

TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

# WATCH

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## COMMENTARY

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# Everybody's Taking a Knee

*Well, not everybody. Just the NFL, the NBA, the MLB, the PGA...*

What are they doing? Do none of them realize that their very existence as national sport franchises means that a great deal of their audience, their market share, consists of people who are proud Americans? Have they been convinced that most of us are “woke” socialists trying to usher in a wave of communism where freedom used to ring? Here’s the news: America likes its freedom—even more than professional sports!

Roger Goodell, commissioner of the NFL, says he only wishes they’d all listened to Colin Kaepernick sooner. Yes, the NFL is collectively taking a knee. Maybe he and his accomplished business associates figure, like the NBA, that their future is in China. Or maybe he’s hoping one of his teams’ stadiums won’t turn into the Roman Colosseum... Or be burned to the ground. He should note that these people aren’t impressed by any of his concessions, and in their rage might well make use of his NFL to get in our faces. Goodell has surrendered in the name of “social justice.” We’ll see how that works out for his league. The photo of Jerry Jones kneeling with his Dallas Cowboys pretty well does it. They’re not “America’s Team” any more. The only redeeming factor in this mass capitulation is the fact that, regardless of their stance on “social justice,” still no team has signed Kaepernick.

Scheduled NBA playoff games were...rescheduled. The big names needed to take a little time off to “focus on social justice issues.” What they actually did was go meet with Barack Obama. He helped them contrive the demands they would make before agreeing to go forward with basketball. They’ll be on one knee during the National Anthem, and their very own “anthem” will be played before every game. Players will be allowed to emblazon the name of a dead felon on their jerseys or head-bands, to remind viewers every few seconds that they must take a stand against police brutality and “systemic racism.” You won’t be seeing any MAGA symbolism. That is prohibited, as is anything that might hurt the feelings of the America-hating socialists. The NBA campaign would undoubtedly save a lot of unnecessary nonsense if they gave a little free advice to their fans; Don’t curse out or otherwise lip-off the cops. It’ll go smoother that way.

Major League Baseball has taken tremendous criticism for having been “slow to respond.” At first it seemed like the league might just try to let things cool off and blow over. But then individual players began to “speak out,” taking matters into their own hands as the *Daily Caller* put it. Dozens of players began releasing statements, or slogans, mostly chanting, “black lives matter” (who said they didn’t?). Then there was some discussion of the “racial disparities” in the front office and elsewhere in management. Not only that, but then came the discovery that a substantial percentage of players are “people of color” who must of course have their political views represented by the league. So Major League Baseball fixed it. They’ll be donating millions of dollars to entities that funnel money to Black Lives Matter, inc. Wonder if they ever considered where all that money comes from.

Golf has been the one sport we thought we could watch without having our patriotism condemned. Some caddies are wearing masks, but at least the golfers aren’t. Everything was going great at the FedEx club playoffs at East Lake Country Club near Atlanta. It was the final round on Labor Day, with Dustin Johnson protecting a four or five shot lead. Other players were playing brilliantly too, and it was a great day even without the presence of cheering fans. That’s when coverage paused for an interview with the Coca Cola spokesman. Coca Cola was a primary sponsor of the event. His interview stressed the need for “social justice,” and generally “making this a better place.” Oh, whatever! Is even golf not immune from this rush to insanity? I’m still watching for now, but they’d better cool it.

**2** *COMMENTARY:*  
**Everybody's Taking a Knee**  
*Mark Armstrong*

**4** *GTA:* **Can Evil Be Good?**

**14** *BIBLE STUDY:*  
**Victory in Spiritual Warfare**  
*Dr. James & Natalie Ricks*

**20** *WORLD NEWS BRIEF:*  
**In Case You Missed It**

**34** *BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE:*  
**Lesson 5 - Kingdom of God**

**11** **Stockholm Syndrome 2020**  
*Mark Armstrong*

**13** **“Massive Scandal”– EU  
pays Muslim Brotherhood to  
“Subjugate Europe”**  
*Jim Hoft, Gateway Pundit*

**19** **Atheist to Report Bible, Sermons  
for Hate Speech in Scotland**  
*World Net Daily*

**22** **The Lockdwon has Gone  
From a Mistake to a Crime**  
*Dennis Prager*

**24** **Racism, Evolution, and the Status  
Quo or One Big Family?**  
*Michael Armstrong*

**31** **The Links Between Black  
Lives Matter and Nicolas  
Maduro Finally Revealed**  
*PanAm Post*



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# CAN EVIL BE GOOD?

*by Garner Ted Armstrong*

“There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Proverbs 16:25).

Is it all just harmless “fun”? Or is there something sinister, evil, and even dangerous about it?

It’s all about wizardry, séances, potions, seers, necromancy, witchcraft, and all elements of the so-called “black arts.” And, chances are, your children love it!

The vast majority of nominal, Christ-professing, church-going “Christians” eagerly lap up such tripe, like so many hogs at a slop trough.

Halloween is utterly pagan; the most important day of the year to Satanists and those who indulge in witchcraft. “Moms Online” argues from the accepted point of view that all such holidays and associated practices are perfectly normal, and perhaps even “Christian,” and that Halloween without candy for kids would be like the second grade without Harry Potter.

A teacher’s letter said: “... Recently I have been asked to

STOP reading Harry Potter to one of the second grade classes at my son’s school... As most of you know, I have been reading stories to your child’s class since the beginning of the school year. This is an exercise that I consider a privilege and an honor. I believe that reading stories out loud to a child helps to promote their creativity and sense of imagination. These are very important, yet undervalued, skills they will need throughout their lives. It is a persons’ imagination and sense of creativity that enable them (sic) to solve problems and create new ideas in all occupations, from parenthood to professional fields such as medicine, construction, and leadership. In addition to creativity and imagination, reading out loud helps to teach children grammar skills, vocabulary, and writing skills (the use of similies and imagery, etc.).

“The book I have been reading to your child’s class is Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone, by J. K. Rowling. Rowling is a British author with a talent for writing and a fertile imagination. As many of you know, this book

has recently been challenged in the state of South Carolina and has been much in the news the past few weeks. Coincidentally, with the intense media coverage, I have been asked to stop reading this book, due to protests from several parents.

“I have chosen to honor this request with a little protest of my own. I understand the religious concerns that people often have regarding the material that their children are exposed to. However, I must admit to being faced with a new problem. I now find myself perusing my own home library for books that I read, not only to your child’s class but to children in the Montessori school (three-year-olds), Kindergarten, and First Grade classes. My newest dilemma is in choosing a new ‘appropriate’ book.

“My understanding is that the objection to Harry Potter generally comes from its focus on magic, sorcery, and fantastical creatures (goblins, unicorns, etc.). Some parents may be concerned from a religious standpoint; others may be afraid that it is too frightening a tale. This is a story

of your standard good vs. evil (with good triumphing, as usual). There are undesirable characters who are portrayed in an exaggerated manner so that the reader will instantly dislike them. These characters have qualities about them that even children recognize as rude, mean, or intolerant. There are evil characters who commit evil deeds, and there are benevolent characters who seek to overcome evil. These are struggles that occur in our everyday life, and by reading and hearing stories about such struggles, I believe that our children will become more empowered to challenge that which is wrong or evil in the name of that which is right, or good. I also chose this particular tale because it seems to have a magical quality of its own in interesting children in reading.

“On the attached page, I have listed some books that I have read to children of all ages, or that I have considered reading. You will surely recognize many of the titles as ‘classics,’ and have possibly seen their corresponding movies. I have chosen these from my own library as samples of books and stories that also have magic at their core. At this point, I feel a little confused as to where the line is drawn and where the fantasy and magic is considered ‘okay’ and where it is considered inappropriate. I recognize that it is possible that some parents may be concerned that ‘Harry Potter’ is a bit ‘dark’ and are more concerned with the age issue than a religious one...”

A PARTIAL LIST OF HER

BOOKS:

- A Wrinkle in Time
- Aladdin
- American Folk Tales (Paul Bunyan, etc.)
- Any Santa Claus Stories
- Babuska’s Doll
- Cinderella
- Goosebumps
- Peter Pan
- Hansel And Gretel
- Jack and the Beanstalk
- Snow White
- The Magic School Bus
- The Wizard of Oz
- The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe and many others...

tales can indeed be “Grimm.”

But it’s all just so much innocent “tradition” isn’t it? Do not millions of parents treasure their memories of childhood fables and fantasies; of Jack who killed the giant and stole his treasure; of Little Red Riding Hood’s grandmother, who was gulped down in a bite?

Question: Does any Christian professing person honestly believe Mary and Joseph taught Jesus Christ all the “fairy tales” and myths common to their time? Did Jesus Christ spend one moment of His time in fantasy, sor-

*“Taking Harry Potter out of the classroom is like taking candy from Halloween, or taking Santa Claus out of Christmas.”*

The young teacher misses the point entirely. By lining up all the mystical, mythical, imaginary “fairy tales” of her own childhood — and a very recognizable list it is — she indulges in the sophistry of saying, in essence, “let’s not throw out the baby with the bath water,” or “taking Harry Potter out of the classroom is like taking candy from Halloween, or taking Santa Claus out of Christmas.”

Very persuasive arguments indeed to those who believe children should be brought up with the traditional fairy tales of witchcraft, magic, cannibalism, dismemberment, wizardry, necromancy, talking animals and boiling wolves. Hansel and Gretel boil and eat the witch. The “big bad wolf” eats grandma and then takes her place in bed. The fairy

cery, witchcraft, necromancy, or wild imagination?

Do not blaspheme the name of Christ by assuming He did. Jesus Christ was also a little boy of eight years of age once; the age of a second grader in our modern school systems.

Only four years later, when He was the age of our average 6th graders, notice what He did: “And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him.

“Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover.

“And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

“And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in

Jerusalem; and Joseph and His mother knew not of it.

“But they, supposing Him to have been in the company, went a day’s journey; and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

“And when they found Him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking Him.

“And it came to pass, that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

“And all that heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.

“And when they saw Him, they were amazed: and His mother said unto Him, ‘Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.’

“And He said unto them, ‘How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about My Father’s business?’

“And they understood not the saying which He spake unto them.

“And He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but His mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:40-52).

There is much to be read between the lines. Obviously, Jesus was a boy of great character; a young lad upon whom His parents could rely. That they did not even look for Him until having traveled a full day’s journey

shows they trusted His self-reliance completely. Further, it is a comment on the society of the time. Parents today would be immediately concerned; would ensure their 12-year old boy was right there with them, under their own observation, before leaving on an arduous trip. Modern parents would have been worried about child molesters and kid-nappers.

Their lack of concern for an entire day proves there were no such fears; that they lived in a comparatively crime-free society. Could that be because the penalty was death for so many capital infractions?

Christ’s actions also prove that, even from the age of twelve, He was a sober, intelligent, thoughtful, observant young lad — one gifted with knowledge and wisdom beyond His years. Yet, He had to gradually LEARN through study and experience. He did not yet possess the degree of knowledge as a boy of twelve that He would as a man of twenty.

Jesus Christ was imbued with the Spirit of God from birth; even from the womb. He was perfect as a baby; perfect as a young lad; perfect as a man. Yet, He had to gradually LEARN as He grew. Notice, “Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered;

“And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him” (Hebrews 5:8, 9). Jesus Christ was perfect as a boy, but when a boy, He was not yet a man. He was perfect at age six, but did not yet know all He

would know by age 10.

Can boys and girls of twelve sit with theologians, philosophers, doctors and scientists, asking them piercing, cogent questions, and giving wise and intelligent answers?

Children whose minds are chock full of garbage spew forth garbage. Children whose minds have been allowed to absorb countless hours of idiocy on television (witness the “Saturday morning children’s shows”) are usually incapable of rational thought or action. Many will still be making idiotic noises, fantasizing, “playing” in a child’s dream world of wild imagination, even up into the middle elementary grades.

But Jesus Christ would have been a SIXTH GRADER when He challenged the doctors in the Temple!

In the Hebrew society of His day, a lad of twelve was received into society as an “adult” by his elders and his peers. What a contrast between those today who waste their time reading trash such as comic books, playing bloody, violent, weird and demonic video games, and watching thousands of hours of explosions, shootings, mass death and unrelenting violence on television.

Long ago, it was determined that the average child will have watched more hours of television by the time he or she toddles off to the first grade than the child will spend sitting in a classroom in formal education. Many studies indicate that children watch up to five hours of television per day! Throw in the “Saturday

morning kiddie shows” and the Sunday TV hours, and you have a formula for a wasted life.

Look around our society, at the casualness with which sorcery, witchcraft, Satanism, soothsaying, and fortune telling are accepted.

Look in your local newspaper near or on the “funnies” page. There, you will likely find the daily “Astrology” section, where you can look up your “horoscope” in the section with your “sign” in it. This will allegedly tell you which actions are propitious for that day. The word “horoscope” comes from two Greek words which mean “time watch.” In other words, an “observer of times.”

Somewhere in your town or city or one nearby you might see a hand-painted billboard outside an old house with a picture of a human palm on it. The sign might read “Fortunes told,” or “Palmistry,” or “Madame LaZonga tells your future.” Most circuses and carnivals feature such “fortune tellers” or “soothsayers.” Have you noticed the TV ads, usually in connection with fake wrestling or boxing, which present women who claim that if you call them (for an expensive telephone charge) they will tell your “fortune?”

Tarot cards, crystal balls, magicians, haunted houses and Halloween — our nations are saturated with commonly accepted accouterments of the black arts. All of this is taken for granted. And because it is, we should be horribly afraid of the consequences to befall us!

God commands His

people, “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live” (Exodus 22:18). Whether we want to believe it or not, God Almighty says society should impose the DEATH penalty for anyone practicing witchcraft! God instructed Moses to say to Israel, “When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.

“There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times [horoscopes, or an enchanter, or a witch],

“Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer [one who claims to communicate with the dead].

“For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God

doth drive them out from before thee.

“Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

“For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so to do” (Deuteronomy 18:14).

Notice what Samuel told Saul after Saul had disobeyed God in leaving the pagan king Agag alive, and saving alive the best of his sheep and cattle: “And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, He hath also rejected thee from



**Common in most cities, psychics claim to use various mediums —cards, crystals, spirits, etc.— to gain hidden personal insights.**

*Continued next page*

being king” (1 Sam. 15:22-23).

Suppose the parents were to return home from dinner, and discover that the babysitter and their children were sitting in a darkened room, with only candles burning; a bleached skull in the middle of their circle on the floor, muttering incantations, as a strange-smelling incense filled the house? Would the parents be shocked, outraged? Of course!

***“Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God”***

But when their children REBEL against them, sass them, talk back, say “no” to parental suggestions or commands, the parents are not shocked at all. After all, they have been told by the child psychologists, “It is NORMAL” for a two-year-old to shout “NO!” at his parents!

One of the great sins of our peoples is the sin of abandoning our children to television, peers, schools, and society — failing to rear them according to the laws of God! It is because of this that God says, “As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths” (Isaiah 3:12).

Contrast the example of Jesus Christ as a boy of twelve with that of another boy of twelve, King Manasseh of Judah: “Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem:

“But did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, like unto the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.

“For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down, and he reared up altars for Baalim, and made groves, and worshipped all the host of heaven [such as the “signs of the Zodiac”], and served them.

“Also he built altars in the house of the LORD, whereof the LORD had said, in Jerusalem shall my name be for ever.

“And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD.

“And he caused his children to pass through the fire in the valley of the son of Hinnom: also he observed times, and used enchantments, and used witchcraft, and dealt with a familiar spirit, and with wizards: he wrought much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger” (2 Chronicles 33:1-6). Manasseh’s sins ultimately caused the captivity of his people, and his own captivity. He bitterly repented, and was allowed to return to Jerusalem.

#### **HUMAN NATURE TENDS TO EVIL**

Human nature is a collection of vanity, jealousy, lust and greed. It is entirely concerned with SELF. It is selfish, conceited, egocentric, grasping, cunning, and consists of three major agen-

das: (1) Self preservation; (2) Self determination; (3) Self perpetuation.

God shows that the human “...heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” He answers, “I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings” (Jeremiah 17:9-10).

Paul wrote of the human heart; human nature: “For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

“For to be carnally [fleshly; physically; bereft of the Holy Spirit] minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

“Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

“So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his” (Romans 8:5-9). The only way one can receive the Spirit of Christ is by REPENTANCE of sin, water baptism, and the receiving of God’s Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands of the ministry (Acts 2:38).

Human nature expresses itself in satisfying the lusts of the flesh; fulfilling inordinate human, physical appetites. Paul wrote, “Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adul-



tery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

“Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

“Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God” (Galatians 5:19-21).

God sent His prophets to warn our forefathers repeatedly to repent of their dabbling in sorcery and witchcraft! The prophet Micah, writing of eventual vengeance against those who would destroy our peoples, said, “And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.

“Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off.

“And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots:

“And I will cut off the cities of thy land, and throw down all thy strong holds:

“And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers:

“Thy graven images also will I cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

“And I will pluck up thy

groves out of the midst of thee: so will I destroy thy cities.

“And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard” (Micah 5:8-15).

Millions of professing, church-going nominal Christians believe God’s LAWS are “done away!” This is a lie. There is a massive amount of evidence in your Bible that God NEVER abrogated His law; that the Jesus Christ of the New Testament IS THE GOD of the Old; that the One who became Christ is the member of Divine Elohim who wrote the Ten Commandments WITH HIS OWN FINGER!

If you have not read my book about “The Ten Commandments” or “Was The Law In Force BEFORE Sinai?” look them up on our web site, or call (903) 561-7070 for your free copies.

God commands us, “Ye shall keep my Sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the LORD.

“Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I am the LORD your God” (Leviticus 19:30, 31).

God warns us, “And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

“A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: – their blood shall be

upon them” (Leviticus 20:6, 27).

Yet millions of Britons, Canadians, Australians, New Zealanders, South Africans and Americans consider sorcery, witchcraft, soothsaying, and delving into the “black magic” of demonism as merely harmless “fun.” It is about the same kind of “fun” as discovering your children playing with lighted matches in front of a hissing gas jet!

Here is God’s view from heaven:

“And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye defiled My land, and made Mine heritage an abomination.

“The priests said not, Where is the LORD? and they that handle the law knew Me not [those in the FOREFRONT of preaching AGAINST God’s Ten Commandments are the ministers of the mainstream churches!]: the pastors also transgressed against Me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit.

“Wherefore I will yet plead with you, saith the LORD, and with your children’s children will I plead.

“For pass over the isles of Chittim [Cyprus], and see; and send unto Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if there be such a thing.

“Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but My people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit [The Buddhists have not abandoned Buddha. The Hindus have never changed their religion.

*Continued next page*

The Muslims have not abandoned Muhammad – but God’s people have abandoned the true God!]

“Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate, saith the LORD.

“For My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken Me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water” (Jeremiah 2:7-13).

It is the parents who shall bear the responsibility.

Be wise! Get wisdom! God inspired Solomon to write, “Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:

“She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying,

“How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorners delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

“Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my

words unto you.

“Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

“But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

“I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

“When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

“Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

“For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

“They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

“Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

“For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the

prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

“But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil” (Proverbs 1:20-33).

Today, IT IS AGAINST THE LAW for teachers to read the BIBLE to their students. Thus, if children are to learn about Creation; about Adam and Eve; about Noah and the Ark; about David and Goliath; about Daniel in the lion’s den, they will have to learn it at home, or perhaps in their church, for it is not allowed in school. The Bible is filled with truthful stories about good overcoming evil; about courage in the face of danger; about human nature being overcome with God’s help. But our teachers are banned from reading the Bible to their students.

It is foolish to allow your children to become enamored with sorcery and witchcraft! Do not reject God’s commands. Resist the vile temptations of Satan and his evil world. □

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Find Sabbath sermons from the **Intercontinental Church of God.** Updated each week with messages from a variety of inspiring speakers.



# STOCKHOLM SYNDROME

# 2020

by Mark Armstrong

We know that all analogies break down eventually, but this one goes quite a ways, and might have merit. Here goes. We've all been kidnapped. We've been treated to sensory deprivation. Maybe not blindfolded in a closet, but certainly detained inside for millions of Americans. The media has pushed a narrative day and night, and won't let up until we espouse their logic as if it's our own. We've not yet joined the narrative, which has a lot in common with the doctrines of the Symbionese Liberation Army.

Back in the 1970's, as the media saw the crime spree that stretched from San Francisco to Los Angeles, they were aghast that the philosophy espoused by these conscienceless criminals actually called for the overthrow of the nation. It was such an outlandish and ridiculous concept that NOT ONE media reporter made any attempt to plead theirs as a righteous cause. But times have changed. In fact none other than Jeffrey Toobin expressed astonishment that this militant little band of misfits actually believed that they could overthrow the United States and convince the public to join their cause. Nowadays he's on CNN most every night, astonished that we don't all recognize what a lying narcissist Trump is, and pushing the narrative that the United States is irredeemably racist.

Many of the reporters, having watched in chagrin as one coup attempt and then an impeachment charade against President Trump went up in smoke, are on the side of the criminals. They're not robbing banks or shooting up sporting goods outlets, but they are looting businesses by the thousands and burning locations they've dubbed "racist." Legions of "contributors," many of whom you've never heard of, line up to plead the case of systemic racism day and night on most information outlets. But they

are "experts" that we'd be crazy not to embrace. After all, they're a lot smarter than anyone who would disagree with their "experts." The anchors sneer at patriotic Americans, and mimic the "average" barely literate Trump supporter.

They're not ashamed to call the president a liar, and claim that the rest of us are products of a "systemically racist culture." Apparently people of all races are racist, particularly successful and articulate blacks that don't support the cause of revolution. It's not all that far off from the strain of "logic" we of a certain age remember all too well.

Patty Hearst was kidnapped from the upstairs apartment she shared with her boyfriend in a Berkley neighborhood. Purportedly knocked unconscious during the abduction, she claimed to have been blindfolded in a locked closet for weeks. She says she was given a flashlight as a way for her to read the printed propaganda and commit it to memory. Eventually she convinced her captors that she had converted to their philosophy and was commissioned as a "soldier" for their cause.

The Symbionese Liberation Army had its own religion of sorts, spelled out in a manifesto that you can go and read. It calls for a, "unity of all left-wing struggles: feminist, anti-racist, anti-capitalist" and demanded that all races and genders join together in a united front and live together peacefully. Homosexuality wasn't cool yet, so they left one out that's smack in the middle of the current version.

"Hearst claimed she was subjected to a series of ordeals while in SLA captivity that her mother would later describe as 'brainwashing'. The change in Hearst's politics has been attributed to Stockholm syndrome, a psychological response in which a hostage exhibits apparent loyalty to the abductor." It ap-

*Continued next page*

parently worked. Ms. Hearst publicly denounced her parents, accused her mother of all manner of hateful intentions, and CHANGED HER NAME to “Tania” which was the name of an associate of Che Guevara known as “Tania the Guerrilla.”

The radical group murdered the first black school superintendent in Oakland, Marcus Foster, accusing him of being a fascist for his participation in a plan to issue student ID. These revolutionary radicals thought they’d spark a race war that everybody would join. They hated the police and called them pigs. They apparently thought their movement would lead to the overthrow of the United States, destroy capitalism, cut off family ties and lead to an era where everyone would live together in peace and harmony.

The radical group even tried to win over at least a segment of the public by giving away free groceries, courtesy William Randolph Hearst. But that didn’t go so well. Socialism never does.

Now we’ve got antifa, BLM, radical youth movements whose names we’ve not committed to memory, along with the “gay” movement. None of them have a “spokesperson” issuing communiques, so there’s no leader to be hunted down. But the ideology of the violent insurrection of the early ‘70s is strikingly similar to that being preached on every mainstream network around the clock. The radicals don’t need to issue statements of explanation because the network anchors have that covered.

Many in the United States are experiencing a milder form of sensory deprivation than the kid-

napped heiress, but nevertheless are “locked down” and subjected to constant brainwashing by the vast majority of media outlets. They’re cut off from normal contact with friends and family. You read at the outset that all analogies break down eventually, and this one is no exception. But there are too many similarities to ignore, and the ideology of revolution is nearly identical. The radicals are apparently waiting for all of us to exhibit symptoms of Stockholm Syndrome and join the cause, which is almost identical to that espoused by Patty Hearst’s kidnappers. It worked on her. They claim to be protecting people from Covid, but it seems like we’ve been kidnapped and they’re trying to infect us all with Stockholm Syndrome.

Stockholm Syndrome comes from an incident in 1973 where bank robbers held hostages who came to feel an affinity for their captors, and refused to testify against them in court. There are four key components that characterize Stockholm Syndrome:

- A hostage’s development of positive feelings towards the captor
- No previous relationship between hostage and captor
- A refusal by hostages to cooperate with police forces and other government authorities
- A hostage’s belief in the humanity of the captor

Has it occurred to anybody that the radicals and news anchors may be waiting to see if we all don’t contract the syndrome?



**After being kidnapped, held in isolation, abused, and brainwashed, Patty Hearst began to identify herself as “Tania” and joined the “anti-racist, anti-capitalist” Symbionese Liberation Army.**

# “MASSIVE SCANDAL” EU pays Muslim Brotherhood €36.5 Million to “Subjugate Europe”

by Jim Hoft, Gateway Pundit

The European Union paid €36.5 million to groups with ties to the Muslim Brotherhood, and whose agenda involves the Islamization of Europe, the right-wing I&D Faction in the European Parliament revealed.

“Apparently, the EU has been funding front organizations with our tax Euros which have close ties to extremist, terror-related organizations like the Muslim Brotherhood,” said EU parliament budget committee member Joachim Kuhs (I&D). “This is a massive scandal, and must be stopped immediately.”

The figures were unearthed by I&D Vice-Chair Nicolas Bay by searching the EU Financial Transparency System for the years 2014-2019 for the major European Muslim Brotherhood fronts. In these five years, a total of €5,422,678 million went to the European Network against Racism, whose members include the “Forum of European Muslim Youth & Student Organizations” (FEMYSO). FEMYSO is a front organization of the Muslim Brotherhood, the German Bundestag Research Service wrote in 2015.

FEMYSO in turn acts as a lobbying organization in Brussels, protesting against the new EU commission 2019, calling it “not diverse” enough and therefore “far-right.” So the EU is paying a Muslim Brotherhood front group via another NGO to lobby itself and accuse EU Commissioner Ursula von der Leyen of having “adopted steps within the rhetoric and direction of those who vilify the full diversity of Europe” which “feed into nationalist and fascist agendas.”

FEMYSO member organizations include Muslim Brotherhood spinoffs like the “Jeunes Musulmans de France”, “Young Muslims UK” and the “Islamic Foundation” in UK, as well radical

Turkish NGO “Milli Görüs,” which German political police refer to as “a branch of the Muslim Brotherhood” that seeks to undermine the democratic constitution, and Muslim Youth in Germany (MJD), who have been under observation by German political police as a “danger to German democracy” for years. MJD organizes “regular appearances” by speakers with ties to the Muslim Brotherhood and serves as “recruitment reservoir and talent pool for this Muslim Brotherhood influenced version of political Islam,” as the Bundestag Research Service wrote.

According to the EU Financial Transparency System 2014-2019, €5,139,569 went to Islamic Relief, another Muslim Brotherhood front group. German officials have accused Islamic Relief Worldwide of “significant” connections to the underground Muslim Brotherhood. “A submission



**User assembled map of mosques in Germany derived from results found on Google Maps.**

*Continued on page 23*

**BIBLE STUDY***by Dr. James & Natalie Ricks*


# Victory in Spiritual Warfare

## BELIEVERS ARE IN A SERIOUS STRUGGLE

The Devil is not yet locked away in the bottomless pit of Revelation chapter 20. Believers are still in a struggle against evil spiritual forces in high places. We need to avail ourselves of all the tools necessary to overcome these influences and remain faithful. GOD IS STRONG and He wants us to be strong as well. Paul tells us how we can be victorious in this struggle. He also tells believers to take this battle seriously—it is his final piece of advice.

Ephesians 6:10-11, “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” (NKJV)

Christians are likened by the Apostle Paul to soldiers in warfare. A soldier needs the best possible equipment and weaponry to win in battle. This is more than a spiritual sounding metaphor. We need to be fully committed if we are going to win.

2 Timothy 2:3-4, “You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

“No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please Him who enlisted him as a soldier.”

One must not let worldly desires and popularity distract from our duty to Jesus Christ. None of us understands the tactics of the Devil as did Paul, but he explained to us the famous “Armor of God.” It is to our benefit to fully understand this protective

system. Always remember that God is stronger than Satan. Satan wants to quietly lure us away from God but this “armor” will keep us safe. There is a real Devil and he has this world deceived. Mankind does not want to believe in the supernatural, neither God nor Satan, just evolution. But how else can one explain so much evil in the world?

## DANGERS OF THE “WHISPERING ENCHANTER”

Satan is no myth. As Lucifer he was one of the three top angels with Michael and Gabriel. He led a failed rebellion against God which resulted in his removal from the heavenly host.

Luke 10:18, “And He said to them, I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.”

What did Eve see in the Garden of Eden? It was not, as is often depicted, a snake coiled around an apple tree. The Hebrew word *nachash*, translated as “snake,” could also mean “whispering enchanter.” Eve saw the archangel Lucifer (which means Light Bringer). He probably appeared impressive and smart and unlike other animals in the garden, could talk. Eve had no prior experience so she probably was not at all alarmed. These powerful angels have a human face.

Ezekiel 10:14, “Each one had four faces: the first face was the face of a cherub, the second face the face of a man, the third the face of a lion, and the fourth the face of an eagle.”

It is no surprise that Satan deceived Adam and

## BIBLE STUDY

Eve. Satan saw mankind in the Garden of Eden and jealously decided to destroy us. His goal is to deceive man into also rebelling against God. Before we can be born into the family of God, we also must withstand the wiles of the Devil. But unlike Adam and Eve we have God's spiritual help.

Satan is jealous that mankind is made in the **IMAGE OF GOD**. He recognized God's plan to elevate mankind in the Kingdom and Family of God. The Devil resents man's potential and is determined to cause us to abandon God's plan for our lives. He is very persuasive and heavily influences our society.

1 Corinthians 6:3-4, "Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?"

"If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed by the church to judge?"

Our society believes the adversary is ugly and goat-like with scary horns of evil. However Satan is clever enough to appear in this world as enlightened and good. A good looking, smooth tongued con man is the most dangerous. Such are the spiritually evil forces of this world.

2 Corinthians 11:13-15, "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ.

"And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

"Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works."

The history of mankind is full of the use of religion and government for deceptive purposes. High ranking evil forces have their fingers inside much of the sufferings of mankind.

Ephesians 6:12, "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."

Spiritual warfare is not against people, but against influences that we cannot see. The spiritual

world is a dimension that we cannot detect with our human senses.

### SPIRITUAL INFLUENCES ON THE GOVERNMENTS OF THIS WORLD

The prophet Daniel was praying for Israel while in captivity, and we learn, almost as an aside to that story, something profound about the control of our world by the spirit world. The angel dispatched from God to deliver this important prophecy to Daniel was delayed with a remarkable story!

Daniel 10:11-13, "And he said to me, 'O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.' While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling.

"Then he said to me, 'Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.

"But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia."

Daniel had been fasting for three weeks, waiting for an answer. His prayer was heard and an angel dispatched with the answer. However the angel was delayed from reaching Daniel by a powerful spiritual force. The spirit being who really ruled the Persian Empire was saying to the good angel, "This is my turf, stay out." We see as an aside in this story that high ranked, dark spiritual forces control many worldly nations. We learn one more item as well...

Daniel 10:20, "Then he said, 'Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come.'"

The succession of empires is also controlled by spirit forces in high places. The Greek Empire would follow the Persians in rulership of these same territories. When Paul tells believers that we wrestle not with men "but against principalities, against

## BIBLE STUDY

powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age” this has been true of all ages and is still true in our age. Tyre was the ancient mercantile master of the world and its king was not just a man but a spirit being that was the real power behind the man.

Ezekiel 28:1-16, “The word of the LORD came to me again, saying,

“Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, “Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Because your heart is lifted up...

“By your great wisdom in trade you have increased your riches, And your heart is lifted up because of your riches...

“You were in Eden, the garden of God...

“You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.

“You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you...

“Therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.”

The same revelation is given to us regarding the real power behind the king of Babylon.

Isaiah 14:4-14, “That you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon...

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!

“For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;

“I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.”

It seems clear that we can extrapolate from these examples that major nations or portions of the globe are influenced by evil spirit beings trying to weaken the nations and lead mankind away from the true God and into various types of decadence.

**REMAIN STRONG  
AND WIN THE BATTLE**

When Jesus said, “Forgive them for they know not what they are doing,” He knew that it was the evil spiritual influences that were most guilty at his execution. Stephen, the first deacon, in his dramatic martyrdom stated:

Acts 7:60, “Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not charge them with this sin.’ And when he had said this, he fell asleep.”

Stephen recognized that the people on their own would not have been so cruel. It is the hardened evil influence of demons in high places that is to blame.

### USING “SPIRITUAL ARMOR” TO WITHSTAND EVIL INFLUENCES

History reinforces the resurrection of Jesus overwhelmingly. It is the primary focus of our faith. Jesus ascended to the Father and rules at God’s right hand. Further, a true belief in a creator God is essential, and that is why evolution is Satan’s accomplice and poison of choice — to mislead this world. True science does not undermine belief in a creator, it *supports* it! Science has overwhelming evidence of the complexity of the single cell organism. Yet, they still want us to believe its very existence is a series of accidents. Wow!

Romans 1:18-20, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

“because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse...”

The world has no excuse for not believing in a creator God. Yet, they do not want to really believe in a God. Our belief will protect us like a shield from spiritual pressures.

Ephesians 6:16, “Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.”



## BIBLE STUDY

Hebrews 11:1, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

Faith is the rock-solid conviction that whatever God has promised He will perform; The belief that He is real and on our side even though we cannot see Him. Science also supports this truth. Our world is made of things we cannot see with the natural eye. Our world is made of atoms, and they now know that atoms are merely energy compacted in various complex forms. This explains the power of the A-bomb (the sudden release of compacted energy). Our world is made of unseen energy.

Our faith in the Bible can be strengthened by the reality of fulfilled prophecy as well. Daniel predicted many events, centuries before they happened, with unerring accuracy. Even the current efforts to unite Europe are fulfillment of Daniel’s prophecies from 2,500 years ago. He predicted that the kingdom would be half clay and half iron. Europe today is clearly divided between the strong nations and weak, clay nations.

We need to learn to live out our faith. If we believe in the Bible then we will keep the Seventh Day Sabbath. Our actions will reinforce our belief system and vice versa.

James 2:16-19, “And one of you says to them, ‘Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,’ but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

“Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

“But someone will say, ‘You have faith, and I have works.’ Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

“You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe — and tremble!”

We all need to learn to trust God. A believer should relax when enduring a trial and know that God is with us. Let’s show our faith by our behavior. When we do this we have a big, thick shield in place against Satan’s evil influences.

This piece of spiritual armor is related to faith. We should repent, be baptized and then trust that we are saved. We do not earn salvation and no one is worthy of it. It is the free gift of God provided by

the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Believe it! Know it! Act accordingly and this confidence will make us stronger Christians.

Ephesians 6:17, “And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;”

We must not get discouraged when we fall into sin, but repent as needed and do better, knowing that our salvation is sure. Satan works best in people who are depressed and discouraged.

Romans 8:15-16, “For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’

“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”

### WIELDING THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT

Spiritual winners must learn to use the only offensive weapon which is the Bible itself. All believers must work to become very knowledgeable with regard to the Bible. Our Bible knowledge should be increasing all the time.

2 Timothy 2:15-16, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

“But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness.”

Believers who are very knowledgeable with regard to the Bible are dangerous to the Devil’s schemes. They see the truth of unbalanced doctrinal fairy tales taken out of context. They are the strong ones. Viewing the program “Line Upon Line” will help us all become spiritually stronger. Use the program to sharpen our sword every weekend. We all must remember the advice that the Apostle Paul gave to one his evangelists.

2 Timothy 3:14-15, “But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

“and that from childhood you have known the

*Continued next page*

Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

## FULFILLING OUR MISSION TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL

Satan needs to prevent the spread of the gospel message. During ancient battles, messages of victory or defeat were often carried by a messenger who was a swift runner. It was a happy moment to see the feet of one delivering a positive message of victory and thereby peace on your terms.

Ephesians 6:15, “And having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;”

One of Satan’s devices is to obscure the truth. He wishes to stop the work of God in spreading the gospel of peace. Before His ascension to Heaven, Jesus commissioned His church to preach the gospel to all the world.

Luke 24:47-48, “And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

“And you are witnesses of these things.”

Matthew 28:18-20, “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the

nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

“Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.”

Jesus has given His church a sacred mission, which is to share the good news of the coming Kingdom of God, the future paradise, and the solutions to all mankind’s problems as a witness. Sharing is the unselfish action of Jesus. All congregations should be in support of an international outreach. We are the armored shoes and feet of the messengers sharing the good news of Christ.

Isaiah 52:7-8, “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’

“Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, with their voices they shall sing together; For they shall see eye to eye when the LORD brings back Zion.”

Christ wants us to be the people who help spread the good news. We are able to resist the Devil’s wiles if we have a mission. We are not just drifting nor focused only on local issues, we have a mission to achieve:

We are to help spread the message of Good News to the world! ☐

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## ATHEIST, ARMED WITH NEW LAW, TO REPORT BIBLE, CHURCH SERMONS FOR “HATE SPEECH”

by World Net Daily, WND.com

### *Planned statute “will enable the prosecution of all religions and their holy books.”*

The United Kingdom’s Christian Institute is warning that the Bible could be criminalized in Scotland if a hate-crime bill becomes law.

Ian Stewart of the group Atheist Scotland recently told U.K.’s *The Courier* that atheists see “merit” in the proposed Hate Crime and Public Order Bill for Scotland.

He said it “will enable the prosecution of all Scotland’s religions and their holy books for spreading hatred.”

“We fully intend to monitor all holy books, sermons in places of worship and the social media accounts of the various religions and report any hatred to police Scotland for criminal investigation,” Stewart said.

The institute has warned that the bill would criminalize words deemed “likely” to “stir up hatred” against particular groups. It would not require any proof of intent.

Simon Calvert, deputy director for public affairs at the Christian Institute, warned such a move would give “politically motivated complainants like Mr. Stewart a powerful weapon against their ideological opponents.”

“The threshold of the proposed offenses is so low that Mr. Stewart might well be able to persuade a police officer that certain unfashionable Bible verses or sermons are ‘hate crimes,’” he said. “Does the

Scottish government really want to expose church ministers to the risk of prosecution at the instigation of anti-religious zealots?” Rev. David Robertson, a former moderator of the Free Church of Scotland, said that Stewart’s letter “illustrates perfectly” why the legislation should not be made law.

He said Stewart incorrectly considers “any disagreements with any of his fundamental beliefs as self-evident ‘hate.’”

“He is, in effect, saying that we should all be closed down unless we accept his authoritarian morality,” he said.

The Roman Catholic bishops already have warned that possession of a Bible could be an “offense” under the bill.

They said the law’s wording could be used to support a claim that a Bible is “inflammatory material.”

“Conduct need not be threatening or even intended to stir up hatred for an offense to be committed. Instead, the bill captures any abusive behavior deemed likely to stir up hatred. An offense could even be unwittingly committed in the privacy of your own home,” the Christian Institute previously said of the plan.

“And there is not nearly enough protection for free speech,” the group said. □

**WORLD NEWS  
BRIEF****IN CASE YOU MISSED IT****SHARING AND CARING**

Facebook is being scrutinized by the Court of Justice of the European Union over the way information they collect is handled by the entities it is shared with. The current legal battle began with a privacy suit brought in Ireland, whose High Court effectively handed off to the CJEU. This case has ramifications for many large companies who collect data in the EU including Microsoft, Google, the controversial Chinese Huawei, and even Lockheed Martin. Previous rulings have allowed the collection of data, but that could come to an end if it is determined that certain security standards are not met after it leaves the EU. Heavy fines could also be levied. Unscrupulous regulators may be tempted to fund their own bureaucracy, especially at the expense of equally unscrupulous tech giants.

**DEFENDING TAIWAN**

As China becomes more aggressive Taiwan has more to fear than most. Its very existence is an embarrassment. During the communist revolution of 1949 the government of what had been the Republic of China was forced to flee to the island of Taiwan which, along with a few other islands, they still control. The communist People's Republic of China has ruled the mainland ever since, never dropping its claims to Taiwan. As China's power and influence grew, most nations formally acknowledged these claims but many have maintained unofficial ties with Taiwan, including trade and even arms sales. The greatest threat to Taiwan has always been invasion. In light of recent developments they are seeking to strengthen their defenses by purchasing mines, anti-ship missiles,

and highly advanced drones from the United States. While they would be unable to resist a determined invasion by China, due to relative size and strength, their strategy is to make the cost of any such action high enough to serve as an effective deterrent.

**CAMPAIGN À LA JUSSIE**

The city of Sumter, South Carolina has had an interesting development in its Mayoral contest. The retirement of Sumter's 20 year incumbent has prompted many to enter the race, including one Sabrina Belcher. Lacking the notoriety and experience of some of her opponents, the 29 year old single mother of six has sought to capitalize on the fact that she would be the city's first black female mayor. She adopted the slogan, "Hold on, change is coming," and was quoted by *The Sumter Item* on her announcement as saying, "To me, it would be a great deal of responsibility and a lot of change for our city because South Carolina itself is one of the places where slavery and discrimination really began." However, as she is now behind bars, Belcher's quest for "justice" has become a little ironic.

After going "live" on Facebook, Belcher was attacked! The windows of her car were broken out, she was beaten and kidnapped, and even blamed the assault on one of her political opponents! During the investigation, police discovered that Belcher was in contact with her attacker. Subsequently they were both arrested on charges of conspiracy and filing a false police report. Belcher has admitted to choreographing the incident and allegedly had plans to repeat the stunt while implicating other contenders in the race in what can only be described as campaign management à la Jussie Smollett.

### REHEATING THE COLD WAR

The United States withdrew from a long standing treaty with Russia last year which dealt specifically with intermediate range nuclear missiles. The cause was said to be production of ground launched missiles whose range violates the terms of the agreement on the part of Russia. On the other side Russia accuses the U.S. of deploying missile defense systems in Europe that could also be used offensively and of developing drones that circumvent the rules of the treaty which had been in effect since 1987. Now the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) is in the spotlight. New START is the current incarnation of weapons limitation agreements dating back to the 1960's. Having begun in 2010, it limits the number of warheads, delivery systems, launchers and provides for a monitoring system. Both countries met reduction goals by the stipulated date in 2018. The agreement will expire in 2021 if either party rejects the optional 5 year extension included in it. Obstacles to its continuation include certain short range Russian warheads that have already been deployed and a desire on the part of the U.S. to include China. Negotiations are ongoing.

### HOW LOW CAN WE GO?

Maybe you haven't heard the name Adree Edmo. The former male, now age 32, was convicted of sexually assaulting a boy, age 15, while he slept in 2011. While incarcerated, Edmo was diagnosed with "gender dysphoria," received hormone therapy, and reportedly even attempted castration. A Federal Judge ordered the State of Idaho to provide gender reassignment surgery. Having been upheld by the 9th Circuit (on the grounds that denial constituted "cruel and unusual punishment") the ruling has been appealed to the Supreme Court. Only 2 of the 9 justices, Alito and Thomas, responded favorably to Idaho's desire to delay the surgery until the case could be heard. Consequently, the surgery was performed on July 10th. Edmo will be transferred to a women's prison once it's "medically appropriate," though it is sickening to consider that this case and propriety have anything in common. Damages are also being sought from Idaho for the distress caused by refusing to perform the surgery for so long.

### UNSETTLED

Still ongoing after so many years, the migrant crisis in Europe hardly rates a mention any longer. At the beginning of the virus outbreak there were a number of articles published, full of dire speculations, about how crowded and unsanitary camps would likely be ravaged. Months later it is hard to find any information on how that turned out. Widespread border closures slowed the influx and hindered movement but the crisis itself remains a fact of life in Europe. There are reports that some EU nations, those sharing borders with countries outside the block, have been unceremoniously returning migrants to their less hospitable neighbors without even beginning the asylum process. This may be a sign as to which direction European sentiment is trending. Illegal camps are routinely dismantled only to reappear and the cycle is repeated. Some, bent on reaching the UK, have sought to circumvent the bans on travel by floating the English channel. Migrants have even threatened to drown themselves rather than return to France. There is some humor (as well as an implied insult to that notoriously proud nation) in the notion that a refugee from an oppressive third-world slum would rather die than go back. They're bluffing.

### STOP OR WE'LL... QUIT!

In the United States, it's open season on police officers and...they're quitting. Can you even imagine the anarchy that will prevail if the "abolish the police" movement succeeds? We've seen examples in several cities, and it's not pretty. Police are in a no-win situation. In many cases, they've been ordered NOT to do their jobs. We've seen the results. This week we learned that the entire upper echelon of Rochester, NY police decided it is time to go. Some have served their community for decades.

It is now being reported that more than two dozen Chiefs of Police have resigned in just the past two months. Apparently the police don't want to play the stupid games that have taken place in other cities. But they didn't give that or any other explanation, they just quit. They've probably decided life is too short to be squandered in the streets doing battle with professional thugs transported in to wreck the place. □

# The Lockdown Has Gone From

## A MISTAKE TO A CRIME

by Dennis Prager

Four months ago, I wrote a column titled “*The Worldwide Lockdown May Be the Greatest Mistake in History*.” I explained that “mistake” and “evil” are not synonyms. The lockdown is a mistake; the Holocaust, slavery, communism, fascism, etc., were evils. “Massive mistakes are made by arrogant fools; massive evils are committed by evil people.”

Regarding the economic catastrophe in America and around the world — especially among the world’s poor who are dependent upon America and other first-world countries for their income through exports and tourism — I wrote, “It is panic and hysteria, not the coronavirus, that created this catastrophe.”

Unfortunately, I was right.

The world should have followed Sweden’s example. That country never locked down and has even kept children under 16 in school the entire time. As Reuters reported on July 15, the number of Swedish children between 1 and 19 years of age who have died of COVID-19 is zero. And the percentage of children who contracted the illness was the exact same in Sweden as it was in Finland, which locked down its schools.

As regards teachers, Sweden’s Public Health Agency reported that “a comparison of the incidence of COVID-19 in different professions suggested no increased risk for teachers.” Nevertheless, with few exceptions, teachers in Los Angeles and elsewhere refuse to enter a classroom that has students in it. Their disdain for their profession has been superseded only by that of the Los Angeles teachers union, which announced that teachers will not resume teaching until the police are defunded.

People who defend lockdowns and closing schools point out that Sweden has the eighth-highest death rate per million in the Western world. But, needless to say, this has no bearing at all on the issue of whether Sweden was right to keep schools open or

whether our country was wrong to close them, let alone keep them closed now. The overwhelming majority of deaths from COVID-19 in Sweden were among people over 70 years of age, and most of those were people over 80 and with compromised immune systems.

Reuters reported that three separate studies, including one by UNICEF, “showed that Swedish children fared better than children in other countries during the pandemic, both in terms of education and mental health.”

For more than a month, Sweden has had almost no deaths from COVID-19 while the entire society remains open and almost no one wears masks. (In Holland, too, almost no one wears masks.) For all intents and purposes, the virus is over in Sweden.

I live in California, a state governed by that most dangerous of leaders: a fool with unlimited power. Despite the fact that California ranks 28th among the 50 states in deaths per million, Gov. Gavin Newsom has destroyed and continues to destroy tens of thousands of small businesses and untold numbers of livelihoods. His continuing to forbid — a half-year after the onset of the pandemic — indoor dining in restaurants is leading to a projected permanent closure of approximately 1 in every 3 restaurants in the state. The same catastrophic destruction will likely affect retail businesses and services such as hair and nail salons. But all this human tragedy — not to mention increased depression and suicides among the young and increased abuse of children and partners — means nothing to Newsom, to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti or to the *Los Angeles Times*, whose editors and columnists continue to advocate for the lockdown while they receive their salaries.

Why can people eat with no mask in an airplane — inches, not six feet, from strangers — but cannot eat in a California restaurant, which is so much bigger than the inside of an airplane, while sitting six feet from others?

Because Newsom ordered it, the *Los Angeles Times* supports it and, like sheep, Californians have accepted it.

According to the California Association of Museums, “Museums are losing over \$22 million a day due to the statewide quarantine. As of August 1, 2020, California museums have lost more than \$2.9 billion in revenue. Museums have a \$6.55 billion financial impact on California’s economy, support 80,722 jobs, and generated \$492 million in tax revenues for the State of California in 2017 and over \$1 billion in federal taxes.”

And the American Alliance of Museums issued results from a survey on July 22, 2020, that warned 1 out of every 3 museums may shutter forever as funding sources and financial reserves run dry.

On Aug. 3, *The Wall Street Journal* wrote, “In March ... There was broad public support for the prudent goals of preventing hospitals from being overwhelmed and buying scientists time to develop therapies.” But the left — the media and Democratic governors and mayors — immediately moved the goal posts to “bending the curve” and “saving one life,”

enabling them to get away with destroying lives and livelihoods.

I conclude with the words of a Swedish medical doctor, Sebastian Rushworth:

“Covid is over in Sweden. People have gone back to their normal lives and barely anyone is getting infected any more. I am willing to bet that the countries that have shut down completely will see rates spike when they open up. If that is the case, then there won’t have been any point in shutting down in the first place... Shutting down completely in order to decrease the total number of deaths only makes sense if you are willing to stay shut down until a vaccine is available. That could take years. No country is willing to wait that long.”

The lockdown is a crime. But even more upsetting is that it is supported by so many Americans. This country is unrecognizable to those of us who lived through the 1968-1970 pandemic, which killed, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 100,000 Americans — the 2020 equivalent of 170,000 Americans. Nothing shut down. Not one mask was worn. □

## Subjugate Europe

*Continued from page 13*

to the Bundesrat revealed that the powerful Federal Court of Audit was examining official grants to Islamic Relief, which was founded in Birmingham, UK, that totaled €6.1 million in the years to 2016. The response said Islamic Relief was connected to Muslim Brotherhood groups not only in Europe but around the world,” *The National* writes.

Israel and the UAE have declared Islamic Relief a terrorist organization due to its financial ties to Hamas. Islamic Relief denies the allegations.

€1,350,230 went to British Muslim Aid 2014-2019, which was defunded by the UK government 2015 due to its ties to the Muslim Brotherhood and the Islamic Forum of Europe, which lobbies for the creation of a Sharia state in Europe, the *Daily Telegraph* writes: “Muslim Aid has admitted funding organizations closely linked to the banned terror groups Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and is itself banned in Israel as a funder of terrorism. It is closely linked to the extremist Islamic Forum of Europe, which wants to create a Sharia state in Europe.”

Further, the EU paid €24,425,879 to projects involving Islamist propaganda NGOs 2014-2019, said MEP Nicolas Bay, Vice Chair of the I&D Faction. Thus the UK-based Islamic Human Rights Commission did not receive direct funding, but took part in a program to fight “Islamophobia,” which received €584,739 in 2016. Incredibly, barely two months after the 2015 deadly terror attack on the Paris offices of “Charlie Hebdo” satire magazine, which killed 12, the Islamic Human Rights Commission awarded “Charlie Hebdo” an award as “Islamophobes of the Year.”

For the 2014-2019 time period, the office of MEP Nicolas Bay counted a total of €36,523,142 in EU funding for radical Islamic NGOs, which support terrorism and Shariah law.

“It is YOUR money, €36.5 million, with the blessing of Brussels, that allows political Islam or networks close to Jihadism to spread their ideas, to extend their networks, to strengthen their hold on our societies. The European Commission is funding those who openly take up their project to subjugate Europe. This is unacceptable,” stated MEP Nicolas Bay, Vice Chair of the conservative I&D faction. □

# Racism, Evolution, and the Status Quo or One Big Family?

by Michael Armstrong



What is race? This is a difficult question to ask and an even harder one to answer, especially in the charged environment we find ourselves in today. In many ways it is a loaded question. Political correctness is deeply involved in a crusade against racism, be it real or perceived, which predicated itself on the notion that race exists and is a determining factor in society. Race in this instance clearly means biological traits, such as skin color, and of course it is along these lines that the average person would define race. Logical? Maybe, yet the intellectual community has sought to distance itself from such pedestrian conclusions.

Now the trend is to view race as a “social construct.” The term itself implies the possibility of deconstruction or reconstruction. This is not surprising considering the radical agenda of many who have attempted to co-opt this issue. It fits perfectly well with progressive ideas regarding gender, as if all life is some RPG where you can customize your character and everyone starts at level one. It’s absurd. No one chooses who, what, where, when or why they

were born. Not any form of self mutilation you care to mention, from the color of Michael Jackson’s skin to Bruce Jenner’s bathroom preference, has any bearing on that reality. Now any physiological discussion is carefully pushed into the realms of ethnicity and ancestry.

In itself this can be helpful and somewhat justified by the increasingly diverse backgrounds of much of society. Putting any practical assessment of our differences off limits, as if it promotes racist sentiment, really could be said to have the opposite effect. It is intellectually demeaning to all concerned to assume that is the case. In essence, it says that our differences are so great, and our minds so small, that no such conversation could take place without the unjust aggrandizement of ourselves and kin. Is this really the case? Do not our similarities vastly outweigh our differences? However fashionable it may be to vilify the United States, a great many historical prejudices have been smoothed over inside its borders. Animosity between factions from different parts of Europe or Africa ceased to exist extremely quickly relative to

how long they had persisted in the old world.

Under the guise of ancestry, science continues to maintain its tenuous romance with reality. It is telling that this is where many have to turn to find out anything about themselves other than what is obvious in the mirror. It is certainly a blessing to those whose link with the past has been broken by slavery, abandonment, or natural disaster. It can enrich life with an interest in history and culture, or even provide a sense of identity. Is that taboo? Can you only take satisfaction from your identity when you choose from one of Ben and Jerry’s 32 genders, or is it something grounding, edifying, and inherent in all of us?

Now a brief digression for a personal anecdote. A portion of my family had long maintained their Native American heritage. Why, exactly, is unclear but naturally, it was obvious. The nose! The brow! Those eyes! The spitting image of Sitting Bull, like his own son Spitting Bull. Such evidence is hard to refute. Then, with the rise in popularity of ancestry testing, their entire branch of the family was dealt a shock-



ing blow. The percentage of their Native American heritage could not have been lower. It was absolutely zero! They were found to be the victims of their own Spaghetti Western when a large and previously unknown dose of Italian was discovered to be responsible for those formerly irrefutable features. Being an exceedingly good natured lot, this revelation elicited more hilarity than disappointment.

As a rule, the truth will set you free, but it will also humiliate you sometimes. Humility is a bit of a paradox in that it's viewed positively when you possess it on your own but negatively when it is forced upon you. As in, "He is humble" vs "He was humiliated." Yet it is a virtue we can all benefit from. Science, the systematic quest for knowledge and understanding, is not necessarily bad. Quite the opposite is true. It is only the artificial constraint to exclude God, to somehow justify things without Him, that has led to this perceived enmity.

Wisdom and knowledge are not the same thing. Vanity and pride have a way of subtly infecting our reasoning. Pure intentions can quickly become vested interests. Galileo's theory that the earth revolved around the sun was deemed heresy by the Catholic Church and he was forced to recant. But why? Does a heliocentric solar system really contradict the truth of God or just the dogma of that time? Rather than display any of the humility or meekness taught by our Lord Jesus Christ, who they claimed to worship, they clung haughtily to their



**Galileo Facing the Roman Inquisition, Cristiano Banti, 1857.**

own error for the next 200 years.

For many, science has replaced religion, and certainly organized religion has done its part to drive men away. Science, speaking generally, is in grave danger of committing similar errors. A theory, long standing, cannot easily be set aside. The ego suffers, reputation suffers, and it's not so good for the pocketbook either. No longer is science pushed forward by remarkably gifted individuals working largely on their own recognizance. For the most part we've come too far for that. It has long since become institutionalized, with all of the incumbent benefits and pitfalls, and is often devoted to its own traditions. Evidence of this is readily available.

How do these things fit together? The status quo would have you believe that faith is part of our racist past and science our brilliant future. Many are quick to allege that the Bible encourages racial hatred. There are many evil and divisive theories that claim to be based on scripture

but this is simply not the case. Just like the allegations that the earth is flat or only 6000 years old, they are twisted interpretations or fragments that do not stand up to scrutiny. And what about science? Is it pure, squeaky clean knowledge or does it suffer from the same defects incumbent in human nature? You may be surprised to find that some of its recent past is as dark and vile as anything in history.

We will pass over the fact that even the most astute justifications for evolution begin with the familiar tale of the primordial soup and the lightning. So much assumption and speculation enter into the scenario that it defies the very definition of science. The function of the tide factors heavily into the earliest phases of evolution, yet every theory about how the moon came to be contains insurmountable difficulties. This is readily admitted in discussions of the moon's formation, an interesting study in itself considering its scientifically inexplicable quandaries and its prominent

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role in God's calendar.

Darwin himself escapes much of the criticism heaped on contemporaries who gave racism a scientific basis. Part of this is due to his virtual deification among evolutionists. However, he did distance himself from some of the more heinous theories promoted by those who took his reasoning to the next level in later works. Nevertheless his theory of natural selection was widely used to support the superiority of one race over another. It says as much in the full title of his book: *On the Origin of Species* (that's the part everyone is familiar with but it continues) *by Means of Natural Selection or The Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*. It

was published in 1859, just two years before the beginning of the American Civil War. Any justification for the continuation of slavery was seized upon by its proponents and such a scientific one proved irresistible.

For many, Darwin did not go far enough. A widely accepted scientific viewpoint of the time was called polygenism. It asserted that the different races of mankind evolved separately, from entirely different groups of apes, thus explaining the differences between races and possibly gratifying the egos of the writers. There was much argument as to whether mankind is comprised of a single or several different species. Even those who rejected polygenism held to a hierarchical

classification of race.

Which race do you think was placed in the top spot? Aryans. To a modern reader the term conjures an instant association with Nazi Germany, and rightly so. On such account it has since ceased to be used, just as a great deal of "science" regarding race was cast aside following World War II. They dropped it so quickly you would think they felt guilty or something... Famous author H.G. Wells' *Outline of History* uses it extensively, and applies it to more groups of people than you might assume. There are many repugnant ideas propounded in this work, but it is interesting in that it seeks to represent the scientific consensus of its day. Much of what it proposes on evolution



West Australian Native Prisoners

Photo: Lafayette Studio, Perth, W.A.

The Australian native is among the most primitive of present-day human types

Published in 1919, *The Wonders of Land and Sea* by the Waverly Book Company was a subscription publication boasting over 20 top specialists including Sir H.H. Johnston. This photo taken in Perth, Australia, was published as "proof" of the process of human evolution.

is laughable and even more is admittedly speculation. It deals harshly with religion. If it has redeeming value it is the chronological recounting of recorded history, which is undeniably a gargantuan undertaking.

Quoting from the third edition, revised in 1929, Wells asks, "What sort of life did these prehistoric Aryans lead, these Nordic Aryans who were the chief ancestors of most Europeans and most white Americans and European colonists of to-day, as well as of the Armenians, Persians, and high-caste Hindus?" If this seems a generously broad application of race keep in mind that it claims many of the major advancements and accomplishments of man for itself. Everything from common law to the Iliad of Homer to Gautama Buddha is supposedly "Aryan." The book is considered mild (on this subject at least) for the time in which it was published and was actually banned in Nazi Germany.

The dark theories and practices of this evil regime are well known, as is the scientific basis they claimed supported it. Races were ranked according to their "relative purity" or branded "subhuman," a term frequently used in evolutionary theories of man. Their "racial hygiene" programs are sickening to consider. The end result was genocide and a war so destructive that it marks a turning point in modern history. That is what it took to discredit the science behind the scenes as well. How many mistakes like this can the world afford? Germany is not

the only nation to practice eugenics either. They just took it so far that the world had to recoil in horror.

Sadly, many theories of racial superiority persist. Is there a shortage of anti-Semitic conspiracies? No, you can hear all you want (and more) about the Ashkenazi, the Bolsheviks, the bankers, the synagogue of satan, and so on, all complete with unverifiable statistics and often with a downplaying of the holocaust in the same breath. The Nation of Islam taught that caucasians were bred by a mad scientist, a race of white devils. You can find all kind of aspersions on the origins of black people, even that they have the "Mark of Cain." To blame the problems of the world on someone else, on a group other than your own, is convenient but it is hardly equitable or truthful. Rather, plainly stated, it's nonsense. Similar prejudices can be found all over the world. If we do not hear of them it is because they don't directly affect us.

We are one family. Mankind was created in the image of God. What color Adam and Eve were is really inconsequential. All the variations of race, all the potentials of pigment and feature contained in our first parents that have become dominant through separation, adaptation, and yes, through inbreeding could be wiped out in a very few generations and we would all be the col-



**Propaganda for Nazi Germany's T-4 Euthanasia Program: "This person suffering from hereditary defects costs the community 60,000 Reichsmark during his lifetime. Fellow German, that is your money, too."**

or of the dirt out of which we are formed. Let that sink in. It is one thing to be interested or proud of your own heritage, in the struggles and accomplishments of your ancestors, and it is another thing entirely to wield it as some sign of inherent superiority.

The Jews in the time of Christ were reprimanded for their haughty pride. John the Baptist reprimanded them preemptively saying, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abra-

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ham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: every tree therefore which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.” (Luke 3: 7-9)

Jesus likewise reproveth His haughty contemporaries. John chapter 8 records, “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth,

hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children. And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle” (Exodus 12:37-38). Mentioned in the same verse as flocks and herds it is easy to read over, but any concordance plainly reveals that “mixed multitude” refers to people. Non-Israelitish people. The way the same Hebrew word is

they couldn’t understand. After 400 years they were thoroughly steeped in paganism.

Further consider Ephraim and Manasseh, the sons of Joseph, whom Israel blessed saying, “The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth” (Genesis 48:16). He gave them a blessing beyond that of his other sons. Continuing in Genesis 49:26, “The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.”

These sons were born to Joseph in Egypt during the years of plenty. Being second only to Pharaoh, he was made to marry according to his station. “And Pharaoh called Joseph’s name Zaphnathpaaneah; and he gave him to wife Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. And Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt” (Genesis 41:45). “And unto Joseph were born two sons before the years of famine came, which Asenath the daughter of Potipherah priest of On bare unto him. And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, said he, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father’s house. And the name of the second called he Ephraim: For God hath caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction” (Genesis 41:50-52).

*Context further reveals that God has one law, one plan for all of mankind, available to all who will heed His warnings.*

and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham’s seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?” Never in bondage? What about Egypt? What about Babylon? If they meant themselves specifically, what about Rome? The passage continues and they twice more cite their heritage through Abraham. They completely miss the overarching theme in scripture, evident in both John the Baptist’s and Jesus’ statements, about personal responsibility.

This is not a “New Testament” concept. The Exodus furnishes some good examples. When the angel of death passed over Egypt those who were spared painted blood around their doors. Protection was not afforded solely on account of being an Israelite, but according to obedience. When they left Egypt, a “mixed multitude” went with them. “And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six

utilized in other scriptures makes this obvious. Can you blame them for their conviction after what they had witnessed?

Context further reveals that God has one law, one plan for all of mankind, available to all who will heed His warnings. “And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the Passover to the Lord, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof. One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you” (Exodus 12:48-49).

We often wonder at the stubbornness of the Israelites in the account of the Exodus, how they could rebel and lack faith after the wonders they had seen. Obviously the Egyptians employed tricks, pseudo-miracles, in their idolatrous ceremonies. Perhaps they were somewhat desensitized, used to seeing things

Not only were Joseph's sons half Egyptian, they were closely related to one of the most prominent pagan priests in all Egypt. How do you think they were raised? What sort of influence must that have had, not just on themselves but on their brethren and descendants? Yet they were still favored, given promises by God that have been a blessing to the whole earth. The Church of God has been accused of racism for teaching about Ephraim and Manasseh and the "lost" ten tribes of Israel (read *Europe and America in Prophecy*). The point is missed entirely. The goal is to understand why the world has developed the way it has and how this fits with Bible prophecy. To twist it into some sort of inherent superiority is to fall into a trap of vanity that has caught man time and again.

Miriam and Aaron fell into it at their own peril. It is recounted in Numbers chapter 12. "And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it" (1-2). They were called to the Tabernacle and thoroughly reprimanded for their impetuosity. Miriam, who must have started it being mentioned first and punished more, was temporarily leprous and banished from camp for seven days. "And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and

wherein we have sinned" (Numbers 12:49). It was actually a sin for which they had to repent. Not sure what sin is? Read 1 John 3:4.

When the Israelites were warned against intermarrying with those who were to be driven out of the land of Canaan, what was trying to be prevented? "Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. *For they will turn away thy son from following Me, that they may serve other gods:* so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly" (Deuteronomy 7:4-5). This is the error Solomon fell into, idolatry on account of an unconverted spouse. We all know the story of David and Bathsheba, Solomon's mother, whose first husband Uriah (a Hittite) David caused to be killed. Uriah was a righteous man. Was Bathsheba also a Hittite? We can only speculate.

Many of Solomon's wives were unconverted. He allowed them their shrines and idols and it destroyed him and the kingdom. After building the temple he prayed, "Moreover concerning a stranger, that is not of thy people Israel, but cometh out of a far country for thy name's sake; (For they shall hear of thy great name, and of thy strong hand, and of thy stretched out arm;) when he shall come and pray toward this house; Hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and do according to all that the stranger calleth to thee for: that all people of the earth may know thy name, to

fear thee, as do thy people Israel; and that they may know that this house, which I have builded, is called by thy name" (1 Kings 8:41-43).

He failed to continue in righteousness though God warned him what the outcome would be. "And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice, And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the Lord commanded. Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant" (1 Kings 11:9-11).

God only has one plan for all of mankind. He wants the same thing, the same humility and righteousness, from each and every one of us. There is only one Savior to whom we can all go for forgiveness. Our race, our heritage, may have resulted in temporary wealth and privilege or poverty and struggle. Either way it is transient and physical. Life is supposed to be about so much more than that. The Bible makes this abundantly clear, but the world has rejected God's plan and God's truth. It boasts itself in its own knowledge. It blames God for the evil man has created. Without Him, this life is all there is. That's what science preaches. Therefore what you get and have becomes overly important. The

gratification of physical desire becomes the pinnacle of existence, its denial the ultimate evil. We are being manipulated in many ways. Man fancies he is God, saving himself from injustice. It's vanity off the charts. Grievance is being added to grievance, hatred is being used to justify hatred. If your ancestors suffered cruel bondage does a money payment or some luxury goods somehow make that better? Gucci heals all wounds or something? Talk about placing a dollar value on someone's life, it's revolting. Furthermore it will not work!

Western nations aren't the only ones in a flurry to redress historical racial grievances. Zimbabwe is now paying reparations for reparations! Nor is this their first attempt to right the wrongs of the past. The country itself came about in this manner. The long reign of Robert Mugabe especially encouraged such actions amid much ululation. He began as the first Prime Minister of Zimbabwe in 1980, becoming the second President in 1987 (he succeeded Canaan Banana, who was later convicted and imprisoned for being a homosexual) in which role he continued until 2017 when his own party finally turned against him.

An avowed Marxist, Mugabe's anti-colonialist policies reached their logical conclusion in the redistribution of land owned by white farmers. Though it began as "willing seller, willing buyer," the slow rate of transfer eventually became an embarrassment. In the early 2000's Mugabe goaded his supporters into a fren-

zied seizure of farms and land that in many cases turned deadly and destructive. The country's food supply, economy, and foreign relations suffered tremendously.

The current government of Zimbabwe, still under the control of Mugabe's ZANU-PF party, now believes the path to reconciliation lies in paying reparations to families whose property was confiscated or whose loved ones were murdered. Accordingly, a bill to distribute \$3.5 Billion amongst approximately 4,500 farmers has recently been passed. The government has stressed that the compensation is not for the land that was taken, but for the improvements that were on it. Sadly, Zimbabwe cannot afford to pay for these reparations, something they have been very up front about. They hope that fund raising will cover the shortfall.

Racial hatred is being stoked all over the world. This is not God's way or how the Bible instructs us to feel about one another. Whatever blame religion deserves for creating the status quo, and there is plenty to go around, it is for actions contradictory to the Book they should be following. Science deserves its fair share. Somehow that gets overlooked, seasoned with a little Marxism and served up as a solution. It's hard to imagine a more unholy alliance, or a more ironic philosophy to embrace to combat racism.

Karl Marx wrote the *Communist Manifesto* with Friedrich Engels. They were fully in step with the leading theories of their time. Here are some quotes that might undermine their "woke"

hero status. In one letter from Marx to Engels, he uses the n-word repeatedly in reference to someone who wouldn't lend him money and says, "Now, this blend of Jewishness and Germanness, on the one hand, and basic negroid stock, on the other, must inevitably give rise to a peculiar product." In Marx's *The Poverty of Philosophy* he wrote, "Without slavery, North America, the most progressive of countries, would be transformed into a patriarchal community." Also, "Abolish slavery and you will have wiped America off the map of nations." Could he have been more wrong? Have not his theories proven totally destructive in practice?

Many argue against God because the world is so full of evil and violence. Is this not what man has chosen? Rejecting God from the very beginning, man has gone his own way and received what was due accordingly. It is repentance, acknowledging your own errors, that is the first step towards reconciliation with God. To continue requires obedience. Will we listen to God, who exhorts us to peace and unity, or man who goads us into hatred and violence?

Let's not go any further down this path of hatred and destruction. Let's forgive as we all need to be forgiven before it's too late. No payment can compensate for murder, no amount of theft or violence or statue toppling will lead to reconciliation. The past is unchangeable. We can add grievance to grievance and live in it forever if we so chose, but it will not bring us justice, and it will not bring us peace. □

# THE LINKS BETWEEN BLACK LIVES MATTER AND NICOLAS MADURO REVEALED

# BLACK LIVES MATTER

by PanAm Post

Black Lives Matter purportedly exists to combat the alleged racism inherent in America's police forces. Police abuse, and particularly police abuse against black citizens is the *raison d'être* of the organization.

Yet, at the *PanAm Post* we have found that while Black Lives Matter claims to oppose police abuse and racism around the world, the organization is simultaneously a great supporter of some of the world's most brutal and repressive dictators. In particular, the founders of BLM have been staunch

supporters and allies of the sanguinary Venezuela dictator Nicolas Maduro and of the Castro regime in Cuba.

It is ironic that as BLM protest alleged police brutality in the United States, the organization praises a regime known for the brutal practices of its security forces.

In December 2015 Black Lives Matter sent a delegation, headed by the organization's co-founder, Opal Tometi, to act as observers during the Venezuelan Parliamentary elections of that year.



Patrisse Cullors (L) and Opal Tometi (R) on either side of Venezuelan dictator Nicolas Maduro in 2016.

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**Venezuela has seen year after year of unrest. The sign above reads, “Venezuela Agonizes.”**

The Maduro regime did not allow accreditation for observers from the Organization of American States, the UN, or the EU. The only accredited observers were from regimes and organizations friendly to the “revolutionary cause.”

Later that same month Tometi penned an article where she espouses, word for word, the regime’s standard text for international propaganda. “In these last 17 years, we have witnessed the Bolivarian Revolution champion participatory democracy and construct a fair, transparent election system recognized as among the best in the world,” wrote Tometi about one of the world’s most corrupt voting systems in history.

Earlier in 2015 Maduro was given an award at the “Afro-descendants Summit” held in Harlem. Maduro was invited at the behest of the Black Lives Matter leadership.

Scores of Venezuelans have been killed, not while resisting arrest, or while scuffling with the police in demonstrations, but by police snipers under orders to quell demonstrations by providing a few

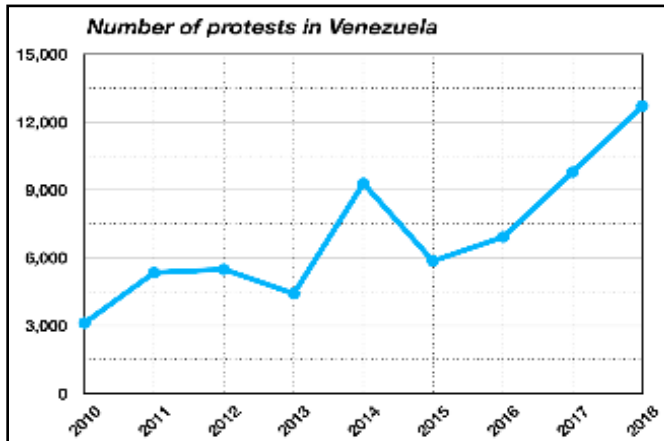
corpses. The best-known case is of former beauty queen, Genesis Carmona, killed by Maduro’s snipers in 2013, two years before Tometi publicly declared her deep admiration for Maduro and his regime.

Reading Tometi’s piece, while remembering the atrocities and inhuman conditions suffered by the Venezuelan people, superbly reported in *The New York Times* by Meredith Kohut, one realizes that it is not racism that the co-founder of BLM is fighting. This level of cynicism is always a sign of a fanatical adherence to an ideology.

In the case of Black Lives Matter, both its co-founders are fanatical Marxists, and they have publicly admitted as much. Patrice Cullors, Tometi’s colleague in the founding of Black Lives Matter, has publicly admitted to being “a trained Marxist” and “we are super-versed in ideological theory.”

It is not surprising then that the leaders of this organization simply cannot find anything to criticize when asked about the dictatorships of the left.





On Fidel Castro's passing, BLM's global network officially stated: "We are feeling many things as we awaken to a world without Fidel Castro. There is an overwhelming sense of loss, complicated by fear and anxiety." This, despite the fact that some of the organization's own members, on returning from a visit to Cuba, wrote: "There is still so much evidence of oppression that was observed by the Black Lives Matter activists towards Black Cubans and diminished by White Cubans."

It is impossible to deny that racism still exists, not only in the United States but also in Europe and elsewhere. Acting against racism is laudable, and organizations such as the NAACP and others have a well-deserved reputation for having helped improve the lives of people of color in the United States over the last 60 years. However, Black Lives Matter is not one of those organizations.

BLM's main claim to fame, and its own name are derived from a premise that has been proven to be completely false. Police do not kill proportionally more black men than they do white men.

Moreover, the organization has a lot of explaining to do regarding its support and collaboration with murderous and tyrannical regimes, some of which are intent on harming Americans of all colors.

It is truly stunning that some of America's most renowned business leaders have chosen to ignore the evident and even glaring intent of BLM's founders to promote Marxism and a so-called "revolution" in the United States, that has nothing to do with race, and everything to do with ideology.

There are 13 organizations with the name Black Lives Matter registered with the IRS as 501-3c charitable organizations. A simple perusal of these public records makes it evident that these organizations are mostly (with a few exceptions) not compliant with IRS regulations for non-profits. This is probably deliberate. It is evident that the organization does not want to reveal its sources of funds nor how it spends them. Yet no one seems to be reporting this fact.

It is unquestionable that racism exists. Black men from the conservative side, such as senator Tim Scott and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas have narrated their own personal experiences facing racist treatment or abuse. It is unfortunate that a radical Marxist movement has been allowed to become the voice of the oppressed.

As long as a group that is cynical enough to condemn police brutality in the United States while simultaneously allying with a murderous regime elsewhere is allowed, and is even supported by America's richest corporations, to become the image of the struggle for racial equality, success will be a long way off. □

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# BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE

## LESSON FIVE: KINGDOM OF GOD

*The Kingdom of God is the family of God ruling as the government of God. It is a future world ruling government to be set up on earth by Christ at His return, with Jesus as King and the resurrected spirit-composed saints in positions of co-rulership with Him. The Kingdom of God referred to as a “mystery” in the New Testament was first preached and explained by Christ, then by His Church. It shall be established on earth for a thousand years following Christ’s return and shall be completely fulfilled when new Jerusalem and God the Father come down out of heaven to dwell on the new earth.*

### DOCTRINAL OVERVIEW:

The Kingdom of God is, in its most narrow sense, the immediate family of God, composed now of only two beings (the Father and the Son, Jesus Christ). In a more general sense, it includes every being and every thing which is under God’s sovereignty, governmental control and influence. Within this definition, the entire universe can be considered under God’s sovereignty and hence part of His empirical Kingdom. But in a prophetic sense, the meaning of God’s Kingdom is much more specific. It is the world-ruling government of God to be set up on earth at Jesus Christ’s return. Christ, together with the resurrected saints, shall rule over all nations and peoples.

Even more specifically, the strictly spiritual Kingdom of God shall comprise only the spiritual members of this world government—died, born again, spirit-composed sons of God who rule with Christ as members of His family over the physical earth during the thousand year period and eventually over the entire universe. This spiritual Kingdom of God is the goal of all true Christians.

The story of the Bible, in a very real sense, is the record of God’s working with man so that he

might learn to understand and obey and, as a result, qualify to enter God’s Kingdom and family. The Old Testament prophets spoke at great length concerning that Kingdom (Is. 2: 11; Mic.4; Zech. 14).

“It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob: that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more” (Is. 2:2-4).

Likewise, the patriarchs envisioned it and waited for it as “strangers and pilgrims” (Heb. 11:13) on this earth, since they knew God’s government would replace man’s. They sought this Kingdom just as many men might seek a land, country, or homeland of promise (Heb. 11: 14-15).

“These all died in faith, not having received what was promised, but having seen it and greeted it from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city” (Heb. 11:13-16).

Jesus Christ was a member of God’s family, of the godhead, and hence of God’s Kingdom, from eternity. But He divested Himself of His godhead and rulership to become human, in order that He might announce the coming Kingdom of God and qualify as its chief executive officer, as both King and Lord. Jesus—as the primary messenger of the coming Kingdom and the heir to its throne—was in a sense the personification and embodiment of that Kingdom on earth during His physical lifetime and ministry. This is why He stated, “The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel” (Mark. 1:15). The Kingdom of God was indeed “at hand” because Jesus Christ, as its King and Lord, was right there. Jesus, in fact, spelled this out when He told some that His being among them was equal to the Kingdom being in their midst. “Being asked by the Pharisees when the Kingdom of God was coming, He answered them, The Kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed; nor will they say, Lo, here it is! or there! for behold, the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you” (Luke 17:20-21).

The message of “good news” or gospel which Jesus brought to this world has, as its focal point, the announcement of the coming Kingdom of God, the description of how it shall be established on earth and the explanation of how mankind might enter it as sons of God. Christ, through His death and resurrection, became the “firstborn” member of this prophetic spiritual Kingdom.

Christians who follow in the footsteps of His life will likewise follow in the reality of His resurrection. They shall be raised from death to rule with Him in His Kingdom. Through this process

God shall increase or build His Divine family and spiritual Kingdom from the present two members to multiple billions (and perhaps, ultimately, even more).

In one sense, those begotten of God’s Spirit are part of the Kingdom of God already, since they actually have the essence of that Kingdom, God’s Holy Spirit, dwelling within them. Furthermore, Christians today, like Jesus during His physical human life, are representatives of that Kingdom since they, like Jesus, shall be kings and priests. Paul wrote that God “has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and transferred us to the Kingdom of His beloved Son” (Col. 1:13), indicating that Christians are already considered part of God’s Kingdom. Obviously, no human being can really be a part of God’s Kingdom since “flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable” (I Cor. 15:50); this must wait until the resurrection when “the perishable puts on the imperishable and the mortal puts on immortality” (v. 54). Paul is thus just reiterating what Jesus Himself had told Nicodemus.

“Jesus answered him, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the Kingdom of God. Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born? Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit” (John 3:3-7).

Much confusion has arisen about the Kingdom of God because of human reluctance to take the term “kingdom” literally. The prophet Daniel was very clear in his statements to Nebuchadnezzar that the Kingdom which God would eventually set up would be an actual kingdom on earth in the same sense as the previously world-ruling kingdoms had been. “And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a Kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to other people. It shall break in pieces these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand for ever” (Daniel 2:44).

Scripture reveals that God's Kingdom on earth is indeed to be a kingdom in every sense, having territory, laws, subjects and rulers. At Christ's return the saints shall be changed from physical flesh or be resurrected from the dead to spirit bodies.

"But we would not have you ignorant brethren, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so,

*I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first; then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord" (I Thes. 4:13-17).

The resurrected saints shall sit with Christ on His throne (Rev. 3:21), and rule under Christ on earth with power over the physical nations. "...And hast made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on earth" (Rev. 5:10). "He who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, I will give him power over the nations" (Rev. 2:26).

In another sense, God's Kingdom shall have two parts: the ruling body of spirit beings and the physical nations under that government and control. This combined physical/spiritual Kingdom shall replace man's governments. It shall conform to God's laws and commands and over a period of time introduce and establish His way of life in every nation for every person. The entire fabric of society shall be eventually changed and reformed to comply with the precepts and concepts of God Almighty. It shall

be a government under which all human beings can lead a happy, healthy, prosperous life. All persons alive at that time shall have an opportunity to be saved and to have God's Spirit living in them. God shall make a new covenant with His people through which He shall change mankind's very nature by writing His law in man's heart.

"Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant which they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each man teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, Know the Lord, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" (Jer. 31:31-34).

In God's Kingdom, warfare shall finally be eradicated and the implements of war shall be turned into farm tools because "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (Is. 11:9).

"It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us His ways and we may walk in His paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide for strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken" (Mic. 4:1-4).

Christ shall judge with “righteousness” and “decide with equity for the meek of the earth.” Indeed the whole earth shall be dramatically altered by the rulership of Jesus Christ. Even the nature of wild animals shall be changed.

“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of His roots. And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what His eyes see, or decide by what His ears hear; but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth, and He shall smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the girdle of His waist, and faithfulness the girdle of His loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall feed; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The sucking child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. In that day the root of Jesse shall stand as an ensign to the peoples; Him shall the nations seek, and His dwellings shall be glorious” (Is. 11:1-10).

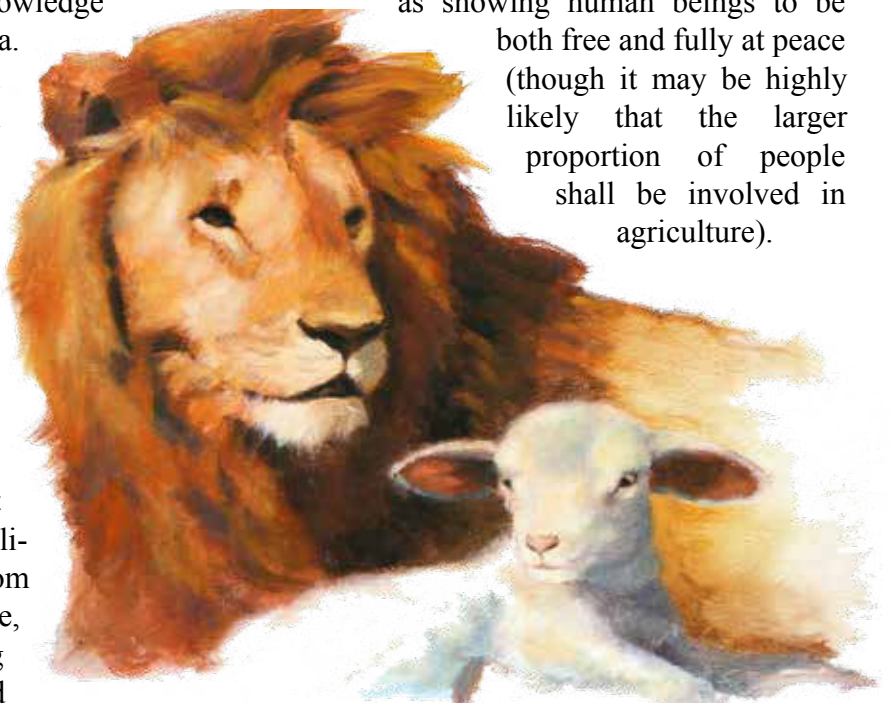
Food and drink shall be in abundant supply (Is. 25:6), the lame shall walk, and the nations who were previously staunch enemies shall live at peace. Israel, Egypt and Assyria shall even set the example of peace and godly harmony for others to follow (Is. 19:23-25). Throughout this time, many humans shall be qualifying to enter God’s spiritual Kingdom and family. Using Israel as the example, God’s spiritual laws for worshipping Him shall be taught to, and followed

by, all nations. “From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, says the Lord” (Is. 66:23).

“And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain. And if the family of Egypt go not up, and come not, that have no rain; there shall be the plague, wherewith the Lord will smite the heathen that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt, and the punishment of all nations that come not up to keep the feast of tabernacles” (Zech. 14:16-19).

Biblical revelation has very little description of daily life during the thousand year period. Although Micah’s description seems to assign every man to sit under his own vine and his own fig tree (Mic. 4:4), we should not therefore conclude that the only food available will be grapes and figs. Likewise, we should not conclude that the Kingdom of God will be a primitive, wholly agrarian society devoid of education, arts and sciences.

Surely Micah’s symbol should be understood as showing human beings to be both free and fully at peace (though it may be highly likely that the larger proportion of people shall be involved in agriculture).



Based on our knowledge of God, who is the Creator of the human mind, the Kingdom of God shall employ high technology, in its most sophisticated expression, in every sphere of that society, including the areas of manufacturing, energy, transportation, communication, information processing, architecture, city planning, etc. Yet, this technology, under God's direction, will not produce the debilitating by-products characteristic of today's world. Energy will be clean and inexhaustible; waste products will be recycled; cities will be safe and sane;

*He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them;*

the ecology will be respected and the environment protected. Growth will not be wildly uncontrolled and encouraged for its own sake, but rather organized and ordered in accord with God's master plan for the entire earth.

Increasing levels of scientific knowledge, technological application and consumer consumption shall, no doubt, take place. Yet the fundamental spiritual values of life shall always predominate. Growth shall never eclipse the importance of individual human beings and human families. Indeed, more people will probably find their occupations in or near the home environment. Education at all levels and in all areas shall be a primary activity for all people.

The Millennium shall be a time of the greatest advances in every field of human creativity, fields such as the arts and in all sciences. The human mind shall be freed from the inhibitions of evil—no longer shall warfare and competition dominate the enormous developmental time, energy and financial resources of countries and individuals. All efforts shall be devoted to the peaceful edification of society. The most artistic and dynamic works of human history, the most magnificent musical compositions and performances, the most beautiful paintings, the most expressive literature, etc., shall be created under God's laws.

Although the administration of the Kingdom of God shall enforce a uniform law for all nations and peoples, and there are indications that there shall be a universal language (Zeph. 3:9). This does not mean that cultural differences between people shall be eliminated. On the contrary, the diverse and unique personality, culture, music, art, dress and habits of each nation shall be preserved and encouraged. God's laws are universal in scope and shall be applied to, and shall strengthen, all peoples in all cultures in all environments. Travel and cultural exchange shall exist, with the primary intent, at least initially, of teaching all nations to follow the example of God's people, Israel. To accomplish this, all nations shall send representatives to Israel to learn of God's ways and laws (Is.66:18-21, 23; Zech. 14:16-19), and Israel shall send teachers to all countries to help them apply these new concepts and put them into practice in their daily lives.

All through the thousand-year rule of Christ, God shall continue to add to the number of those eventually to be in His kingdom. At the end of the Millennium all who have ever lived and died without having a full, first chance for salvation shall be resurrected as physical beings to live in God's perfect society (Rev. 20:12). Those who qualify for salvation shall be inducted into God's spiritual Kingdom while those of this and previous eras who have not followed God's way shall burn in the lake of fire. Immediately thereafter, the physical aspect of God's Kingdom on earth shall disappear and be entirely replaced by the spiritual Kingdom whose population shall have increased into the billions by this time. Thus, we find God's Kingdom expanding in steps and growing dramatically from only two beings to an innumerable multitude through the process begun and made possible by and through Jesus Christ and His resurrection.

Ultimately, following the thousand-year rule of Christ and the Great White Throne Judgment, God shall replace the old earth with a "new heaven and new earth" (Rev. 21:1). This reformation of heaven and earth is part of the "restitution of all things" spoken of by Peter (Acts 3:21). The Father shall come to this earth to rule with Christ who shall then be second in command at His Father's side (I Cor. 15:27-28), and God's entire family shall rule

the entire universe. (Christ shall deliver the Kingdom to His Father, I Cor. 15:24.)

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be with them; He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away. And He who sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. Also He said, Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true. And He said to me, It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the fountain of the water of life without payment. He who conquers shall have this heritage, and I will be his God and he shall be My son” (Rev. 21:1-7).

“And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light shall the nations walk; and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory into it, and its gates shall never be shut by day and there shall be no night there; they shall bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations” (Rev. 21:22-26).

“Then he showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. There shall no more be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall worship Him; they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. And night shall be no more; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they shall reign for ever and ever” (Rev. 22:1-5).

Revelation 21 and 22 are surely a complex amalgam of literal description, awesome imagery and representative symbolism. Yet with all of this, the Bible only gives us a hint of what God shall do after His plan for mankind has been completed and He has added so dramatically to expand His family and Kingdom. But indications are that God shall in one way or another continue to expand His family forever.

“For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder, and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end...” (Is. 9:6-7).

The scope of God’s family shall literally be “all things.” That includes the whole universe. “Thou hast put all things in subjection under His

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*Continued next page*

feet. For in that He put all in subjection under Him, He left nothing that is not put under Him. But now we see not yet all things put under Him” (Heb. 2:8).

The incredible majesty of God’s Kingdom—the fact that man is to become part of God’s family and rule the entire universe—is called a mystery in the New Testament. Jesus called it the “mysteries of the kingdom of heaven” in Matthew 13:11, and “the mystery of the kingdom of God” in Mark 4:11. This mystery includes several concepts “which [have been] kept secret since the world began” (Rom. 16:25) and “hidden for ages and generations but now made manifest to His saints” (Col. 1:26). For example, the opportunity for gentiles to participate in the Kingdom of God (Rom. 11:25) and become fellow heirs of the promise of Christ (Eph. 3:6); the uniting of all things in heaven and earth in Christ according to God’s plan and purpose (Eph. 1:9); the relationship of Christ and the Church (Eph. 5:32). But the most important aspect of the mystery of the Kingdom of God is the fact that man has literally become God (I Cor. 15:51). This mystery, “which is Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Col. 1:27), is ordained for “our glorification” (I Cor. 2:7) and shall be fulfilled at the resurrection when the seventh trumpet sounds (Rev. 10:7).

The Bible states that the purpose of human life—the ultimate goal for all human beings—is to eventually be born into the God family, to eventually become equal with the Creator of the universe. This remarkable fact is surprisingly easy to prove. There is no difficult exegesis involved. In one sense, all that is required is a four-step process:

1) The Creator of the Universe is the one who became Jesus Christ (John. 1:3, 10; Col. 1:16; Eph. 3:9; Heb. 1:2).

2) Jesus Christ is equal with God (John. 5:18; Phil. 2:6).

3) We are joint-heirs with Christ, and as a sure result, we shall all be glorified together with Him (Rom. 8:17).

4) Whatever glory God the Father has given Christ—the position of Creator—Christ shall eventually give to us (John. 17:11 and 22).

In other words, every converted individual shall eventually enjoy the same relationship to Christ (God the Creator) as Christ presently enjoys

with God the Father.

In another sense, all that is required is a word-by-word reading—without interpretation—of Genesis 1:26. Here God succinctly gives the purpose of human life: Whereas animals reproduce after the animal kind, man reproduces after the God kind! Or, more properly phrased, human beings are the instruments through which God is reproducing Himself.

Human beings shall always retain their individually distinct minds. They shall become individual personalities in the Father’s God family. Man shall do what God does. Man will feel, act, enjoy and experience at precisely the same presently incomprehensible level of awareness at which God feels, acts, enjoys and experiences. And man shall not lose his unique awareness and his individual personality. “Man will not be diffused into the cosmic consciousness,” man will not be absorbed by the “infinite intelligence,” and man will not be swallowed up by “universal love.”

As a matter of fact, just the opposite is true: The members of God’s family in tomorrow’s world shall be more distinct from one another than members of the human family are distinct from one another in today’s world. All shall have their own individually specific memories, abilities, personality traits, jobs, responsibilities, preferences and ideas. But there won’t be any competition or conflict. Because the old culprit—self-centered human nature—shall have long since been eliminated.

When mankind is promised to be made “equal with God,” that of course means that individual human beings shall eventually become qualitatively equal with God—and obviously does not mean that individual human beings shall eventually become quantitatively equal with either God the Father or Jesus Christ. Being “equal with God” only means that we shall be in the same God family as the Father and Christ are in, and has nothing to do with an equality of power, authority, intelligence, etc., within the family.

In other words, those people who shall be resurrected or changed “in the twinkling of an eye” (I Cor. 15:52), shall share the exact qualities of life which today are only possessed by God the Father and Jesus Christ.

For example, one of God’s qualities is that He



has inherent life—He generates eternal life intrinsically within Himself, because God is life. “For as the Father hath life in Himself; so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself” (John 5:26). Consequently, since the two original beings in the God family created all mankind to grow to become qualitatively like themselves, when individual human beings are changed into new, individual God-beings, each of them shall generate eternal life intrinsically within himself (John 3:16, 36; 4:14; 6:47; 7:38; 10:28; 17:2, etc.).

Every individual person has been created to grow toward divine sonship (Rom. 8:1-15)—to become a literal son of God—a son who is in every

way qualitatively equal to his Father, yet a son who is always in thankful and gracious submission to his Creator Father.

But quantitatively, man shall never equal God the Creator, just as surely as God the Creator (Jesus Christ) shall Himself never quantitatively equal God the Father (John 14:28).

These two original beings in the God family shall always remain in overall command. Their absolute authority will never be questioned although they will delight in sharing progressively more of their responsibilities with their offspring as the God family continues to expand throughout space and time. □



**SUMMARY:** Read these scriptures in your own Bible:

- **Hebrews 11:13-16** - We are strangers in this world and look for a better “country.”
- **Isaiah 2:2-4** - God’s government is coming to this earth and man will learn of war no more.
- **Luke 17:20-21** - Jesus tells the Pharisees that the Kingdom of God was among them for He stood there.
- **Colossians 1:13** - God is in the process of taking mankind from darkness to the Kingdom of God.
- **1 Corinthians 15:50-54** - The corruptible must put on incorruptible and the mortal must put on immortality.
- **John 3:3-7** - Man must be born of the water and spirit to enter the Kingdom of God.
- **Daniel 2:44** - God is making a Kingdom which cannot be destroyed.
- **Acts 3:21** - The restitution of all things.
- **John 3:5** - Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God.
- **Revelation 5:10** - Converted people will one day reign as kings and priests on earth forever.
- **Revelation 2:26** - He that overcomes will receive power to rule over nations.
- **Micah 4:1-4** - There will come a time when God will establish His Kingdom on earth and man will come up to it to learn of God’s ways and laws. None will be afraid.

*Continued next page*

- **Revelation 21:1-7** - There will be a new heaven and new earth and they that overcome will inherit all things and be a Son of God.
- **Isaiah 9:6-7** - Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end.
- **John 1:3** - All things were made by Jesus.
- **John 5:18** - Jesus is equal with God.
- **Romans 8:17** - We can be joint-heirs with Christ.
- **Revelation 5:10** - As kings and priests, we will reign on earth.
- **John 17:11,22** - The glory which God gave Christ, Christ will give us.
- **John 4:14** - As spirit beings we will generate eternal life in us (See John 6:47 and 10:28).
- **John 14:28** - God the Father is greater than Jesus Christ.

**QUESTIONS (ANSWERS BELOW):**

1. Which word best completes this sentence: The Kingdom of God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
a) government of God b) family of God c) creation of God
2. It is also the coming ruling government of God which begins \_\_\_\_\_ [when?]
3. The Kingdom of God was first preached by \_\_\_\_\_ [whom?]
4. During the 1,000-year reign of Christ who rules with Him?
5. The Family of God currently has \_\_\_\_ [how many] members?
6. In the more general sense, the Kingdom of God includes what?  
a) the earth b) all nations c) just the US and UK d) the entire universe
7. The Old Testament never speaks about the Kingdom of God. True or False?
8. Complete this verse: "For out of Zion shall go forth \_\_\_\_\_" [what?]
9. Jesus Christ was a member of God's family, of the godhead from \_\_\_\_\_ [what?]
10. To become human, Jesus Christ divested Himself of \_\_\_\_\_ [what?]
11. The announcement of the coming Kingdom of God is referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_. [what?]
12. Christ, through death became the \_\_\_\_\_ member [what?] of this prophetic spiritual Kingdom?
13. To be in the Kingdom of God we must do what?
14. Today, members of the Body of Christ already have the essence of the Kingdom dwelling in them. True or False?
15. Can humans, in human bodies, be in the Kingdom of God? Yes or No?
16. Complete this verse: "Unless one is born of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God."
17. God's Kingdom on earth is indeed a kingdom in every sense having what 4 elements?
18. The first to enter the Kingdom of God after Christ will be those resurrected at what time?
19. Finish this verse: "And hast made us unto our God kings and priests and we shall reign \_\_\_\_\_" [where?]
20. Christ and the resurrected saints shall rule over human beings and physical nations for 1,000 years. True or False?
21. What book and chapter speaks to a new covenant with the House of Israel where God speaks to writing His Law on their hearts?
22. According to Isaiah 11, in God's Kingdom the knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth like what?
23. Some will be afraid in God's Kingdom during the 1,000-year reign of Christ. True or False?
24. In the 1,000-year reign of Christ, there will be few animals left on the earth. True or False?

25. All nations will keep the Feast of Tabernacles during the reign of Christ. True or False?
26. There is strong indication in the Bible that Jesus will do away with the arts and sciences during His reign. True or False?
27. Jesus will be involved in what we call “high technology” during His reign? True or False?
28. Immigration will still be an element all nations will deal with in Christ’s reign. True or False?
29. No children will be born during the reign of the Christ. True or False?
30. Not all humans will receive an opportunity to enter the Salvation Process. True or False?
31. What great event takes place at the end of the 1,000 years?
32. According to Acts 3:21, the reformation of heaven and earth is part of \_\_\_\_\_ [what?]
33. Revelation 21 speaks of a new Jerusalem. From where will it come?
34. What two beings will live in this new city?
35. For how long will Almighty God and the Lamb rule from earth?
36. Speaking to a time after the White Throne Judgment and on into eternity Isaiah 9:6-7 says, “of the increase of His government and Peace there shall be \_\_\_\_\_” [what?]
37. This is a four-part True and False question:
  - a) The Creator of the Universe is the one who became Jesus. True or False?
  - b) Jesus is equal with God. True or False?
  - c) We are joint-heirs with Christ. True or False?
  - d) Whatever glory God the Father has given Christ, Christ shall eventually give to us. True or False?
38. As we are changed to spirit beings, we can look forward to becoming part of the cosmic consciousness, absorbed by infinite intelligence and swallowed up in universal love. True or False?
39. As spirit beings we shall retain our own unique personality, memories, abilities, preferences and ideas. True or False?
40. Which is correct, a) or b):
  - a) As spirit beings in the Family of God we become quantitatively equal with God but not qualitatively equal with God.
  - b) As spirit beings in the Family of God we become qualitatively equal with God but not quantitatively equal with God.
41. When we become a member of the God Family, each of us shall generate eternal life intrinsically within ourselves. True or False?
42. God the Father is... a) greater than Christ b) equal to Christ c) lesser than Christ

**LESSON FIVE — ANSWERS:**

- |                                     |                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 42. (a, greater than Christ)        | 28. (False)                         | 14. (True)                        |
| 41. (True)                          | 27. (True)                          | 13. (follow Christ)               |
| 40. (b is the correct statement)    | 26. (False)                         | 12. (firstborn)                   |
| 39. (True)                          | 25. (True)                          | 11. (good news/gospel)            |
| 38. (False)                         | 24. (False)                         | 10. (His Godhead)                 |
| 37. (ALL TRUE)                      | 23. (False - Micah 4:1-4)           | 9. (eternity)                     |
| 36. (no end)                        | 22. (the waters cover the sea)      | 8. (the Law)                      |
| 35. (for ever and ever)             | 21. (Jer 31)                        | 7. (False)                        |
| Christ)                             | 20. (True)                          | 6. (d, the entire universe)       |
| 34. (God the Father and Jesus)      | 19. (on the earth)                  | 5. (God the Father & Christ)      |
| 33. (heaven)                        | 18. (at the return of Jesus Christ) | saints)                           |
| 32. (the restitution of all things) | and rulers)                         | 4. (the firstfruits, resurrected) |
| or the White Throne Judgment)       | 17. (territories, laws, subjects)   | 3. (Jesus Christ)                 |
| 31. (the Second Resurrection)       | 16. (water/Spirit)                  | 2. (at Christ's return)           |
| 30. (False)                         | 15. (No, 1 Cor: 15:50)              | 1. (Family)                       |
| 29. (False)                         |                                     |                                   |



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