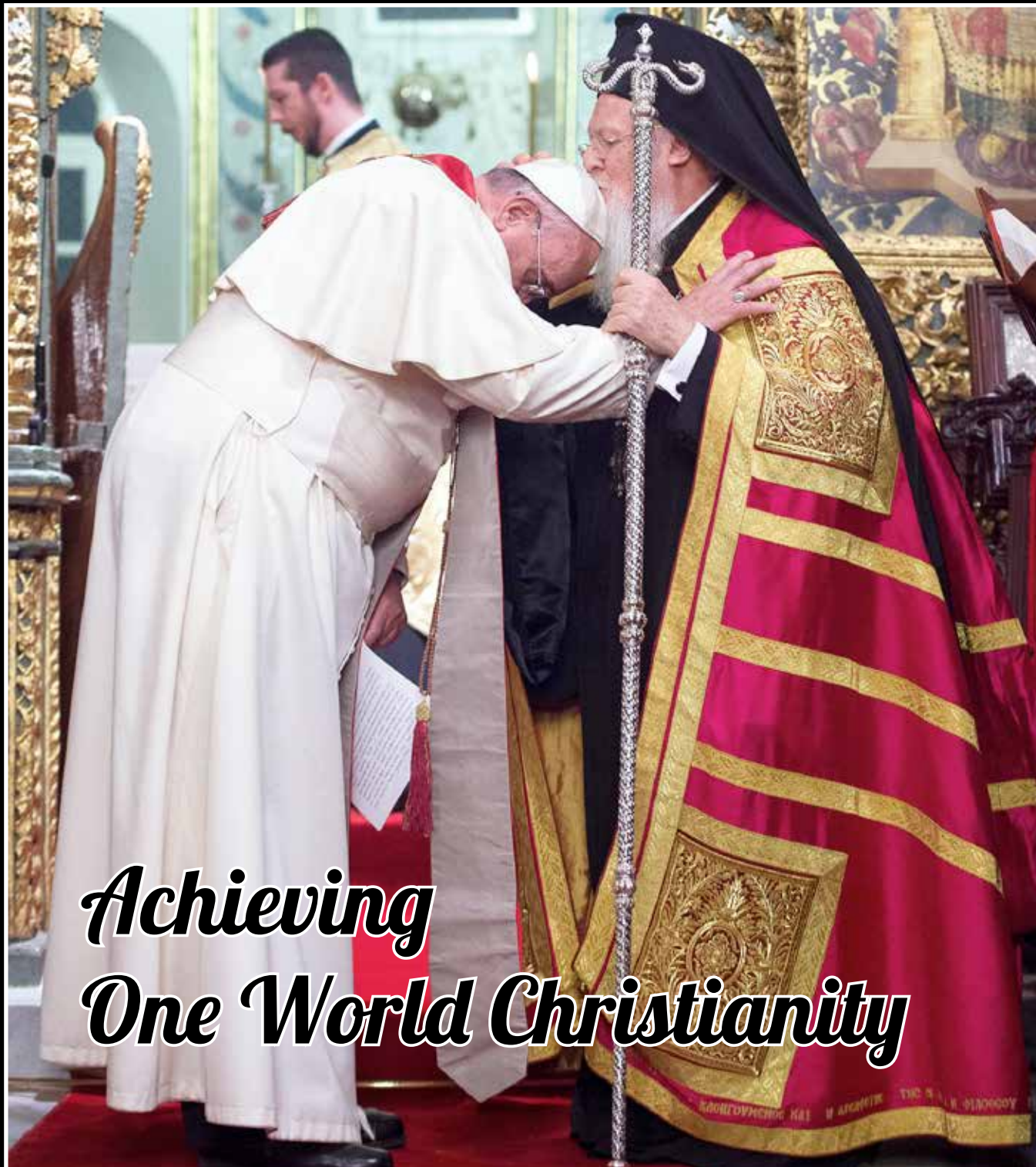


TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

WATCH

Vol. 18, No. 1

First Quarter 2015



*Achieving
One World Christianity*

COMMENTARY

What do They Want? — Dead Cops!



That was the chant you may have seen time and again as a hundred or two tightly packed protesters walked the center line of a New York City street. It was only a week or less later that the nation was treated to the blind ambush of two NYC police officers as they sat, eating a sandwich in their patrol car. One was Asian, the other Hispanic. Do you think the shooter even knew they weren't white? Doubtful.

Who was behind the organized group in the street? They didn't just materialize. In fact the whole thing seemed staged, even in the way it was photographed. You'll remember that the view of the "protesters" was from way up high where their chant could be clearly heard but no one could be identified. But in less than a week, they got what they said they wanted.

It is just pitiful to think that these two men, one

just married and the other the father of a thirteen year old son, were just executed for no reason other than wearing their uniforms and sitting in a police cruiser. Their lives were snuffed out in a moment by a deranged thug who obviously (based on his social media postings) was caught up with the insistent drumbeat, from the president to the attorney general and NYC's communistic mayor, that the police have a long record of inherent racism.

Rudy Gulianni is the man credited with cleaning up New York City, making it a clean, safe and civil environment to visit or conduct business. Before that, back in the 70's and into the 80's, downtown Manhattan was filthy, crime-ridden and dangerous. Anybody who worked in that area, which included some of the swankiest office buildings, housing major corporations and national publications,

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**TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY
WATCH**

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Achieving One World Christianity



It is hardly a secret that pope Francis and his recent predecessors have made unification with all other mainstream “Christian” denominations a top priority. He recently concluded a visit to Turkey, and met with President Erdogan as well as the head prelate of the Eastern Orthodox church, Patriarch Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople. The pope shared a podium with Erdogan to condemn the murderous exploits of ISIS. Erdogan, for his part, said the biggest problem in the region is Western “Islamophobia.”

But the pope and Eastern Orthodox Bartholomew reaffirmed their commitment to cooperation saying that they’re willing to operate in unity. Despite 900 some years of divorcement, the two organizations have in recent years referred to one another as “two lungs in the same body.”

While condemning the brutality of ISIS and terrorism in Turkey, Francis called on Europe to welcome rising numbers of refugees and immigrants from the Middle East, most of whom are Muslims.

In addition to overtures extended to Archbishop Bartholomew, Pope Francis has also headed a campaign reaching out to the “schismatic Old Catholic Church.” These include break-away protestant

churches all over Europe that are allied with the Anglican Church.

Pope Francis reached out to Pentecostals through an intermediary sent to Dallas, Texas. He sent a “heartwarming” video encouraging “Christian unity” to a “gathering of Pentecostals” including Kenneth Copeland and Bishop Anthony Palmer, described as a “leading member” of the Euro-Church, a “confederation of Protestant Evangelical leaders working in Europe.” The message from the meeting seems to have been that “doctrinal differences” don’t matter and they can all be “sorted out in heaven.” (Palmer, recently deceased, reportedly died in a motorbike accident.)

Under the headline *Francis, Ecumenism, and the Common Witness to Christ*, **The Catholic World Report** published the following paragraph. “The Catholic Church being the mammoth institution that it is—with an estimated 1.2 billion out of the approximately two billion Christians in the world, under one highly visible leader in Rome—ecumenism comes more naturally to it than to smaller groups, which can be understandably afraid of being swallowed whole in the process of reconciliation. But today we see a growing cooperation

among the recognized leaders from Christian communities of both the East and the West. The most active among these is Bartholomew I, Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, who began tearing down the walls of separation with John Paul II, worked closely with Benedict XVI, and has been present for Francis from the very outset of his papacy. Also conspicuous are the actions of Justin Welby, the archbishop of Canterbury, who recently surprised everybody by inviting a Catholic ecumenical community, *Chemin Neuf* (“A New Walk”), to live in his historic residence, Lambeth Palace, in order to “pray and work for unity.”

The article goes on to detail how Francis went on a “private visit” to a Pentecostal church in Caserta, Italy to promote unity, and concluded his remarks by apologizing for whatever role the Catholic church may have played in the persecution of protestants during the 1930s. According to the report, that is when the world media woke up to what was going on. But it was just the start of what became a parade by invitation to the Vatican for lengthy consultations with the pope, as the article goes on to reveal.

“But Caserta was only the latest of many events coming within the compass of the Holy Father’s efforts to reach out to evangelicals and Pentecostals.” Then we’re told that the Green family, owners of Hobby Lobby, a delegation including Joel Olsteen, Senator Mike Lee (Mormon), Gayle D.

Beebe (president of interdenominational Westmont College in Santa Barbara) and Pastor Tim Timmons (founder of California based South Coast Community Church) have all been to the Vatican to consult with the pope.

“Then, on June 24th, there was an unprecedentedly long, informal meeting and lunch at *Domus Sanctae Martae* with famed televangelist James Robison and his wife; the two top officers of the World Evangelical Alliance, Global Ambassador Brian Stiller and Secretary General Geoff

position of *sola fide*, calling the audience’s attention to the 1999 Joint Declaration of the Doctrine of Justification, signed by the Roman Catholic Church and the world-wide Lutheran Federation (and by the Methodist Church in 2006). Although the Lutherans, together with all the other historical Reformed churches, are now a minority among the world’s Protestants, with this agreement the Catholic Church had already made an acknowledgment of considerable historical weight: “We Roman Catholics and Protestants



Pope and Copeland exchange hope for Catholic/Charismatic union

Tunncliffe; Kenneth Copeland, whose ministry belongs to the Word of Faith Movement; John and Carol Arnott, co-presidents of Catch the Fire Ministries in Toronto; and Evangelical Episcopalian Bishop Anthony Palmer.”

The Pope appeals to all the disparate “leaders of Christianity” with “a yearning for a return to lost unity, a desire to achieve a missing fullness, a disarming invitation to simply come together to witness to the beauty of the love of Christ.” Believe it or not, this kind of fluff is working!

“In introducing the Pope’s message, Palmer provided scriptural context (“a spirit of reconciliation”) as well as up-to-date information on the Lutheran

of the Lutheran Church believe and confess that *by grace alone*, in faith in Christ’s saving works and *not because of any merit on our part*, we are accepted by God and receive the Holy Spirit, who renews our hearts while equipping and calling us to good works.

“This brought an end to the protest of Luther,” Palmer told his audience. “We preach the same gospel now!” Looking around, after a pause, he added: “Luther’s protest is over. Is yours?”

Has anybody, save the Church of God, been left out? Bible prophecy indicates that there will be a *One World* religious, governmental and economic authority in

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One World Christianity

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James Robison and pope Francis high five.

the end times. Is the gathering of nearly all the world's "Christian" organizations documented in this article leading to such a conclusion? The current pope, Francis, has won trust and respect everywhere by his disarming manner, his rejection of some of

the customary papal perks and his constant advocacy for emigrants all over the world. Most recently, we've seen him come out in the annual papal "Christmas address" before the assembled cardinals at the Vatican with statements indicting members of the Roman Curia for "spiritual diseases," including greed for power and hypocrisy. According to first-hand accounts it wasn't well received by the cardinals, but may further boost the pope's stock in public opinion.

But the current pope hasn't been shy about injecting his views into matters that have political impact. He's gone so far as to attack the "idolatry of money," as if money is intrinsically idolatrous, he has complained about "income inequality" and been critical of capitalism. He said he's not a Marxist, but he's known a lot of Marxists that were very nice people. He's made conciliatory statements toward homosexuals ("Who am I to judge?") and atheists, and hinted that traditional church doctrines may be temporary. In *USA Today*, an editorial arguing in defense of Francis and his many departures from traditional catholic positions, says it's not political, but prophetic (*Pope Prophetic, Not Political*). In fact, it is both. □ *Mark Armstrong*

Will They All Follow the Vatican?



Kenneth Copeland



Rick Warren

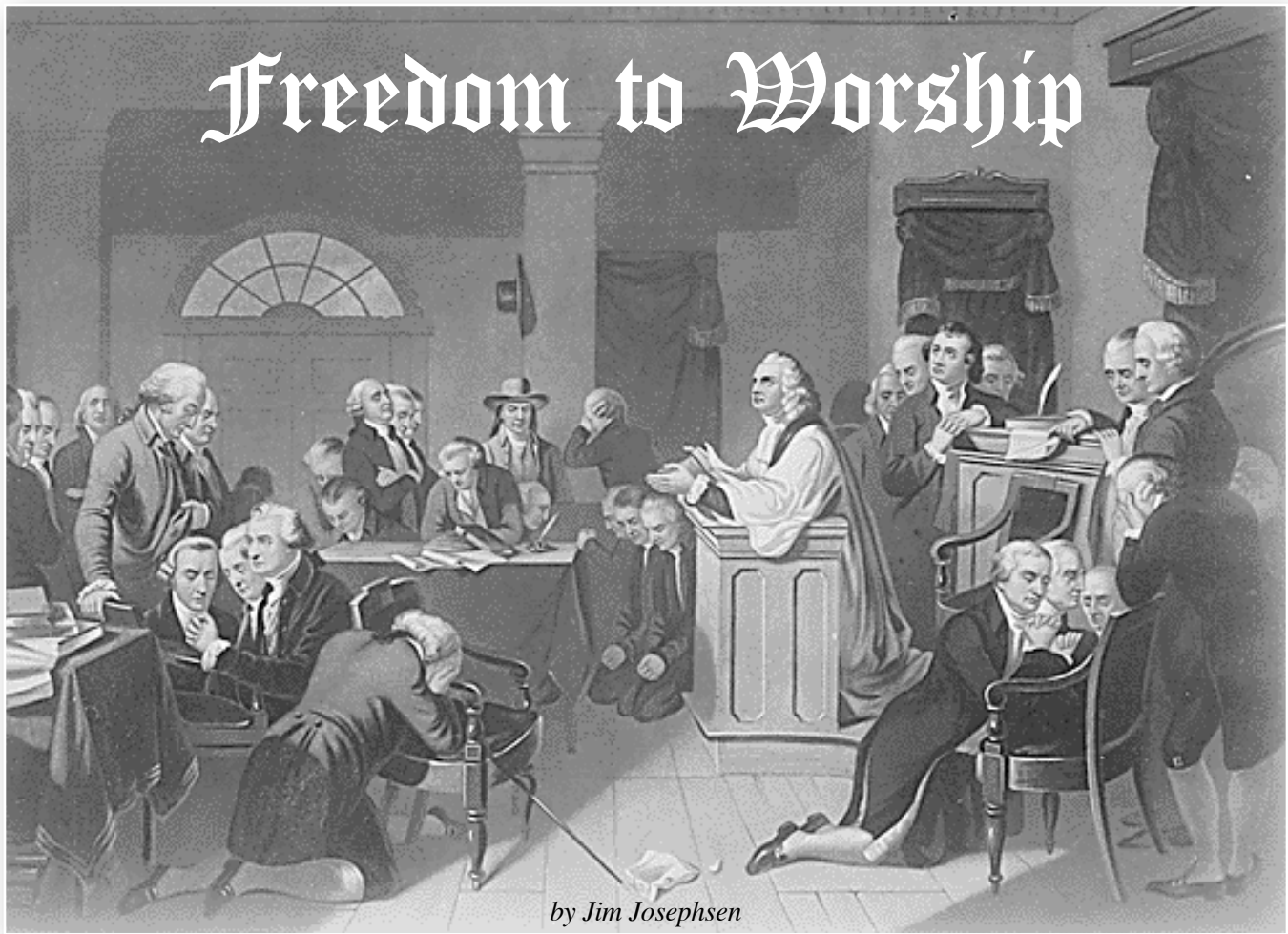


James Robison



Joel Olsteen

"I just felt very honored and very humbled," Olsteen told local television station Click 2 Houston. "It was amazing. And even to go back into that part of the Vatican—there's so much history there, the place that they took us through. You feel that deep respect and reverence for God."



by Jim Josephsen

Across the world, month after month, year after year, within country after country, hundreds of varied and differing religious holidays and holy days are observed by the adherents of many and varied religions; each worships their particular god, distinct to each particular religion.

One holiday, recognized across the globe, but particular to some 2.18 billion Christians around the world, is Christmas.

The history of Christmas reveals many an irony and much duplicity. To learn the truth about Christmas, one simply needs to read any of the many Christmas related history books or Google search “the history of Christmas” or simply watch programs like the History Channel’s “Christmas Unwrapped.”

The intermingling of the nativity of Jesus Christ with many pagan religious traditions and folk tales is obvious. Most rituals and customs common to Christmas are clearly connected to early pagan traditions from Rome and countries across northern

Europe and the British Isles. Considered a religious holiday, Christmas these days is loaded with commercialism, consumerism and pageantry. It is a time that makes merry the heart, for after all, ‘tis the season to be jolly, for it’s the most wonderful time of the year. Less noticeable, year after year is Jesus Christ.

In the United States, considered a Christian country, Christmas is more than a religious holiday; it is a national observance, much like a national institution. Christmas is a day on which federal, state and local governments shut down and practically all business, as well as private and public institutions close for the day. In the United States of America, Christmas is such a well established holiday that even non-Christians join in the celebration, taking advantage of the time off work.

Between 1609 and 1775, nearly one-half million Europeans from Northern Europe, mainly from England, with some from Scotland, Scandinavia,

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Freedom to Worship

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and Germany, made their way to what would become the United States of America. Many of these immigrants had hopes of securing a brighter economic future. Many made their way to the new British colony to flee religious persecution, to flee the hypocrisy and persecution of the Church of

1681, and the Plymouth colony made celebrating Christmas a criminal offense.

As history reveals, many Christians who were not as strict as the Puritans or careful about their religion, “took underground” their Christmas revelry and debauchery, the likes of

mas. Why could they not see the paganism of Sunday worship? Why did the Puritans reject the seventh day (Saturday) Sabbath, when Jesus Christ clearly said he is the Lord of the Sabbath and He did not come to do away with the Laws of God? Why did the Puritans reject God’s teachings about the Sabbath and continue the Catholic and Anglican tradition of pagan (Sun) day worship?

These questions aside, the Puritans and other Protestant Christians had a substantial and imposing influence on this nascent British American Colony in the 17th and 18th centuries. What was initially religious freedom for most became religious tyranny for others.

In 1639, New England Puritans drafted a constitution affirming their faith in God and their intentions to organize a Christian nation as “a shining city upon a hill.”

In 1775, nine of the 13 colonies had state established Christian churches. Although a variety of Christian denominations were tolerated, each colony had one dominant or favored denomination, which was treated with financial favor. All 13 colonies required office-holders to be Christian; those who professed faith in Jesus Christ. That requirement of course changed with Article VI of the United States Constitution, which ensures that no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification for an individual to hold office or public trust under the United States.

By 1776, with the exception of some 2,500 Jews, 98% of the European Americans who came



They came from England to seek a new life and a place to practice their religion. They arrived in Plymouth, Mass in 1620.

England.

Among the many, mostly Christian peoples to come to the new world, were the Puritans. The Puritans were Protestant Christians who made significant contributions to colonial ways of life and the governmental structure of the colonies. In the mid-seventeenth century, Puritan Christians, both in America and England, were instrumental in the passing of laws, which made it illegal to observe Christmas. Their reasoning was simple: it was an insult to God to honor a day associated with ancient paganism. With Puritan dogma and religious doctrine in force, Christmas was outlawed in Boston from 1659 to

dancing, singing, merry-making, yule fires, mistletoe, drinking and saturnalia exploits, during that time. As time progressed into the 19th century, with the assistance of Christian Sunday schools along with the likes of Charles Dickens and Clement Clarke Moore, Christmas once again became an integral part of Christian worship in America. Catholic and Protestant Christians alike, embraced Christmas, with all its traditions.

As faithful to the Bible as the Puritans seemed to be, they never saw the deception foisted upon the world by the Catholic Church when it came to the Lord’s Day or Easter. The Puritans could see the paganism associated with Christ-

to the colonies identified themselves as Protestant Christian and some 1.9% identified themselves as Catholic. Protestant Christian principles and values were clearly prevalent in these British American colonies.

Not only the strident and moral absolutism required of the Puritans but also Quaker Christians from Pennsylvania made it clear what behaviors would not be allowed in their territory. Article 38 of the “Character of Liberties and Frame of Government of the Province of Pennsylvania” listed offenses to God, some of which were swearing, cursing, lying, profane talking, drunkenness, obscene words, incest, sodomy, stage-plays, dice, masques, bull-baiting, cock-fighting and behaviors that excite the people to rudeness, cruelty, looseness and irreligion.

Early colonial laws, charters and constitutions such as the Mayflower Compact, the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut or the Massachusetts Body of Liberties were principled with Christian ideology and naturally so, as the authors of these rules and documents were Christian. In the early years of the British colonies, Christian religious groups were influential and most attempted to enforce strict religious observance in both colonial territorial governments and local town rules. Laws mandated that everyone attend a house of worship and pay taxes, which funded the salaries of ministers. Dissenters who sought to practice or proselytize a different version of Christianity or a non-Christian faith were oftentimes persecuted.

Although most colonists considered themselves Christians, this did not mean that all lived in a culture of religious unity. Instead, differing Christian groups often believed that their own practices and faiths provided unique values that needed protection against those who disagreed, driving a need for additional rules and regulations.



Virginia’s 1610 legal code included that the colonists embark on a “sacred cause” which required church attendance twice every Sunday; in addition it proclaimed that anyone who spoke impiously against the Trinity or who blasphemed God’s name be put to death. Consider if these regulations were the law of the land today?

Thorough reading of the lives of the Founding Fathers provides consistent evidence that these men respected and acknowledged the universal teachings of Jesus Christ. With regard to organized

religion, several rejected Roman and Anglican dogma and the Pauline version of Christianity. Others had varying degrees of association with Christian congregations.

Among the Founding Fathers were Deists, admiring the teachings of Christ in addition to other great philosophers and orators of Roman & Western philosophy. Several of the Founding Fathers were Freemasons. All the Founding Fathers were educated under the ideology and philosophy of the Enlightenment. As such, these men were inspired by and promoted reason, individualism, empiricism, science, rationalism, & natural liberties while rejecting authoritarianism, tradition, religious revelations, absolutism, autocracy and religious intolerance.

Not that these men were irreligious or detractors of Christianity; their principle concern was that no one religion or religious dogma or doctrine took precedence over another. These men were witness to not only the abuses of the British monarchy, but also the theocratic dogmatism of the Protestant Church of England. The Founding Fathers were very much aware how Christian dogma was influencing governmental structure and behavior within the colonies.

They felt strongly that the liberty of personal choice of worship had to be upheld and not dominated by any one particular Christian denomination. Belief in the teachings of Jesus was one thing, but to promote one particular religion or Christian denomination over another or to

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GERMANS RISE UP AGAINST ISLAMIZATION

by Soeren Kern

There is a mounting public backlash over what many perceive as the government's indifference to the growing influence of Islam in German society. This backlash represents a potentially significant turning point.

Despite efforts by German politicians and the media to portray PEGIDA as neo-Nazi, the group has taken great pains to distance itself from Germany's extreme right. The group says that it is "apolitical" and that its main objective is to preserve what is left of Germany's Judeo-Christian culture and values.

"Many people in Germany have legitimate concerns about the spread of radical Islamic ideology, which promotes violence against non-Muslims, robs women and girls of their natural rights, and seeks to require the application of Sharia law.... Because the rule of law, tolerance and freedom of religion are fundamental Western values, the PEGIDA movement must leave no doubt that it

is precisely these values that it seeks to defend." — Bernd Lucke, leader, Alternative for Germany Party and professor of macroeconomics, Hamburg University.

Thousands of German citizens have been taking to the streets to protest the growing "Islamization" of their country.

The protests are part of a burgeoning grassroots movement made up of ordinary citizens who are calling for an end to runaway immigration and the spread of Islamic Sharia law in Germany.

The guardians of German multiculturalism are fighting back: they are seeking to delegitimize the protesters by branding them as "neo-Nazis" and by claiming that the Islamization of Germany is a myth contrived by misinformed citizens.

But there is a mounting public backlash over what many perceive as the government's indifference to the growing influence of Islam in German society. This backlash represents a potentially significant turning point—one that implies that the days of unrestrained German multiculturalism may



be coming to an end.

The latest protest took place in the eastern German city of Dresden on December 8, when more than 10,000 people defied freezing temperatures to express their displeasure with Germany's lenient asylum policies.

Germany—which is facing an unprecedented influx of asylum seekers, including many from Muslim countries—is now the second most popular destination in the world for migrants, after the United States.

The Dresden protest was organized by a new citizens initiative, “Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West,” better known by its German abbreviation, PEGIDA, short for “*Patriotische Europäer gegen die Islamisierung des Abendlandes*.”

PEGIDA, which has been organizing so-called “evening walks” (*Abendspaziergang*) through downtown Dresden every Monday evening since October, has seen the number of protesters increase exponentially from week to week.

Similar anti-Islamization protests have been held in the western German cities of Hannover, Kassel and Düsseldorf, where 400 people showed up on December 8 for demonstration organized by a PEGIDA offshoot, named DÜGIDA.

These protests are similar to, but separate from, other mass demonstrations organized in Cologne and other German cities by a group called Hooligans against Salafists, or HoGeSa.

PEGIDA was launched by Lutz Bachmann, a 41-year-old Dresden native with no background

in politics, after government officials in the eastern German state of Saxony announced that they would be opening more than a dozen new shelters to house some 2,000 refugees.

Bachmann says that he is not opposed to legitimate asylum seekers, but that he is against so-called economic refugees who are taking advantage of Germany's generous asylum laws in order to benefit from the country's cradle-to-grave social welfare system. According to Bachmann, most of the asylum seekers in Saxony are males who have left their families behind in war-torn Muslim coun-

tries.

Despite efforts by German politicians and the media to portray PEGIDA as neo-Nazi, the group has taken great pains to distance itself from Germany's extreme right. PEGIDA's motto is “We are the people!” (*Wir sind das Volk!*), the same slogan used by East Germans to bring down the Berlin Wall in 1989. The group says that it is “apolitical” and that its main objective is to preserve what is left of Germany's Judeo-Christian culture and values.

Ahead of the march on December 8, PEGIDA posted the following call to action:

“Dear friends, dear fellow citizens, dear patriots! Monday is PEGIDA Day and today too we want to show that we are peaceful. Bring your friends and neigh-

bors and let us show the counter-demonstrators that we are not xenophobic.”

Placards displayed by protesters in Dresden included slogans such as “Against Religious Faticism,” “United against a Holy War on German Soil,” “Homeland Security Rather than Islamization,” and “For the Future of our Children.” There was no visible sign of neo-Nazi propaganda at the event.

On December 10, PEGIDA published a “Position Paper” outlining what the group is “for” and “against” in 19 bullet points. These include:

“Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West,” better known by its German abbreviation, PEGIDA

“1. PEGIDA is FOR the acceptance of asylum seekers from war zones, or those who are subject to political and religious persecution. This is a human duty!”

“2. PEGIDA is FOR amending the Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany to include a list of the right and the responsibility for immigrants to integrate.”

“9. PEGIDA is FOR a zero-tolerance policy vis-à-vis asylum seekers and migrants who commit crimes in Germany.”

“13. PEGIDA is FOR maintaining and protecting our Judeo-Christian Western culture.”

“16. PEGIDA is AGAINST the establishment of parallel societies/parallel legal systems in our midst, such as Sharia Law, Sharia Police, and Sharia Courts, etc.”

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AGAINST ISLAMIZATION

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“18. PEGIDA is AGAINST religious radicalism, regardless of whether it is religiously or politically motivated.”

“19. PEGIDA is AGAINST hate preachers, regardless of religious affiliation.”

In a classic case of shooting the messenger rather than heeding the message, German politicians have dismissed PEGIDA protesters as ignorant and racist.

German Interior Minister Thomas de Maizière character-

views in the heart of society.”

But Bachmann says the protests will continue until there are changes to Germany’s asylum policies. “We do not want to launch a political party or start a revolution,” he said. “But we need to talk openly about the asylum issue.”

Meanwhile, the Christian Social Union [CSU], the Bavarian partner of Chancellor Angela Merkel’s CDU, has watered down a demand that migrants settling

Many are taking advantage of Europe’s open borders to claim asylum in Germany after first passing through Italy and Austria.

ized PEGIDA as “shameless,” adding: “We have no danger of Islamization, certainly not in Saxony or Dresden with 2.2% immigrant population.”

In an interview with the German newsmagazine *Der Spiegel*, Justice Minister Heiko Maas said:

“There are limits to the political battle of ideas. All political parties should clearly distance themselves from these protests. We cannot be silent if a xenophobic atmosphere is being built on the backs of people who have lost everything and come to us for help: We have to be clear that the demonstrators are not the majority.”

A politician with the ruling Christian Democratic Union [CDU], Wolfgang Bosbach, warned that the protests represented the “anchoring of radical

in Germany on a permanent basis should speak German at home.

The “politically incorrect” proposal appeared in a draft policy paper on December 7. Following an outcry, the proposal was quickly amended to read that migrants who want to live in Germany permanently should be “motivated,” rather than “obliged,” to speak German “in daily life,” rather than “in public and within the family.”

In October, it emerged that so many asylum seekers were converging on Bavaria that they needed to be housed in tents normally used for the annual Oktoberfest.

In September, the governor of Bavaria and leader of the CSU party, Horst Seehofer, called for the return of border controls with Austria to stem the tide of refu-

gees seeking asylum in Germany.

The Schengen Agreement, which entered into effect in 1995, abolished internal borders within the European Union, enabling passport-free movement between most countries within the bloc.

Although international law holds that migrants are supposed to claim asylum in the first country they reach, many are taking advantage of Europe’s open borders to claim asylum in Germany after first passing through Italy and Austria.

Seehofer also lashed out at Italian authorities, who he said are not doing enough to stop the flow of migrants entering the EU through Italy, after crossing the Mediterranean Sea from Africa. In an interview, he said:

“Italy is in clear violation of the Schengen accords. If this does not stop, Germany has seriously to consider stopping this violation via border controls. We must set quotas for refugees in Europe. And we have to deal with the fact that refugees need to be shared out among EU members fairly.”

Bavarian officials estimate that at least 33,000 asylum seekers have arrived in the state during 2014, twice the number of arrivals registered in 2013.

In an effort to stem the flow of asylum seekers, the CSU has demanded that the central government begin cracking down on so-called welfare tourism. The CSU is concerned that the problem of runaway immigration is prompting traditional supporters of the party to defect to the Alternative for Germany (AfD), an upstart political party formed in 2013.

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Jesus Christ Did Not Come To Bring Peace

Shocking? Yes, it is! Millions suppose Christ came to “save the world.” They believe He came to die for the sins of mankind, yet do not know *what sin is*. Millions think He came to establish the Christian religion. Almost no one knows why Christ really came to this earth, even though Christ plainly says so! He came to qualify as the King of kings and Lord of lords; to *disqualify* the present evil world ruler, Satan; to *preach the good news* of His coming world-ruling government; to call and train His disciples to proclaim that message; to *build His church*, or His group of “called-out” ones; to commission His church to perform the work of preaching the gospel and caring for the flock; to qualify to become our High Priest; to die for the sins of mankind; to be raised from the dead three days and three nights later; to ascend to His Father in heaven, where He awaits the time of His return as conquering King.

by Garner Ted Armstrong

“Peace on earth—good will toward men.” How many times have you heard it? At Christmas, millions of church-going, professing Christian people attend church services, concerts, performances of Handel’s stirring “Messiah.” Millions decorate their homes, their lawns, or even their rooftops with scenes of the Christ child in a manger, with wise men, shepherds, Mary, and the angels.

They suppose they are doing this in honor of Christ’s birthday, which they erroneously believe was on December 25. History proves Christ was born in the *autumn*, very likely on the First Day of the Feast of Tabernacles, not in the middle of winter.

God’s Word shows Christ was “tabernacling” (dwelling only temporarily) in human flesh (John 1:14); that He came to this earth for many important purposes.

What were the real reasons for the very Person of the Godhead Who said, “Let there be light,” and “Let Us make man in Our image,” to *become human flesh*? Study carefully the entire first chapter of the Gospel according to John for *proof* of Christ’s pre-human state.

Did Jesus Christ come to give us a new and different religion? Did He come to bring peace? Did He come to save the world? Did He come to revive the synagogue? Did He come to heal everyone He could, cast out every demon He encountered, teach every person He met, and convert as many as possible?

No, believe it or not, Jesus Christ did not come to save the world—*then!* Had Jesus Christ decided to “save” the world, He would have *done it*. Instead, He told His disciples: “Think NOT that I am come to send peace on earth; I came NOT to send peace, but a sword (a symbol of violent death; symbol of war!)”

“For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

“And a man’s foes shall be those of his own household” (Matthew 10:34 – 36).

Are you mature enough; is your mind open and inquiring enough to really think about that scriptural passage? Do you *believe it*? Christ said it. He meant it. He did not come to bring peace during His physical lifetime of “tabernacling” in human flesh.

But what of the oft-repeated phrase, “peace on earth?” It is a blatant *mistranslation* in the King James Bible of 1611. Most marginal references clear it up: the Oxford KJV margin says, “Or, on earth peace among men of good will, or, on earth peace among men in whom He is well pleased” (Luke 2:14).

Christ Himself tells you He did not come to bring peace on this earth. Eventually He will, but that time is in the future.

This is not God’s World

Many people hope for a time of great ecumenism,

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Peace

Continued from page 13

a time when all men of good will, working together, can bring about a vast Christian revival which will influence governments, and bring the world peace at last.

The Bible prophesies no such thing.

Instead, God's Word says that Satan the devil has deceived the institutions of this world (Revelation 12:9); that he is the "prince of the power of the air" (Ephesians 2:2), and the present "god of this world" (II Corinthians 4:4). As such, Satan is the architect of this world's

prophesy of Esaias (Isaiah), which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive.

"For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (Matthew 3:19-16).

Do you understand what Jesus plainly said?

Christ was telling them He was making a conscious decision to speak in puzzling terms, lest those people should understand,

*He plainly said He was not
sent to the whole world then,
only to Israel!*

institutions, its governments, its societies, and its religions.

The world is in total spiritual darkness, deceived by Satan. Jesus Christ did not attempt to penetrate the veil of darkness and deception that clouded most men's minds.

Christ's disciples, wondering why Jesus spoke in puzzles and riddles to his audiences, asked Him why He did this. Millions have supposed Christ's parables were to make the meaning plain by giving His audiences cozy little stories to illustrate His point.

But Christ told them: "It is given unto you (His disciples) to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given...therefore I speak unto them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.

"And in them is fulfilled the

and become converted! He quoted Isaiah's prophecy which said the masses would have become deceived, that their ears would hear words, but not understand the deep, spiritual intent; that they had closed their eyes to God's truth!

Not only did Jesus say He had come to a world of spiritual darkness and deception, He plainly said He was not sent to the whole world then, only to Israel!

Read in your own Bible. Jesus was approached by a Gentile woman, a Canaanite, who desperately begged Him to heal her daughter, to cast out a demon. But Jesus did not so much as answer this poor woman! He "answered her not a word" (Matthew 15:23).

Are you prepared to believe what your own Bible says, instead of what mainstream evangelicals have always supposed or what you

have always assumed?

What your Bible tells you is that if the Canaanitish woman had not shown an example of unusual tenacity, Jesus Christ would have turned a deaf ear to her appeals; He would have gone His way, and paid no attention whatsoever to her desperate cry for relief for her daughter!

Even the disciples wanted to be rid of her. "And His disciples besought Him, saying, 'Send her away; for she crieth after us.'

"But He answered and said, 'I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.'

"Then came she and worshiped Him, saying, 'Lord, help me.'

But He answered and said, 'It is not meet (proper, fitting) to take the children's bread, and cast it to dogs'" (Matthew 15:23-26).

At this point, had the Savior of all mankind said such a thing today, in our "politically correct" society, this dark, swarthy woman would have fiercely bridled; "What!? Your referring to me and my kind as DOGS? What are you, a racist, white male, homophobe, bigoted, religious fanatic?"

Sure she would.

Think about it.

His analogy said that parents of children who were sitting at the dining table would hardly take food from their plates, and toss it to their pets! The meaning was clear. He was only sent to the "lost sheep of the House of Israel," and it was not yet time for God's grace to be extended to the Gentiles.

But the Canaanitish woman did not react the way millions of her female countrywomen might react today.

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by Dr. James and Natalie Ricks

Immutable Law of Supply and Demand

This fall oil production rose to create an oil surplus. Supply outpaced demand. Demand declined because of a recession in Europe, the slowing Chinese economy and increased energy efficiency in the developed world. Supply expanded because U.S. shale and Canadian tar sands oil production increased.

Saudi Princes' Power Gamble

It was November 4th and nearly everything in the energy complex went red (falling in prices). Why? Because the Saudi princes lowered the price of oil sold to America. Their goal is to dump oil until they squeeze profit margins on U.S. shale oil producers and eliminate that competition in the future. Will it work? The Saudis' are very frustrated that they are losing control over global oil pricing. This is a power they have held for many decades. Some think the Saudis have made the biggest strategic pricing error in the Kingdom's history.

The wealthy OPEC members can survive this price war but it is hurting many other oil producing nations. Russia, Iran and ISIS are hit hardest by the price war and this may be a welcomed side benefit

to Saudi Arabia. The Saudis won a price war like this once before, but investors think market and production environments are different now. Will God bless America and our oil industry or let the wealthy OPEC countries win in the long run?

Oil Price Drop Puts Chill on U.S. Drilling

The number of rigs working in North Dakota and Texas has started to decline. Workers are being laid off as oil prices fall to a 5 year low. EOG Resources Inc. this week said it would shed many of its Canadian oil and gas fields and close the Calgary office. A contraction of production is unavoidable at this point. There was a 36% decline in issued drilling permits during the last two months. The search for new oil is declining.

Will America and Canada Be Blessed In The Long Run?

Financial and material blessing ultimately come from God. America was warmly blessed from the very beginning of the nation, materially and financially. Will God continue to give us those blessings? (See Deut. 28:44 and Gen. 49:22-25) In the past we have had the world's best agricultural

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China: Turning Away from The Dollar

Questions remain over the global economic impact of Beijing's efforts to reduce its financial reliance on the U.S.

by James Kynge and Josh Noble

By permission from ft.com — Financial Times

When an economic theme goes global, Hollywood is never far behind. In the futuristic thriller *Looper*, retired hit man Bruce Willis travels back in time from the year 2074. Upon meeting his younger self, he advises him to stop learning French and instead head to China. In the future, Shanghai is the centre of the world and the *renminbi* the currency of choice.

While time travel and flying cars may not be on the horizon, at least one aspect appears closer to reality and movie bad guys are not the only ones eager to get their hands on a few “redbacks”. An “age of Chinese capital”, as Deutsche Bank calls it, is dawning, raising the prospect of fundamental changes in the way the world of finance is wired. Not only is capital flowing more freely out of China, the channels and the destinations of that flow are shifting significantly in response to market forces and a master plan in Beijing, several analysts and a senior Chinese official say.

In a nutshell, three big and inter-related changes are under way. China's appetite for US Treasury bonds, a cornerstone of the global economy for more than a decade, is waning. Beijing is ramping up its overseas development agenda to boost financial returns and serve key geopolitical interests. The promotion of the *renminbi* as an international currency is gradually liberating Beijing from the dollar zone, providing it with more latitude to open up to foreign portfolio investment flows.

The reorientation of China's strategy away from Treasuries is a slow-running trend but one which intensified last month after Li Keqiang, the pre-

mier, announced a 10-point plan for financial reform. One of the points dealt with the deployment of China's \$3.9tn in foreign currency reserves, chunks of which have been recycled into Treasuries for more than a decade, helping to keep US interest rates low and underpin economic growth in the west. However, the new plan says: “Better use should be made of China's foreign exchange reserves to support the domestic economy and the development of an overseas market for Chinese high-end equipment and goods.”

A senior Chinese official, who declined to be identified, elaborated on what the plan is likely to mean in practice. “This is a big change and it cannot happen too quickly, but we want to use our reserves more constructively by investing in development projects around the world rather than just reflexively buying US Treasuries,” the official says. “In any case, we usually lose money on Treasuries, so we need to find ways to improve our return on investment,” he says.

Rewiring global finance

Not only is China's desire to buy US debt diminishing, so is its ability to do so. The banner years of Treasury bond purchases, during which holdings rose 21-fold over a 13-year period to hit \$1.27tn by the end of 2013, were driven by an imperative to recycle China's soaring US dollar current account surpluses.

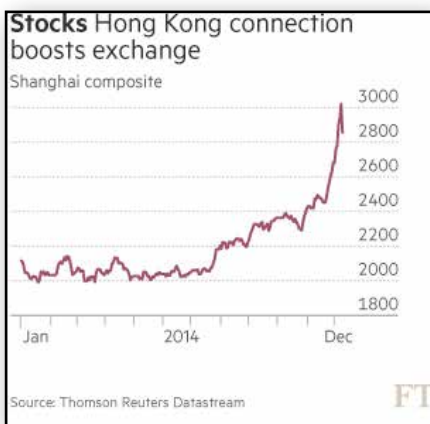
But these surpluses are narrowing sharply — from the equivalent of 10.3 per cent of gross domestic product at the peak in 2007 to 2.0 per cent

in 2013. In fact, if financial flows are taken into account, China ceased over the most recent four quarters to be a net exporter of capital at all.

The impact on Treasury purchases is evident in the tapering of Chinese buying over the past three years. But analysts see structural forces driving a steeper downturn in the future.

“I absolutely think we are going to see smaller Chinese current account surpluses in the future because of greater Chinese spending overseas on tourism and services and greater spending power at home may lead to more imports,” says Jan Dehn, head of emerging market research at the Ashmore fund.

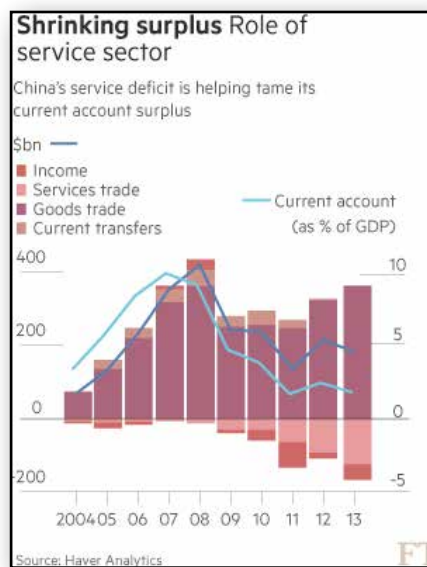
All of this leads to a burning question: how convulsive an impact on US debt financing — and therefore on global interest rates — will the changes under way in China have? Analysts hold views across a spectrum that ranges from those who see an imminent bonfire of US financial complacency to those who see little change and no cause for concern. Occupying a space between these extremes are those, such as Michael Power of Investec, who see potential for a disruptive rewiring



of international capital flows, but no certainty that such an outcome will transpire.

“If China starts to pursue investment programmes like developing infrastructure to regenerate the trans-Asian Silk Road, it will no longer be banking most of its surplus savings in US Treasuries,” says Mr Power.

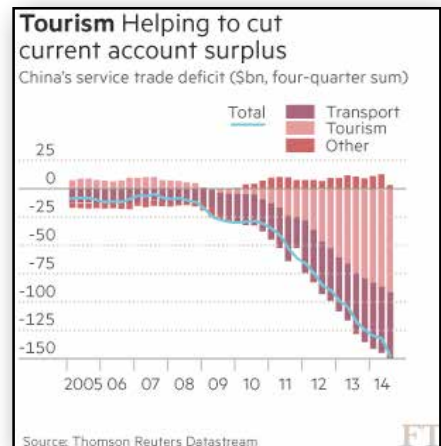
A decade ago Alan Greenspan, the then chairman of the US Federal Reserve, found his attempts to coax US interest rates upwards negated by Beijing parking its



surplus savings into Treasuries. Arguably, says Mr Power, a bond bubble has existed ever since.

“If China is now set to redeploy those deposits into capital investment the world over, does this mean the [Greenspan] conundrum will be at last ‘solved’ but at the cost of an imploding Treasury market?” Mr Power asks. “If so, this will raise the corporate cost of capital in the west and put yet another brake on already tepid western GDP growth.”

Stephanie Pomboy, president at Macro Mavens, a US-based economics research consultan-



cy, sees a more present peril. “The conviction that the rest of the world [China and Japan in particular] have no choice but to maintain their attachment to the US dollar is as strong as ever,” she says. “Wallowing in this illusion, investors see no long-term threat to the dollar’s status, even as each day it diminishes in use.”

Locked in

Others, however, say that China is effectively locked into a steady continuation of US Treasury investment because any sudden sell-down of its huge holdings could send Treasury prices into a tailspin, thereby slashing the value of Beijing’s position. In addition, says Jonathan Anderson of Emerging Advisors Group, China’s Treasury investments are a byproduct of Beijing’s intervention in currency markets to prevent the type of surge in the *renminbi*’s value that would have eroded the competitiveness of its exports.

What is clear is that Beijing’s intention to diversify the deployment of its foreign exchange reserves is strengthening. Over the

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China: The Dollar

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past six months, it has driven the creation of three international institutions dedicated to development finance: the Shanghai-based New Development Bank along with Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa; the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Silk Road Fund.

Each is likely, or explicitly designated, to receive funding from the foreign currency reserves. Their importance can be judged from their centrality to President Xi Jinping's aim to realise the "Chinese dream" of recapturing the status the country enjoyed during the most powerful passages in its history, say Chinese officials. The \$40bn Silk Road Fund, announced last month, demonstrates Beijing's ambitions clearly. Set to be funded to the tune of some 65 per cent from the foreign reserves, the fund is charged with achieving Mr Xi's vision of building a "Silk Road economic belt" across central Asia to Europe and weaving a "21st century maritime Silk Road" through the sea lanes of the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean.

"By building roads and railways over its borders and upgrading ports in Asia, Beijing is tying its neighbours' prosperity to their relationship with China," says Tom Miller, senior Asia analyst at Gavekal Dragonomics, a research consultancy. "It is an attempt to restore China's position at the heart of Asia."

The infrastructure work will directly benefit the big Chinese

construction and equipment companies that are awarded contracts financed by China-backed institutions. This, in turn, should boost the country's chances of realising Mr Xi's prediction that Chinese companies will invest some \$1.25tn overseas during the next decade.

Renminbi

The launch of these development institutions is only one strand in China's aim to make finance serve geostrategic goals. An older, but perhaps more important element, is the promotion of the *renminbi* as an international currency. The drive to internationalise it is derived from a desire to carve out China's own space within a US-dominated global financial system.

The process accelerated with the outbreak of the global financial crisis in 2008 as policy makers in Beijing realised their economy's fate was umbilically linked to that of the US.

"We hate you guys", was how Luo Ping, an official at the China

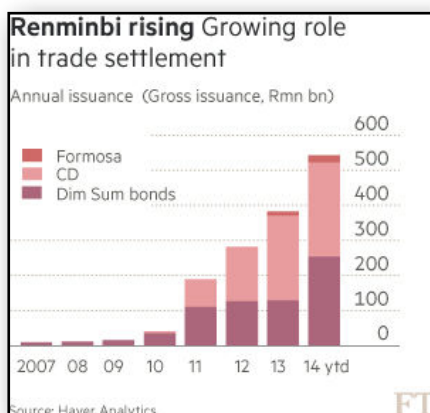
Banking Regulatory Commission vented his frustration in 2009. He and others in China believed that, as the US Federal Reserve printed more money to resuscitate American demand, the value of China's foreign reserves would plunge.

"Once you start issuing \$1tn-\$2tn... we know the dollar is going to depreciate so we hate you guys — but there is nothing much we can do," Mr Luo told a New York audience.

In an indication of intent, Wang Qishan, then a vice-premier and now one of Mr Xi's closest allies in the Politburo Standing Committee, was appointed in 2009 to promote the use of the *renminbi* in trade settlement and investment around the world. The process is driven mainly by an imperative to decouple China by degrees from its financial reliance on the US and from Washington's influence over its domestic monetary policy, officials say. As a mechanism towards this end, China is earning a greater proportion of its trade and financial receipts in *renminbi*. Because these earnings do not have to be recycled into dollar-denominated assets, they can be ploughed back into the domestic economy, thus benefiting Chinese rather than US capital markets.

The *renminbi*'s progress has been more rapid than many expected. In October, more than 22 per cent of China's trade was settled in its own currency, according to Standard Chartered, up from almost nothing five years ago. Data from Swift, the international currency clearing sys-

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Collapse of Russia's Ruble



It looks like vindication for the ancient Proverb that tells us pride comes before a fall. Russia's President Putin has flaunted an arrogance of national power and personal vanity that captured the imagination of his subjects. Russians wildly supported Putin's invasion and annexation of the Crimean peninsula. While Ukraine battled Russia's military conquest to carve out another major swath of its sovereign territory, the rest of eastern Europe worried and wondered whether Putin's ambitions would bring another war with the potential to put them back under the Russian domination that ended in 1989. All the while Putin's stock soared with sky high popularity ratings at home.



The intervening months have seen dozens of reports of provocative Russian military actions, with fighter jets intruding into NATO airspace, menacing Japan, and Russian bombers testing the limits of air defense zones around the United States. All the while Putin swaggered on the world stage at every opportunity, and the Russian population loved it.

International economic sanctions were brought

to bear by the West to ensure that Putin recognized that his adventures in eastern Europe wouldn't go completely unchallenged. He scoffed and continued to flaunt his "devil may care" attitude. It is difficult to gauge the impact of those sanctions, but the recent and sudden 50% decline in the world's oil price is taking a major toll on the Russian economy which is largely dependent upon oil exports.

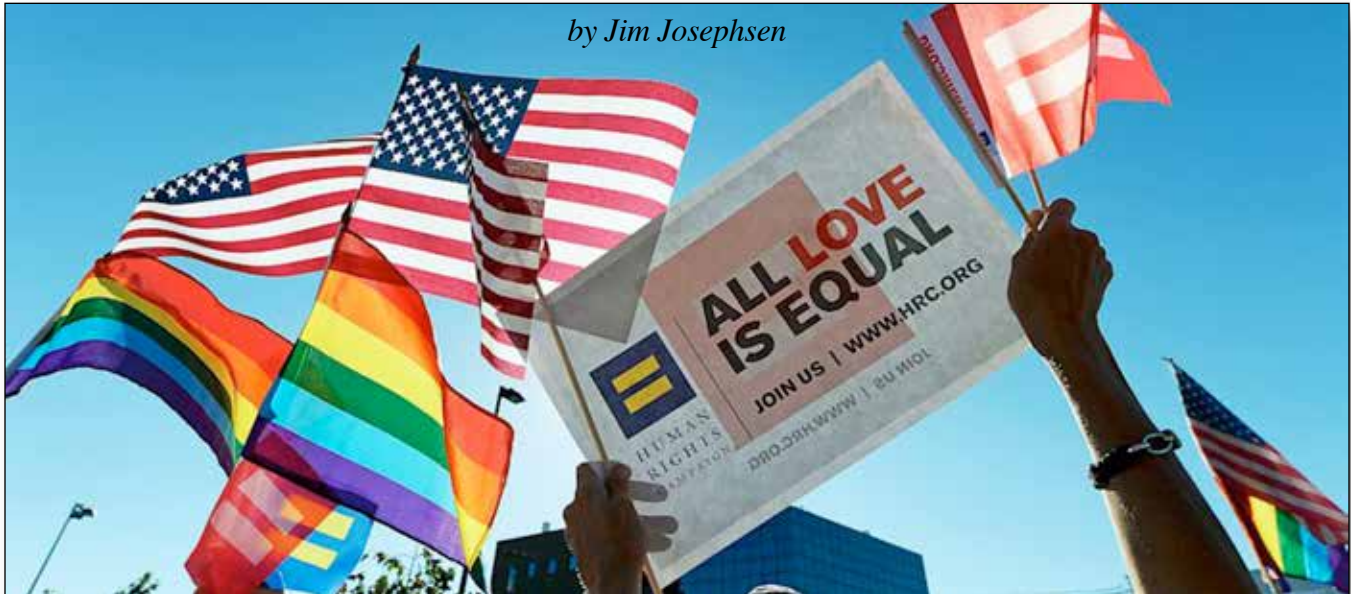
When the *ruble* recently experienced an eleven percent plunge in a single day, Russian banks responded by raising interest rates to 17%. Surely that would be enough incentive for Russians to leave their money in the bank and let it grow. But in the case of the *ruble*, even the hike to 17% interest rates has been inadequate. News reports have Russian shoppers in a mad dash to use their *rubles* to acquire goods that have some intrinsic value, along with news of people forming long lines to get their money out of Russian banks. At the same time, every internet vendor has ceased taking orders from buyers with *rubles*.

Russian debt is currently rated "one notch above

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When Comes Fifty in Defiance of God

by Jim Josephsen



As of November 2014, same-sex marriage is legal in 32 of the 50 states that are the United States of America. Adding to that total, same-sex marriage is legal within the District of Columbia and ten Native American tribal jurisdictions. Those 32 states translate to 64%; now a majority of states that have, as of November 2014, legalized marriage for individuals of the same sex. Likewise, the United States Federal government legally recognizes same-sex marriage, the result of Section 3 of DOMA having been ruled unconstitutional.

In the United States, the first push for same-sex marriage commenced when a challenge to a Minnesota law prohibiting same-sex marriage was brought before the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1971; only to be struck down. Methodically and incessantly, over the next 32 years, the same-sex marriage agenda took shape as a self-absorbed, nihilistic nation paid little attention, losing touch with right and wrong, good and evil, righteousness and sin, notions of God.

In 2003, the U.S. Supreme court ruled it was unconstitutional to criminalize sodomy. In 2003, the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled that denying marriage rights to same-sex couples was unconstitutional and in May 2004, Massachusetts became

the first state to license and recognize legalizing same-sex marriage. Momentum gained from there. The rest is history, with 32 states now allowing same-sex marriage on constitutional grounds, as the law of the land. It is now only a matter of time before the remaining 18 states go with the flow.

Same-sex marriage is now permissible under the full protection of the U.S. Constitution as well as Federal laws and varying state's laws. Maryland, Maine and Washington have been the only states to date to legalize same-sex marriage by popular vote; all others either through the decision of the courts or legislative statute.

Today, for one to advance the argument that marriage is a God-ordained institution and as such, is defined by God as a union between a man and a woman, such an individual is considered intolerant, homophobic and out of touch with the times. The notion of God having any say pertaining to same-sex marriage is considered nonsense, something to be ignored and would be impermissible in a court of law.

Ironically these days, when it comes to the judicial system or legislation within the United States, arguments for or against same-sex marriage cannot involve God. The U.S. Constitution will not allow

that, for the Constitution cannot promote or demote God; as it was never intended to do so. The U.S. Constitution is God-neutral. Consequently, any laws pertaining to same-sex marriage is resultant of the decisions and votes, the whims and the desires of human beings, without the input of God, the Bible or any religion. Within the United States of America, religion cannot be taken into account when it comes to any laws pertaining to same-sex marriage. The laws of the United States of America are the laws of the land, the rule of law, of and by and for the people, and not the laws of God.

Due process, equal rights, First Amendment rights, the equal protection clause; these are key components, all sound and sure under the U.S. Constitution, mandating the legalization and protection of same-sex marriage and same-sex marriage speech and advocacy. Further support of the same-sex agenda finds most human rights groups, minority support groups, various think tanks, psychiatric and psychological institutions, medical, sociological and scientific communities all promoting same-sex unions as wholesome, healthy, non-detrimental to society or children and a human right of choice. Many same-sex couples have lived together for years and their only desire is for the courts and society to recognize the deep love they have shared together.

And of course, to make certain the surviving spouse enjoys full benefits as allowed by law, entitlements and insurance policies.

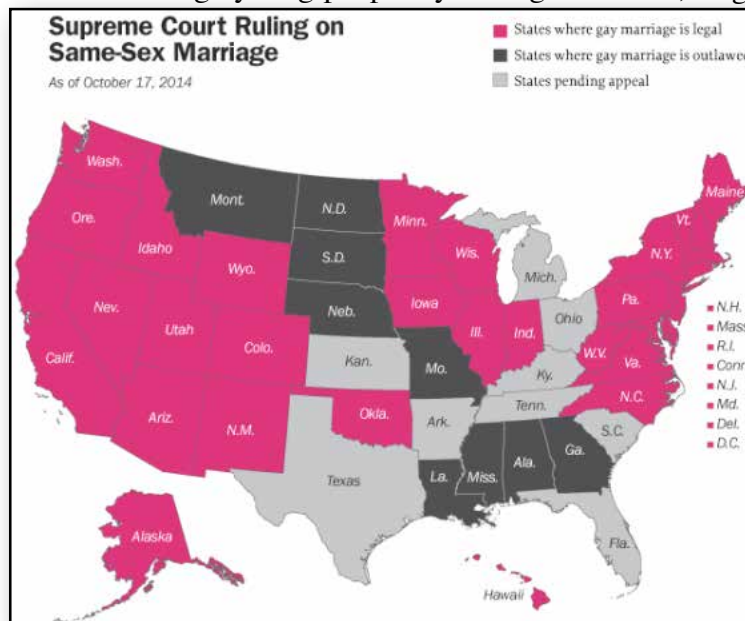
A recent survey conducted by the Public Religion Research Institute, revealed a full 31% of young people (ages 18 to 33) who left organized religion said “negative teachings” or “negative treatment” of gay people was a factor in determining their departure. Some 58% of Americans also said religious groups are “alienating” young people by “being too

respondents answered yes, while 40% answered no. A Pew study reveals that some 73% of people with no religious affiliation are in support of same-sex marriage. Clearly, the trend toward acceptance of same-sex marriage has taken root across the United States.

Christian Institutions are slowly changing their tune, especially among those more liberal, less fundamental or literal in doctrine. Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Anglican, Unitarian, United

Church of Christ, and Lutheran are some of those now allowing pastors to marry gay and lesbian couples.

When it comes to Jesus, many Christian folks, who are now acknowledging the legal rights and humane treatment of same-sex couples, speak something as follows: “We are now living in a different time and world than was at the time



judgmental on gay and lesbian issues.” A full 70% of young people said the same. Additionally, a recent Pew Research Center poll found that 70% of Millennials (*those born from 1981 or later*) support same-sex marriage.

According to a recent Gallup Poll, when asked if gay/lesbian relations between consenting adults should be legal, 66% answered yes, while 30% answered no. When asked if same-sex couples should be afforded the same rights heterosexual couples enjoy, specifically marriage, 55% of the

the Bible was written. When Jesus came to live among us, he was all about compassion, forgiveness and love. He came to bring people together showing that God loves everyone. We are all children of God. The church should show that same love Jesus showed and should welcome with open arms all people, without being judgmental or condemning. The Bible never once records Jesus condemning homosexuality, so why should we?”

The nation’s daily diet of gay
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Kingdom of Heaven

by Dr. James and Natalie Ricks

The Devil thought that he had won a great victory in the Garden of Gethsemane and at Calvary. However, when Christ was resurrected according to God's Plan, our Savior achieved true and final victory for mankind and the devil's evil plans were foiled, as we can see in I Corinthians 15:20, 52-53, 57.

"But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Victory over death is ahead of us as we can see again in Rev. 19:11, 20 and 20:1-3, 6. In the not too distant future, Christ will return and forcefully put down the future beast powers in Europe and the Middle East and all other evil world governments and armies around the globe.

Isaiah 13:11 describes how the world then will be humbled. What will this millennial paradise be like? As Isaiah 2:2-4 explains, there will be no wasted spending of economic resources devoted to war and armies. Christ's infinite wisdom will govern the world instead of all the corrupt and ungodly regimes that exist today. See Isaiah 11:1-4. This will be so wonderful! The planet is groaning for the Sons of God and the Messiah's return.

Isaiah 11:9 reveals that all the earth's population will know God! Think about it; a planet full of converted individuals trying to grow and become more Christ like is so fabulous. Wow! "For we



know that the whole creation groaneth for and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit the redemption of our body" (Romans 8:22-23).

DANGEROUS ANIMAL NATURE WILL BE CHANGED

Isaiah 11:6-7 tells us that predators will eat straw and no longer be dangerous. I believe it also means that no pests or horrible parasites will exist either. It seems a reasonable assumption. Think about it; no more FLEAS OR MOSQUITOS OR TAPE WORMS. Snakes will eat dust and plants and be harmless. Just imagine the happiness, glory, majesty, love and hope that will be ours! Children can play with wild, dangerous predators and be perfectly safe and happy all the time.

Verse 9 tells us that "They shall not hurt nor destroy in my entire holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the water covers the sea." Everyone will be keeping the Sabbath. (Isa. 66:23) I can imagine each village or town will have meeting halls within a 1 or 2 mile walk for everyone. Modern technology may allow congregations to sometimes watch sermons given in Jerusalem by resurrected saints like Noah or Paul. Think about a sermon on the flood by Noah himself. This era will be so spectacularly wonderful that it is hard to comprehend. The world will know total unity. There will be one religion, and one God blessing every one of His children. It will be so harmonious and wonderful it is almost too

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Peace

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Instead, she persevered, “Truth, Lord (Notice the agreement! Notice the respect!), yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master’s table.”

“Then Jesus answered and said, unto her, ‘O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto you even as you will.’ And her daughter was made whole from that very hour” (Matthew 15:27, 28).

God’s Word proves that Jesus Christ did not come to save the world then! Yet, millions assume He made every effort to heal, rescue, save, convert every human being He came across. They think, quite falsely, that He was engaged in a desperate saving mission, preaching, teaching, appealing, healing—trying to get the people saved!

They only think so because they are complete biblical illiterates.

Christ Did Not Come to Do Away With God’s Law

Millions have supposed Christ came to do away with the law! They imagine, because of the deceptive propaganda of liberal churchmen over the centuries, that Christ set Himself against what they suppose were the harsh, unyielding, “legalistic,” old laws of the “Father God of the Old Testament,” that He came to abrogate that old law, the Ten Commandments.

They think He came to give us some “new” commandment having to do with “love.” In the minds of millions, this “love” each of us is to have toward our fellow man is all that is necessary once we “receive Jesus,” profess His name,

and “believe” on Him.

Today, millions “believe on Jesus,” but they do not *BELIEVE* Him!

They do not believe what He said!

He said: “Think NOT that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill” (Matt. 5:17). Christ lifted the law to a spiritual plane; applied God’s Ten Commandments in a *spiritual* sense, showing that the law was broken even by *thoughts of the human heart*, and not by the breaking of the letter of the law only.

Of course, millions of people, including countless thousands of

concluded: “So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin” (Romans 7:12, 25).

John wrote, “Hereby we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments.

“He that saith, ‘I know Him,’ and keepeth not His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (I John 5:2,3).

Jesus Christ said, “the Sabbath was made for *man* (He did not say, “the Jews”) and not man for the Sabbath:

“Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath” (Mark

John wrote, “Hereby we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments.”

churchmen, have no special quarrel with nine of the Ten Commandments. Millions believe it is well and good to honor one’s parents; to avoid stealing, or murder, or lying. But the Fourth Commandment?

Christ spoke continually about God’s Ten Commandments. He upheld the law against murder and hatred (Matthew 5:21); said it was a sin, breaking the command against murder, to call a brother by a hateful name (Matthew 5:23), said the commandment against adultery was intact (Matthew 5:27); observed the Passover (John 2:13, 23; Mark 14:1-16); observed the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day of the Feast (John 7:10-14; 7:37).

Paul wrote, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit: “Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good,” and

2:27, 28). Which day is the “Lord’s Day?” The *Sabbath*.

Christ said: “Why call ye me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not the things which I say?” (Luke 6:46), and told His disciples: “Not everyone that saith unto me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 7:21).

No, Christ did NOT come to “do away with the law!” Yet, millions of blinded, deceived, biblical illiterates suppose He did!

Christ Did Not Come To Establish A New Religion

Millions suppose Christ came to do away with all things “Jewish,” and to establish a new, and very different, religion—that of “Christianity.”

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Peace

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But, as we just saw above, Christ continually upheld, by His teaching and by His example, the law of God! And why not? For, after all, He WAS the Divine Agent of the Sovereign God in heaven Who gave Moses the law!

Read it, “In the beginning was the Word (Greek: *Logos*, or “Spokesman”) and the Word was with God (Greek: *Theos*, equivalent to the Hebrew *Elohim*, which is a plural word), and the Word was God.

“The same was in the beginning

***Jesus Christ IS
THE GOD OF
THE OLD TESTAMENT.***

with God.

“All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made...He was in the world and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not.

“He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.

“But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name...and the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth” (John 1:1-14).

Any fifth-grade child can understand this plain statement of Scripture! The One Whom we know as Jesus Christ WAS the One Who said, “Let there be light”; Who sent Moses into Egypt; Who wrote

the Ten Commandments with His own finger; Who called Abraham; Who dealt with the patriarchs and prophets.

Now, think what this truth does to the false theology of millions who think Christ came to “do away” with the law and the “Old Testament!”

Notice further: “God, Who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

“Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, Whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by Whom also He made the worlds” (Hebrews 1:1,2).

Jesus Christ IS THE GOD OF THE OLD TESTAMENT. Not that there is no reference to both Father and Son in the Old Testament, for there is. However, your Bible plainly tells you that Jesus Christ of the New Testament is the Member of the Divine Family of the Old Testament Who DID THE CREATING!

Did Christ, as millions suppose, change God’s truth, abrogate the Divine law, do away with any requirement to obey God?

“For I am the ETERNAL (Jehovah), I change not, therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.” God said.

Jesus said, “Ye shall see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, and ye yourselves cast out” to the Pharisees. How? Did people “get saved” under Moses back then? But Moses was not even born when Abraham, Isaac,

and Jacob lived.

Did God somehow *change* the manner in which men may please Him, serve Him, believe Him, obey Him? He says not. “Jesus Christ, the SAME, yesterday, and today, and forever” (Hebrews 13:8).

No, Christ did not come to establish some “new religion”. He chided the Pharisees for their burdensome human traditions which they had added to the laws of God, while upholding the law. He said: “Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?...Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

“This people draweth night unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

“But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men” (Matthew 15:2-9).

Jesus said it is possible to worship Him, to laud Him, to praise Him, to sing about Him, to “believe on Him,” to adore Him, to love Him, and to feel all kinds of worshipful emotions about Him, and to do it ALL IN VAIN!

How?

By “appropriating” Christ, by claiming to “believe on Him,” and by “accepting” Him as Savior, but REFUSING TO OBEY Him! Millions worship their fantastic concepts of Christ, but reject the Ten Commandments of God (which that same Christ wrote with His own finger). Claiming they are “done away.”

Thus, they have substituted the hundreds of years of churchianity, of Catholic and Protestant tradition, for the truth of God from His Word. □

Cry Us a River

Nothing of value was learned, they tell us, when terrorists who were high value al Qaeda operatives were subjected to “enhanced interrogation.” Scandal of all scan-



Abu Zubaydah, Khalid Sheik Mohammed and al Nashiri

dals, the six thousand page report was released with tremendous fanfare to the mass media obsessed for weeks with the “racist police” narrative.

While demonstrations rage on both coasts and points in between, revolutionary anarchists roam anonymously amid crowds “community organized” by the usual suspects. They taunt police, rebelliously rejecting even their authority to keep the roads open. “Hands up, don’t shoot” they chant while blocking critical routes, streaming on foot around and through stranded drivers. The president explains, “A country’s conscience is triggered by some inconvenience.” Somewhere, community organizers are choreographing the celebration of lawlessness playing out nightly on every news outlet. Justification for the purported community “anger” is in ample supply, from the most transparent of race-hustlers to the highest of legal and political offices, as demonstrated in the quote.

Is there a trend here? Maybe it’s sheer coincidence that, one after another, agencies responsible for the security and safety of American citizens are being besmirched, demeaned, accused of racism, and defied. Over 20 businesses were looted and burnt to the ground LIVE during “peaceful” protests in Ferguson, MO over the belief of a witness account proven to be utterly false. DNA evidence proves incontrovertibly that “Hands up, don’t shoot” is a premeditated lie. But that hasn’t convinced the community organizers that there isn’t still a crisis to be exploited.

The police and sheriff’s departments are the only things standing between lawful society and anarchy. They are charged with the protection of law-abiding citizens within their jurisdictions. The Central Intelligence Agency is charged with protecting the United States and its interests from foreign threats. The agency has been up to its eyeballs in *ihadists* and terrorist plots of all kinds particularly since the 9-11 attacks, if anyone remembers.

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Freedom to Worship

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promote Jesus would go against the principles and education of the Founding Fathers.

Consider what Thomas Jefferson wrote in his autobiography, discussing the Virginia Constitution (enacted in 1776). "Whereas the preamble declares that coercion is a departure from the plan of the holy author of our religion, an amendment was proposed by inserting 'Jesus Christ' so that it would read 'A departure from the plan of Jesus Christ, the holy author of our religion,'

delegate of Baptists in Connecticut the following: "Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or worship, that the legislative powers of government reach actions only, and not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declare that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free

They realized the Constitution still left out the guarantee of individual rights, including what was considered a prime guarantee: freedom from and of religion.

the insertion was rejected by the great majority, in proof that they meant to comprehend, within the mantle of its protection, the Jew, the Gentile, the Christian and Muslim, the Hindu and Infidel of every denomination."

James Madison commented, "Strongly guarded as is the separation between Religion and Government in the Constitution of the United States, the danger of encroachment by [Religious] Bodies may be illustrated by precedents already furnished in history." The Founding Fathers were witness to the exploits of the Catholic Church in Europe, the (Anglican) Church of England and the influence of Christian churches in the colonies.

Further, Thomas Jefferson, shortly after his election as America's third president, wrote to a

exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between church and state."

The Declaration of Independence makes mention of religious neutral terms - "Nature's God," "Creator," "Supreme Judge of the World" and "Divine Providence," and the Constitution does not refer to a divine being, Christian or otherwise. The Founding Fathers had no intention to promote religion, Christian or otherwise, as they formulated a new government for their new country.

One principal concern among the Founding Fathers was to uphold the freedom for one to worship the God of his faith without interference or encumbrance of government. This principle comes directly from the strength of these following words: 'we hold these truths to be self-evident,

that all men are created equal ... endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' Liberty, freedom of worship, was only logical and protection of the freedom of worship was imperative.

After establishing a new form of government, unique to that time, which would provide for basic civil liberties for its citizens (but we cannot say all, for slaves were considered only 3/5 of a person), Jefferson and other of the Founding Fathers still felt the Constitution was incomplete. They realized the Constitution still left out the guarantee of individual rights, including what was considered a prime guarantee: freedom from and of religion.

After much contemplation and the consideration of several drafts, the following became the legal text of the First Amendment: *Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.*

In the United States of America today, one should give thanks for the crafting of such words, which are now law within the land. For with these words came the guarantee and full assurance of religious freedom. With these words an individual, individuals or an organization may freely worship, may freely assemble in worship of the God of one's free choice. Further, a church organization or an individual may freely

preach and freely promote their religious beliefs and may freely do the work of God.

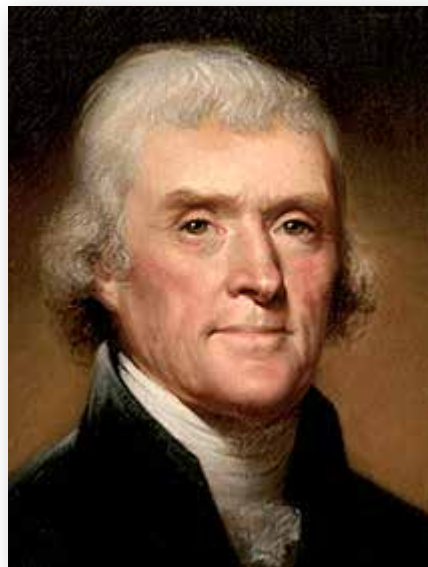
The same law which allows Christians, Catholics and Protestants alike, to worship their God on Sunday in churches across the land, equally allows Jews to worship as they please on Saturday in their synagogues. Just as equally, those individuals and organizations whose beliefs and doctrines do not quite square with mainstream, traditional Christianity are free and able to worship as they choose, doing so in peace and protection of the First Amendment.

Not just for Christians and Jews, the benefits afforded by the First Amendment extend to Buddhists, who are free to worship and proselytize in the United States. Likewise, Hindus are free to worship in their temples and proselytize. The list continues: Jainism, Sikhism, Taoism, the Baha'i faith, Zoroastrianism, Vodou, Shintoism, Caodaism, Wicca, Druidry, Native American religions, Neo-paganism, Christian Science and Muslims. These and many more are all free within the United States of America to exercise their religious expression and to worship unabated their gods in their temples, mosques and various houses of worship.

As Thomas Jefferson remarked when referring to the Virginia Constitution, "in proof that they meant to comprehend, within the mantle of its protection, the Jew, the Gentile, the Christian and Muslim, the Hindu and Infidel of every denomination." This sentiment prevailed among the archi-

sects of the U.S. Constitution.

There are hundreds of varied and differing religions across the world and practically all have made their way to the United States of America, allowing all who desire to worship in freedom with impunity. America is a pluralistic nation and regarding religion, America is a religiously pluralistic nation. As such, all religions are acceptable and none can be discriminated against. One



President Thomas Jefferson

is just as good as the other. It has to be that way, for from its establishment, the principles of liberty and equality have been maintained. The freedom to worship is undeniable and absolute in the United States.

In retrospect, the decision of the Founding Fathers to remain religion-neutral, rather than promote any one particular religion or any one particular Christian denomination over any other, was epic. The Founding Fathers did not capitulate to the desires of Christian peoples and Christian denominations of the 17th and 18th centuries when writing the

Constitution. Had they done so, religious freedom and freedom to worship today would look nothing like it now does.

Although fewer in number and scarcely recognized in the milieu of the American religious experience, there are those who are called Sabbatarians. These religious people believe in Jesus Christ as the only Savior of mankind and read from the same Bible as does the general Christian community. The glaring difference between Sabbatarians and Christians is the day on which they worship. Sabbatarians worship on and keep holy the seventh day of the week, Saturday, Sabbath. In addition to worshipping on the day God made holy, many Sabbatarians also worship on and observe God's seven annual Holy Days (as enumerated in Leviticus 23). Sabbatarians are certainly in the minority in this Christian nation. Yet, they are able to exercise their religious convictions under the protection of the First Amendment.

For the Sabbatarian, the Jew, the Gentile, the Christian and Muslim, the Hindu and Infidel of every denomination, freedom to worship is a liberty provided within the United States of America. This freedom, ensured by our Founding Fathers, allows all to exercise their religious convictions as they choose, to worship the god they choose, to practice the religion they know.

Freedom to worship unconstrained begs the question. You are guaranteed freedom to worship. You have been given the liberty of choice. Which God then will you worship? □

Defiance of God

Continued from page 21

and lesbian activity and same-sex agendas is evident, open and obvious on television, both cable and open air; in modern songs, Broadway shows and on the big screen. How excited the media becomes, jubilant and giddy, when reporting of this or that actor or TV celebrity or professional sports figure or college recruit confessing before the nation his or her sexual orientation and coming out of the proverbial closet. Recently, a high profile CEO of a well-known computer company admitted he was gay and “he is proud of it.” Everyone in his company treats him kindly and with respect, so he proudly pontificates.

More businesses and Federally funded (*of course*) institutions are feeling the pressure of the gay agenda and the same-sex marriage movement as the Federal government is mandating acceptance and tolerance of gays

and lesbians. The United States Armed Forces, the Department of Defense, the Department of Justice and other Federal agencies are required to support and promote the homosexual agenda. That is the way it is now.

Today, especially as proliferated with the aid of the internet, hundreds of LGBT web sites expose the thousands of activities, groups, communities and agendas, which are inundating the country. All this behavior is becoming common knowledge and going unchallenged. The force of the indoctrination (*call it education*) is creating a seismic cultural shift. No stone is left unturned and nothing is hidden anymore. Everything and anything you want to know about LGBT lifestyles is a simple mouse click away. U.S. courts are sanctioning the gay agenda by forcing public school systems to acknowledge and teach homosexual lifestyles.



Have you heard of GLSEN (*Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network*)? It is a legally sanctioned corporation, a business with representation in all 50 states, protected by laws and rights granted within the United States of America.

Now add another piece to the quilt that is the American same-sex marriage/gay agenda. Give witness of the recent controversy in Houston, Texas, where the first openly lesbian Mayor was at the center of attention in the city’s attempt to subpoena pastors who were actively involved in collecting petitions against Houston’s non-discrimination ordinance. The subpoena asked that religious leaders turn over all sermons, which had something to say regarding HERO (*Houston Equal Rights Ordinance*).

Ironically, the idea of an Equal Rights Ordinance anywhere, ensuring that protection of rights be granted equally to all, should not be questioned. Why should this be a problem in America? After all, the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence have laid the foundation ensuring equal rights and equal protection for all within this country.

Surely it is only a matter of time before all 50 states grant the same rights of marriage to



Houston’s mayor Annise Parker kisses her partner.

all. There is opinion now being voiced that instead of using the phrase “same-sex marriage,” the wording should be “marriage equality.” This change is necessary, so it is reasoned, because saying “same-sex marriage” still implies a separate and therefore unequal category of marriage. It is thought, “Heterosexual marriage” and “same-sex marriage” still distinguishes a difference and is therefore disparate. “Marriage equality” would ensure non-discrimination.

The arguments advanced in support of same-sex marriage hold up well in a court of law. However, in the court of God, would these arguments stand? The direction this nation is going is evidence that fewer people care about God.

How few care to hear that Jesus Christ, although silent (*in the red letter Bible*) about homosexuality and sodomy, still did make it clear: that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female ... therefore a man shall be united to his wife and the two shall become as one flesh. What God put together (*authorized and instituted*), let no man put away (Matthew 19:4-6). Where does same-sex marriage stand in Christ’s statement?

Still found within the very book many Christians and even same-sex Christians recognize, are the following words: “Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the

same way men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust one for another. Men committed indecent acts with other men and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion” (Romans 1:26-27).

No doubt, the adherents of the LGBT lifestyle will not acknowl-

which would allow them to remain in their sin.

Scriptures such as these and others, which reveal God and Jesus Christ’s point of view, call the behavior and practice of homosexuality sinful, evil, destructive, and a detriment to civil society. For one to repeat what the Bible already plainly says is offensive to the LGBT community. To preach from the Bible and to stand up for the word of God is close to becoming, by U.S. courts and the Federal government, a violation of hate speech laws.

One need not look into the Bible to understand the consequences of societies that gave way to full acceptance of homosexuality. History records the demise of once great societies such as Rome and Greece. The history of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah reveal God’s intolerance toward sexual perversions. God created human beings as male and female for a specific reason and functional purpose. Any deviance from that reality will only bring about sufferable consequences.

For now, 32 states have declared where they stand. When all 50 states have legalized same-sex marriage, when all 50 states have coalesced, standing in defiance of God’s holy laws and righteous ways, then the door of Ezekiel 9’s fulfillment will open. When comes fifty, then the blessing God has richly poured upon United States of America will cease and America will truly be all alone in this world, on its own. □



edge the call to repentance, nor are they willing to recognize that those individuals in the Apostle Paul’s day, who acknowledged their sinful homosexual lifestyle, did repent. “Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 6:9-10). To repent of the perverted lifestyle of homosexuality is the hope and peace Jesus Christ offers. The love Jesus Christ has is that of saving sinners; not that

Kingdom of Heaven

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good to believe.

NO NEED FOR POLICE FORCES, ARMIES OR HOSPITALS

Members of God's family will do the policing. See Isaiah 29:17-18, 30:20-21 and Revelation 2:27. I believe the pro family environment will allow for strong families to grow and be able to handle many issues themselves. Family Elders will provide local leadership. The spiritually born Sons of God will be available to handle the difficult problems of disobedience and security they cannot handle themselves. Healthy people living in a GREEN, NATURAL PARADISE will seldom need health care. The God Family members surely will heal those FEW who need it. This will happen until the physical people grow and become part of the family of God. No birth defects or handicapped individuals will exist because God will heal

blind and deaf. How wonderful it will be to not need police or emergency rooms or military field hospitals.

THE DESERT WILL BLOOM LIKE A ROSE

See Isaiah 35:1-2. Imagine a world where the entire planet is so blessed by God with rain in due season and other terra forming blessings. The soil and trees and farms will be beautiful, lush and green. This vast restoration of the soil will produce healthy food and strong populations and crops and cattle. The earth will be a green paradise. The planet will be like the Garden of Eden again. This will be so wonderful! The land will benefit from the land Sabbath and the process will heal the soil and produce healthy produce.

When you feel discouraged, just remember Romans 8:18-19. "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not wor-

thy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God."

We should live now in the HOPE BASED ON BEING IN GOD'S FAMILY AND SHARING SOME OF THAT GLORY at the second coming of the Messiah. After the return of Christ we converted Christians will be the cadre that Christ will use to help bring harmony and God's wonderful laws to the earth. We will help lead the entire planet into a wonderful physical and spiritual paradise as Revelation 5:10 tells us. "And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth and behold, I come quickly and my reward is with me to render to every man according to what he has done." As Revelation 22:12 tells us. Let us take God's words and promises to heart and serve and love Him with all our might as is our reasonable service.

Join and help God's work with the talents we have while we have them as Matthew 25:14-30 instructs. □

AGAINST ISLAMIZATION

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The AfD—which wants Germany to leave the euro single currency and promotes a tough line on immigration—received 4.7% of the vote in the September 2013 federal election, narrowly failing to reach the 5% threshold needed for representation in Germany's national parliament.

Since then, support for the AfD has surged. The party has extended its gains in regional

elections, and also won nine seats in European Parliament elections in May 2014. A poll published in September 2014 found that one in ten German voters now support the AfD.

Germany's political establishment has worked hard to discredit the AfD. But if the party continues to siphon voters away from the mainstream parties, the AfD will be in a position to influence

the debate over the future of German multiculturalism.

The AfD has already come out in support of the PEGIDA protests in Dresden. AfD spokesman Konrad Adam said the party has a "fundamental sympathy for the PEGIDA movement."

AfD leader Bernd Lucke, a professor of macroeconomics at Hamburg University, summed it up this way:

"Many people in Germany have legitimate concerns about

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the spread of radical Islamic ideology, which promotes violence against non-Muslims, robs women and girls of their natural rights, and seeks to require the application of Sharia law. That citizens are expressing these concerns in nonviolent demonstrations is good and right. It is a sign that these people do not feel that their

concerns are being taken seriously by politicians. It is an incentive for all politicians to act more decisively at a time when political Islam is challenging and calling into question our rule of law.

“That PEGIDA protesters have advertised their goals in an exclusively peaceful manner is to be welcomed. Because the rule of law, tolerance and freedom of religion are fundamental Western

values, the PEGIDA movement must leave no doubt that it is precisely these values that it seeks to defend.” □

Soeren Kern is a Senior Fellow at the New York-based Gatestone Institute. He is also Senior Fellow for European Politics at the Madrid-based Grupo de Estudios Estratégicos / Strategic Studies Group.

Cry a River

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We’re currently expected to recoil in horror as we’re subjected to a torrent of gory details intended to induce a vicarious experience of “torture.” Surely we’ll realize how truly wretched is the CIA once we’ve been subjected to the actual details of what’s gone on at Guantanamo Bay.

It is interesting that Senator Dianne Feinstein and others invested in the production and release of the damning report, were actually briefed on the exact details of “enhanced interrogation” in the weeks and months that followed the spectacle of destruction and death that we all witnessed on September 11, 2001.

This treasonous report relied almost exclusively on the terrorists’ lawyers, but absolutely nobody from the CIA. Lawyers for the terrorists are suspected to have actually authored major portions. And this is not the first time these stories have been published, and the accuracy of these tales has been disputed by sources far more reputable than the terrorists who sold them to their lawyers. But regardless of the sources, the

spin, or the accuracy of the reports spilling over the national psyche, we know it’s bad. America has sinned, not so much against any particular detainee, but against our national conscience. At least that’s what the lofty speeches by offended parties in high places keep saying. While we’re undergoing a thorough purge of our collective conscience, the UN, as well as leaders ranging from the UK’s David Cameron to Iran’s ayatollah and nearly every other nation on earth, have hurried to condemn the U.S. and the CIA, and demand that those who ordered, approved or carried out “enhanced interrogation” be prosecuted. Maybe it will even provide another pretext for demonstrations.

When you consider the terror and the horrible deaths 9-11 victims died, the loss, psychological pain and trauma still haunting the survivors, it is beyond difficult to conjure up sympathy for whatever degradation may have been suffered by the perpetrators of such evil. Do these same government officials who are trying to lay a guilt trip on us all and besmirch the reputation of the intelligence agency responsible

for finding and stopping those who would kill us all, have any problem with the release of dozens of these terrorists back to the Middle East? Are they shedding any tears for victims they’ve attacked, raped or beheaded since they were repatriated back to their terrorist lair?

That just wouldn’t fit the narrative of the current administration or their accomplices in the mass media. So, let them go ahead. See if they can make us feel guilty that there were those in place capable of inflicting enough inconvenience to trigger the impulse of the terrorists to give up the information that allowed the capture of scores of their buddies, and the killing of Osama bin Laden. And while they’re at it, maybe they should get their constituents to stop throwing fireworks and Molotov cocktails at police, get the anarchists out of the middle of the road, off the bridges and let the innocent passersby get home, to the store, the hospital or wherever else they need to go.

If terrorists must be squeezed, deprived of comfort and sleep, water boarded or whatever in order that thousands of innocent lives are saved, then so be it. □

Bible Prophecy

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industry and a bountiful mix of natural resources including oil and natural gas. The U.S. Shale Oil seems to be the *swing* capacity that keeps oil prices down. Can the Saudis' dumping of cheap oil destroy much of this industry?

Will our own government help keep America dependent on OPEC even though we have great oil reserves? Earth worshipping radicals could either regulate the shale oil (fracking) industry out of existence, as they are doing to the coal industry, or make it totally unprofitable to restart closed wells by use of excessive regulations. It is sort of like closing your own pantry and buying needed supplies from your enemy across town that hates you and wants to destroy you. Instead of using the natural resources that God so mercifully gave, you



would rather keep yourself in perpetual and growing debt!

God could easily remove His blessings from us because of our growing set of ungodly beliefs and actions and be totally justified. Will America appreciate and use the blessings of natural resources God has given us under our feet? At this time, only God knows.

Is the Dumping of Oil a Future Trap Set by the King of the South?

The low oil prices are a clear blessing to our economy in

the short run. The drop in oil prices will save the average U.S. household \$550 on gas next year according to the U.S. Energy Information Agency. Consumers will have that much more money to spend on themselves. But if we are not wise, and lose the window of opportunity to become energy independent and maintain lower prices, we may

never have the opportunity again! We will again be at the mercy of Middle Eastern potentates when the demand for oil rises and supplies flatten. Will God be able to continue to bless America in the long run, or will we listen to the devil saying to us "Eat another piece of candy and forget about obeying and worshipping the God of the Bible." "Keep on doing what you are doing and you will be just fine." We can't continue ignoring God and His Bible and survive. Let's hope and pray that our nation can wake up and repent before it is too late. □

China: The Dollar

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tem, shows it is now the seventh most used currency for payments. Portfolio investors are seeking it out, particularly after the opening last month of the Shanghai-Hong Kong stock connect, an initiative that provides the most unfettered access yet to the Shanghai stock market for foreigners holding offshore *renminbi*. Western governments are endorsing the currency, with the UK, Australia's state of New South Wales and the Cana-

dian province of British Columbia issuing *renminbi*-denominated debt in the past months. Michael de Jong, finance minister of British Columbia, says the debt issue fulfilled several aims, including improving ties with China and attracting financial services from the US.

"I see the full internationalisation of the *renminbi* as inevitable; it's a question of when," adds Mr de Jong.

Such optimism will be welcomed in Beijing as it pursues a master plan to break free of US dominance in global finance and create a parallel, Sino-centric system that takes its cue from a mighty *renminbi*. Of course, much could yet conspire to blow China's ambitions off course. But if even half of what it envisages is achieved, the impact on US debt financing, the future of development finance and the opening of Chinese financial markets to international capital would be profound. □

Ruble

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junk status,” and will get downgraded by the credit agencies in 2015, according to Alexi Kudrin, the country’s former finance minister. Kudrin reportedly resigned in 2011 over disagreement with Putin’s increased military spending. Now he expects lots of bankruptcies in Russia’s private sector over the next year, while banks will be bailed out with billions of *rubles* provided by the government.

External debt is calculated to be some \$500 billion owed

by Russian firms, with a quarter of that payable in 2015. With international credit unavailable, defaults look unavoidable. *The Economist* doesn’t expect a government default, as occurred in 1998, “This time a string of bank failures, corporate defaults and a deep recession look likelier. Even so the pain from these could spread abroad quickly, both to countries that rely on Russian trade (exports to Russia account for fully 5% of GDP in the Baltics and Belarus) and through financial ripple effects. Banks in both Austria and Sweden are exposed.”

No one expects oil prices to re-

bound immediately, in fact most observers see the price going lower in the near term. Putin’s popularity at home is bound to suffer profoundly as the people begin to pay a heavy price, exacted in part by western sanctions as punishment for military adventures into Ukraine. There is even quiet speculation that he might lose his grip on power as the Russian economy sinks deep into recession. Might he lash out with more military provocation as his subjects suffer the humiliation of desperate circumstances, or find a little humility and back off? Stay tuned. □

Mark Armstrong

Dead Cops!

Continued from page 2

can vouch for that. Visit Times Square today, and you won’t see the legions of pan-handlers, the homeless drunks lurking in doorways; you won’t have to step over some poor guy unconscious and unsanitary sprawled out across the sidewalk. During and after Mayor Gulianni’s tenure, Times Square is as clean and wholesome as Main Street at Disneyland.

But boy did he set off a firestorm when he said that police are sent where the 9-1-1 calls come from. If that means Bedford-Stuyveson, where the two policemen were just murdered in their car, then that’s exactly what it means. If that means the area is predominantly black, should the police stay away and not answer calls for help when bullets are flying and someone’s been shot? No, no. Gulianni must be a racist



Prelude to riot, Ferguson, MO

too, or so goes the lack of logic.

Can anybody deny the rap/hip-hop culture that has dominated the popular music scene for a couple of decades? Does it not glamorize dope dealers with untraceable guns, complaining that they aren’t getting due respect? How are we supposed to respect thugs in hoodies wearing blue

jeans with waistbands catching them at mid-thigh or below. No wonder they don’t want the police around! Good luck trying to run with your pants down around your knees! Maybe you noticed, if you were watching the protests and their aftermath in Ferguson, Missouri. That’s their uniform.

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Dead Cops!

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And they are complaining that they get too much attention from the police, when everybody knows, and it has been widely advertised, that the saggy pants syndrome is a method for concealing weapons and contraband.

We got to see exactly what happens when the police stand by, protecting the police station and City Hall, but refusing to interfere with marauding protesters. They torched businesses all over Ferguson. In New York, protesters blocked the Brooklyn Bridge and numerous well-traveled thoroughfares. In Berkeley, they blocked I-80 along with other streets and important arteries. In each case, the police stood aside and let the protesters do as they did. But why? Why would the police stand by and let traffic back up for miles while protesters chain themselves together, or lie down in the middle of the street?

You don't suppose law enforcement was told to stand down? Given the succession of speeches and interviews, from

the president to the first lady and the attorney general, all giving their personal testimonies as to how they have had first-hand experience with America's racist tendencies, coming right in the middle of the Ferguson and New York controversies, we can't help wondering.

So now the police have to worry more about protecting themselves from the next would-be assassin who might burst out and shoot them at point blank range, than the communities they're obligated to protect. They are certainly afraid of answering calls in the wrong neighborhood, and in the case of New York City have been ordered to avoid making arrests. That should make the city safer!

If it was dead cops the protesters wanted, they got them. An Asian and a Hispanic, just trying to do what had already become a thankless job. But is that all they want? Or do the thugs, dope dealers and thieves really want to be able to skulk about the cities late at night, doing what they live to do, without fear of interference from the police? That is apparently what the race hustlers

and the organizers are calling for. The priority of getting offenders off the streets in precincts where thugs rule has been cast as a racist tactic.

When 13% of the population commits 50% of the murders, whose fault is that? It is a no win situation for the police, and for America's cities. Either crime flourishes without interference or the cops are racist, there are no other alternatives in the debate. Which will it be?

The other and perhaps most dangerous aspect of the anti-police movement, is the infiltration by anarchists who simply want to overthrow capitalist society. Their signs calling for revolution show up in the demonstrations. It is the frustrated "Occupy Wall Street" crowd that tried to foment an "Arab Spring" style shutdown of society in 2011. The protests took place in NYC and in Berkeley, California. Ring any bells? Then, as now, the protests had the sympathy of those in high office, sworn to uphold "general tranquility" in the United States. Their actions and statements indicate otherwise. □

Mark Armstrong

L I N E U P O N L I N E

THE SHOCKING TRUTH

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Letters

To Mr. Mark and family!

I was sad to hear of Mrs. Armstrong's death. I just now read your letter dated Oct. 27, 2014. I know that your mother rests with Dad in sleep, awaiting the resurrection. My wife, Bobbye sends sympathy also. I've found the truth of God and our Savior who died for us. I'm thankful to have seen Garner Ted off and on over the years. His sermons always enlightened me so much, made things so understandable.

Your Dad had been dead for several years before I found the website on a computer. Right before my conversion I rode over to Gladewater from Monroe, LA and found his grave. He was such a great speaker. I found it hard to believe at that time that our Father let him die. That's why I can't get enough of his DVDs and Audio discs. Your Dad was a true minister of God. Thank you so much for sharing his work with me. The last audio you sent me was "Friends in High Places," that was one of his best sermons.

In christian love,
R.K., Monroe, LA

Dear Friends:

The enclosed audio CD received from you recently, unfortunately, was apparently damaged in shipment. If possible, I would appreciate receiving a replacement. In my collection of booklets from your organization over so many years, I have booklets entitled "Afraid to Die?" and "When I Die, What Happens Next?", but, I am looking forward to hearing it in Garner Ted's own voice!

From those early days when I would listen to Herbert W. Armstrong on the radio in the wee

hours of the morning and through the TV programs of Garner Ted Armstrong for so many years, including every publication I have received, I have genuinely enjoyed the work your organization has done and is doing!

I look forward each month to Mark Armstrong's newsletter, which is always so timely, well written and right on target! In addition, I have recently begun to receive your *Twenty-First Century WATCH*, which is an outstanding and superbly informative publication! You have truly influenced my spiritual life! Thank you! May God bless you in your ministry!

Sincerely, R.H., Raleigh, NC

Dear Sir:

I would like to send my condolences to Mr. Mark Armstrong for the loss of his mother.

I also would like to receive the new *21st Century WATCH*. I look forward each month to read Mr. Mark's letter and appreciate him keeping us up on world news and how the Bible coincides with it.

Thank you, L.B., Jonesboro, AR

Hello Mr. Armstrong,

Thank you for all the literature and letters that you send me. I appreciate them. I especially like the *Twenty-First Century WATCH* magazine. Thank you all for it. It is very informative and I like learning what's going on in the world.

With sincere thanks,
W.M., Sevierville, TN

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Just want to say again *how much we enjoy* the Feast and God's people at Myrtle Beach. We hope and pray we can return next year!

Thanks for all you do!
W.W., Akron, OH

Dear Sir:

For *all* of you who work so hard and do a wonderful job, a heartfelt THANK YOU! For ALL you do.

Love,
P.D., Ft. Worth, TX

Dear Friends,

We are enclosing a check for extra tithes we had this year for the work of spreading the gospel. We want you to know how much we appreciate all of the things you do to promote God's word. We do appreciate all of the CDs, DVDs, booklets, radio and TV programs, online programs, magazines, and anything else I might have missed that we receive from ya'll. As much as possible, we would like to received DVDs instead of CDs because we do show them to our small group. But, we use CDs as well.

Also, anything that you can send us on world events such as ISIS, Christian persecution, shutting down the power grid, etc. would be greatly appreciated so we can show it to our small group and keep them updated with the things going on around us. If it is in DVD form that would be great. If not, and you can send me info on where and how to get it, we can use that as well. Thanks again so much for the things you do.

Sincerely,
R.&D. K., Bankston, AL

Dear Brethren,

I want to thank you for the sermons you have sent me of Ted Armstrong's.

He explains his subject in such a way that I understand it and more.

Thank you,
O.H., Mayhill, N.M.



Heaven On Earth?

How strange it is that Christ said,
“No man hath ascended up to Heaven!”

Why would He say such a thing?

Did He mean such great men as
Noah, Job, Abraham, Jacob,
and Elijah were not in heaven?

You will be astonished and joyous
to learn the truth about where
“heaven” is, and where you will
be when you are ultimately
“in heaven!”

by Garner Ted Armstrong

*Request our FREE booklet
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