

*TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY*

# WATCH

Vol. 20 No. 2

Second Quarter 2017



**KIM'S**

**DREAM**

## COMMENTARY

# CRAZY, DANGEROUS or BOTH? MADMAN WITH A NUKE

by Mark Armstrong

NEVER in recent times have we seen a head of state make nuclear threats against the United States like we've seen from Kim Jong-un. It seems more than a little foolhar-

blew up suddenly leading some to speculate that perhaps the U.S. military had the ability to scuttle North Korean missiles remotely.

Then came the intermediate range missile test of May 14th.

parently President Trump) that there's been too much intimidation of the North Korean leader.

U.S. Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley says that Kim Jong-un is paranoid about everybody and everything. He fears the potential of a coup from inside his own regime in addition to international threats. Ambassador Haley is working to get members of the UN to clamp down additional economic sanctions against the North Korean regime in the hopes that they will be dissuaded from more bad behavior.

You probably remember the public murder of Kim Jong-un's half-brother, carried out in front of security cameras at the airport in Indonesia. Two women ran up to him and clapped cloths soaked in VX gas to his face rendering him instantly dead. Clearly, it was a hit carried out by a state with access to the poisonous nerve agent. South Korea immediately accused Kim Jong-un of ordering the hit. Subsequent reports throughout the media speculated that Kim Jong-un was securing



dy of him, particularly in the age of President Trump. The world watched the epic military parade in Pyongyang recently, complete with intercontinental ballistic missiles, or replicas of them. A series of missile launch tests

It was the longest range missile North Korea had launched to date. It flew for 30 some minutes, over 400 miles, and landed in the Sea of Japan only 60 miles off the Russian coast. Even so, Vladimir Putin warned (ap-

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# AS A THIEF IN THE NIGHT

by Garner Ted Armstrong

**Y**OUR daily news and mine is filled with dozens of distractions, alarming reports, warnings of terrorist activity, and the threat of impending war. The news is so threatening that millions of people prefer not to watch it or read about it. Many prefer to turn immediately to the sports sections, or to sit before their television sets, watching “sit-coms” and “soaps.”

When one surveys the condition of this world, it is tempting to play the proverbial ostrich, or to simply shrug off and deny the bad news. Millions of people are kept on tenterhooks by a continual series of warnings of the possibility of terrorist attacks. Today, even a cursory look at these

and other world conditions should convince even the most skeptical that the prophecies of Jesus Christ are unfolding before our very eyes!

Christ warned, “And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

“For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

“All these are the beginning of sorrows” (Matthew 24:6-8).

We are surely living in a time of “wars and rumors of wars!”

Remember, one full third of your

Bible is PROPHECY! All prophecy focuses on the Middle East, much of it on Jerusalem. Bible prophecy says almost nothing whatsoever about the Orient. Many of the great wars of the past were not specifically predicted. Not even World War I or World War II were specifically predicted, any more than the war in Korea, in Vietnam, or the war against Iraq in the Gulf.

Instead, the prophecies of the Bible concern themselves mainly with Jerusalem, and the general area of Palestine.

Christ’s “Olivet” prophecy was delivered on the Mount of Olives, across the dry former watercourse of the brook “Kidron.” I have been



Temple Mount and Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem.

on the Mount of Olives many times; have done radio and television programs from there; have stayed overnight in the old hotel which was operated by the Jordanians there.

Often lost in the hyperbole of frantic media warnings about terrorism and Iraq is the ominous fact that JERUSALEM, and the very existence of the nation of Israel, is the focal point of Arab and Islamic hatred! Time and again, I have written about this fact; how your Bible says Jerusalem is the location which will be critical in the horrific events of the Great Tribulation.

Christ went on to say, “When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

“Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

“Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:

“Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.

“And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days!

“But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day:

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matthew 24:15-21).

The “Abomination of Desolation,” or the ugly, Satanic, abomination in God’s sight which CAUSES destruction and desolation is yet to be set up in Jerusalem! Anciently, Antiochus Euphron, the bloody dictator of Syria, set up a statue of Jupiter Olympus in the Holy of Holies in the temple, thus desecrating the holiest site to God on this earth. Swine’s blood; the blood of an unclean animal, and thus abominable to the Jews, was sacrificed there. Also, following the sack of Jerusalem in 70 AD by the armies of the

Romans under Titus, the pagan Roman standards, which were regarded as objects of worship by the Romans, were set up there.

But these were merely typical forerunners of the end time abomination which is to be set up. Will it be set up in a literal temple? Paul

**Since no temple exists today, and since the prophecy seems to strongly indicate that a temple will be built, one must ask, where, when, and how?**

predicted, “Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

“That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

“Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God” (2 Thessalonians 1-4). Some muse that the “temple of God” indicates the church. But this prophecy seems not to be mere analogy, or metaphor. Its language is strongly literal. Furthermore, when it was written, the temple in Jerusalem still stood. It would be about fifteen years into the future before it would be destroyed by Titus’ armies.

Since no temple exists today, and since the prophecy seems to strongly indicate that a temple will be built, one must ask, where, when, and how?

The “where” immediately brings up a mind-boggling scenario of world conflict! As we have reported

for decades, those groups in Israel who insist upon the building of a temple also insist upon it being built on the very site of the two Islamic mosques, the famed “Dome of the Rock,” and the “Al Aksa” mosque, which stand atop the temple mount. Every allegation about any Israeli

interference in the “Harm el Shariff,” as the Arabs call it, brings about violent reaction.

The “Intifada” with its many bombings and shootings began when former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon dared to visit the site with police protection. Also, when a long sealed tunnel was opened to allow tourists access into the old city, the Arabs accused the Israelis of deliberately weakening the foundations of the mosques, as if in preparation to tear them down.

The “Temple of the Mount Faithful,” headed by Gershon Solomon, who my son Mark interviewed for our television program, advocated dismantling the mosques “with very great respect,” and each year stages a symbolic “laying of the corner stone” complete with shofars, priests, and symbolic stone.

The WHEN is another huge question. As I have said many times, any massive loss of life COULD result in the Israeli government turning on the mosques in a frenzy of anger and retaliation, and COULD result in the government granting permission for the commencement of a temple!

IF the prophecy must be taken literally, it plainly shows that the great false prophet, who will be in collusion with the beast, will ensconce himself there, and, with

the powers of Satan, produce great miracles which will cause millions to worship the Beast and his Image! Paul said, "And then shall that Wicked [one] be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

"Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

"And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be

nations on earth today? How significant is it that only BRITAIN dares to continually support the US government, while most of the world does not?

Yes, there will be "wars and rumors of wars." But Christ told His disciples, "And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the

will be preoccupied with their own daily pursuits!

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.

"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

"For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,

"And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away..."

"Knew not?" But they had been WARNED FOR ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS! How like this generation which has been warned for OVER FIFTY YEARS about events in Europe and the Mid-east!


Christ continued, "...so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

"Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

"Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come" (Matthew 24:35-42).

It is incredible that the flood came upon millions of people who "knew not until the day Noah entered the ark!" Yet, there are countless people today who have been WARNED about what is coming upon this earth, yet continue to be heedless - like the "sleepy virgins" of Matthew 25! May God grant YOU are not one of those.

The BIG QUESTION is, are we converted; are we deeply converted; are we zealously involved in God's work; are we READY? The big picture concerns the events leading to the second coming of Christ! As John wrote, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus!" 

## Jesus Christ says it is time to LIFT UP OUR HEADS; TO LOOK UP because our redemption draws near!

saved" (2 Thessalonians 2:8-10).

The final judgment against the beast and false prophet is described in Revelation 19:20. "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."

As I have covered many times previously, the intricate prophecy of Daniel 11:40-45 shows the Beast power occupying Palestine, and "overflowing" even to the borders of Pakistan and India. The stage is being set for the emergence of the prophesied "King of the South," a powerful Arab leader who will "push at" (An oil embargo?) The "King of the North," or the Beast power which will consist of a huge coalition of powerful nations led by ten "kings," or perhaps military dictators in EUROPE!

How SIGNIFICANT is it that ISRAEL and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA are the most hated

stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:24-28).

It is long past the time when people should be distracted by minor doctrinal disagreements; by conspiracy theories; by arguments about words! It is long past time for people to be distracted, misdirected, becoming bogged down in completely irrelevant issues!

Clearly, "these things" of Christ's prophecies are BEGINNING! Jesus Christ says it is time to LIFT UP OUR HEADS; TO LOOK UP because our redemption draws near!

But, sadly, He also said most





# Modern Israel's GREEN GROVES

by Murray Allatt

ANCIENTLY Israel was commanded of God concerning the pagan practices of the inhabitants of the Promised Land, “But you shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves: For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.” Ex. 34:13-14

Much later, after the death of Solomon Israel split in two to become the House of Israel (the ten northern tribes) and the House of Judah centered around Jerusalem.

Of the House of Israel, we find “For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a reed is shaken in the water, and He shall root up Israel out of this good land, which he gave to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the river, because they have made their groves, provoking the LORD to anger,” I Kings 14:15.

And of the House of Judah, “And Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked Him to jealousy with their sins... they also built them high places, and images, and groves, on every high hill, and under every green tree...” I Kings 14:22-23

The groves that caused Israel

and Judah such trouble were actually Asherah, images of the idol goddess Ashtereth (Astarte, Ish-tar, Easter). These groves of idols were erected in the high places and under green trees. They could be cut down. And when righteous kings ruled in Israel and Judah they were often cut down.

The term “grove” can also mean a stand of trees. And in this post-modern world it might just stretch to describe the relatively new phenomena festooning the high places of modern Israel (if you know who modern Israel is—read our free book *Europe and America in Prophecy*) otherwise known as the “wind farm.” Towering clusters of spindly windmills littering the hills and ridge lines (the high places) of many previously scenic rural views (and even ocean views).

In modern Israel, and so many other countries, these “groves” of windmills share something in common with ancient Asherah (groves) in that like the latter they have become idols for many who adhere to the new age religion called human induced global warming, or climate change. To some they are a kind of savior

of the world as they see it, producing “green” renewable energy, eliminating CO2 as a by-product of power production (don’t talk about the copious CO2 produced manufacturing the windmills and solar panels), and thus saving the world from disaster, even destruction, from excessive warming and ocean rise caused by—they claim—that poisonous, toxic gas, CO2. (Someone should tell the plant world!)

But those who put their faith in idols invariably come to grief.

## CRISIS, WHAT CRISIS?

As we should all know—because for the past thirty years and more it has been drummed into us by the media, by scientists, many of whom are invested in “climate change” as a living and many who have no expertise in climate at all, by global warming alarmists (usually lacking any scientific expertise in climate), by governments (who follow the prevailing breeze), by schools (essentially ignorant teachers teaching ignorant but pliable students the party line) and the United Nations (enough said)—the world stands on the precipice of devastating

*Continued next page*

cataclysm due to humans pumping untold vast quantities of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere above and beyond the Earth's natural processes (about 3% above natural causation). The impact of the sun and other natural factors leading to a slightly warming Earth are, according to the acolytes of this "climate change" religious movement, of little or no consequence.

Now of course, it is not true "we all know" that humans are responsible for global warming, also known as "climate change."

**The impact of the sun and other natural factors leading to a slightly warming Earth are, according to the acolytes of this "climate change" religious movement, of little or no consequence.**

No matter how hard the true believers drum that belief into the rest of us. True believers? Yes, there are those who truly believe that humans are the cause of "global warming." In fact, they adhere to their belief, embellished with various doctrines and dogma, much the same as a zealous religious person might. But there remain skeptics, thankfully. The skeptics of this latter-day religion are still labeled with the epithet, "Denier," spat out with appropriate venom.

#### **MARCH FOR WHAT?**

Recently, on 22 April 2017, a "March for Science" was organized on a worldwide basis. The idea for a march originated in the USA on the back of the so called "March for Women" that might just as easily, and more honest-

ly, have been called, "The March Against Trump."

Essentially, on the surface, these marches for science seem to have been organized to protest cuts to government research budgets. Certainly in the USA and in Australia recent government decisions have cut budgets for science. But at a time of incredible indebtedness of governments (U.S. \$20 trillion, Australia approaching \$500 billion) cuts are occurring across government programs. It's hard to see why

science should escape austerity. However, when the areas of major cuts in science are examined it seems much of it falls on research into "climate change" or areas devoted to implementing climate policy.

In Australia an organization called "March for Science, Australia" sprang up with a website to announce this "global event bringing together people of all walks of life who believe we need more evidence and reason in our political process." This explanation for the march probably points to it being more about politics than science, especially the politics of funding for science.

The same website provided the additional rationale for the march: demands for universal literacy, open communication (of publicly funded scientific find-

ings), policy informed by peer reviewed evidence and scientific consensus (the specious claim that the majority, or claimed majority, is always right) and stable investment in science...in other words keep the funding rolling. Almost nothing to take issue with there.

Indeed, the impetus for this march may have been related to perceived attacks on the budgets (and grant monies) of climate change research. And for those 97% (falsely and repeatedly claimed) of "scientists" that believe humans are responsible for a warming planet, that means a big pay cut potentially. Reason enough to march. But for all the non-"scientist" acolytes, well it does not take much to get them fired up for a public display of their righteous indignation on behalf of "science" and saving the planet.

Of this march there was one commentary offered that warrants highlighting.

Joe Bastardi, chief forecaster for WeatherBELL Analytics, meteorological consulting firm, writing for the Blog The Patriot Post just prior to the "March for Science" wrote, "The March for Science is tomorrow and no one in their right mind would say they are against it because of its name. First of all, you are standing against the right of people to march for whatever cause they wish. Second, you would be portrayed as someone who is against science. I am all for science. I think the climate changes. It always has and always will."

Bastardi goes on to state he



has been labeled a climate “Denier” by many of those marching for things he also believes in. But here is Bastardi’s point: He notes that the scientific record (that is actual science) shows that there is no “apparent linkage” between CO<sub>2</sub> and temperature in a time scale that goes back as far as the Precambrian era 600 million years ago. He says, “So, as someone who is acquainted with the scientific method, I am instantly skeptical of the idea that after all this time, there is now a linkage. That does not mean there can’t be...But how much linkage is there?”

Bastardi then asks why “a march when many of the people in that march have no tolerance for the questioning of their position.” In other words, they have no tolerance of the scientific method which at its core is skepticism. The scientific fact of large temperature shifts over geological eras going back hundreds of millions of years without a connection with CO<sub>2</sub> is simply ignored! Bastardi says that fact should make anyone skeptical. And he says that attitude toward facts makes the “science” of climate change more like a religion than a science.

Bastardi references the many claims of the last decade and a half (remember Al Gore for example) that human caused CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have resulted in the current period of a warming planet as “settled” science. Bastardi says, “I have to question motivation. For instance, if man-made global warming is such a done

deal, why are we researching it anymore? Actual settled science (freezing and boiling points of water, gravity, the sun is darn hot) is not being researched. So apparently AGW is not settled science. And for good reason—if it is true this is all man-made, it’s the first time, established by science, in recorded history. Another reason for being skeptical.”



Bastardi further comments that 30 years, (and we add, worldwide expenditure running to trillions of dollars in that period) of CO<sub>2</sub> mitigation efforts, has possibly prevented as much as 0.01 Celsius increase in global temperature rise.

Finally, Bastardi notes, the period of increased human CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from burning fossil fuels corresponds with exponential rises in average life expectancy, population growth and GDP per person. He says however, in effect, that the supporters of human

caused global warming theory assume continued use of fossil fuels will cause the collapse of life expectancy, populations, and economic wellbeing. Certainly the exploding world population, centered in Africa and Asia, estimated at 7 billion now, and projected to reach 9.7 billion in 2050, could cause a collapse in average life expectancy and GDP per

person purely from the effects of overpopulation. But that is a whole different issue.

For the purpose of this article, the point made by Bastardi in his comments regarding the “March for Science,” is that a huge and very costly shift from reliable and relatively cheap power production using fossil fuels to expensive, intermittent and unreliable energy production from breezes and sunshine is simply not supported by any actual scientific findings concerning human caused CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The

claim that human caused CO2 emissions have led to “global warming” is not “settled science.”

Governments making decisions costing tens, and hundreds of billions of dollars—imposed on their populations as increased taxes and power costs—to address a problem with an unproven cause in order to mitigate that cause, is simply exposing the populations to the jeopardy of economic decline (industries closing, job losses). In western countries especially, they are reducing standards of living through the unnecessary increase of cost of living expenses that flow from ever growing taxpayer subsidized power generated from breezes and sunshine.

#### THE EVIL BLACK STUFF

The modern world runs on the availability of electric power. Take away our power and civilization as we know it and live it in our daily lives quickly falls apart.

One of the doctrines of the



climate change belief system is that coal is evil. That is despite the plain fact that the modern world, since the Industrial Revolution, has been built directly on coal for steam generation, electric power generation, iron and steel production and the smelting of many other minerals on an industrial scale. Undeniably it is coal that has enabled the industrial scale production of goods and foodstuffs that the world

enjoys today. In fact, coal is one of the great blessings that God endowed the earth with and especially in lands where modern Israel, the descendants of ancient Israel, settled over the course of 2,500 years, but especially the last few centuries.

In regard to electric power generation, coal-fired power stations around the world provide stable and reliable base load power. The only other similarly stable and reliable power generation is nuclear power. But the same people who have demonized coal have also mostly opposed and demonized nuclear power generation. Of course, Chernobyl and the impact of the Japanese tsunami a few years ago highlighted the dangers and risks of nuclear power plants.

The solution put up as the alternative to coal (and oil and gas for that matter) to reduce human produced CO2 is “renewable energy.” The main sources of renewable energy at this point in time are hydro, wind and so-







**Solar panels on homes have become mandatory in many places.**

lar. There are other forms as well, such as wave power or tide power and geothermal among some other fringe “renewable energy” methods.

On the back of the supposed emergency to “save the planet” governments have mandated taxpayer subsidized rooftop solar panel arrays on domestic dwellings with the power generated being fed back into the grid with often inflated returns to the householder at the expense of other power users in the form of higher power prices. Industrial scale solar arrays have also been constructed—again with power users being stung for higher power prices.

But the really big ticket number in the field of “renewable energy” has been industrial scale “wind farms.” These wind farms “harvest” the wind to turn turbines to generate electricity that is fed into the grid. Large scale wind farms can be found these days on every continent and if

you drive through the countryside of western countries such as the UK, Australia, the United States, all over Europe and even second and third world countries, you will find previously unspoiled views of hills and ridge lines festooned with forests (or groves) of these windmills. But wind turbines have their problems. Here are some of them in no particular order:

- Wind turbines kill millions of birds and bats annually.

- Wind turbines produce intermittent (and therefore unreliable) power at a cost four or five times that of coal or gas.
- Wind turbines are only financially viable due to government (taxpayer) subsidies which result in higher prices for all users.
- Wind turbines only produce power when the wind blows.
- Wind turbines shut down (suddenly) when the wind blows too hard.
- Wind turbines produce a phenomena known as infra sound that adversely affects the health of many (but not all) nearby residents.
- Wind turbines, in their manufacture and construction, create more CO2, it is claimed by some, than they mitigate over their entire working life.

**A CASE IN POINT**

In Australia, wind farm central is South Australia. Since 2002 the South Australian (Labor/socialist) government, in power the whole of the time till now, has





pursued a policy of abandoning coal-fired power and replacing it with “green” renewable energy sources. The policy includes 50% renewable energy by 2030. Currently South Australia sits on a mix of 40% renewable energy—that is, when the wind blows and the sun shines. South Australia’s one remaining coal-fired power station closed in May 2016.

South Australia, as with all major power consumers, still needs “base load” power. It gets it from the coal-fired power generated by the neighboring State of Victoria fed through an interconnector on the national grid. However, Victoria’s (Labor/socialist) government has recently adopted a 50% renewable policy as well. Victorian government power policy has recently caused the closure of a very large coal-fired power station, Hazelwood, that will put a strain on Victoria’s ability to continue to provide base load power to South Australia. And if the policy of 50% renewable target is carried through, Victoria,

like South Australia, will struggle to provide its own needs, let alone supply other markets.

Indeed, the Hazelwood coal-fired power station in Victoria that was shut down at the end of March 2017 took 25% of Victoria’s base load power generation ability with it. The loss of Hazelwood, with no plans to replace it, has taken 5% of the Australian East Coast power grid supply out of the system. The operators were tired of being priced out of the market due to “renewables” subsidies.

Now it might be questioned if Victoria can continue to keep the lights on in South Australia with the loss of that capacity. The experts have said the crunch will come quickly if it’s a very cold winter, or perhaps a little later if next summer is very hot. It is reported that power prices across Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia will rise immediately by 10% to 15% as a direct result of Hazelwood’s closure. And the cost of power that has

already doubled in Australia over the past decade is tipped to continue to rise by large percentages in just the next couple of years.

In passing it can be noted that the five remaining coal-fired power stations in New South Wales, the mainstay of the East Coast grid, are all due for closure in the next twenty years, at “end of life,” the first scheduled for 2022. To date there are no announced plans to replace them. Just as no dam of any consequence has been built in New South Wales, or for that matter Australia, for forty years, due in part to the “green” environmentalists, so no new coal-fired station has been built in that time.

#### **AN EXPERIMENT GONE WRONG**

The South Australian Premier, Jay Weatherill, has called his government’s aggressive renewable energy policy “a bit of an international experiment” stating that, “We have got to take risks to show what the future of community looks like.” Based upon



**Southern Australia, home to 1.7 million people, is known for its bustling cities and vast vineyards.**

South Australia's experiences of the last six months it is evident that continued pursuit of and reliance upon wind and solar power means "the future of community" looks bleak. Like as in third world bleak.

On 28 September 2016, South Australia suffered a state wide blackout that lasted up to three days in some areas. Imagine, no power for three days! Steel works in emergency shut down; vast mining concerns shut down; all household power shut down; offices and factories closed; banking, shopping, supermarkets and domestic freezers down; domestic and industrial losses in the hundreds of millions of dollars. What happened?

On September 28, 2016, a very severe storm passed over South Australia. The wind reached a velocity that caused South Australia's expansive groves of wind turbines to automatically and suddenly shut down, before they blew apart. That sudden loss of wind generated electrical power caused an automatic surge of demand for Victorian supplied base load power, resulting in the failure of the grid interconnector bringing electricity from Victoria. The storm also blew over transmission towers that added to the problem.

Had South Australia still had its own base load power generation capacity, much of the subsequent mayhem perhaps could have been avoided. Interestingly the slavishly "green energy" South Australian Government falsely claimed that the outage

occurred as a result of fallen transmission towers. Subsequent official technical reports from the Australian Energy Regulator identified that the first failure was the windmills that shut down in high winds and caused the interconnector from Victoria to fail due to an unsustainable power surge. The fallen transmission lines came later. The South Aus-

tralian Government is sticking to its narrative. Being "green energy" climate change acolytes, you'd expect nothing less of them in attempt to obfuscate their own involvement in the disaster waiting to happen.

Since that time the Australian Energy Regulator has insisted South Australia operate at least two gas turbine facilities at all times. But even so in the months that have followed at least four more large scale blackouts have occurred, effecting heavy in-

dustry and tens of thousands of domestic and commercial users over many hours for each occurrence.

South Australia's "international experiment" should by now have sent shivers down the spines of any who have thought to replicate the experiment, whether in Australia or around the world, such as to squelch any



such ideas of running "renewables" at and above 40% of the power generation mix. But as noted, in Australia both Victoria and Queensland (Labor/socialist) governments have doubled down on their own 50% renewable targets.

To illustrate the fragile electricity supply environment in South Australia, in early 2017 the spot price per KWH in Victoria and New South Wales was \$30. In South Australia it was \$14,000 per KWH! That is how

Continued next page

flaky the market rates the unstable, unreliable wind and solar array that barely keeps South Australia ticking over on a good day (sun shining, wind blowing) with base load power having to come from interstate. And yet no sign of the South Australian government changing course. Quite the opposite, even as industries announce plans to shut up shop and move elsewhere for secure power.

However, in March 2017 the South Australian government did announce a \$550 million fix for

tic shortages in the next twelve months. Imagine that, one of the world's biggest gas exporters running out of gas for industrial and domestic household use.

As to the "industrial scale" battery, when (if) built, that will be available to provide power when the wind turbines fail to produce, and otherwise as an emergency supply. It is thought it might be as large as 100 MW capacity in size. On the basis of supplying the South Australian grid in the event of a total grid failure

a CO2 buster) who have slavishly adopted renewable power policies based on the scaremongering global warming/climate change alarmists.

The first irony is that Australia, whose various governments have by and large for the past twenty years deemed the use of coal for power production a palpable evil, actually is the world's largest or second largest exporter of coal. Coal to China, coal to Japan, coal to India, coal to South Korea. Coal to just about anywhere, to anyone who wants to buy it and has the money to pay for it. They burn it. They produce CO2. They get the benefit of cheap power.

Meanwhile in Australia, coal is demonized, renewables idolized and power prices increased 100% over the past decade. Industries move overseas. Jobs are lost. The cost in jobs, communities, affordability of power to the poor, none of that matters in the push to faithfully adhere to the demands of the religion of climate change. And like all religions, the aim is to spread the faith and further propagate the religiously espoused icons of worship, the groves of windmills and the banks of solar arrays, no matter the cost.

Also ironic is that after the last six months of the South Australian "international experiment," the Australian Federal Government has announced support for the building of "clean" coal. That is, High Efficiency Low Emissions, coal burning power stations, to be financed by,

**The cost in jobs, communities, affordability of power to the poor, none of that matters in the push to faithfully adhere to the demands of the religion of climate change.**

its self-inflicted power generation woes. It would build a \$360 million government owned gas-fired power plant, plus it would also build Australia's—and perhaps the world's—largest battery storage facility at a further cost of \$150 million. Hopefully by the time the gas-fired plant is built, sufficient gas can be found to power it, as Australia is currently in the midst of another, this time national government-inflicted, gas supply woe. There is no national gas reservation policy and over 70% of mined gas produced in Australia (mainly by overseas owned companies) is shipped offshore (at prices only about a third what is charged for the same gas per unit in Australia), leading to predictions of crippling domes-

(as occurred last September), it has been estimated the battery would last about four (4) minutes. If ever built, the battery may have a life expectancy of about seven years. As all mobile phone users know you can only recharge a battery so many times. The logic of this industrial size battery, and the expenditure of \$150 million on what will be a dubious "fix" for South Australia's renewable power woes, is difficult for ordinary folk to understand.

#### IRONY

There are ironies in the "renewables" hole dug by governments in Australia, State and Federal, (and for that matter in all countries where this technology has been rolled out large scale as



of all things, The Clean Energy Finance Corporation, a government owned enterprise originally legislated by a previous government to fund wind, solar, and other speculative renewable endeavors. Given the demonizing of coal-fired power generation no private investors will touch the idea of building new coal-fired plants without government backing.

But there may yet be salvation for Australia from being relegated to a third world country. If the Federal Government can legislate that the CEFC must use its \$10 billion dollar “investment” fund to support the building of new HELE coal-fired power plants. The government needs to pass legislation to include a requirement that the CEFC funds new HELE power stations because a recent request for such funding from a coal-fired power station investor was rejected, even though HELE coal-burning power stations operate with minimal emissions compared to traditional coal-fired power plants. And it should be noted that Japan, a vociferous importer of Australian coal, is building 45 HELE power plants. Other countries, not hog tied in green tape as Australia is, are also building these new coal-fired power plants.

Perhaps the ultimate irony lies in the fact that the Australian Federal Government over the past two decades has subsidized the renewables industry, windmills and solar panels, to the tune of tens of billions of dollars, in order to make them competitive

with coal, and in doing so has caused the power supply, relying on wind and solar, to become unstable and unreliable, as well as wildly expensive for end users. Now the government has turned around and seeks to subsidize the building of coal-fired HELE power stations to ensure the stability and reliability of the power supply. And the effect on the world’s climate of all this expenditure of Australian tax payer funds? Zero.

#### GOD’S BLESSINGS

God blessed the modern nations of Israel, and many other nations, with abundant supplies of coal (and oil, and many other minerals). Coal provides, and will supply for hundreds of years yet, a reliable, stable and relatively cheap means of power generation. And if that can be done with HELE power plants, all the better. But as long as the fearful-yet-zealous devotees of the climate change religion hold sway with their groves of windmills and solar panels as a means of providing base load, main stream power—which is what 40%, rising to 50% notional generating capacity represents (as opposed to wind and solar being

a mere adjunct to actual base load power generation from coal, gas, or nuclear)—our first world economies will be at risk of sinking to third world standards.

Windmills and solar panels have their place, but not at the taxpayer or power users' expense. And not as idols of the New Age religion of man-made climate change. The notion that these sources of unreliable, intermittent power can save the world from some imagined climate disaster has to be cast aside. The wind does not always blow, as any sailor would attest, and the sun does not always shine. Surely we all know that.

We need to stop squandering God’s blessings in pursuit of satisfying the costly and wasteful demands of this false “climate change” religion masquerading as science. Time to, figuratively speaking, cut down the groves and break in pieces the idols. We must bring back common sense scientific method to work out practical solutions instead of placing hope in the false “faith” that has consumed so many in their quest to “save” the world, and rather put our FAITH in God for this world’s ultimate salvation. □



## BIBLE STUDY

by Dr. James &amp; Natalie Ricks

# Are the Holy Days "DONE AWAY"?

## UNDERSTANDING COLOSSIANS

THE city of Colossae was once dominated by pagan ascetic philosophies and their approach to religion had a strong component of severity. The pagan majority had started to pressure God's church. Pagans saw the festivals of God as a stark contrast to their way of life. Colossians 2:16-17 clearly shows that the gentiles in God's church were being judged because they began keeping the Sabbath and God's Holy Days.

Colossians 2:8, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments [elements] of the world, and not after Christ." That is, don't let worldly men lead you away from the examples Christ has set.

Paul's letter tells the Colossians not to allow their pagan neighbors with their ignorant philosophies to judge them. This also applies to us. Neighbors may think it odd that we go to church on Saturday. They sometimes accuse us of "keeping Saturday for Sunday" and they note how peculiar it is. We all understand what it is like to be judged by others for what we may or may not eat and for keeping God's Biblical Holy Days.

Colossians 2:16, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat [in eating and drinking], or in drink,

or in respect [taking part] of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days." Paul is explaining that these Holy Days are a guide or shadow of yet future events. They are a guide to God's plan of salvation. That is an important revelation and not a dismissing of the Biblical Holy Days. Colossians 2:17 continues the thought, "Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body *is* of Christ."

The word "is" in italics was added by the translators to make the meaning clearer. But if read without the word "is" the meaning becomes clearer. It reads, "Only let the body of Christ judge you on such matters." Christ is the head of the church and Paul is saying only listen to the church of God on such matters. II Corinthians 10:4-5 has us breaking down pagan strongholds and philosophies!

Some will ask about Colossians 2:16-17. Are they only a shadow? First it says that the Holy Days are a shadow of things to come. Being a shadow does not diminish the days but elevates them. In the Greek language the word *mello*, translated 'to come,' explicitly points to events yet future. Paul is saying that the Sabbath and Holy Days are a guide. The grammar of Paul's statement requires this meaning. Holy Days of God are a guide to God's plan and a key to coming events.

Read Colossians 2:20-23 to see the nature of the asceticism Paul is referring to in these passages regarding pagan influences.

"v. 20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from

## BIBLE STUDY

the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances [rudiments, elements],

“v. 21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not;

“v. 22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men?”

“v. 23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will-worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body; not in any honor to the satisfying of the flesh [neglecting or punishing oneself].”

God's Holy Days are festive festivals. They are feast days, the very opposite of asceticism.

### THE HOLY DAYS ARE A SHADOW OF THINGS TO COME

Clearly the Passover and Unleavened Bread was a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ's sacrifice for all mankind as the Lamb of God for all those years. Now we look back in remembrance of that glorious event. See John 1:36.

Pentecost described the coming of power for the early church which will one day be the first harvest. Note the second chapter of Acts.

The other Holy Days foreshadow events that are still in mankind's future:

The Feast of Trumpets pictures the last trump of God and the return of the Messiah as a conquering king with a war trumpeter. See 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 and further note that in I Corinthians 15:52-54, Paul mentions the Trump of God prior to our being changed from mortal to immortal. Read Revelation 19:11-21 for more on Christ's triumphant return.

Atonement is a guide to the world after Jesus' conquest, as well as the believers being at one with God. The Feast of Tabernacles represents the millennial reign of Christ. The Last Great day symbolizes the last and final chance for all to be saved.

We remember that day every year as we keep the fall Holy days. Very soon, all nations will also keep the Feast of Tabernacles in the millennium or face the wrath of God. See Zachariah 14:16. Trum-

pets were in the Bible as an alarm of war like a siren. Christ will return to battle and crush the Beast and force all mankind to live righteously by His Laws. Trumpets were blown to gather the people for important events. The Last trump of Revelation and the second coming of Christ is the most important event coming in mankind's future.

### PAUL TAUGHT THE GENTILE CHRISTIANS TO KEEP THE DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

The key scriptures that we use to prove that gentile Christians were really keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread with unleavened bread are in 1 Corinthians 5:6-8.

“v. 6 Your glorying is not good; know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?”

“v. 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven that ye may be a new lump, AS YOU ARE UNLEAVENED. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.”

Now, note verse 8, “Therefore LET US KEEP THE FEAST not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”

Paul is saying to purge out (get rid of) the old leaven (sin), that ye may be a new (unleavened) lump (spiritually) as ye are (actually) unleavened. He wrote this to them during the Days of Unleavened Bread because he knew they would be unleavened!

Those who are deceived about keeping the Days of Unleavened Bread twist these scriptures and try to say that gentile Christians were not physically keeping the Days of Unleavened Bread. They say, “As you are unleavened” is merely a simile. A simile tries to make a point by comparing two things that are not alike, for instance, a man and a turtle. “He is as slow as a turtle” is a simile. A simile uses “like or as” for this comparison. In our simile “he” and “turtle” are not alike, but the turtle is used to point out that the man is slow physically.

If “as ye are unleavened” is only meant by Paul



## BIBLE STUDY

as a simile and not to mean that they were actually unleavened, then these scriptures would be saying be “free from leaven (sin, metaphorically), as you are free from leaven (sin again metaphorically).”

Similes are not constructed this way. It is illogical. Remember that a simile is a comparison between two things that are unlike. In the case of our scripture, the spiritual is being compared with the physical. Otherwise the simile makes no sense because it would not be comparing two things that are different. It would be like saying, "Be as fast as a turtle," when a turtle is clearly not fast. What Paul must be writing is, “Be free from leaven (sin) spiritually, as you are free from leaven literally (physically).” Be unleavened spiritually as you are *not* unleavened physically makes no sense!

The Greek gentile Christians were literally unleavened years after Christ’s death, as Acts 20:6 and 12:3 plainly show. Paul tells these gentiles to keep the Feast. He is clearly speaking of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the New Testament Passover.

These Holy Days were given not just to Judah but to all of Israel. They are described in the Bible as, “The Feasts of the LORD.” God calls them His Feast Days. Read Leviticus 23 in which they are called His Sabbaths and Feasts. They belong to God and not to any one of the twelve tribes of Israel. God said that His annual Holy Days and the weekly Sabbath are an IDENTIFYING SIGN between Him and His people (see Exodus 31:13). These days link and identify us with the one true God.

**THE HOLY DAYS DO NOT COME AND GO WITH THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM**

These Holy Days were delivered to Israel before the sacrificial system was commanded. The Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread were given in Exodus 12 and 13. They help us identify with God’s rescue of Israel from slavery in Egypt and our rescue from slavery to sin by Christ. See Hebrews 8:7-8 and Jeremiah 7:21-23 as proof that the sacrificial system was added because of the weakness of the people, not any weakness in God’s annual Sabbath Laws!

Furthermore read Psalms 40:6 and 51:16. These annual days are part of the clear plan of salvation and we live it out each year as we keep God’s Holy Days, not man’s holidays. We remember the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the New Testament Church as we keep Pentecost each summer.

**JESUS AND THE NEW TESTAMENT  
CHURCH OBSERVED THE HOLY DAYS**

Jesus observed the Passover, Days of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day. He observed the Feast at the risk of His life (see John 7:1-2, 10, 37). In Matthew 26 He tells us He is looking forward to keeping the Passover again with His disciples when He returns.

The Church of God in the first century kept the Holy Days and it is clear that they ALL knew the days were still holy. This includes Paul the Apostle to the gentiles. No discussion of whether to keep them is found, just a record of them being kept. No one questioned the need to keep them. □

### Scriptures for further study on this subject:

**LEVITICUS 23**

**ZACHARIAH 14:16**

**COLOSSIANS 2:8, 2:16-17**

**I THESSALONIANS 4:16-17**

**ACTS 20:6**

**JOHN 1:36**

**I CORINTHIANS 5:6-8**

**JOHN 7:8-14 & 37**

# Europe: More Migrants Coming

"EIGHT TO TEN MILLION MIGRANTS ARE STILL ON THE WAY"

by Soeren Kern, with permission by Gatestone Institute



THE European Union has called on its member states to lift border controls — introduced at the height of the migration crisis in September 2015 — within the next six months.

The return to open borders, which would allow for passport-free travel across the EU, comes at a time when the number of migrants crossing the Mediterranean continues to rise, and when Turkish authorities increasingly have been threatening to renege on a border deal that has lessened the flow of migrants from Turkey to Europe.

Critics say that lifting the border controls now could trigger another, even greater, migration crisis by encouraging potentially

millions of new migrants from Africa, Asia and the Middle East to begin making their way to Europe. It would also allow jihadists to cross European borders undetected to carry out attacks when and where they wish.

At a press conference in Brussels on May 2, the EU Commissioner in charge of migration, Dimitris Avramopoulos, called on Austria, Denmark, Germany, Norway and Sweden — among the wealthiest and most sought after destinations in Europe for migrants — to phase out the temporary controls currently in place at their internal Schengen borders over the next six months.

The so-called Schengen Agreement, which took effect in

March 1995, abolished many of the EU's internal borders, enabling passport-free movement across most of the bloc. The Schengen Agreement, along with the single European currency, are fundamental pillars of the European Union and essential building-blocks for constructing a United States of Europe. With the long-term sustainability of the single currency and open borders in question, advocates of European federalism are keen to preserve both.

Avramopoulos, who argued that border controls are "not in the European spirit of solidarity and cooperation," said:

"The time has come to take the last concrete steps to gradual-

*Continued next page*

ly return to a normal functioning of the Schengen Area. This is our goal, and it remains unchanged. A fully functioning Schengen area, free from internal border controls. Schengen is one of the greatest achievements of the European project. We must do everything to protect it."

The temporary border controls were established in September 2015, after hundreds of thousands of migrants arrived in Europe, and when EU member states, led by Germany, gave special permission to some EU countries to impose emergency controls for up to two years. Since then, the European Union has approved six-month extensions of controls at the German-Austrian border, at Austria's frontiers with Hungary and Slovenia and at Danish, Swedish and Norwegian borders (Norway is a member of Schengen but not the EU). Several countries have argued that they need border controls to combat the threat of Islamic militancy.

On May 2, Sweden, which claims to conduct the most border checks among the EU countries, announced that it will lift controls at its border with Denmark. Sweden received 81,000 asylum seekers in 2014; 163,000 in 2015; 29,000 in 2016, and the same is expected for 2017.

On April 26, Austria called for an indefinite extension of border controls. "In terms of public order and internal security, I simply need to know who is coming to our country," Austrian Interior Minister Wolfgang Sobotka said. Austria, which accepted some 90,000 migrants in 2015, also called for a "postponement" of the EU refugee distribution program, which requires EU member states to accept a mandatory and proportional distribution of asylum-seekers who arrive in other member nations.

On March 9, Norway extended border controls for another three months.

On January 26, Denmark

extended border controls for another four months. Integration Minister Inger Støjberg said that her government would extend its border controls "until European borders are under control."

On January 19, Germany and Austria announced that border controls between their countries would continue indefinitely, "as long as the EU external border is not adequately protected."

Meanwhile, the number of migrants making their way to Europe is once again trending higher. Of the 30,465 migrants who reached Europe during the first quarter of 2017, 24,292 (80%) arrived in Italy, 4,407 arrived in Greece, 1,510 arrived in Spain and 256 arrived in Bulgaria, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

By way of comparison, the number of arrivals to Europe during each of the first three months of 2017 exceeded those who arrived during the same time period in 2015, the year in which migration to Europe reached unprecedented levels.

The trend is expected to continue throughout 2017. Better weather is already bringing about a surge of migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea from Libya to Europe. During just one week in April, for example, a total of 9,661 migrants reached the shores of Italy.

The migrants arriving there are overwhelmingly economic migrants seeking a better life in Europe. Only a very small number appear to be legitimate asylum seekers or refugees fleeing



**May 2017, urban migrant camp in Northern Paris.**



warzones. According to the IOM, the migrants who reached Italy during the first three months of 2017 are, in descending order, from: Guinea, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Senegal, Morocco, Mali, Somalia and Eritrea.

In February, Italy reached a deal with the UN-backed government in Tripoli to hold migrants in camps in Libya in exchange for money to fight human traffickers. The agreement was endorsed by both the European Union and Germany.

On May 2, however, German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel reversed course by saying the deal ignored the "catastrophic conditions" in Libya and would not curb migration. He said that Germany now favored tackling migration by fighting instability in Africa:

"What we are trying instead is to help stabilize the countries on the continent. But that is difficult. We will have to show staying power, stamina and patience. This is in the interest of Africans but also in the interest of Europeans."

Gabriel's long-term solution — which in the best of circumstances could take decades to bear fruit — implies that mass migration from Africa to Europe will continue unabated for many years to come.

Italy has emerged as Europe's main point of entry for migrants largely because of an agreement the European Union signed with Turkey in March 2016 to stem migration from Turkey to Greece.

In recent weeks, however, Turkish authorities have threatened to back out of the deal because, according to them, the EU has failed to honor its end of the bargain.

Under the agreement, the EU pledged to pay Turkey €3 billion (\$3.4 billion), as well as grant vi-

sa-free travel to Europe for Turkey's 78 million citizens, and to restart accession talks for Turkey to join the bloc. In exchange, Turkey agreed to take back all migrants and refugees who reach Greece via Turkey.

After the deal was reached, the number of migrants reaching Greece dropped sharply, although not completely. According to data supplied by the European Union on April 12, a total of 30,565 migrants reached Greece since the migrant deal took effect. Only 944 of those migrants have been returned to Turkey. Still, this is in sharp contrast to the hundreds of thousands of migrants who entered Greece at the height of the migration crisis. Turkey's continued cooperation is essential to keep the migration floodgates closed.

On April 22, Turkey's Minister for EU Affairs, Ömer Çelik, issued an ultimatum, warning the European Union that if it does not grant Turkish citizens visa-free travel by the end of May, Turkey

would suspend the migrant deal and flood Europe with migrants.

On March 17, Turkey's Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu warned that his country would "blow the mind" of Europe and renege on the deal by sending 15,000 Syrian refugees a month to Europe:

**"What we have been seeing is one of the biggest human migrations in history. And it's just going to accelerate..."**

"We have a readmission deal. I'm telling you Europe, do you have that courage? If you want, we'll send the 15,000 refugees to you that we don't send each month and blow your mind. You have to keep in mind that you can't design a game in this region apart from Turkey."

In February 2016, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan had already threatened to send millions of migrants to Europe. "We can open the doors to Greece and Bulgaria anytime and we can put the refugees on buses," he told European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker. In a speech, he signaled that he was running out of patience:

"We do not have the word 'idiot' written on our foreheads. We will be patient, but we will do what we have to. Don't think that the planes and the buses are there for nothing."

European officials say that to qualify for the visa waiver, Turkey must meet 72 conditions, including the most important one:



**February 2016, Turkish President Erdoğan (left) threatened to send millions of migrants to Europe. "We can open the doors to Greece and Bulgaria anytime and we can put the refugees on buses," he told Jean-Claude Juncker (right), President of the European Commission. (Image source: Turkish President's Office)**

relaxing its stringent anti-terrorism laws, which are being used to silence critics of Erdoğan, especially since the failed coup in July 2016. Turkey has vowed not to comply with the EU's demands.

Critics of visa liberalization fear that millions of Turkish nationals may end up migrating to Europe. The Austrian newsmagazine, *Wochenblick*, recently reported that 11 million Turks are living in poverty and "many of them are dreaming of moving to central Europe."

Other analysts believe Erdoğan views the visa waiver as an opportunity to "export" Turkey's "Kurdish Problem" to Germany. According to Bavarian Finance Minister Markus Söder, millions of Kurds are poised to take advantage of the visa waiver

to flee to Germany to escape persecution at the hands of Erdoğan: "We are importing an internal Turkish conflict," he warned. "In the end, fewer migrants may arrive by boat, but more will arrive by airplane."

The European Union now finds itself in a Catch-22 situation. Turkey appears determined to flood Europe with migrants either way: with Europe's permission by means of visa-free travel, or without Europe's permission, as retribution for failing to provide visa-free travel.

Greek officials recently revealed that they have drawn up emergency plans to cope with a new migrant crisis. Turkey is hosting some three million migrants from Syria and Iraq, many of whom are presumably waiting

for an opportunity to flee to Europe.

Italy is also bracing for the worst. Up to a million people, mainly from Bangladesh, Egypt, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan and Syria are now in Libya waiting to cross the Mediterranean Sea, according to the IOM.

The director of the United Nations office in Geneva, Michael Møller, has warned that Europe must prepare for the arrival of millions more migrants from Africa, Asia and the Middle East. In an interview with *The Times*, Møller, a Dane, said:

"What we have been seeing is one of the biggest human migrations in history. And it's just going to accelerate. Young people all have cellphones and they can see what's happening in other parts of the world, and that acts as a magnet."

German Development Minister Gerd Müller has echoed that warning:

"The biggest migration movements are still ahead: Africa's population will double in the next decades. A country like Egypt will grow to 100 million people, Nigeria to 400 million. In our digital age with the internet and mobile phones, everyone knows about our prosperity and lifestyle."

Müller added that only 10% of those currently on the move have reached Europe: "Eight to ten million migrants are still on the way." □

*Soeren Kern is a Senior Fellow at the New York-based Gatestone Institute. Follow him on Facebook and Twitter:*



# THE NEW NORMAL

by Mark Armstrong

How do the parents of the Manchester victims ever get over the slaughter of their little girls by these deranged zealots who plotted and carried out the atrocity? What about the grandparents, the brothers and sisters, uncles, aunts and cousins? They're expected to just choke it down, come together in unity, and above all never, ever ascribe blame to the Muslim "community" in their midst. It was some time after the blast occurred when the realization dawned that this attack targeted young girls, the "teeny bopper" fans of the young pop star most of us had never heard of.

It was absolutely disgusting to hear the Manchester chief constable and police spokesman come out to plead that authorities were doing "all we can" to help the victims and their families in the face of the tragedy. No, they're not! They didn't do what was necessary to prevent the slaughter in the first place, and they have no intention of doing what is necessary to prevent the next one, which surely will occur.

(It already has: London Bridge, with seven dead, twenty some wounded) "We now have a team of specially-trained family liaison officers who are supporting families." Oh, goody. Too bad there weren't specially-trained officers following the movements and communications of the Muslim terrorists, who, as it turns out should have been easy to identify and remove from the presence of the unarmed population. But Britain has thousands of terrorists living among the population, probably tens of thousands if the

truth were known.

Then the politically-correct constable had the audacity to say that it is "vital that our diverse communities in Greater Manchester stand together and do not tolerate hate." What's it got to do with hatred? Manchester's, and every place else's Muslim "communities" have been spoon-fed anti-westerner, anti-Jewish hatred from earliest childhood. It's not a mysterious proclivity unique to the so-called "self-radicalized," it's a staple of their religion and culture. And now,



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through the miracle of the UN High Commissioner for Refugee resettlement, Britain is teeming with vast numbers of “refugees” and their children who yearn for the immortality of “martyrdom” in the commission of mass murder in the name of their god.

The grief of the families and those who know them must be

Indonesia and the Philippines, all attributable to the same ideology. The U. S. chief of Homeland Security says we'd never leave the house if we knew the full extent of the terror threat, even here in the United States. But expelling the would-be terrorists is not an option. Judges simply will not allow it nor will they stand by

then return to shopping and the pursuit of entertainment, smug in their open-minded acceptance of the “new normal” of periodic suicide bombings, beheadings, stabbings and vehicular terrorism. In essence, the authorities are saying, “Get over it, we're doing all we can...or all we're going to do within the boundaries we've created for ourselves.”

**In essence, the authorities are saying, “Get over it, we're doing all we can... or all we're going to do within the boundaries we've created for ourselves.”**

unimaginable. But they mustn't blame the “community” where the plot was hatched and hidden, or the panty-waisted politicians who've overseen the influx of hateful third-world strangers into their city. It's too late for the little eight year old girl, whose photo you've seen, and the fifteen year old and the twenty-odd others killed by flying nails and bolts. But it's not too late for hundreds and thousands of others who surely will fall victim to the followers of the “extremist” Muslim death cult. Except once-great Britain is doubling down on its liberal socialist self-righteousness, patting itself on the back for its diversity even as they mourn the senseless deaths of those children and young people.

Since the Manchester attack, terrorists (masked gunmen) shot up a bus-load of Coptic Christians on their way to visit a monastery in Egypt, and other terrorist attacks have taken place in

and allow potential terrorists to be denied entry to the United States. That would be racial or religious discrimination!

So, we're supposed to be willing to sacrifice our baby girls to the evil religion of “tolerance” of those who espouse terrorist ideology in their mosques and at some moment in time might well snap and carry out the instructions of their prophet. The British are expected to attend scores of funerals and memorial gatherings and

Since the Manchester catastrophe, there's already been another incident of vehicular slaughter on London Bridge, followed by a slash-fest upon people dining out on the town. It took days before the perpetrators, finally shot dead, were officially identified. They turned out to be exactly who we knew they would be. It's absolutely pathetic that the authorities all over Europe, in Britain and largely in the United States as well, apparently value the “feelings and freedom” of the evil practitioners of militant Islam above their own flesh and blood. At least those who haven't had to sacrifice a loved one to Mohammad's creed. □



# A DAY UNLIKE THE REST

by Michael Armstrong

A Christian is someone who believes in Jesus Christ and follows His teachings. While today there are many denominations, often at odds with one another over doctrine or custom, none would disparage the example set by Christ Himself. His sinless life is the undisputed epitome of righteous existence. To emulate it is the obvious goal of all Christians. However, one practice of Christ's is largely disregarded these days.

That practice is the observance of the Sabbath day. Only a very small percentage of Christians honor or keep the seventh day Sabbath, though many acknowledge that Christ and His disciples did. This fact is easily substantiated in the gospel accounts. After being baptized and driven into the wilderness to be tempted, Christ returned to the region of Galilee and began His ministry.

Luke 4:15-16 says, "And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and *as his custom was*, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read." (emphasis added throughout) Further on in the same chapter it says in verse 31,

"And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the Sabbath days." This was the custom, the habit, of our Lord on the day of rest and worship set aside at creation.

Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles and author of many New Testament books, is frequently quoted by those attempting to relegate the Sabbath or the law to antiquity. His own example, however, is at odds with that notion. Chapter 13 of the book of Acts features Paul and Barnabas in the synagogue on the Sabbath day for the reading of the law and the prophets. They were even invited to speak after the reading was finished.

Paul preached to them about Jesus Christ in the context of sacred history: the exodus, entering the promised land, the kingdom, and Christ as the promised savior, the seed of David. He preached the resurrection and the forgiveness of sins, verses 38 and 39, "From which you could not be justified by the law of Moses." All have transgressed the law. Attempting to keep it afterward cannot negate the fact that the penalty is owed.

No Christian would dispute that salvation is through Jesus

Christ and His sacrifice. Accepting it is integral to our faith, along with repentance (feeling true, deep sorrow and shame for our own deeds and forsaking them to live righteously as best we can), because we are sinners. John, the disciple Jesus loved, provides us a scriptural definition of what sin is in 1 John 3:4. "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

Through Christ we can receive forgiveness because He has paid the penalty for us. It is important to remember that the penalty was paid, not that somehow, because you are a Christian, no penalty is due. Our Savior suffered and died a horrible death on account of our transgressions, not His. He alone has lived a human life free from sin, proving that with the Holy Spirit the temptations of the flesh can be overcome. The problem has never been the law, but with people keeping it. This justification from one's own transgressions was extremely compelling to the people Paul was preaching to in Acts 13. In verses 42-44 "the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. Now when the congre-

*Continued next page*

gation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.”

and he and Barnabas were expelled from the region. Chapters 16, 17, and 18 prove that he was not deterred and each mentions him teaching on the Sabbath.

It is a mistake to think the Sabbath is “Jewish.” The day of rest was instituted at creation and

*al* covenant. It is a sign between me and the children of Israel *for ever*: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.”

An interesting aspect when comparing Old and New Testament scriptures is the identity of Jesus Christ before His human birth. John 1:1-3 says, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him and without Him was not any thing made that was made.” The Greek here translated “God” is *Theos*, a plural word implying more than one. This fits perfectly with “Let us make man in *our* image” from Genesis 1:26. The Hebrew translated “God” in the Old Testament is also a plural word.

The implications of these scriptures are enormous. The being we refer to as Jesus Christ is the “Word” of God, the spokesman, who said “let there be light,” who did the creating, who dealt personally with the patriarchs and the prophets, and who became flesh. How else can we understand the many scriptures where God speaks or appears and yet Christ says “the Father Himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His shape.”? He is God the son, working on behalf of God the father, representing Him to us. You could think of it as similar to how we use surnames, or last names, today which can ac-

**It is a mistake to think the Sabbath is “Jewish.” The day of rest was instituted at creation and was intended for all mankind.**

If the Sabbath day had no significance, if all days were equal or if the first day of the week was the new day for Christian worship, why would they wait an entire week? Years had passed since Christ had died and been resurrected. Why would Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, miss this opportunity to showcase the differences between Christianity and Judaism when he had the interest of an entire city and instead publicly honor the Sabbath day, listen to the law and prophets read, and preach Christ by quoting from them? Neither Jesus Christ nor Paul preached a new religion. Their quarrels with the religious leaders of the day were over the traditions men had burdened one another with, like ceremonial hand washing, counting steps on the Sabbath, and straining beverages. Or they came from jealousy and fear on the part of the religious elites that their position or power or income would be lost. Paul's success in Chapter 13 of Acts elicited just such a response

was intended for all mankind. It was thousands of years later that God brought the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (whose name was changed to Israel) out of Egypt and delivered the law through Moses. They were organized into the 12 tribes of Israel, as they are called, and each tribe went by the name of the son of Jacob from which they descended. They are Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Joseph, and Benjamin, though Joseph is usually divided into two, one for each of his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. It is from Judah we get the term Jew.

Obviously, the commandments were given to all the children of Israel, not just Judah. Further, the commandment says “Remember the Sabbath day,” hearkening back to its institution at creation. Exodus 31:16-17 reads “Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a *perpetu-*



curately apply to you as well as members or your family. I am not the only Armstrong just as you are not the only one with your family name. Hebrews 1:1-2 further confirms His identity. "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in the time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken to us by His son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, *by whom also He made the worlds.*"

Understanding this point opens a great many scriptures. When Christ said "before Abraham was, I AM" He testified to His existence prior to Abraham as well as identifying Himself as the I AM who spoke to Moses. He is the lawgiver, the one who codified ever extant good and true principles into a civil code for Israel. Has He changed His mind about the nature of righteousness? Or is He "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever," as it says in Hebrews 13:8? "I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed" He said in Malachi 3:6. He is the one who set aside the Sabbath at the very beginning, intending it to be a blessing to all mankind. As He told the Pharisees, "the Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day." (Matthew 12:8)

In this context the full implications of scriptures such as John 14:15 "If you love me, keep my commandments" become clear. When asked what may be done to have eternal life He replied "if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." in Matthew 19:17. Verse 18 leaves no doubt

as to which commandments He was talking about.

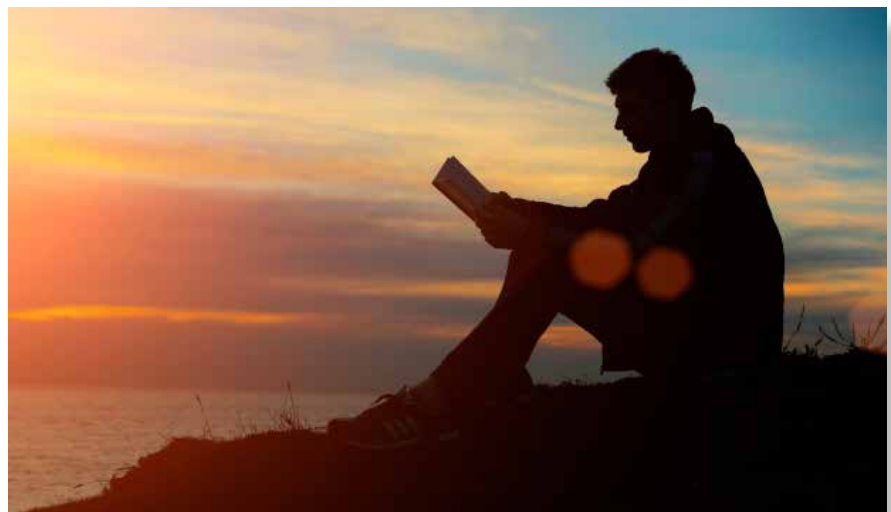
Some would accuse those who observe the Sabbath or believe it is necessary to keep the commandments of "legalism" or attempting to earn salvation. This is certainly not the case as salvation cannot be earned. Being forgiven, receiving the mercy available to us through Jesus Christ, is a gift. It is undeserved. But if we ask for it, and are granted it, do we then continue to do the things which made us realize we needed it?

It says in Romans 6:1-4, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we should walk in newness of life." To walk in newness of life is to live in an upright manner, to

"love the Lord with all your heart" and to "love your neighbor as yourself." If you loved God you would obey Him, if you loved your neighbor you would not commit any of the deeds forbidden by the law.

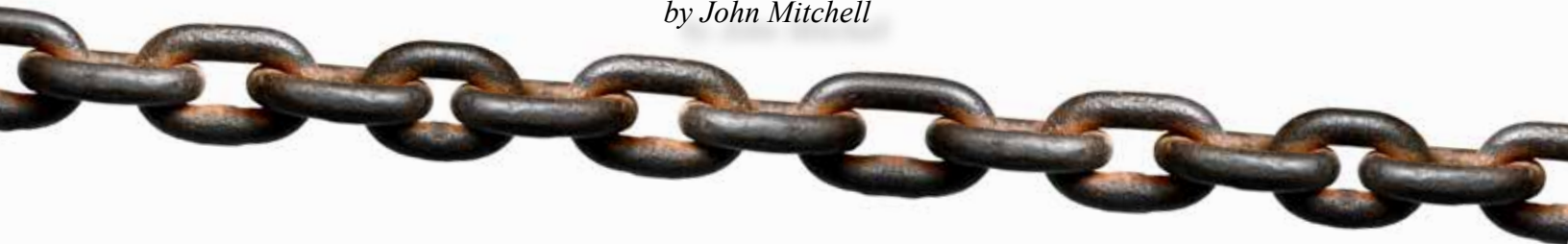
The Sabbath is one of God's commandments. Christ rested on the very first Sabbath day; He blessed it and sanctified it. If kept, it is a tremendous blessing, a needed rest from the labor of life. It has been observed by the righteous throughout history and was very much a part of the life of our Lord, His disciples, and the early New Testament church.

Why wouldn't you want to keep it? Is it wrong to, as much as we are able, do as Christ has done? What better example has been set for us? This life is not easily overcome, but the reward is not small! Let us all strive to worship Him in truth and spirit and look forward to His return. As it says in Revelation 14:12, "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." □



# DIMMED BY HUMAN TEARS

by John Mitchell



WITNESSING the Memorial Day, 2017 celebrations held throughout America a sense of pride, honor, duty, and courage pervaded the mood of attendees. The nation showed its deepest respect and gratitude to each and every veteran who has worn the uniform of their respective branch of service, whether they served in times of peace or of war. It is right and wise to remember the great price so many have paid to preserve the historically unprecedented civil and religious freedoms we as Americans have the luxury to enjoy. The future of the United States depends in large amount on how well we collectively remember and cherish what liberty really means, and what freedom truly is.

As thunderous rounds of applause to the stirring sound of “America The Beautiful”, which was chosen to end many celebrations, faded into the evening air, the

words of that great song took on new meaning. As the verse says, our skies are still spacious and our fields still wave with amber grain. We still honor the heroes who died to keep the patriot dream alive. Those words of truth describe the magnificence that is America and those who made her great. And the truest words in the song are “God shed His

grace on thee”. For the Almighty God of heaven has blessed this nation as none before it.

However, in verse four there is a section that no longer is true, that has turned the purity of our cities to a dark stain. Our “alabaster cities” no longer “gleam undimmed by human tears”. No, today in America our cities have turned into places of horrible crime. Violence prevails, imported though our borders by gangs of soulless thugs such as MS13 and drug cartels, there is civil disobedience to the point of anarchy by *Black Lives Matter* while self-serving politicians rule those once gleaming alabaster cities of America.

“Make a chain, for the land is full of bloody crimes; and the city is full of violence.” Words spoken by the prophet Ezekiel in his chapter 7, verse 23 just prior to the fall of Jerusalem in 585 BC ring as true in 2017 AD. They portray that



ancient city's lawless and rebellious state prior to its fall for rejecting God and His way of life.

The definition of a chain is a series of objects, people or events which are connected to one another according to Your Dictionary.com. And how well that describes the series of objects, people and events that have turned far too many of our once gleaming alabaster cities into defaced, scarred, and dull monuments compliments of an ever growing rebellious, lawless society.

Within the very shadows of the mighty, newly refinished dome of the capitol of the Congress of the United States lie the neighborhoods of Washington Highlands/Bellevue. Noted as one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in Washington, D.C., there is a 1 in 17 chance of being a victim of a violent crime. Many of its buildings are covered with graffiti. There have been 77 shootings and 55 assaults so far this year, with one of the fatal shootings occurring



a few steps from an elementary school. Washington, D.C. has the beauty of its polished marble halls of government but its poor neighborhoods are a dark stain filled with the tears of the citizens of those neighborhoods.

Connecting the chain of bloody crimes that cross our nation, let us link with Baltimore, Maryland. For the first time in nearly 20 years, the city of Baltimore has experienced more than 100 murders before the end of April. After five people were killed last weekend, the total number of homicides in 2017

ticked up to 108, according to the *Baltimore Sun*. The last time the city experienced more murders by this point was 1993. Since the population was greater in 1993, this year marks the city's highest murder rate per capita ever, according to the *Baltimore Sun*. The murder rate in the city is up more than 30 percent compared to last year. Violent crime, shootings and robberies have also gone up by double-digit percentages from last year. At last week's news briefing, Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh explained how she went to the FBI's Baltimore office to meet with the special agent in charge and requested assistance in bringing down the murder rate in the city. "Murder is out of control," Pugh said at her weekly news briefing Wednesday, according to CNN. "There are too many guns on the streets. We're looking for all the help we can get."

Travel westward and come to the city of Chicago, Illinois. The "windy city" as it is called certainly has the chilling winds of major crime which connect it to our bloody chain. Shootings over the 2017 Memorial Day weekend



**Shootout between police and armed gunman in Chicago, 2016.**



left 7 people dead and another 45 wounded, a drop from last year, though almost half of this year's victims were shot the last night of the weekend. The violence was similar to three of the last five Memorial Day weekends: 53 gunshot victims in 2012 and 58 in 2015. A total of 34 people were shot in 2014, and 21 were shot in 2013. Last year's total was 71 and was the worst since at least 2012. It came during a year that saw almost 800 homicides and more than 4,000 people shot. The most violent day of the weekend this year was Memorial Day, with 24 people shot, five of them fatally, including a 20-year-old disabled man at a park he visited every day. Once again, within a few blocks of the city's gleaming towers of commerce neighborhood buildings are awash in graffiti and the people fill the streets with their tears while the city leaders turn a blind eye. They are protected by armed bodyguards with weapons at the ready.

Let us stretch our chain to the County and "City of Angels", Los Angeles, California. A man who authorities say fatally shot another man in front of a 6-year-old boy in Long Beach was charged with murder May 22, according to the Los Angeles County district attorney's office. A Compton man was charged May 26 in the shooting death of a woman in late April at a Long Beach motel, according to the Los Angeles County district attorney's office. More than two years after the fatal assault of a homeless man in downtown Los



Angeles and nine months after his accomplice pleaded no contest in the transient's beating death, a second man has been sentenced in the attack. A 17-year-old black male, died Thursday, May 25, after being shot in Westmont, according to Los Angeles County coroner's records. A 54-year-old black male, died Wednesday, May 24, after being shot in Westmont, according to Los Angeles County coroner's records. A 24-year-old Latino male, died Wednesday, May 24, after being shot in Pomona, according to Los Angeles County coroner's records. A 17-year-old Latino male, died Tuesday, May 23, after being shot in Florence, according to Los Angeles County coroner's records. Across the breadth and width of Los Angeles County violence permeates the landscape. The soulless thugs of MS 13 lead the way in murder, rape, and mayhem. Graffiti abounds on buildings, tunnels, freeway overpasses, and walls; much of it excused by the authorities as "art." All this is within view of the three

tiered, whitewashed, seismically stabilized landmark of City Hall, the symbol of the power structure at work in the "City of Angels". If angels can cry, then their tears must be exceedingly abundant as they join the tears of its inhabitants who have to reap the curse of human government.

Circling the nation with our "chain" of bloody crimes and cities full of violence let us connect one more link. Houston, Texas hums with an energy and independent spirit all its own. A leading cultural and culinary destination in the South, the city is home to over 11,000 restaurants featuring cuisine from more than 70 countries. The thriving arts scene includes resident opera, ballet, symphony and theater companies. The Museum District houses 19 museums all within walking distance. Houston is home to the Space Center Houston, where you can visit NASA's Historic Mission Control at the Johnson Space Center. But go beyond the glitter and the Chamber of Commerce hype and you find

a city mired in bloody crime and violent sprees that again fulfill the ancient prophet's utterances. Starting with the fatal shooting of a Subway sandwich shop worker on Feb. 22, five people died and two police officers were wounded in violent confrontations in a week's time. Javier Flores, 18, died when he tried to protect his mother during a robbery at the southeast Houston sandwich shop where they both worked. De'Maree Adkins, 8, was killed early Saturday, Feb. 25 in a random shooting after she and her mother collided with a speeding car. A suspect has been arrested in her death. Oscar Reyes was gunned down in front of his pregnant wife a day later, and Jessica Lynn Mills, 29, was shot in front of her two young children by car-jackers Monday night, Feb. 27. The sixth-most dangerous neighborhood in America is Sunnyside, a historically black community located off Texas 288 south of downtown Houston. The violent crime rate (per 1,000) is reported as 91.27, and residents have a 1 in 11 chance of becoming a victim of crime in one year. The soulless, mindless, and violent

Houston gang known as the 52 Hoover Crips are a subset gang of the Crips, one of the United State's largest criminal gangs. The Crips were founded in Los Angeles, California in the late 1960s. The heart of a city is in the heart of its people and the people

Oklahoma as well as every city and town in America spill from the broken hearts of people brutalized by others who have no regard for human life or suffering.

Until the root cause of bloody crime and violence is changed nothing will improve. It will

**Until the root cause of bloody crime and violence is changed nothing will improve; things will only accelerate until anarchy is the order of the day.**

of Houston lament and cry for their dead. Once again, many of the walls, bridges, tunnels, and buildings of the city's infrastructure are defaced with graffiti, the city leaders excusing it as "art."

To make a chain regarding the crime and violence of the above cities might seem to be biased or slanted in some way; far from it. The streets of Washington D.C., Baltimore, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Houston are but a reflection of the bloody crime and violence that permeates throughout America. The tears from the streets of Boise Idaho, Midland Texas, Sacramento California, Miami Florida, and Muskogee

only accelerate until anarchy is the order of the day. If that time comes, and it does not seem too far away, America will not be that "shining city on a hill" but a country in tatters and ruins with its streets awash not only in blood but in tears. Believe it or not the only hope for America's shining alabaster cities and its citizens to live in true peace and prosperity, for the entire world to live in peace and prosperity is for human nature to change. Change from the ways of vanity, jealousy, lust, and greed to the ways of love, peace, and joy found in obedience to the laws of God. That day will come, and soon! ☐

# THE SHOCKING TRUTH

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## Madman With Nukes

*Continued from page 2*

his rule against the possibility that there would be a blood-line successor to take his place in the event of his death or removal, and that officials in China favored his half-brother, Kim Jong-nam as a potential replacement.

But it's not the first time Kim Jong-un had people executed who were perceived as a threat to his position. He had his uncle and close advisor to his father, Jang Song-thaek, arrested on live North Korean television during a politburo meeting. The arrest was carried out by Kim Jong-un's devoutly loyal elder brother, Kim Jong-chul. Jang was subsequently accused of numerous treasonous acts and called "despicable human scum, no better than a dog..." in an official state-

ment.

It is reported by defectors that Jang was forced to watch as his aides were executed by firing squad made up of anti-aircraft guns. The result was so gruesome that Jang reportedly passed out. Maybe the (presumably 50 caliber) anti-aircraft guns are no worse a way to go than a regu-

lar firing squad for those being up and killed. A South Korean news agency reported that Jang's nephew, O Sang-hon "was executed by being burnt alive using a flame-thrower." Another report has one of Kim Jong-un's perceived enemies being made to stand on a spot targeted by distant mortars so that no trace of him would remain.

**But it's not the first time Kim Jong-un had people executed who were perceived as a threat to his position.**

lar firing squad for those being killed, but it must be awful for the spectators. Later, Jang himself was executed by the same method as were aides and officials thought loyal to him. Numerous members of his extended family were reportedly rounded

When Senator John McCain recently referred to the diminutive dictator as "this crazy fat kid who's running North Korea," the regime responded by saying it came close to a declaration of war by the United States, because it "dared hurt the dignity of the supreme leader" and was therefore an attack on their entire national ideology and social system.

Despite the fact that an "armistice" agreement was signed by an American General representing the United Nations Command and a North Korean General representing the Korean People's Army and the Chinese People's Volunteer Army, no peace agreement was ever achieved. The recent history of Korea is incredibly convoluted, and the Korean War in fact was a loose end left unresolved at the end of WWII. Japan had ruled Korea from 1910 until the end of WWII when the Russians moved into Korea immediately after the



**Left to right: Uncle and leading figure in the government of North Korea, Jang Song-thaek and half-brother, Kim Jong-nam, two in a long list of people executed or assassinated by Kim Jong-un.**



United States dropped the nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The short version is that U.S. forces moved into South Korea to counter Soviet forces north of the 38th parallel, and Korea was divided into North and South as a product of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. Both North and South Korean governments considered themselves sovereign over the whole of Korea.

The Korean War was touched off when North Korean forces invaded the south on June 25, 1950 with support from both the Soviet Union and China. The UN regarded the action as an illegal invasion eventually bringing twenty other nations into the fray, with the United States bearing the vast majority of the military burden. Kim Il-sung, grandfather of the “crazy fat kid,” instigated the invasion of South Korea with the permission and cooperation of Stalin and Chairman Mao, with

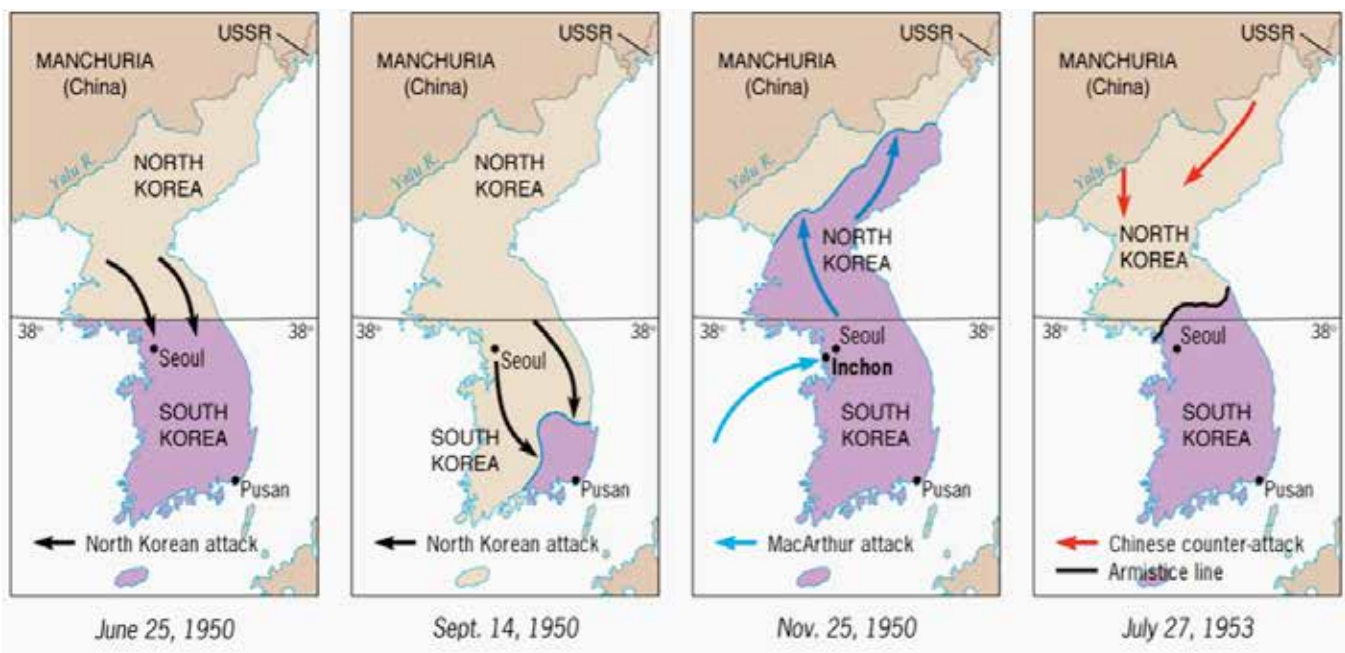
the goal of uniting both North and South under his rule. President Truman wrote that North Korean communism had behaved in the fashion of Hitler and Mussolini, and that intervention was necessary to prevent its spread.

Neither South Korea nor the United States were prepared for the invasion, and South Korea was very nearly conquered by communist forces which succeeded in capturing Seoul. General Douglas MacArthur brought in assets from U. S. garrisons in Japan and began strategic attacks to eventually drive back the invasion. MacArthur not only battled the communists, but the Pentagon and civilian leadership who worried that a wider war with the Soviets or China would result. After MacArthur liberated Seoul and handed it back over to South Korean rule, which had been accomplished by September of 1950, he received a secret message from Secretary of Defense George

Marshall saying, “We want you to feel unhampered tactically and strategically to proceed north of the 38th parallel.”

By October 19th, 1950 ROK (Republic of Korea) forces backed by the UN Command (largely made of U. S. forces and led by MacArthur) had captured the North Korean capital of Pyongyang and were trying to cut off the communist KPA (Korean People's Army) forces from escaping into China. MacArthur wanted to extend the war all the way into China to destroy the depots that were supplying the North's war effort. A famous meeting between President Truman and General MacArthur took place on Wake Island to discuss the progress of the Korean War. MacArthur was confident that the Chinese would not get further involved.

But within days, the Chinese (PVA) launched a counter-offensive across China's border with



North Korea routing the ROK (South Korean forces) and U. S. forces prompting an evacuation. The Chinese forces fought all the way to Seoul again, but they outran their supply line, and a reinvigorated U. S. Eighth Army pushed them back to the environs of the 38th parallel where fighting “stabilized.” There were still many bloody battles, some of which are well known, but none resulted in significant territorial gains for either side.

For two years intermittent negotiations for an armistice went on while bombing runs and clashes continued. Ultimately, in July of 1953 the UN accepted an armistice proposal intro-

duced by India which established a demilitarized zone along the 38th parallel and made arrangements for the exchange of prisoners of war and the dead. It was signed by the UN, which for all practical purposes had been represented by the U. S. military, and the Chinese (PVA) and North Korean (KPA) armies. The armistice provided for continued talks to ultimately result in a peace treaty. That never happened.

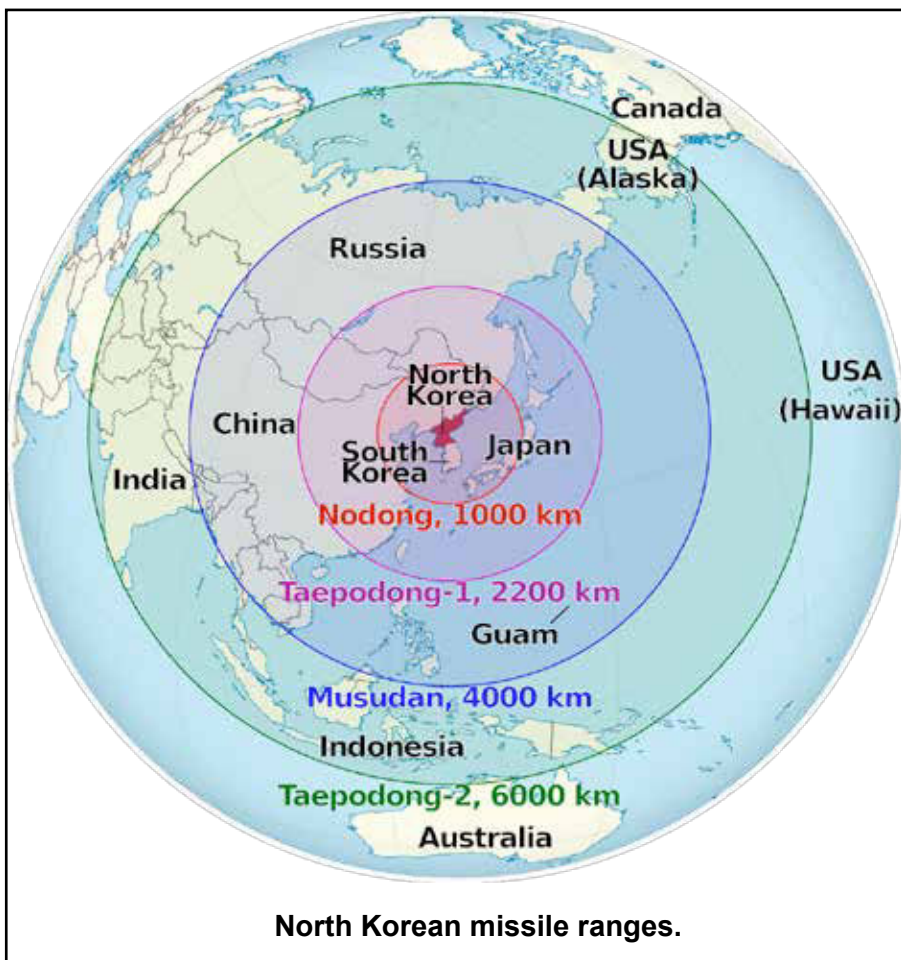
This abrogated and sanitized version of events is not meant to downplay the horrors or the sacrifices made in the Korean War. Official statistics from the U. S. Dept. of Defense show that there were 33,686 lives lost in battle and

2,830 non-battle deaths. South Korea reported 373,599 civilians killed and 137,899 military. The Chinese army is estimated to have lost some 400,000 soldiers with another 486,000 wounded, and the North Korean forces (KPA) lost 215,000 in battle with another 303,000 wounded.

The Chinese and North Koreans estimated American losses much, much higher (over 600,000) and also claimed to have won the war, a claim they make to this day. Nearly every major building in northern Korea was destroyed, and every city and town largely reduced to rubble. Concern that the Soviets or Chinese were committing substantially more assets into Korea led the United States to prepare for the use of nuclear weapons. Several were deployed, armed and ready except for the nuclear core.

But the prospect of an all out war between the U. S. and China led to fears that Russia would take the opportunity to try to conquer all of western Europe, and that was one of the reasons that atomic bombs were not employed.

Now you probably know way more than you ever wanted to about the Korean War, and we barely scratched the surface. But it was Kim Jong-un's Grandfather, Kim Il-sung, who was the principal in alliances with communists Stalin and Mao who originally sought to rule over the entire Korean peninsula following its occupation by Japan. The situation is somewhat different now, with Japan no longer a threat.





**The "Victorious War Museum" in Pyong-yang.**

But Kim Jong-un, defectors say, has North Koreans in a constant siege mentality, worried that the civilian population is under threat of attack by the United States.

He's also convinced the population that North Korea has the strongest military on earth, and that it can obliterate the U. S. if hostilities should break out. As mentioned at the beginning of this article, after several short-range North Korean missiles blew up shortly after they were launched, a successful medium-range missile flew some 430 miles successfully. Since then there have been at least three more successful tests, with one missile landing inside Japanese territorial waters. That incident led Japan to lodge protests with the UN.

Now the world wonders just what capabilities Kim Jong-un may actually have. We know that North Korea has conducted successful nuclear tests, but no one seems sure how close he is

to being able to arm the longer range missiles that might be able to reach parts of the United States. We do know that the U. S. is testing the ability to destroy incoming missiles at high altitude, and those tests are described as attempts to counter North Korea. But little Kim is keeping up the provocations, including

verbally. He recently promised the United States "a bigger gift package," whatever that entails.

We know of the events which comprise the Biblical scenario of the end time, and it doesn't seem as if North Korea factors in. But as this story and many others show, there can be enormous wars and loss of life for which there are no prophecies. We cannot be complacent in the knowledge that the major players in the Biblical scenario have not yet aligned. North Korea is a credible threat to millions in South Korea as well as Japan. But Kim Jong-un seems obsessed with posing a threat to the United States as his propaganda films show the White House or an American city going up in flames as a result of a North Korean strike. We must hope that U. S. military planners have a handle on the actual capabilities of the diminutive mad man, and pray to God that our homeland will be protected. □



**North Koreans bow before statues of Kim Il-Sung and Kim Jong-Il.**



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"REPENT, FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND!"

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