of 60 percent-enriched uranium .... Also, the pressure of public opinion in the U.S. has made a return to the deal impossible for the Biden administration, he argued.”

## A Friend and a Foe

Around the same time details like these were being leaked, the Israeli government made some interesting moves.

As the so-called little Satan that Iran has vowed to “wipe off the map,” Israel has never supported any agreement that would empower Iran. Five Israeli lawmakers confirmed to Axios that the details Falahatpisheh mentioned were correct, along with a prisoner swap. In a June 18 cabinet meeting, Netanyahu said he told the U.S. “that even ... ‘mini agreements,’ in our opinion, do not serve our goals, and we oppose those as well.”

How Israel plans to “oppose” the “mini agreement” remains to be seen. But analysts speculate Netanyahu is deliberately letting his comments behind closed doors leak to the press to pressure Biden to abandon the nuclear deal. U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan in a June phone call with Israeli counterpart Tzachi Hanegbi accused the Israeli government of such.

Israel is a tiny country that could be wiped out with a single nuclear bomb. It knows its survival rests on being able to contain Iran. But even though Israel has a formidable military of its own (including nuclear weapons), it cannot counter Iran if the U.S. government is actively helping Iran. The Israeli government has little leverage to use against the U.S., but it knows public opinion could put pressure on the White House. Leaking details to the American public that the American government doesn’t want known risks alienating what support the U.S. still gives Israel. But Netanyahu doesn’t have much choice.

## Silence in America

Iran apparently confirms the existence of this “unwritten deal.” So does Israel. But the U.S. government publicly denies it. In a June 13 press briefing, U.S. State Department spokesman Matthew Miller called the news of an interim agreement “completely false.” He said the “vast majority” of those reports on the Iran deal “have been either wrong or completely misleading, and that includes reports of an interim deal.” On June 28, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that “there is no agreement in the offing, even as we continue to be willing to explore diplomatic paths.”

Why the silence? The answers lie with Congress and public opinion.

Barack Obama sidestepped Congress when forcing through the JCPOA in 2015. Congress has oversight on treaties and other diplomatic agreements. In response to Obama’s actions, Congress that same year passed the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, which not only obligated the executive branch to keep the legislature informed on Iran’s progress in nuclear disarmament but also gave Congress power to vote down any proposed new or amended nuclear deal with Iran.

Today, the House of Representatives, Congress’s lower chamber, is controlled by Republicans hostile to any Biden-negotiated Iran nuclear deal. If a nuclear deal finds its way to the House floor, it is almost certain to be torpedoed. The JCPOA itself was controversial with the American public. Any nuclear deal *now*—when Iran is on the cusp of nuclear breakout—would be even more controversial. With an election cycle coming up, the last thing Democrats want is electoral poison like a bad nuclear deal.

## IRAN'S MARCH TO THE BOMB



The 2015 JCPOA forbade Iran from enriching uranium to 60 percent.

- Since the U.S. left the JCPOA in 2018, Iran has announced that it has amassed roughly 193 pounds of uranium at 60 percent purity.
- Earlier this year, the International Atomic Energy Agency reported that it detected trace particles of uranium at 84 percent purity in Iran; 90 percent purity is weapons-grade.
- If all of its 60 percent-level uranium were enriched to 90 percent, Iran would have enough material to build a nuclear bomb.
- 60 percent-enriched uranium has no known civilian application. Iran is the only nonnuclear weapons state to stockpile uranium at 60 percent purity.

However, a “nonofficial understanding”—without an authorized text spelling out the provisions of the deal—could fly under the radar. The U.S. government doesn’t have to make anything public and doesn’t have to hold itself accountable to anything. Neither does Iran.

While the U.S. is not admitting to any sort of unofficial deal, it has made some interesting policy decisions in recent weeks mirroring reports about the deal’s provisions. At the very least, America may be sending Iran olive branches to get a deal going.

The reports on the unofficial deal suggest part of the deal includes America waiving sanctions. The U.S. waived sanctions on Iraq on June 8, allowing it to pay about \$2.8 billion to Iran in energy debts. On July 18, the U.S. gave Iraq permission to pay Iran for electricity through non-Iraqi banks for 120 days. South Korea is also holding about \$7 billion worth of Iranian assets that the U.S. is trying to get unfrozen. Anonymous sources who spoke to the *Korea Economic Daily* said the conditions for the release include spending the money on public expenses like COVID-19 vaccines—even as the world finally moves on from public health emergencies and vaccine mandates.

## Will an Official Deal Come?

Iran suggested that the “mini-agreement” is a stepping stone toward an official, more comprehensive nuclear deal. With this in mind, notice the following from Axios’s April 3 article:

“The approach is similar to one led by White House National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan and [Central Intelligence Agency] Director Bill Burns, who were senior members of the Obama administration in 2013 when Iran and world powers signed the 2013 Joint Plan of Action (JPOA), which included a short-term freeze on parts of Iran’s nuclear program in return for partial sanctions relief. The original interim agreement was for a period of six months and was renewed several times until the full nuclear deal was reached in July 2015.”

The *same men* who negotiated the 2015 deal are running America’s security and foreign policy today. Obama’s envoy to Iran during the negotiations was Robert Malley, whom Biden appointed to the same role. (Malley has mysteriously



disappeared from public view since April amid the FBI removing his clearance to view classified documents. We know even fewer details of Malley's dismissal than of the unofficial nuclear agreement. But the implication is that Malley shared sensitive information.)

Men like Obama, Sullivan, Burns and Malley crafted the 2013 deal as a precursor to the 2015 deal. Some wonder if an official deal will surface soon. But Iran may have little incentive to pursue such a deal, because it doesn't need one. The U.S. has already given Iran billions of dollars' worth of sanctions relief *without* a deal. Last winter, the State Department even waived sanctions regarding Iran's nuclear program, allowing Russia to invest in a nuclear power plant suspected of being used for weapons research. In all likelihood, such cash

Iran is a radical Islamist regime bent on perpetual war with the West and spreading its Islamic revolution. If it gets nuclear weapons, *it has the will to use them*. Even some policymakers' desire for America to leave the Middle East can't explain the support the U.S. is giving. BY HELPING IRAN GET NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AMERICA IS BRINGING THE WORLD TO THE BRINK OF NUCLEAR WAR.

There is a spiritual dimension to America's problems. Late theologian Herbert W. Armstrong proved in his book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy* (request your free copy at [theTrumpet.com/go/usbp](http://theTrumpet.com/go/usbp)) that the American people are descended from the ancient people of Israel. Historically, God made a covenant with Israel to bless them, conditioned on Israel's obedience to His laws (Leviticus 26:1-13).

the Iran nuclear deal—go beyond a few rotten apples at the top. Solving them means going well beyond removing certain individuals from authority. These problems are ultimately caused by the nation's SINS—its rejection of God and disobedience to His laws.

“America's problems are *spiritual*—and solving them requires spiritual solutions, starting with repentance!” Mr. Flurry writes in *Great Again*. “But Americans are too entrenched in their sin to do that. So the national curses are going to get far worse before the situation ever gets better.”

America's founders set up the country to be a “city on a hill” showcasing a right way of life. But America has failed in this; today, the U.S. is a beacon of immorality, corruption and defiance. The curses described in biblical passages like Leviticus 26 are the result.

But there is cause for hope. Mr. Flurry continues: “[T]he Bible also explains God's ultimate *purpose* for allowing these curses to descend on the U.S. Whenever God punishes, He does so to turn people back to Himself. Scripture prophesies that the curses America is experiencing today *are* actually a prelude to national revitalization and restoration! America *will*, in fact, one day soon become GREAT AGAIN!”

God is letting these curses fall on America not because He is a harsh taskmaster or enjoys seeing people suffer. America's problems are ultimately meant to *turn the nation back to Him*. And once this lesson is learned, the Bible likewise *promises* the SOLUTION to these problems. Unlike the murky words coming from Washington, these promises are clear. They are iron-clad. And they will *ensure* America—and Iran and the whole world—will have the blessings of peace they so desperately need. ■

## America's actions suggest the government is actively helping Iran get a nuclear bomb.

would keep flowing Iran's way even if they developed a bomb and publicized it.

It is important to remember Iran is giving nothing up with the unofficial agreement. While the United States promises billions, all Iran must give is its word that circumstances will stay as they are. Iran has promised a lot regarding its nuclear program in the past, and it has constantly broken its word. There is no evidence Iran's leaders have had a sudden change of heart. And there is much Iran, for obvious reasons, keeps secret regarding its nuclear program. For all we know, Iran could have already reached 90 percent purity.

With the current mini deal, Iran can have its cake and eat it, too. Khamenei couldn't have asked for anything better.

### America Making Iran Great Again?

It's one thing for the U.S. to let Iran have the bomb out of incompetence and weakness. But America's policies go beyond that. The White House could still look the other way to Iran's nuclear program without giving it billions in sanctions relief. America's actions suggest THE GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVELY HELPING IRAN GET A NUCLEAR BOMB.

But for *disobedience*, God promised myriads of *curses* (verses 14-46). Verse 17 shows America would be ruled by those with an agenda to destroy the country. Verse 19 shows God would break America's will to use its power. *Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon* says “break” means “to break to pieces ... used of ships broken by the wind.” Verses 31-33 show the end result of these curses: “And I will make your cities waste, and bring your sanctuaries unto desolation .... And I will scatter you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.”

America is ruled by a regime that does not have the country's best interests at heart. Lying leaders are bringing these prophetic fulfillments closer and closer. Other prophecies show this is part of a satanic attack to, as 2 Kings 14:27 states, “blot out the name of Israel from under heaven.” (Request a free copy of *America Under Attack* for more information.) Helping an extremist regime bent on gaining nuclear weapons for destroying America, the “great Satan,” is a huge part of this agenda.

But America's problems—including

## Why a nuclear deal with Iran will help start World War III

The U.S. administration is playing with nuclear fire—so says Bible prophecy. To learn where the Iranian deal leads, request Gerald Flurry's *The King of the South*.



# The Sabbath: Only for the Old Testament?

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

**M**OST CHRISTIANS DON'T KNOW WHY THEY ATTEND worship services on Sunday, the first day of the week. Yet they believe the seventh-day Sabbath is just for the Old Testament, irrelevant to modern Christians. The truth is that even the New Testament proves that God expects today's Christians to keep a seventh-day Sabbath.

What example did Jesus set—then record and preserve for Christians today? “And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught” (Mark 1:21). Luke 4:16 also records how, in His hometown of Nazareth, Christ's “custom” was to attend the synagogue on the Sabbath.

“Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath” (Mark 2:28). 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 (Ephesians 3:9), Jesus Christ actually *created* the Sabbath!

What about after Jesus Christ died, was resurrected, and returned to His Father? Did the Church after Christ keep the Sabbath? The Apostle Paul wrote 14 epistles that became part of the New Testament. Much of his ministry is recorded in the book of Acts, written by Luke. Which day did Paul observe?

Eight New Testament passages contain the phrase “first day of the week.” (The word *day* is not in the original Greek in any of those instances.) Many Sunday-keepers refer to Acts 20:7: “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 (Leviticus 23:32). Here the disciples are eating a meal at night, since there were “many lights in the upper chamber” (Acts 20:8), and Paul spoke “until midnight” (verse 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 (verse 6), Paul was departing “on the morrow,” or the next morning. This was not a holy observance. 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, give no evidence of Sunday being a day of worship. In *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?*, Herbert W. Armstrong examined each instance and proved that no worship services were held on Sunday. Request this booklet for a deeper study into these passages.

Even the Catholic Church realizes that these eight passages give no precedent for a day change. In *Faith of Our Fathers*, Archbishop James Gibbons wrote, “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.” He was asserting that the Catholic Church had the authority to change the day.

Which day did Paul keep holy? Acts 17:1-2 say “his manner” was to attend synagogue on the Sabbath—the same Greek word Luke used when he wrote of Christ's “custom” in Luke 4:16. So just as it was Christ's custom to keep the Sabbath day, so too was it Paul's manner, years after Christ had been resurrected!

Acts 13 records Paul preaching on the Sabbath to both the Jews and Gentiles, which proves that the Sabbath wasn't just for 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” (verse 42). Why didn't Paul tell the believing Gentiles to come on Sunday? Because he was a 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” (verse 44).

Matthew 24 records the “Olivet prophecy,” where Christ privately discussed with His disciples the time just prior to His return. In verses 20-21, He specified that Christians should pray that their escape from prophesied calamities will not be on the Sabbath. So clearly, the Sabbath will remain in effect for God's faithful believers right up to the return of Jesus Christ.

The Sabbath is not only for the Old Testament, but is still in living effect, and should be kept by Christians today.

Having recognized this New Testament command, you will be delighted to learn just how consistent and harmonious the New Testament is with the Old Testament. If you have closed your mind to the latter's instruction, I would encourage you to go back to this treasure trove in the Bible, which will show you why and how to observe the Sabbath. You can study Genesis 2:1-3 to see how God placed His presence in this day, thus making it holy. You will find depth and meaning in this weekly observance that goes far beyond merely entering a building.

The Sabbath means resting from the labor of the week and remembering the Creator. More importantly, it typifies a future time of rest for this hectic world, of which Satan is now deceiver and god (Revelation 12:9; 2 Corinthians 4:4). The 6,000 years Satan has had man in his grasp are a type of the six-day workweek, since 1,000 years is as one day to God (2 Peter 3:8). When Christ returns to stop mankind from erasing himself from the face of the planet (Matthew 24:21-22), He will rule this Earth for 1,000 years (Revelation 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 (verses 1-3). And it will be a time when the Sabbath will be kept (Isaiah 66:23), a time when its true meaning will be evident! The vision in the seventh-day Sabbath is truly inspiring. Study it and come to see its relevance to your life. ■

Request your free copy of *Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?*, by Herbert W. Armstrong.



# WORLDWATCH

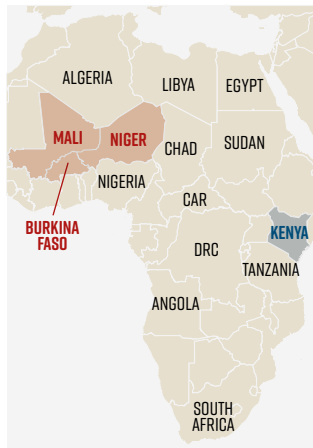
## EUROPE

[theTrumpet.com/more/europe](https://theTrumpet.com/more/europe)

The European Union has had a small success and a major failure in North Africa.

A landmark deal with Kenya signed on June 19 establishes duty-free and quota-free trade between the EU and Kenya, Africa's seventh-largest economy. Kenya refused to sign a regional trade deal in 2014, but this heals that disagreement and ties Kenya's economy to Europe.

The serious setback came in Niger, where a coup on July 26 ousted President Mohamed Bazoum. Russia's Wagner Group appears to be behind the coup, which shifts Niger from a broadly pro-EU government to a pro-Russian one. Other pro-European governments in the region, such as Mali and Burkina Faso have had coups in the last couple of years, leaving the EU struggling for allies and bases in an area that is often a hotbed of terrorism. But Europe can't sit this out: Any unrest in this region translates quickly into mass migration and terrorist attacks in Europe. Watch for the Europeans to intensify their response in North Africa as part of the clash forecast in *Trumpet*



editor in chief Gerald Flurry's free booklet *The King of the South*\*

The EU also tried to boost its influence in Latin America as it hosted a summit with leaders

**TOPSHOT** Dozens of recently arrived migrants at a New York City camp outside the Roosevelt Hotel, which has been turned into a reception center, try to secure temporary housing on August 1. The city's influx of migrants has surged this spring and summer.

## MIDDLE EAST

[theTrumpet.com/more/middle-east](https://theTrumpet.com/more/middle-east)

Russian warlord Yevgeny Prigozhin and his mercenary Wagner Group attempted a coup in Russia June 23, and the turmoil in Russia may affect the Middle East. Wagner has been at the forefront of Russia's war effort in Ukraine, and Prigozhin criticized the Russian government's prosecution of the invasion and wanted a change in leadership. Prigozhin began to move troops toward Moscow, then called off the coup and Russian President Vladimir Putin proceeded to try and absorb the mercenaries into the military.

from the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) in Brussels July 17 to 18. It was the first summit between the EU and CELAC since 2015. The EU announced €45 billion (US\$49.4 billion) of investment in Latin America. It had hoped to sign a deal with MERCOSUR, a trade bloc made up of Argentina,

Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Negotiations bogged down over details, but EU leaders still hope to sign it by the end of the year. Such a trade deal could pave the way for a new economic alliance that would shut the U.S. out of world trade, as Mr. Flurry explained in his article "America Is Being Besieged Economically."



Wagner has been Putin's tool to involve Russia in conflicts without implicating the Russian government. Thousands of Wagner mercenaries are propping up warlords and corrupt governments in Africa. In eastern Libya, an estimated 2,000 Wagner mercenaries are supporting warlord Khalifa Haftar and his Libyan National Army, though most of the international community recognizes the government in western Libya as legitimate. Without Wagner's help, Haftar might already have been defeated.

If Wagner were to leave Libya due to difficulty in Ukraine and trouble back home, a power vacuum could develop.

Daniel 11:40-43 prophesy the

rise of a "king of the south" that will "push" against other nations and conquer parts of the Middle East and Africa for its empire. The *Trumpet* identifies this king of the south as Iran-led radical Islam. Verse 43 specifies that Libya will be allied with Iran. A Wagner exit from Libya could eventually lead to Iran and radical Islam entering in.

Meanwhile, the Middle East ignited when Salwan Momika, an Iraqi refugee in Sweden, burned a Koran outside a Stockholm mosque June 28. The incident was obviously provocative to Muslims but nonviolent. Still, the Islamic world unleashed its wrath against Sweden, with Morocco recalling its ambassador to Sweden, and



# ASIA

[theTrumpet.com/more/asia](https://theTrumpet.com/more/asia)

The giants of Asia are continuing to rally behind Russia's efforts to militarily conquer Ukraine.

China has quietly sold Russia more than \$100 million worth of

drones this year, Politico Europe reported on July 24, citing customs records. The drones aid Russian troops in guiding artillery fire, creating maps and even dropping grenades. Some models have thermal optical sights for targeting Ukrainians at night.

Chinese companies have also sold Russia some \$225 million worth of a type of ceramics used in body armor, an increase of nearly 70 percent over last year. In the same timeframe, China's exports of these ceramics to Ukraine fell 61 percent, to just \$5 million. They have also provided 100,000 combat helmets and 100,000 bulletproof vests, as well as significant quantities of light armored vehicles. Politico said this customs data exposes the Chinese "delivering enough

nonlethal, but militarily useful, equipment to Russia to have a material impact" on the war.

"What is very clear is that China, for all its claims that it is a neutral actor, is in fact supporting Russia's positions in this war," wrote Helena Legarda, an expert in Chinese defense and foreign policy at the Mercator Institute for China Studies.

Meanwhile, on July 23, India's Engineering Export Promotion Council reported that India has exported \$337 million worth of machinery and other engineered products to Russia, four times more than a year earlier.

A central component of the Western response to Russia's war has been an economic pressure campaign designed to slow and possibly stop Russia's war machine. But Chinese and

Indian exports are helping to keep it running.

Meanwhile, China and India have also both greatly increased their purchases of Russian energy, throwing an invaluable economic lifeline to Moscow.

The support that China and India continue to provide Russia has caught some unawares, particularly since it jeopardizes trade with the West that Chinese and Indian economies rely on. But the Trumpet has warned for decades that cooperation between these nations will increase, to the detriment of world peace.

In "Asia Still Stands With Putin," Gerald Flurry wrote: "Western nations see the war as a clear example of Putin's deadly despotism. But what about the East? Two of the largest, most populous, most powerful nations in the world [China and India] are supporting Putin! This is a stunning fulfillment of a biblical prophecy! ... When nuclear-armed powers show such solidarity in wartime, what does this mean for the world? I tell you, it is woe to the world!" ■



The Mugin-5 Pro and the DJI Mavic 3, two of the drones that China is selling to Russia

Pakistan calling a session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, which on July 12 resolved to publish a report on religious hatred. After Momika threatened to burn another Koran in Sweden, rioters in Iraq stormed the Swedish embassy in Baghdad and set it on fire.

Iran responded with insidious threats. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called on Sweden to hand Momika to Islamic judicial authorities to give him "the severest punishment." Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps leader Hossein Salami threatened to strike Sweden. "We will not allow those who insult the Koran to have security," he said. "If someone wants to play with our Koran

and religion, we will play with all his world." Salami threatened to punish the "politicians and stage managers" of the Koran burning and promised "the highest punishment" to men like Momika. Daniel 11:40 specifies that Iran will provoke a "king of the north," a united European power. This "push" will intensify until Europe counterattacks the radical Islamic bloc. Watch closely the building conflict between radical Islam and Europe.

On July 24, Israel's Knesset passed the first bill in Benjamin Netanyahu's judicial reform program. For years, Israel's Supreme Court has engaged in judicial activism and created new powers for itself to overrule the other branches of government.

Since he regained the prime minister's office late last year, Netanyahu has tried to fulfill campaign promises and limit the court's power. He has been opposed at every step by opposition from a Knesset minority, by large street protests, by the



Protesters in Iran burn a Swedish flag during a July 21 demonstration.

United States and other foreign governments, by some members of his own government, and even by Israel's spy agency, Mossad. In spite of this, Netanyahu has his first victory, and the activist Supreme Court can no longer veto appointments and executive decisions based on its own opinion of whether those measures are "reasonable."

2 Kings 14:26-28 prophesy a resurgence to take place in the end-time nations of Israel, including the United States and the Jewish state in the Middle East. Much has to happen before this resurgence is fully realized. But Netanyahu's Knesset victory indicate the embattled prime minister's circumstances will soon change for the better. ■

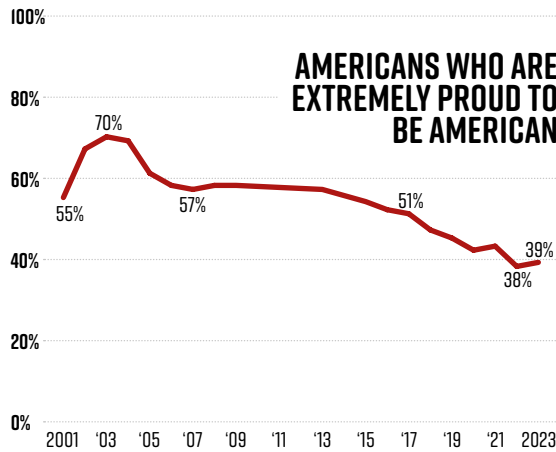
# ANGLO-AMERICA

[theTrumpet.com/more/anglo-america](http://theTrumpet.com/more/anglo-america)

As Americans prepared to celebrate the anniversary of their independence on July 4, a new Gallup survey indicated that only 39 percent of Americans are “extremely proud” to be American, 1 percentage above last year’s record low. That number was 65 to 70 percent in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks. This drastic decline is mainly due to the Democratic Party’s adoption of radical leftism: The share of Republicans who are extremely proud to be American has fallen from 80 percent to 60 percent over the past 20 years. The share of Democrats has fallen from 65 percent to 29 percent.

This decline in patriotism springs primarily from disdain for America’s founding values, but there are also legitimate reasons to be ashamed of modern America. On July 2, Secret Service agents discovered cocaine in the West Wing of the White House. The agency looked into the matter but closed the investigation only 12 days later without naming a suspect. Government agents claim there

is no way to know who left the illegal substance in what is presumably one of the most secure buildings in the world. They also claimed not to know who left marijuana there twice in 2022. Rep. Lauren Boebert on June 13 said she believes the agency prematurely closed



all three drug investigations without a suspect “because everything in this administration is about covering up for the Biden crime family.”

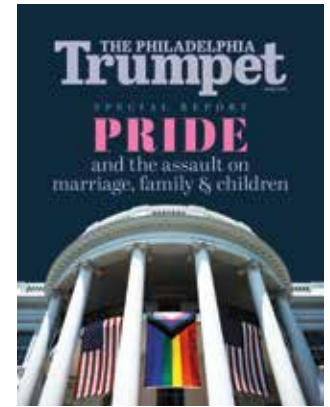
Meanwhile, former President **Barack Obama** posted a letter on July 17 defending sexually explicit books in children’s school libraries. “Today, some of the books that shaped my life—and the lives of so many others—are being challenged by people who disagree with certain ideas or perspectives,” Obama wrote in

response to Republican efforts to get rid of these books. “And librarians are on the front lines, fighting every day to make the widest possible range of viewpoints, opinions and ideas available to everyone.” Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has signed legislation removing 175 books from schools across Florida, and Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds has taken similar measures. But it is important to Obama that children read such books as *All the Things We Do in the Dark*, *Gender Queer*, *Lawn Boy*, *This Book Is Gay* and *Two Boys Kissing*.

A Bible passage in Daniel 8:11-12 reveals

that an end-time leader would cast truth to the ground. This prophecy is being fulfilled on the national level in America today by Barack Obama, the most biblically hostile president in American history. Obama is officially out of office, but is working in public and mostly in the shadows to destroy America’s founding virtues, abolish its constitutional form of government, and fundamentally transform its Judeo-Christian moral structure.

## FEATURED FEEDBACK



I can’t believe the subscription is still free. It’s the best magazine I get of its kind. If you ever want us to pay for a renewal, we would gladly do that. It’s a wonderfully informative magazine.

**John Albright** OHIO

This is absolutely the best subscription. I am 73, and it’s the best magazine I’ve read in my life.

**Gary Cochran** TEXAS

*America Under Attack* is a fantastic book. I hoped to have a copy sent to a former client of mine and one of my best friends. I’m an old-school kind of guy and I stay away from the Internet, so I appreciate the fact that you sent me a printed book. I will be passing along your phone number, e-mail and website to others, and make sure they acquire a copy of this book. You guys are doing a great work!

**Gene Gillespie** CALIFORNIA

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# A Titanic Lesson

Heed the warnings.



An OceanGate submersible begins its descent.

“EVEN GOD COULDN’T SINK the Titanic.” That was one of the many claims made in 1912, when that impressive ship was launched. That attitude created complacency that led to catastrophe. On the ship’s maiden voyage, the captain ignored repeated warnings about ice fields and went to bed. Soon after, the “unsinkable” ship struck an iceberg; a mere 160 minutes later, it had disappeared below the waters and was descending to the ocean floor 2½ miles below.

“So much for God-defying arrogance!” wrote the *Trumpet’s* editor in chief, Gerald Flurry, when James Cameron’s blockbuster movie *Titanic* hit cinemas in 1998. “It’s easy to ignore warnings. Millions—even billions—are doing it today. But we can’t ignore the icebergs!”

“I’ll tell you what haunts me when I see video footage of the Titanic today,” he continued. “It is very emotional. I see Britain and America in a similar condition—if they fail to heed God’s warning message. Our nations are headed for a disaster that will make people forget the Titanic tragedy, perhaps forever.

“God is sending out the ‘ice field’ warnings. But it is ‘a voice crying in the wilderness’ (Isaiah 40:1-10). ... The voice is ignored or ridiculed by most people. They somehow think America and Britain are ‘unsinkable.’ Like the captain of the Titanic, they ignore the warnings. They continue steaming ahead into the darkness.”

That 25-year-old article came to my mind this past June, when a submersible called the Titan descended into North Atlantic to visit the Titanic wreckage. Stockton Rush, CEO of Titan manufacturer OceanGate, was one of five men on board. He had ignored a number of warnings himself in constructing the Titan.

He said he didn’t want to build this vessel using ex-military submarine men, “50-year-old white guys.” He wanted his team “to be younger, to be inspirational” and to “have a variety of different backgrounds.” He and his staff dismissed several industry experts’ concerns over safety. Rush sought a reputation as an innovator, and he felt excessive safety protocols and regulations hindered that. “Somebody said, you’re remembered for the rules you break. And that’s the fact,” he told *60 Minutes*. “There were a lot of rules out there that didn’t make engineering sense to me. ... I think I can do this just as safely by breaking the rules.”

But physical laws are unyielding; they don’t care how inspirational or diverse your engineering team is. And when the Titan was under 2½ miles of water, it was being squeezed by nearly a ton and a half of pressure per square inch.

One hour and 45 minutes into the Titan’s dive, the United States Navy heard an unusual sound underwater. It was the

Titan’s hull imploding at 2,200 feet per second. One expert said it is like “crushing a can of soda to the size of a very small marble in your hand.”

America is like the Titanic: It has ignored warnings, it is punctured and is sinking fast. But it is also like the similarly doomed *Titan*.

Americans are prioritizing *inspiration*, *diversity* and other trendy virtues, and *BREAKING RULES* simply because those rules don’t make sense to them. This mindset is driving all sorts of radical “innovation”: efforts to defund police forces and “rethink” law enforcement,

to replace meat from animals with bugs and lab-engineered “foods,” to erase national borders to boost ethnic and cultural diversity, to pretend that biological sex and gender are utterly unrelated. Thousands of years of tradition, experience and wisdom are now routinely cast aside without hesitation.

The trouble is, in so many of these areas, what is actually being cast aside is not prejudice or parochialism or stodginess—but *immutable, inescapable law*.

Laws given by the “one lawgiver” (James 4:12) cannot be broken without suffering for it. “Innovation” wrought by breaking them is illusory. Just look around: The more people cast aside God’s laws governing morality, sex, family, health, commerce, leadership, government and religion, the more we see lives imploding, communities imploding, nations imploding.

This is a highly pressurized, rapidly compacting version of what human beings have been proving for 6,000 years. The world has always suffered from criminality, poverty, conflict, corruption, disease and malevolence—because the very first humans deliberately chose to *break the rules* governing human existence! They followed Satan’s advice: *Don’t listen to God! That will only hinder innovation. You’re remembered for the rules you break!* (Genesis 3:1-6). So as Herbert W. Armstrong wrote in his book *Mystery of the Ages*, God has allowed mankind to “innovate” and build a multifaceted civilization under the sway of Satan’s deceptions.

Our world shows the turbulent results. The education, knowledge, religions, governments, culture, music, entertainment, sports, dress, technology, priorities, attitudes—all are deeply influenced by that evil being, who seeks to destroy humanity as he destroyed our first parents (2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 12:9).

Revelation 18 prophesies about Babylon. *Babylon* may be the best single word in the Bible for the world’s system, cut off from God. The *whole world* has gotten mixed up in it. And this prophecy shows its *end*: It will all sink like the Titanic and implode like the Titan. Open your eyes, and this world’s path to oblivion is growing clearer by the day.

So God commands, “COME OUT OF HER, my people, that *ye be not partakers of her sins*, and that *ye receive not of her plagues*” (verse 4). Reject Satan and satanic rule-breaking. COME OUT. Humble yourself. Heed the warnings! Follow the laws the Lawgiver, and even as the pressure mounts in a world rapidly descending underwater, you will remain safe. ■





WYBN 8:30, Sun  
**Syracuse** WONO-CD 6:30, Sun; WSTM-TV-COMET TV 8:00  
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**Durham** WRDC-COMET TV 8:00, Sun; WTVD 6:30, Sun  
**Fayetteville** WTVD 6:30, Sun  
**Greensboro** WMYV-COMET TV 8:00, Sun  
**Greenville** WCTI-TV-COMET TV 8:00, Sun; WNCN-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Hickory** WHKY-TV-COMET TV 8:00, Sun  
**High Point** WMYV-COMET TV 8:00, Sun  
**New Bern** WCTI-TV-COMET TV 8:00, Sun; WNCN-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Raleigh** WRDC-COMET TV 8:00, Sun; WTVD 6:30, Sun  
**Salem** WMYV-COMET TV 8:00, Sun  
**Washington** WNCN-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Wilmington** WECT 6:00, Sun; WSFX-TV 6:30, Sun; WWAY-DT 9:30, Sun  
**Winston** WMYV-COMET TV 8:00, Sun  
**North Dakota**  
**Bismarck** KXMD/KXMC-DT2 8:30, Sun  
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**Minot** KXMD/KXMC-DT2 8:30, Sun  
**Valley City** KXJB 8:30, Sun  
**Ohio, Akron** WIVM/WVX 8:30, Sun  
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**WOLO Columbia, SC** 11:30 p.m., Sun  
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**Houston** KTAH-COMET TV 7:00, Sun; KTRK-TV 5:30, Sun  
**IUFKIN** KIVY 7:30, Sun  
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**U.S. Virgin Islands, Charlotte Amalie** WVFX 7:30, Sun  
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**Vermont, Burlington** WFFF 10:00, Sun; WVVN 10:30, Sun; WPTZ-DT 9:30  
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**Cheyenne** KGWN-DT 8:30, Sun  
**Jackson** KPFI 6:30, Sun  
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**Weston** WVUX 8:30, Sun

## CANADA

**Nationwide cable**  
**Vision TV** 4:30 p.m. ET, Sun  
**CHCH** 11:30 ET, Sun  
**Alberta, Red Deer** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
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**Edmonton** CKES-DT 10:00, Sun; KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**Medicine Hat** CHAT 8:30, Sun; KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**Lethbridge** KAYU 8:30, Sun  
**British Columbia, Kamloops** CFJC 9:00, Sun  
**Prince George** CKPG 9:00, Sun  
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**Manitoba, Winnipeg** CIIT Joy TV 11:00, Sun  
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## CARIBBEAN

**Bahamas** FOX W Chan. 216, 10:30, Sun

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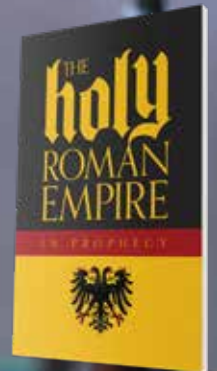
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