

The International Prophetic Voice for the Endtimes

Midnight Call

midnightcall.com

May 2024—\$6.95

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

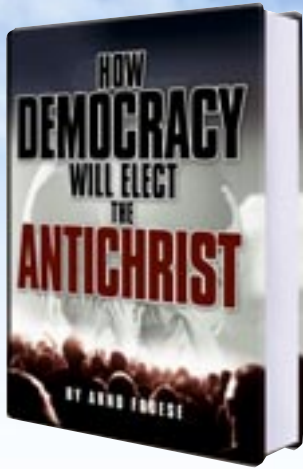
- Twelve Step AA
- Receiving Jesus
- Fire from Heaven

P. 32

More Than the Eye Can See

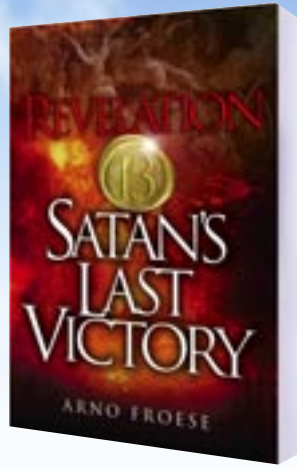
P. 17

Ascension— Nothing Was the Same Anymore!



Is it possible that democracy will lead to the ultimate denial of freedom, liberty and justice?

The world will be led by one who is loved and adored, yet who will greatly deceive the masses.



Finally, it seems the world has a leadership they can trust, admire, even worship.

Reveals the real reason for today's near chaotic global conditions. A dynamic revelation about our days!

HOW DEMOCRACY WILL ELECT THE ANTICHRIST
ITEM #1064 • 352 pgs. • Hardcover

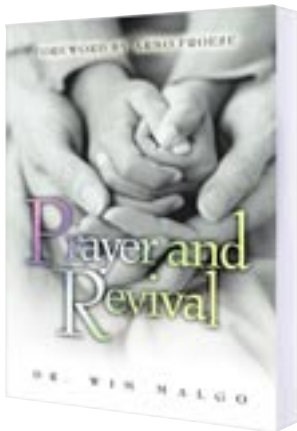
~~\$17.95~~ **50% OFF \$9**

Author: Arno Froese

REVELATION 13: SATAN'S LAST VICTORY ITEM #1067
256 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$11.95~~ **50% OFF \$6**

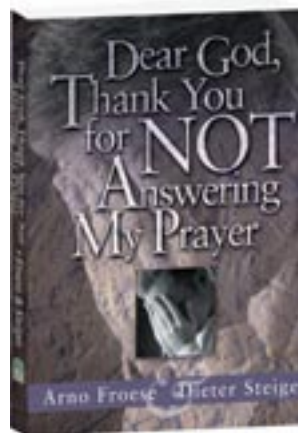
Author: Arno Froese



The Key to Revival

Revival will take place in our lives, families, churches and the world when we pray honestly and with a complete dedication. Chapters include:

- Pathway To Revival
- What Is Our Calling?
- The Importance Of Giving Thanks
- And Much More



When God Is Silent...

This may be just the book you need at this time. Follow in the footsteps of Bible personalities who prayed fervently to the Lord, yet their request was denied. Why? Learn the secret of following the Good Shepherd, the One who laid down His life for the sheep, to fully understand God's intended way for you.

PRAYER AND REVIVAL ITEM #1002
224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$10.99~~ **CLEARANCE \$4**

Author: Dr. Wim Malgo

DEAR GOD, THANK YOU FOR NOT ANSWERING MY PRAYER ITEM #1047
224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$12.99~~ **CLEARANCE \$4**

Authors: Arno Froese & Dieter Steiger



From Adam to the Second Coming of Christ!

This detailed chart has brief descriptions of such topics as the People Groups from Adam, Noah and Abraham's time, the Kingdom Years, the Time of the Church and the Tribulation and Second Coming of Christ. The reverse side has a summary of the judgments in Revelation. A perfect tool for personal or study group use.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE BIBLE (ENGLISH) ITEM #9073

Size: 8.5" x 5.5"

~~\$9.95~~ **CLEARANCE \$4** also available in Spanish



6 COVER STORY

Ascension—Nothing Was the Same Anymore!

By Norbert Lieth

After the Ascension, The Holy Spirit was poured out. The Church became a body of Christ made up of Jews and Gentiles. As a result of His Ascension, Jesus would bring believers into the status of sons and daughters of the Father.



21 BELGIUM
Animal Welfare?

22 ISRAEL
Jewish State Benefits USA



13 Money: Ends and Trends

Evangelicals: Stand Up for Jews! – Part 3

By Wilfred Hahn

17 More Than the Eye Can See

By Dr. Ron J. Bigalke



26 An Ignored and Forgotten God – Part 2

By Stephan Beitzel



36 Just For You!

Ascension Day

By Peter Malgo

DEPARTMENTS

4 Editorial By Norbert Lieth

32 Letters to the Editor By Arno Froese
TWELVE STEP AA...RECEIVING JESUS...FIRE FROM HEAVEN

34 Action for Israel By Arno Froese

38 The Ebenezer Home – Haifa, Israel By David Phillips

40 Fellow Laborers By Hendrik Malgo

23 EUROPE

Ocean Current Near Collapse

24 INDIA

Angry Farmers Block Highways



25 UN

Too Much Electronic Waste



What Looked Like Loss Turned into Gain

By Norbert Lieth

Director of Missions, Midnight Call International

All of us have probably experienced this: You are planning an activity such as a trip, a celebration, or some other event. Everything has been organized down to the last detail, and especially, prayed for. And then things turn out quite different than expected. But in retrospect, one often discovers that all turned out well, even if not as planned. As Proverbs 16:9 tells us: “The mind of man plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps.”

The visit to our ministry branches had been long overdue. So, the trip to South and North America was carefully thought through, discussed, planned, and of course, prayed for again and again. Everyone involved gave it the greatest effort. But the trip ended up demanding the utmost flexibility. Ten flights were canceled, and we had to find other travel routes. Where we wanted to go first, we arrived last. In some places, we had to stay longer than planned. Where we wanted to stay longer, we had to shorten our visit. Then a health problem with gastrointestinal symptoms arose, a suit-

case was broken into and its contents stolen, a mobile phone was lost but retrieved again after much worry, searching, and prayer. After all, we had prayed: “Lord, keep us healthy and save us from loss or being robbed...” But joy and peace never left us and, as always, we realized that everything ultimately turned out exactly right and served our purpose perfectly. We planned, but the Lord guided our steps to our own good and that of those we had the privilege of visiting. To experience some of the Lord’s work in the mission field with its many hardships, was very gratifying and made up for the stresses we encountered.

We cannot in the least compare ourselves with the Apostle Paul and his coworkers, but he too always testified about what he experienced along the way. There were victories and the fruit of their labor, but also accidents, attacks, diseases, persecutions, etc. As a Christian, it is wonderful to know that with God, everything has a higher meaning—even if the paths we have to walk seem meaningless and we don’t understand

EDITOR'S NOTE

them. Often, we merely see what we have set out to do; we plan and struggle, yet God not only sees the individual steps, but also directs them. It is marvelous that we are able to be within the divinely determined framework, with complete confidence that the Lord has a wonderful purpose in everything.

I heard the testimony of a man who found a wallet. No doubt, the person who had lost it was looking for it and praying to get it back. There was a small tract in the wallet that showed that the owner was a Christian. The amazing thing, however, was that the man who had found the wallet was on the way to take his own life out of desperation. Shortly before reaching his destination, however, he found the wallet and read the tract. It convicted him, and he found a living faith in Jesus.

Did the owner of the lost wallet ask in disappointment: "Lord, why won't you let me find my wallet ... Why don't you hear my prayer?" Yet what had looked like loss turned into gain; the loss had led to victory. The unanswered prayer became salvation to a desperate man, who had lost all courage to live.

Let us rely on our trust in the Lord in every circumstance of life. (MC)

In light of the times, *News From Israel* is a necessary monthly magazine that will keep you updated on breaking developments throughout the Middle East. *News From Israel* uncovers hidden information the news media leaves out!



To start or renew your *News From Israel* magazine subscription, use the order form in the insert or p. 47, call 800-845-2420 (M-F, 8-5) with your credit card ready, or order online : midnightcall.com/nfi

• 32 pages • \$ 18 for a one-year subscription • 12 issues

Published 12 times a year by
MIDNIGHT CALL, INC.

PO Box 84309
Lexington, SC 29073
Physical Location:
4694 Platt Springs Road
West Columbia, SC 29170

Founder — Dr. Wim Malgo (1922–92)

International Editor — René Malgo

Executive Editor — Arno Froese

Contributing Authors — Norbert Lieth,
Wilfred Hahn, Dr. Ron J. Bigalke,
Johannes Pflaum, Fredy Peter,
Philipp Ottenburg, Stephan Beitze
and Thomas Lieth

Layout Designer: Michelle Kim • **Text Typists:** Joel Froese and Susi Steiger

• **Copy Editor:** Kimberly Farmer • **Customer Service:** Andrea Giles, Debbie Hale, and Kimberly Farmer

• **General Manager:** Simon Froese • **Production Manager:** Brian Corbett

• **Pre-Press:** Alec Rucker • **Pressroom:** James D. Bond, Jeff Bowers and Chad Vining • **Post Press:** Teresa Vining, Melissa Martin, Andrea Giles, Cyndal Sweet, Stone Hughes and Debbie Hale

• **Special Order:** Andrea Giles • **German-English Translators:** Barbara Lavery and Melanie Makin • **Webmasters:** Ricardo Rempel and Matias Steiger

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

USA, \$28.95 • Canada, \$34.50 • All other countries, \$48

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRY

Please send your new address and the name and address *exactly* as it appears on this magazine or envelope for best service. Please send all changes and inquiries directly to our US address.

MAILING ADDRESS

USA and Canada:
PO Box 84309
Lexington, SC 29073

PHONE

Toll free phone: 1-800-845-2420
Local and International: +1 (803) 755-0733

WEBSITE

midnightcall.com

INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS

"Mitternachtsruf" (German) Ringwiesenstrasse 12a, 8600 Dübendorf, Switzerland; "Middernachtsroep" (Dutch) Postbus 193, 3940 AD Doorn, Netherlands; "L'Appel de Minuit" (French) Ringwiesenstrasse 12a, 8600 Dübendorf, Switzerland; "Chamada de Meia Noite" (Portuguese) Obra Missionaria Chamada de Meia Noite, Caixa Postal 1688, 90001-970 Porto Alegre RS, Brazil; "Llamada de Medianoche" (Spanish) PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073; "CDM Italia" (Italian) Via Monte Rosa 88 D, IT 10155 Torino TO; "Ejfelii Kialtas" (Hungarian) HU 1135 Budapest, Palóc utca 2; "Miezul Noptii" (Romanian) O.P. 3, CP. 136, 310540 Arad, Romania

OUR TASK

Midnight Call Ministries is a nonprofit missionary organization, dedicated to proclaiming the entire Bible as the unailing and eternal written Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and the unerring guide for the Christian faith.

The object of Midnight Call is to call people everywhere to Christ, to proclaim the return of Christ, to prepare Christians for His coming, and to uphold the faith and warn of false doctrines. *Midnight Call* magazine is available in ten languages. All work done through radio, literature and missionaries is supported entirely by the gifts and free will offerings of God's people.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE in the divine inspiration of the whole Bible and therefore in the infallibility of the Holy Scripture, which is God's Word, and in the eternal Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

WE BELIEVE Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, and shed His blood to save mankind. He died and arose bodily the third day, was seen by over 500, and later ascended into heaven.

WE BELIEVE that the Lord Jesus Christ died in the place of each individual sinner and that all who believe in Him as their personal Savior are justified through His shed blood and have become children of God.

WE BELIEVE that Israel is God's chosen people, and that the restoration of the Jews to their own land is the fulfillment of the Word of God.

WE BELIEVE in the imminent, pre-tribulational appearance of Jesus Christ for the Rapture of His Church (all born again believers).

WE BELIEVE in the immortality of our souls and the resurrection of our bodies; in the resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the lost.



Ascension—Nothing Was the Same Anymore!

Norbert Lieth

Jesus' Ascension has a more profound meaning in view of biblical prophecy, and for our lives, than it seems at first glance.

There's hardly a church holiday as rarely observed as Ascension Day. It's so meaningless these days that in some parts of Europe, it has turned into Father's or Men's Day. Observances include men wandering through the countryside pulling a wagon with a bottle in hand, singing songs with

friends. It's a complete distraction from the reality of the holiday.

Has the devil managed to distract people from the Ascension and pervert this day, because it has such colossal meaning and contains such powerful revelations? Let's look into some of them.

Jesus' Ascension Touches Deeper

The Gospel of John tells of a remarkable episode after the Lord's resurrection, when Mary Magdalene met Him: "Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God" (John 20:17).

Why wasn't Mary permitted to touch the Lord? This seems contradictory when we think of the women who embraced Jesus' feet (Matt 28:9), or Thomas putting his fingers in Jesus' wounds (John 20:27). So, why did the Lord forbid Mary?

The expression, "Touch me not" can also be translated, "Stop touching me." That's why other translations say, "Don't cling to me" or, "Do not hold onto me." In Mary's case, it wasn't a matter of just a touch.

The problem was that she wanted to keep the Lord on earth, as Messiah for the earth. For all intents and purposes, she wanted to bind Jesus and His kingdom to earth. What had been hinted at and proclaimed so often, but not yet come true, had finally arrived. In this sense, she was clinging to His messianic kingdom in Israel, but the Lord didn't want that. He wanted to ascend to God the Father to be with Him, since there would now be much more than "just" the earthly messianic kingdom.

Now it was a matter of more than just the kingdom. Taking this into consideration, some things even needed to be put on standby, or on hold. First, the Lord had to sit at God's right hand, with His enemies under His feet (Ps 110).

And so, after the Ascension, nothing was the same anymore: The Holy Spirit was poured out. The Church was formed and expanded, and non-Jews were allowed in. It became a body of Christ made up of Jews and Gentiles. Paul was called to be an apostle to the nations, and his Gospel contained much wider and deeper revelations.

As the Lord said to Mary Magdalene, "I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." As a result of His Ascension, Jesus would bring believers into the status of sons and daughters of the Father. A whole new relationship would come about.

With the statement, "to my God," the Lord Jesus wasn't denying His own Godhead, but emphasizing that He was fully human. He would return to heaven and to the Father as something that He had not been before; namely, a human being. And as this man, he would be able to represent humanity and all who believe in Him before God. As the Son of Man, God the Father is His God; as the Son of God, He is Himself God.

There's something we can learn from the Lord's apparently negative reaction to Mary Magdalene: When we feel like God is disappointing us, He is often preparing something deeper and more glorious for us. Jim Elliot knew, "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

Jesus' Ascension Permanently Opens the Door to Heaven

"After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven..." (Rev 4:1).

Ascension — Nothing Was the Same Anymore!

The Gentiles no longer have to become proselytes. The opened heaven means that everyone can come, and nobody is locked out. The way to God is unrestricted, but only through Jesus.



Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him.”

It was only after Jesus had risen from the dead and ascended into heaven, that the door remained open for good behind Him. Now heaven has been made accessible to all, once and for all. The door that John saw in Revelation

We're all familiar with the image of Peter standing at heaven's gate like a porter with his keys, granting or denying people entry based on their deeds in life. But this doesn't at all correspond to the biblical truth.

Jesus opened the door to heaven for everyone, once and for all.

Before Jesus had completed the work of redemption on Calvary, the heavens sometimes opened on certain occasions, only to be closed again afterward. For example, the prophet Ezekiel said, “Now it came to pass ... as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God” (Ezek 1:1).

It is evident that the heavens closed after the events of Matthew 3:16, and were reopened later: “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the

lution didn't open; it was open already. Stephen testified to the same when he was killed: “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God” (Acts 7:56).

This was something completely new. Non-Jewish people are able to gain access to God without Israel's mediation. The Gentiles no longer have to become proselytes. The opened heaven means that everyone can come, and nobody is locked out. The way to God is unrestricted, but only through Jesus.

For years, my wife and I have been invited to use a vacation home in the beautiful Swiss mountains, located at around 2,000 meters (about 6,500 feet), with a wonderful view. The owner even gave us our own key. We could just drive up there and move in for the summer, since the owner is away then. But due to various circumstances, we haven't yet been able to take

Before Jesus died, Satan had power over the realm of the dead (Heb 2:14)—*Sheol* in the Old Testament and *Hades* in the New Testament. He had power in the sense that he could command death.

advantage of the offer. It's up to us, and if we don't take him up on his invitation soon, it might be too late.

Jesus' Ascension Took Captives Captive

"Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive [alt. took the captives captive], and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things)" (Eph 4:8-10).

Before Jesus died, Satan had power over the realm of the dead (Heb 2:14)—*Sheol* in the Old Testament and *Hades* in the New Testament. He had power in the sense that he could command death. Satan commands death and the realm of the dead for every person, because every person is a sinner. It seems that the realm of the dead is divided into two areas: the place where the wicked are kept, and the place that is called "Abraham's bosom" for those who belong to God (Luke 16), since Paradise was closed and inaccessible.

When Jesus died on the Cross, the curtain in the temple was torn in two. This symbolizes, among other things, that lost Paradise is accessible again. That is why the Lord no longer speaks of Abraham's bosom but of Paradise, the place of God's heavenly dwelling (2 Cor 12:4). With respect to His redeeming death, Jesus told the criminal being crucified

next to Him, "Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43). But this phrase can also mean, "Truly, I tell you today: With me you will be in paradise."

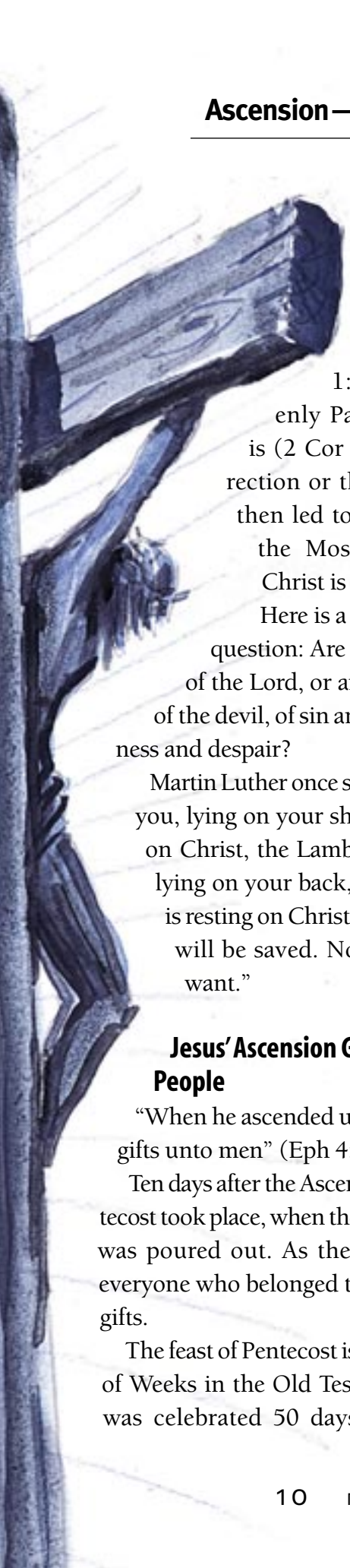
Jesus was the firstfruits to rise from the dead in this way. When he addressed the crowds on Pentecost, Peter said of Jesus, "Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it" (Acts 2:24).

When Jesus rose from the dead, many other saints were also raised and appeared to many in Jerusalem (Matt 27:52-53). What does that mean? After His death on the Cross, the Lord descended into the realm of the dead, where death had to give Him the key. That's why, when He encountered John in His glory, He told him, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death" (Rev 1:18).

Upon His Ascension into heaven, the Lord took the dead from Abraham's bosom (the Old Testament believers), the crucified criminal who had sought him, and the saints who were raised after His resurrection into heaven. That is the deliverance of death's prisoners. Since that act of liberation, the abode of every believer who has fallen asleep has been marked "with Christ" or "in Christ" (Phil 1:23; 1 Thess 4:16). They are in the kingdom of the Son of His love (Col

Ascension—Nothing Was the Same Anymore!

When Jesus died on the Cross, the curtain in the temple was torn in two. This symbolizes, among other things, that lost Paradise is accessible again.



1:13), in God's heavenly Paradise where Christ is (2 Cor 12:4). At the Resurrection or the Rapture, they are then led to the throne room, to the Most High God where Christ is their head (Eph 2:6). Here is a good place to ask the question: Are you already a captive of the Lord, or are you still a prisoner of the devil, of sin and death, of hopelessness and despair?

Martin Luther once said, "Either sin is with you, lying on your shoulders, or it is lying on Christ, the Lamb of God. Now if it is lying on your back, you are lost; but if it is resting on Christ, you are free, and you will be saved. Now choose what you want."

Jesus' Ascension Gave Gifts to the People

"When he ascended up on high, he ... gave gifts unto men" (Eph 4:8).

Ten days after the Ascension, the feast of Pentecost took place, when the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out. As the Church developed, everyone who belonged to it received spiritual gifts.

The feast of Pentecost is identical to the Feast of Weeks in the Old Testament (Shavuot). It was celebrated 50 days, or 7 weeks, after

Passover (Lev 23:15-22). A new grain offering was to be offered that day, consisting of two loaves of leavened bread.

Something completely new happened at Pentecost. The two leavened loaves symbolize the Jewish and Gentile parts of the community. The leaven indicates that sinners will be saved and become a Church of God. In the Church, there are both spiritual and natural gifts, and they all serve to build up the body of Christ (Eph 4:12). Paul speaks of apostles and prophets (who were the foundation of the church: Eph 2:20), pastors, teachers, and evangelists (Eph 4:11). Various believers can have gifts, for example, of service (deacons), admonishment, leadership, showing mercy, sharing love, music, and much more (cf. Rom 12:7-8).

Are we also using our gifts for heaven? "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col 3:2).

Jesus' Ascension Reveals His Triumph Over Israel

The concept that Paul is applying to the Church in Ephesians 4, originally comes from Psalm 68: "Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive; thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them" (Ps 68:18).

The Holy Spirit omits the words, "thou hast received gifts," "for the rebellious," and "that the LORD God might dwell among them" when speaking through Paul. I think this makes

sense. Although we can apply the Psalm's statement to the Church spiritually, it initially applies to Israel. That's why Paul doesn't mention certain phrases when relating it to the body of Christ on earth, for they address precisely what will be fulfilled at Jesus' return. The Lord will redeem all of Israel and receive it as a gift. Israel—which had been rebellious until then—will surrender to Him, and He will take up residence with His people.

This is when Isaiah 53:12 will be fulfilled: "Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

It says in Revelation, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God" (Rev 21:3).

Interestingly, Jewish theologian Pinchas Lapidé once said, "If the Messiah comes and then turns out to be Jesus of Nazareth, I would say that I do not know of any Jew in this world who would have anything against it."

Jesus' Ascension Reveals His Return

"And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white



Ascension — Nothing Was the Same Anymore!

Are we also using our gifts for heaven? “Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth” (Col 3:2).

apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven” (Acts 1:9-11).

This means He will return in a cloud and eyes will behold Him. Therefore, Israel must be present as a nation again, with Jerusalem as its capital. He will come to the Mount of Olives, and a believing remnant will await Him. Unbelieving Israel will also see Him, as Zechariah prophesied (Zech 12:10).

Seventy-six years ago, the message went around the world: “The State of Israel is born.” It could scarcely be believed after 1,900 years. With the existence of this State, the groundwork is laid for Jesus’ return and the completion of the age.

Jesus’ Ascension Is the Power Behind His Church’s Ascension

“For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ” (Phil 3:20).

Our home is where Jesus has gone ahead of us. Our citizenship is recorded there, and our dwelling is located there. Our rights are established there. We are under the protection of our current government, but also that of this heavenly homeland. We’re awaiting our Lord from here, and He will bring us to that heavenly home. He doesn’t send an angel to do it, but comes Himself. And, just as a child waits for his father to pick him up, or



a bride awaits her groom, so the Church awaits its Lord.

My wife and I care for two ponies. They are very attentive when it’s time to muck out the stables and feed them. They hear us coming without seeing us, and stand at the gate neighing expectantly.

William MacDonald writes about Philippians 3:20, “*Eagerly wait for* is strong language (in the original) to express the earnest expectation of something believed to be imminent. It means literally to thrust forward the head and neck as in anxious expectation of hearing or seeing something.”

May we be among those who eagerly wait and who anchor their homes in heaven!

(MR0521/1161)



EVANGELICALS: STAND UP FOR JEWS! – PART 3



There is the story of King Louis XIV having asked Blaise Pascal, the renowned French philosopher, to provide him with proof of the existence of God. Apparently, without any hesitation, Pascal replied, “Why, the Jews, your Majesty—the Jews.” Bible-believing Christians would agree. How can one not but see any Jew today as living proof of God’s existence and faithfulness?

By Wilfred Hahn

Yet, even as the history of the Hebrews testifies to the glory of God, He set them aside for a time. Says the Bible, a final “time of the Gentiles” was decreed. Jesus Himself identified this time, saying, “They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled” (Luke 21:24).

That era certainly came to pass, and continues today. Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian king, destroyed Jerusalem and the temple and deported a large part of the Jewish population to Babylon. From that time on, it would be the time of the Gentiles. The world would be ruled by the non-Hebrew nations.

According to Sir Robert Anderson, famed 19th century author of *The*

Coming Prince, now is the sixth, final and longest time that the Hebrews or their descendants are under the domination of the Gentiles—the Diaspora.¹ Anderson points out that the Hebrews had been dominated by Gentiles five specific and separate periods before this present age. Quoting him, “They became slaves to the king of Mesopotamia for eight years, to the king of Moab for eighteen years, to the king of Canaan for twenty years, to the Midianites for seven years, and finally, to the Philistines for forty years.”

Yet, despite the Bible’s clear testimony that it remains the era of the Gentiles at this very time, one of the most nefarious and stubborn beliefs about Jews is that they are colluding to control the world. How could this possibly be true?



In the Book of Esther, we see the Jews prospering under the Persian King Xerxes, Esther and Mordecai both piercing into the highest echelons of that society. Extra-biblical records of that era count many Jews as wealthy merchants, traders, and bankers at that time.

Esther before King Ahasuerus (Xerxes I) of Persia
Artist:
Gustave Dore



Jews: Running the World Today?

The Book of Esther in the Bible is a prophetic book, though in a different form than the literal words of the prophets. The entire book is an allegory (better said, a foreshadowing) of what the Jews would face during the Diaspora. The story takes place only two generations after the time that Jews came out of Babylon to resettle Jerusalem. The vast majority (probably nine-tenths) chose to stay in Babylon. Later, some moved elsewhere, including Susa. In the Book of Esther, we see the Jews prospering under the Persian King Xerxes, Esther and Mordecai both piercing into the highest echelons of that society. Extra-biblical records of that era count many Jews as wealthy merchants, traders, and bankers at that time.

In the Esther account, we see that the Jews were viewed as separate, yet “Jewishness” was not necessarily a religious identification, as is true for many Jews today. (No reference to God is made in the entire Book of Esther.) We also note that Jews were liable to persecution. An important perspective of this story is that while the Jews would indeed prosper and gain great influence during the times of Diaspora, they would still be subject to the Gentile. Xerxes, a Gentile, was still very much in charge. So it is today, even closer to home in the United States.

While many Jews have had influential positions in government at various times (Henry Kissinger, Paul Wolfowitz, and more), and may have a strong hand on Wall Street or in Hollywood, it remains the times of the Gentiles. “Core” Jews (those that identify as being Jewish) remain small in number (a little more than one fifth of one percent of the world population). True to Scripture, “The LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and only a few of you will survive among the nations to which the LORD will drive you” (Deuteronomy 4:27).

It is true, however, that by the very dint of their sentence, Jews would fre-

The Crusades produced incredible horrors, supposedly in the name of Christ. Heinous acts were endorsed, from the Vicars of Christ (the popes) to the state, right on down to the opportunistic soldier. Often, it was done “in the name of Christ.”

quently find themselves at the forefront of both good and bad movements. The Jew could be found at the edge of change or major world trends, be they social, moral, or economic. But the thing to see is that while influential, they have usually been on both sides of any debate. One thinks of the late 1800s, before 2 million Jews left Russia. Jews made up a large portion of two main opposition parties, the Bolshevik and Menshevik parties. We see this division of the Jews also today in America. Jews actively exercise their opinion and influence on both sides of any spectrum.

These are just some of the many reasons why we can ignore conspiracy theories that claim to involve the Jews, such as the “Protocols of the Elders of Zion.” However, as Bible-believing Christians, we have a strong basis to believe in another agenda, one that God has laid out. First acting in wrath, He will cause the Jews to finally recognize the Messiah, “the one that they have pierced” (Zechariah 12:10). Then, indeed He will place the Jew at the head of the world. However, this will not happen before the time of the Gentiles is ended.



Smug Christianity

In Part 1 of this series, we briefly reviewed the persecution of the Jew by Gentiles. But what of the Christian? Sadly, history records many so-called Christians as having assumed a righteous role in persecuting the Jews. Here also, the atrocities are beyond count.

For example, most infamously, the Crusades produced incredible horrors, supposedly in the name of Christ. Heinous acts were endorsed, from the Vicars of Christ (the popes) to the state, right on down to the opportunistic soldier. Often, it was done “in the name of Christ.” Said Emicho the Wicked, a German noble who led a rabble of Crusaders (German and French) to slaughter defenseless Jews in Mainz in 1096 AD, “Now let us avenge the blood of ‘the hanged one.’” Or consider this example of a statewide action, as recorded in



the Royal Decree, Expulsion from England 1290: “We, in requital for their crimes and for the honor of the Crucified, have banished them from our realm as traitors.”

Countless other such statements could be quoted that were, and are today, equally misguided and self-serving. The question begs: If the oppressions of the Gentiles will someday be fully punished (see Psalm 149:6-9), then what of the crimes of so-called Christians? Could it be possible that parts of the true Church have a hand in these sins? Here too, prophecy provides us with some understanding.

The Jew and the Travesty of the False Church

The Prophet Micah uttered a puzzling prophecy:

“Do not gloat over me, my enemy! Though I have fallen, I will rise. Though I sit in darkness, the LORD will be my light. Because I have sinned against him, I will bear the LORD’s wrath, until he pleads my case and establishes my right. He will bring me out into the light; I will see his righteousness. Then my enemy will see it and will be covered with shame, she who said to me, ‘Where is the LORD your God?’ My eyes will see her downfall; even now she will be trampled underfoot like mire in the streets” (Micah 7:8-10).

Who is the enemy here ... the entity addressed as “she” in this verse? Nowhere in this chapter is she identified. By deduction, however, we can easily identify her.

It cannot be Israel itself, nor can it be the Church (which at this point is already gone). It must be the harlot, the apostate global religion that has enveloped the false church ... the same harlot depicted in Revelation 17.

We therefore can know that persecution of the Jews, in whatever form, is a mark of the false church (though surely, some individual Christians have erred in this way). While this persecution has already occurred over thousands of years, the capstone of this insurrection still lies ahead. And the precedent and mindset for this taking place is already well set. Many church denominations today endorse the idea of Replacement Theology, the notion that the Church has replaced the Jews, and thus all the promises to the Jews have been transferred to her. As such, the Jews are of no more consequence. As God is finished with them, the Gentile can therefore do to the Jews as he wishes, for there is no more eternal consequence.

We will not present any arguments as to why this view patently denies Scripture. Suffice it to say that it “distort[s] the words of the living God, the LORD Almighty, our God” (Jeremiah 23:36). ^{MC}

This is part of a re-edited, four-part excerpt from the 2009 book, *Preserving True Riches in an Age of Deception and Trouble* (secondary title).

ENDNOTE

- 1 Robert Anderson, *The Coming Prince*. Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, MI. 1957 Reprint, p. 83.

More Than the Eye Can See

DR. RON J. BIGALKE



The faculty of sight is one of the greatest gifts from the Creator. The eyes provide the ability to see a beautiful sunset, the splendor of a red rose, or the face of a loved one. The world would be complete darkness without the faculty of sight, resulting in an unseen world; and yet, there is far more to the world than can be seen with the human eye.

There are realities that are invisible to the human eye, and yet these forces control every aspect of human existence. Much of life depends upon vital realities that are imperceptible. Air, for instance, is essential for human life; it is invisible, yet one could only survive briefly without it. Gravity holds the Earth in orbit around the Sun, yet it cannot be seen with the human eye. Electricity has resulted in a myriad of modern conveniences, yet it is unseen. The brain, of course, is physical, yet the thoughts emanating from it are not.

Consider the Bible. The paper and ink is made entirely of atoms. Strictly speaking, a perfect vacuum (empty space) exists between the atoms, which is really nothing whatsoever.

Atoms are primarily empty spaces that combine with weightless electrons, so the Bible being held is essentially nothingness. Anything that is seen with the human eye is composed of rapidly whirling electrons that are unbreakable. The Bible declares, “what is seen was not made out of things which are visible” (Heb 11:3b).

Scripture teaches the reality of an unseen world (2 Cor 4:16-18). The foolish person lives solely by sight, while those who are trusting in God live by faith in Him, who is unseen. And yet, that reality is so authentic that one can live with confidence knowing the Creator exists. By contrast, Psalm 14:1a declares, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God.’” Belief in the unseen can be more tangible than the visible.

More Than the Eye Can See

The good soil (vv. 8, 23) is deep enough and soft enough to support healthy plants. The good soil welcomes the seed, encourages its germination, nurtures the seed for the future, and perseveres through the complexities, temptations, and trials associated with the present life.



While physical sight is extraordinary, spiritual sight allows one to perceive God even with closed eyes.

Matthew 13 introduces the reader to Jesus' parables, which are more than mere stories. He communicated vital spiritual truths for those with "eyes to see" and "ears to hear." Those with physical sight alone heard a memorable story, while those with spiritual sight also were able to understand "mysteries of the kingdom of heaven." Spiritual sight makes visible the complete spectrum of truth. The question that Matthew 13 provokes is whether a person is viewing the world by means of physical, temporal sight or with spiritual, eternal sight.

PERCEIVING THE TRUTH

(Matt 13:1-23) Once again, Jesus taught "by the sea" (v. 1), which was beneficial because crowds could sit on the sloping hillside in a natural amphitheater. On this occasion, Jesus found it necessary to use "a boat" because the crowds

were so considerable. As is the customary practice of Jewish teachers, He "was sitting" and spoke to the crowd on the shore. Jesus acclimated Himself to whatever circumstances allowed Him to accomplish His purposes.

To those gathered, "He spoke many things to them in parables" (v. 3). The term "parable" literally means "to throw alongside." Biblically, parables are spiritual truths that are told in a story, the two being laid side-by-side. A parable is a story illustrating a specific doctrine or application. Parables are written to bring attention to everyday life situations, for the purpose of illustrating a doctrine or application of biblical truth. Matthew 13 begins with Jesus' parable of the sower. Following the story (vv. 3-9), the disciples asked Jesus to explain the meaning, and the Lord gave a detailed analysis of it.

The "many things" Jesus spoke in parables include verses 3-52. The parable of the sower (vv. 3-23) is the standard by which to understand the others, since Jesus explained it for His disciples. Using agricultural customs of His day, Jesus indicated four responses to the proclamation of God's Word.

The wayside was the path where people walked, and thus nothing would grow there due to the hardness of the ground. The wayside represents a heart hardened to the truth of God (vv. 4, 19). The rocky places (vv. 5-6, 20-21) refer to a thin layer of soil where plants appear healthy for a brief time, but then shrivel and die. The picture is that of a person initially enthusiastic,

The focal point of Christ's words in Mark 4 is not to become secure in one's salvation too quickly. Salvation is a life-changing experience that remains for a lifetime.

but superficial regarding spiritual truths; thus, eventually wanting nothing to do with God. The thorny ground (vv. 7, 22) represents soil that is perhaps too fertile, because thorns eventually choked the good plants. Some hear the Word of God yet quickly forget what it says, not allowing it to affect their lives.

The good soil (vv. 8, 23) is deep enough and soft enough to support healthy plants. The good soil welcomes the seed, encourages its germination, nurtures the seed for the future, and perseveres through the complexities, temptations, and trials associated with the present life. Those who were spiritually sensitive were to pay attention (v. 9), because next, Jesus explained the purpose for speaking in parables (vv. 10-17, 34-35). His teaching had a twofold aim: (1) to conceal truth from those who will not see, hear, or believe (as the prophet Isaiah predicted); and, (2) to bless those whose desire is to see and hear the truth.

Of course, the notion that one can apostatize from God's Word (v. 21; Heb 2:1-4; 6:1-8; 10:1-10) provokes questions with regard to such apostasy. In other words, could one "believe" in God and yet not be a disciple? Are belief and discipleship mutually inclusive? Discipleship is a call to faith/trust in Jesus Christ as Lord God and Savior. Such a call is evident in devotion to the Word of God, far beyond all other priorities. Maturity is not immediate; that is, it does not occur in days or weeks. Mature disciples devote their lives to listening to God's Word, retain that Word to live by it, and continue to heed the Bible

throughout life, so that it progressively becomes more and more the primary component of one's life.

Those who are enthusiastic for a time and then "fall away" into the world's occupations and pleasures, demonstrate a lack of discipleship. Moments of enthusiasm and good feelings dominate, until something "better" arises. Following what is seemingly better reveals one's true nature: They were never devoted to God's Word nor were they disciples, and were merely testing God (cf. Deut 6:16).

The one who believes in Jesus Christ—by grace through faith—is a disciple. Discipleship is not one good feeling or one event in the past, in which you felt positive toward Jesus and desired salvation. The focal point of Christ's words in Mark 4 is not to become secure in one's salvation too quickly. Salvation is a life-changing experience that remains for a lifetime. *Therefore*, believers are those who seek maturity in discipleship for life, as opposed to good feelings for a brief time. God's Word brings change! Do you have ears to hear? Only one type of soil that is attuned to God (as He reveals Himself in the Holy Bible) produces maturity in salvation.

PERCEIVING ETERNAL REALITIES

(Matt 13:24-58) In the second parable (vv. 24-30, 36-43), the devil is presented as sowing tares (darnel) among good seed. In the early stages, the tares are virtually indistinguishable from the wheat, at least in outward appearance. Only when the wheat ripens is it possible to distin-

More Than the Eye Can See

The growth of the kingdom of heaven like a mustard seed is prophetic, and is intended to communicate the phenomenal growth and spread of the gospel message.

guish the good seed from the tares with any kind of certainty. One of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven is that for the present time, Christendom (sc., people identified as a group) will contain those whose confession is true and those whose profession of faith is false. Jesus gave this parable so the Messiah's people would understand why they must tolerate evil for a time, and yet He provided hope for ultimate justice and reward.

The next parable (vv. 31-32) indicates a delay in separating the wheat from the tares until the harvest. The growth of the kingdom of heaven like a mustard seed is prophetic, and is intended to communicate the phenomenal growth and spread of the gospel message. The great number of those who should be heirs of the kingdom is indicated by the tree becoming larger “so that THE BIRDS OF THE AIR COME AND NEST IN ITS BRANCHES” (cf. Ps 104:12; Dan 4:12, 21; Ezek 17:23; 31:6), though some understand the birds as symbolizing evil and thus corruption (cf. Rev 18:2). The parable of the leaven (Matt 13:33) does represent evil and indicates the proliferation of wickedness among those who profess to inherit the kingdom (cf. 1 Tim 4:1-5; 2 Tim 3:1-9; 2 Pet 3:3-7; Jude; Rev 6—19).

Jesus' teaching in parables was to fulfill yet another prophecy (Matt 13:34-35; cf. Ps 78:2). He made known eternal realities that had long since been hidden. His fifth of the parables portrays the Lord's kingdom as concealed from view (Matt 13:44). The finding of treasure signifies that the prophesied kingdom of the Old

Testament had come near in the person of Messiah. Redemption of the treasure has been accomplished, but the kingdom will remain veiled until Christ's second coming.

The interpretation of the next parable (vv. 45-46) depends upon identifying the “fine pearls,” which appear to be in reference to the redemption of the church by the precious blood of Jesus Christ. The mystery revealed is the formation of a new body, who are “fellow heirs and fellow members . . . and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel” (Eph 3:3-6). The pearl is a product of the sea and may suggest the nations of the earth (Matt 28:19-20).

The final parable (vv. 47-50) indicates the two kinds of people who make professions of faith as part of Christendom. The world will remain divided between the wicked and righteous until the end of the age (a truth also revealed in the parable of the wheat and tares). One wonders if the disciples truly did understand Jesus' parables (v. 51), yet He did not deny their claim. Those who understand the new truths of the kingdom are responsible to make them known (v. 52).

Jesus departed for His hometown when He completed His teaching session. The unbelief of the people meant Jesus “did not do many miracles there.” God will not work providentially in the lives of people who consciously disbelieve (vv. 53-58). Even though the kingdom is essentially hidden today, it is still worth seeking (6:33). (1380)




WORLD FOCUS

 BELGIUM

Animal Welfare?

The European Court of Human Rights decided a case, *The Executive Committee of Muslims of Belgium and Others vs. Belgium*, that required balancing religious freedom and animal welfare.

 The Belgian provinces of Flanders and Wallonia had passed laws requiring that all animals slaughtered for human consumption must be stunned before being killed. Muslim and Jewish communities sought to overturn the legislation, claiming that it violated their freedom to slaughter animals in the manner prescribed by their dietary laws.

Previous applications to the Belgian Constitutional Court and the Court of Justice of the European Union were unsuccessful, so the applicants turned to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), a court of the Council of Europe, to which all European countries, except Belarus and Russia, belong. All members of the Council of Europe must ratify the European Convention on Human Rights.

According to Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights, “Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion ... and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in worship, teaching, practice and observance.” This right is qualified,



however, by a second clause: “Freedom to manifest one’s religion or beliefs shall be subject only to such limitations as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of public safety, for the protection of public order, health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.”

-www.japantimes.co.jp, 20 March 2024

Commentary: Officially, there are 50 recognized states on the continent. The European Court of Human Rights now apparently includes animals. This tendency is not surprising, due to the many active animal rights groups and the general public’s adoration of animals.

The power of the European Court is quite impressive. The 27 EU member nations, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland, are members of the European Free Trade Association. The Schengen Agreement has opened the border between all member countries, allowing more

than 400 million people to travel across Europe without border controls. Statista.com shows over 15 million foreign-born people residing in Germany, followed by France with 8.6 million, Spain with 7.3 million, and Italy 6.1 million.

In the meantime, Ukraine is considered a potential candidate for EU membership. According to Wikipedia, there are nine additional candidates: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey, and Ukraine. It is no longer a question of if but when they join.

That, as we can see, is Europe’s future: one continent, one set of laws, and finally, one government. The rest of the world will have to follow in its footsteps, as aptly demonstrated by the EU’s motto, “United in diversity.” The Bible speaks of the last world empire: “These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast” (Revelation 17:13). No wonder the Antichrist is called the

“beast”; that is, an animal wholly dedicated to the service of the great deceiver, Lucifer. 8211

(See *Exposing Mystery Babylon* Part 1, Item #1078, \$4.50.)




 ISRAEL

Jewish State Benefits USA

“Israel did not grow strong because it had an American alliance. It acquired an American alliance because it had grown strong,” said Professor Walter Russell Mead, a leading historian of American foreign policy. He was right.



American and Israeli flags flying together.
Credit: John Theodor/Shutterstock.

 In 1948, Israel was misconstrued by the U.S. State Department as a burden upon the U.S. It believed the newborn state would be too feeble to withstand an all-out Arab military offensive.

In the 1967 Six-Day War, Israel devastated the pro-Soviet Egyptian military. [...] The resounding Israeli victory spared the United States a huge economic and national security setback, and denied the USSR a geostrategic gold mine.

Twenty-five U.S. military experts went to Israel to study the lessons of the Six-Day War and examine captured Soviet military systems. Their findings upgraded the performance of the U.S. armed forces and defense industries.

In 1966 and 1989, Israel acquired MIG-21 and MIG-23 Soviet combat planes through defecting Iraqi and Syr-

ian pilots. The planes were shared with the United States, impacting the global balance of power and enhancing the performance of the U.S. Air Force and aerospace industries.

The 1981 Israeli destruction of Iraq’s nuclear reactor—in defiance of fierce U.S. opposition—spared the U.S. the potential devastation of a nuclear confrontation during the 1991 Gulf War. In effect, it saved the pro-U.S. Arab oil-producing regimes from the jaws of Saddam Hussein.

Israel’s posture of deterrence is not growing stronger due to the recent peace accords with Arab countries. Arab countries concluded peace accords with Israel due to the fact that Israel’s posture of deterrence is growing stronger.

-www.jns.org, 24 July 2022

Commentary: The excerpts we publish from the Jewish News Syndicate, authored by Yoram Ettinger, list only a few of the countless advantages the US earned as a friend of Israel.

Before 1948, it was the Soviet Union that stood behind the Jews by supplying Israel with urgently needed weapons. The US State Department assumed, “The newborn state would be too feeble to withstand an all-out Arab military offensive.” After the Six-Day War, things looked vastly different.

During the Yom Kippur War in 1973, the US put its weight behind Israel and earned invaluable information about the Soviet Union.

In August of 1990, the US attacked Iraq. Israel promised not to retaliate when Saddam Hussein sent rockets into Israel. The US supplied what was initially reported as a very effective Patriot anti-missile system, but during the period of 18 January to 28 February 1991, a total of 39 Iraqi-modified Scud missiles landed in Israel. The Patriot defense system was a total failure.

Today, Israel has developed the world’s foremost missile defense system, the Iron Dome. According to officials, it’s about 90% effective in destroying short-range rockets fired by Hezbollah in the north and by Hamas terrorists in the south.

Israel is no longer considered “too feeble to withstand an all-out Arab military offensive.” In fact, Israel can withstand virtually any military offensive in the Middle East region.

Despite apparent internal political turmoil and exponentially-rising anti-semitism worldwide, what Israel does have—as no other nation on earth—is the promise of God: “Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord” (Jeremiah 31:37).




8205
(See *Israel Always*, Item #2403, \$18.99.)

EUROPE

Ocean Current Near Collapse

Europe is in danger of significant cooling, climate scientists warn after news broke that one of Earth's major ocean currents is on the way to collapse due to the effects of global warming.

 These concerns have come to light following a recent study, helmed by researcher René M. van Westen, which claims that the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC), one of Earth's major ocean currents, is on route to cease flowing.

As such, the AMOC collapsing would likely lead to a notable cooling of the northern hemisphere, specifically in Europe, and a potential rise in sea levels along eastern United States coasts.

"Let's put this in context. Let's say this happens by the end of the century: this would mean a very significant and rapid cooling of the northern hemisphere. So despite global warming being the potential trigger for this, the response would be a significant cooling of Europe, which is opposed to the warming trends that we're seeing right now," said Ori Adam, a professor at the Hebrew University Climate Science Center.

According to Tel Aviv University's Professor Colin Price, "It may have a small effect on global temperatures, but it may have a dramatic impact on the economy of specific countries close to the Atlantic."

While there's no telling exactly how soon this collapse may take place, the



The swift Gulf Stream underwater ocean current flowing in the Atlantic. Photo by Oliver Denker via Shutterstock.com

implications are critical to understand—at the very least, we all need to plan our trips to French wine country before it freezes over.

-www.israel21c.org, 20 February 2024

Commentary: Confusion galore! Global warming will freeze Europe? The smartest minds in the world are desperately trying to justify their research into the unknown.

When it comes to global warming, yes, certain measurements have been taken in the last 100 plus years, but there is no evidence supported by facts and figures about what the temperature was like 500, 1000, 2000, or 3000 years ago.

Why have we heard so much sensationalism regarding planet earth in the last few years? There is a volume of diverse and contradictory "science" available on the internet. It seems like everyone knows what will happen in the future, but in reality, they don't.

Here is what the Bible says: "The sun also ariseth, and the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where

he arose. The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits" (Ecclesiastes 1:5-6). These are the words King Solomon wrote some 3,000 years ago. When it comes to the earth, verse 4 reads: "One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever."

We believe that the many fear-instilling discoveries are fueled by the spirit of unity. Why unity? To oppose the One who created all things, and who in person is the Prince of Peace. The forces of darkness, dominated by the god of this world, will and must establish a peaceful global society with prosperity and security for all—but we repeat, it's only temporary.

Real peace will only be established when the Prince of Peace comes. He will change the laws of nature. Something amazing will happen, for Revelation 21:1b says, "and there was no more sea." The animal world will be changed: "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord" (Isaiah 65:25). That is the real future.


8204

(See *Future Glory*, Item #2382, \$16.99.)

 INDIA

Angry Farmers Block Highways

Singh and five other farmers from his village in the western state of Punjab have been living on their own supplies, including a gas cylinder and raw produce they packed from their farms when they drove down in a tractor to join thousands more in a mounting campaign to pressure the government to raise crop prices.

 While the specific factors fueling the anger vary from country to country, the result is largely the same: Farmers say governments need to take drastic action if their way of life is to survive. And the timing is no coincidence, experts say, with protesters seeking favorable policies in a year with a record number of elections around the globe.

Almost two-thirds of India's 1.4 billion population are farmers.

For decades they relied on a minimum support price for their crops, which is a rate at which the government guarantees to buy surplus stock at the end of the harvest.

But in 2020, the government opened up the markets to corporate buyers, who work directly with the farmers.

"It looked good on paper," said Garrett Graddy-Lovelace, an associate professor at American University in Washington, D.C. But "the farmers knew that if they were dealing directly with the buyer, the buyers would drive the price down to nothing."

Across the European Union, farmers say they are battling soaring costs of living and



Protesting farmers blocked traffic in New Delhi. Sanchit Khanna / Hindustan Times via Getty Images

production, rising taxes and the burden of new environmental rules, which they say renders them uncompetitive against cheaper imports from abroad.

-*www.nbcnews.com*, 21 March 2024

Commentary: Food security is a much-needed government policy, but the income to sustain family farming operations depends on the price of produce.

While two-thirds of the Indian population work in food production—representing almost 66%—in the European Union, agriculture employees register at below 2% of the population. Despite the dramatic difference in economic culture, European farmers are protesting as well. Quite apparently, "free market" is not the answer. Farmers in India do not have the skills, experience, and practical knowledge to go about determining prices for their produce; hence, they need the government to guarantee prices so farms can continue operating.

This writer was a member of the West Australian Wheat Board in the

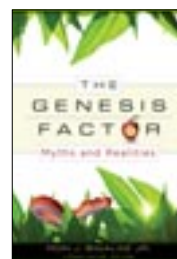
1960s. Regardless of the global price for wheat, income was guaranteed, and government would subsidize farmers. A Google search reveals that farm subsidies in Australia were \$12.6 billion for 2023. The Cato Institute reports: "The U.S. Department of Agriculture runs dozens of farm subsidy programs, which cost taxpayers more than \$30 billion a year."

What happens when natural catastrophes occur? "Since 2017, Congress has passed 'an astounding \$60 billion in ad-hoc disaster assistance' in a series of bills."

Whenever the government spends money, it is tax money. Thus, we see that this type of socialism practiced globally actually seems to be quite effective. The USDA Economic Research Service reports that the agricultural share in the overall US economy stands at 5.5% (2022).

In summary, while there are pockets in some countries where food shortages occur, in general, global food production stands at record highs.

What is not mentioned is our dependence on the Creator. Deuteronomy 11:14 declares: "That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil." 8209



(See *The Genesis Factor*, Item #2239, \$15.99.)

UN

Too Much Electronic Waste

All those old wires, cords, tablets, phones and other electronics aren't just taking up space in drawers and closets—they're also extensively covering the planet.



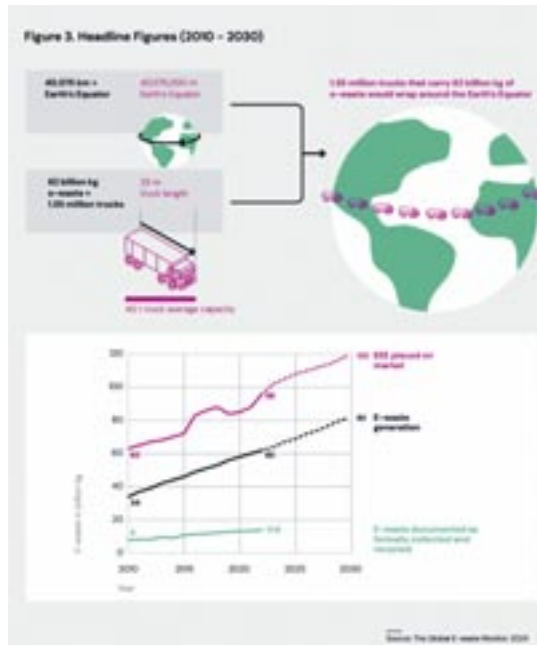
A United Nations report states the amount of electronic waste is rising substantially faster than those items are being recycled, so much so that right now, that waste could span the equator.

And that figure is still growing. The report predicts that an additional 5.7 billion pounds of e-waste is generated every year.

Meanwhile, researchers predict that recycling of the products is only going to decrease. The recycling rate in 2022 was 22.3% and the U.N. believes that number will drop to 20% by 2030, at the same time that the world will generate 82 million metric tons of e-waste.

"Large volumes of rock have to be extracted to produce a substantive amount of the minerals containing the metals [to create electronics]," the report says. "For instance, 3 million kg of mineral ore [6.6 million pounds] have to be mined to produce 1 kg [2.2 pounds] of gold."

-www.cbsnews.com, 29 March 2024



Commentary: Effective recycling is practiced by the most advanced nations; strict rules must be implemented. For example, in Switzerland, garbage collectors only pick up trash in prepaid bags or containers, which are very costly. Containers are clearly designated for glass, metal, various plastics, and biodegradables.

While recycling is commendable—also applying to wastewater and air pollution—we realize that UN initiated research is often somewhat exaggerated. While 3 million kilograms (6.6 mil. lbs.) are mined to produce 1 kilogram of gold (2.2 lbs.), that's just barely scratching the surface of planet earth.

What we do know is that God created all matter, and out of that matter, man has created his own gods. Isaiah proclaims: "They that make a graven

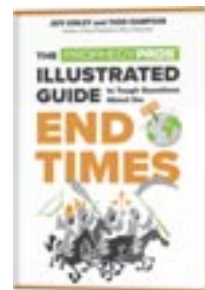
image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed. Who hath formed a god, or molten a graven image that is profitable for nothing?" (Isaiah 44:9-10).

Not surprisingly, when speaking of the end times and the horrific judgments of destruction that are to come upon the earth, the population at large does not lament

the loss of lives but of material things, according to Revelation 18:11: "And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more." Thereafter, 28 items are listed, which the world cries about.

8215

(See *Prophecy Pros' Illustrated Guide to the End Times*, Item #2379, \$17.99.)



Visit midnightcall.com/pn

Need More Up-to-Date News?

Sign up for our FREE Newsletters

Prophetic News

Subscribe FREE to *Prophetic News* Prophecy-Related NEWS Emails 5 Times a Week



An Ignored and Forgotten God – Part 2

Stephan Beitze

Some assert that God doesn't exist because they haven't seen Him. But when there's a watch with all of its wonderful mechanisms and moving parts, nobody doubts the existence of a watchmaker. When we see a majestic building, we rightly assume that there is an architect, even though we've never seen him. Likewise, nature provides us with proof that there must be a Creator.

Take a moment to consider the very existence of infinite space, which suggests that whatever caused its existence must also be infinite. The fact that there is inexhaustible energy testifies to omnipotence. The initial spark of that infinite complexity is evidence of comprehensive knowledge. The existence of unpredictable time points to an eternal cause. And so, we can see that everything stems

from a Creator, who is infinite, omnipotent, omniscient, and eternal. Last but not least, the first cause of life must be life. Nothing can come from nothing. And life is the very essence of God.

What's most striking about Creation is the particular interest in one specific creature—human beings. We may be physically similar to apes, but there's something about our nature

As far as God's existence is concerned, many simply assume that He must exist, but they just haven't found Him yet. So, they keep looking and trying different approaches.

that makes us infinitely superior. We humans are the only creatures on earth who can think and ask where we came from, where we're going, and what our purpose is. Most people recognize that there must be a higher being that they should somehow worship. That's why we have so many religions. The Bible confirms this by saying, "He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end" (Ecc 3:11). The purpose for which God created man is, as our passage says, "that they should seek God" (Acts 17:27a).

As far as God's existence is concerned, many simply assume that He must exist, but they just haven't found Him yet. So, they keep looking and trying different approaches. Most people fall into this group, whether theists, agnostics, or religious.

Atheists, on the other hand, deny God's existence altogether because they haven't found Him. But their reasoning isn't very logical. Let me illustrate it this way: I hide a gold bar in a big city and announce it in the media. Many people search for it. Some come back tired, and say they haven't yet found the gold. But there are others who give up and say that the gold bar can't exist, since they didn't find it. That's essentially the position of the few true atheists in our society. Since they haven't found God, they think that He doesn't exist either.

The search for the lost God: The Bible tells us that humanity is lost and unable to find its way to God (Isa 53:6). But God wants all people to seek

Him: "that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him" (Acts 17:27a). And although people don't generally want to draw near to God, according to Paul, "he is actually not far from each one of us" (v. 27b). He is so great that He's all-encompassing, but at the same time, He desires fellowship with each and every one of us. There is nothing that mankind can substitute for Him, which means that all objects of worship are useless. Such a great God couldn't be a piece of stone, plaster, or canvas.

For a long time, God was patient with man's ignorance, "But now he commands all people everywhere to repent" (v. 30). Repentance (or conversion, as we call it) means a 180-degree change in direction. We were going one way, but now it's time to go the opposite way. Anyone who hasn't yet experienced this radical change isn't saved. You can be very wise or very religious, but if you haven't made that change of direction and accepted Jesus into your life, you don't really know God.

We might ask why we should repent, or what we should be repenting of. Everyone has (or had) the same problem. God had created mankind in His own image and had perfect fellowship with him. But man considered himself wiser than God, and wanted to manage without Him and go his own way. This led him to sin, which means missing God's target. Because God is holy, He can't have fellowship with a creature who has sinned. The Bible says, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Rom

An Ignored and Forgotten God – Part 2

Some assert that God doesn't exist because they haven't seen Him. But when there's a watch with all of its wonderful mechanisms and moving parts, nobody doubts the existence of a watchmaker.



3:23). And because God is just, He must also judge the sinner through Jesus Christ, His Son (Acts 17:31). This is why God requires people to repent of their sins. There is no other way we can be saved. Mankind is very proud and thinks he can live just fine without God. There are so many who are wise in their own eyes, who don't want to see this sober truth. Because if we're being honest, nobody likes being told what to do, let alone that they're wrong.

King Solomon, the wisest man to ever live, said: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov 1:7). The man who is truly wise will perceive this truth and act accordingly. When we realize that God exists, that His words are true and that we must repent and come to Him for salvation, then we're demonstrating true wisdom.

The way to God: Paul continued his message by showing the only way to salvation. He had taken note of the Athenians' religiosity, but also their

utter ignorance of God. This is still the case today. Many say they believe in God; some even claim to believe in Jesus and to have repented of their sins. But their profession is often just a creed. They believe in God like they believe in love, energy, or their bank account.

The Bible says we can only be saved if we have a surrogate for our sinful condition. And so, Paul told the people of Athens about Jesus, who died and rose again (Acts 17:31). The only way to be absolved of guilt and have our sins forgiven is for that debt to be paid. But no man can pay it, since we're all guilty. That's why Jesus Christ had to come into this world to bear our sins. The righteous and innocent One died on the Cross, suffering the punishment we deserved. But Jesus also rose from the dead, demonstrating His power over physical and eternal death. Through Him—and only through Him—man receives full life here and access to eternal life with God in heaven.

In Romans 5:1, the Apostle Paul points out a fundamental truth: "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom 5:1). A person is only declared righteous by God through faith in Jesus Christ. The question is how this faith manifests itself.

My wife and I once met a young woman who was very religious. She testified that she believed in God and Jesus, and that she had repented of her sins. But something didn't sit quite right, so we invited her over for a conver-

Salvation is only possible through Jesus.



sation about faith. I used the chair she was sitting on to illustrate. It was her first visit with us, and she wasn't familiar with the chair, but she trusted that it would bear her weight. What would it be like if I didn't have full confidence in the chair? I'd lean heavily on the table, to make sure the chair didn't collapse beneath me. The table is an illustration of religious institutions, whether Catholic, Mormon, Jehovah's Witness, or evangelical. People whose belief rests on Jesus *plus* a church don't have faith in Jesus alone.

But I could also lean on someone in a chair next to me. This is an example of a faith shared with a person, such as a priest, the pope, a minister, or even people who have passed away, such as the so-called saints or the Virgin Mary. Such belief is also common, but it isn't faith in Jesus Christ.

Here an example: I have a specific deadly heart problem, and there is only one surgeon in the entire world who can successfully resolve it. When the day of the operation arrives and

I'm on the operating table, an assistant appears and says, "The surgeon has another appointment, but don't worry, his mother will be operating on you." So I ask, "Is she a surgeon too?" "No, but she's a very nice woman who loves her son very much." Of course I wouldn't let her operate on me. The same is true of salvation, when you're inclined to

lean on someone else. No matter how good a person is or has been, only One saves.

Returning to the illustration of the chair, there can be a third case: I could also sit with my knees bent, barely touching the chair. That would mean I'm trusting more in myself and my own strength than in Jesus. This is a typical example of many who consider themselves good people and do many good deeds. But the Bible is clear: "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim 2:5). "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Salvation is only possible through Jesus.

Faced with an infinite number of supposed paths offered by this world (invented by man, and all ending in a dead end), and with a society in which truth is relative to everyone, Jesus expressly affirms, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). In his Gospel, the

An Ignored and Forgotten God – Part 2

Apostle John shows how incapable man is of finding true peace and lasting security, despite all his knowledge and efforts. But he also points out that we can find real life by believing in Jesus. As He Himself says, “I came that they may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10b).

Acts 17:28 confronts us with the fact that God lives. He is the only One who can give life—not just biological, but also spiritual and eternal life. No one can find the true meaning of life unless they are in a relationship with God.

Man has a number of choices, but they all boil down to two: either a life of ignorance of God, or a life of full identification with God through Christ’s work on the Cross. Elsewhere, Jesus points to the reality of every human being in this world. There are only two paths, and each of us is on one of the two. Let’s look at their respective ends. Jesus says: “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few” (Matt 7:13-14).

There are two paths. And as often is the case, where there is a path, there is also a destination, a place you want to get to. Jesus warned very clearly about the danger of walking the path without Him, because that destination is eternal damnation—hell. As Paul said in Athens, “because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed” (Acts 17:31a), the Lord Jesus Christ. But there is also the way to heaven and eternal life, if we believe

in Jesus and accept Him. The decision is personal: Which path do you choose? What decision will you make? On what, or even better, on whom is your faith based? Is it Jesus alone?

THE CHOICE OF PATHS

In Athens, there were two reactions to the Apostle’s message.

The rejected God: To most of the “wise” Athenians, Paul’s message was simply ridiculous. For one thing, they were convinced that the gods cannot die; apart from that, the concept of resurrection seemed ridiculous to them. The philosophers of the time saw Paul simply as a windbag—literally, a “seed-collector.” In other words, someone who exploits what other people have discarded.

The Apostle Paul, once a leading figure in Judaism who had received superlative religious training, knew and professed the simple message of the One who gave His life for him. This message was too simplistic for those who thought themselves too wise.

Many still consider free salvation—offered to us without any special works or merit, and which we can simply accept by faith—to be too simple to be true. Others don’t want to change their lives, and choose to continue ignoring God. This is the path of the rejected God.

The accepted God: Despite the grand group who thought themselves wiser and chose to continue in their philosophies and idolatry, there were also the “devout persons.” We don’t know exactly who the author of Acts is referring to, but we can assume that they were honestly and

There are two paths. And as often is the case, where there is a path, there is also a destination, a place you want to get to. Jesus warned very clearly about the danger of walking the path without Him.

humbly seeking the truth about God and their lives, because Scripture records, “some ... believed” (Acts 17:34a). They believed that the Lord Jesus came into this world to die for them, save them from their guilt, forgive their sins, and give them eternal life.

Everyone is faced with this decision today. We may go our own way, following our own philosophies of life, but we should remember: God exists, heaven and hell are a reality, and the choices we make now will affect our lives and determine where we will spend eternity. The Bible warns with great seriousness:

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed ... Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him” (John 3:17-20, 36).



In a world full of deceptive offerings—with no security, no real peace but only dead ends—the Lord Jesus wants to lead us to truth, life in abundance, and eternal salvation. He invites us again and again, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water’” (John 7:37-38).

When we come to Jesus, He’ll quench our thirst! When we come to Christ, He’ll save us! The gift of salvation will be granted to us when we believe in Him. But faith is much more than just an intellectual exercise. Believing in Jesus involves repenting of our sins and accepting that Jesus died on the Cross for those sins, making Him our personal Savior. The ones who make this decision to believe are doing much more than just participating in religion. They’re beginning a personal relationship with God Himself! Every person can become one of God’s beloved children in a very special way (John 1:12). The Bible promises those who want to enter into this relationship, that “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved” (Rom 10:13).

Have you done this? If not, won’t you do it now? (MR0922/1279)



Letters to the Editor

Address letters for publication to: Letters to the Editor, Midnight Call, PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073. Include full name, address, and daytime phone number or email. Without name and address, letters will be discarded unread. All material is subject to editing. Midnight Call assumes all publishing rights on letters sent to the Editor.

Note: All letters will be answered by the Executive Editor, Arno Froese.

TWELVE STEP AA... RECEIVING JESUS... FIRE FROM HEAVEN

Twelve Step AA

Dear Editor,

I'm responding to your written reply on "Psychology" in the January 2024 issue, page 37.

You claim and made a bold statement that AA 12-step programs will hold you in bondage and keep you from freedom for the rest of your life.

Fortunately, you haven't experienced alcoholism!

But for us unfortunate alcoholics, it is through faith in a higher power, such as God, that this program has rescued, saved, and released our lives and souls from eternal damnation.

That is total free will and freedom we choose. Yes, we still attend AA 12-step programs, to help remind us of where we came from; also, to help encourage others who struggle.

-D. Cooper, OR

Answer: The issue at hand was psychology. I suggest reading *Psycho Heresy* by Martin Bobgan, or Dave Hunt's book *Psychology and the Church*. From their

Biblical perspective, the story looks quite different, although psychology is helpful for many people.

Granted, my statement was rather bold regarding AA, but the answer is based on Scripture: "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed" (John 8:36). The issue is not what helps, what is successful, and what gives "freedom."

Doubtless, AA does a marvelous job. The success rate varies from as low as 5% to as high as 75%, as claimed by AA, but John 8:36 is 100%.

Receiving Jesus

Dear Arno Froese,

My question is, what does the Word of God say about receiving Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

May a person pray the sinner's prayer without being convicted of sin, and still be saved?

Can a person come to Christ anytime, or must the Spirit of God convict him and he be drawn to God?

I believe:

- 1) You are a sinner.
- 2) So, unless you believe in Jesus who died in your place, you will spend eternity in hell.



3) If you believe on Him as your crucified, buried, and risen Savior, you receive forgiveness for all your sins and His gift of eternal salvation by faith.

-R. Meers, OH

Answer: Your three-point answer to these questions is Biblical. We receive Jesus Christ according to John 1:12: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." It is the Holy Spirit that convicts a sinner of his sin—John 16:8: "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." We can only come to the Father if He draws us—John 6:44: "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."

Fire from Heaven

Dear Arno,

I just read your book *Satan's Last Victory*. On pages 153-154, you spoke of the false prophet's ability to bring down fire from heaven. You mentioned that scholars differ on what that fire may be. May I offer a possibility? Since the false prophet (second beast)

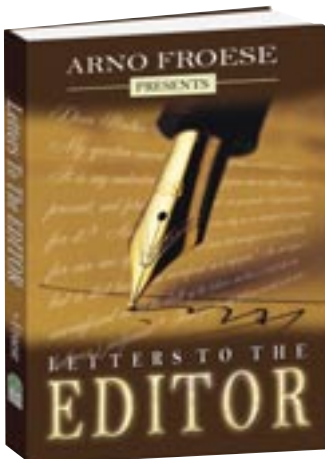
is a fraud, an imitator of the Holy Spirit, could the fire he brings be a copy, similar to what the Holy Spirit did on Pentecost?

Perhaps there will be a gathering of Antichrists' believers, and the false prophet—the Holy Spirit imitator—will do the same thing. As a result, all those there who are believers in the Antichrist will also seal their eternal fate in hell. At that time, the false prophet will require the so-called "mark of the beast" to be received by all his believers, again sealing their eternal fate. I think this would also be the ultimate blasphemy of the Holy Spirit.

-N. Scialabba, SC

Answer: Your additional thoughts on the deception of Antichrist and his false prophet are much appreciated.

How real the "fire from heaven" is, we don't know. But the world at large will believe, because "the whole world was astonished and followed the beast" (NIV). The apostle Paul warns in 2 Thessalonians 2:9: "Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders." Apparently, those miracles will be "lying wonders." (MC)



Midnight Call Magazine's #1 Feature!

Letters to the Editor consists of 438 pages, divided into 22 chapters arranged topically, all from original letters that appeared in *Midnight Call* magazine. Discover what readers think about:

- Location of the Ark? • Ezekiel 38 and 39 • Two Blood Covenants
- Who Is the Real Gog and Magog? • The Four Beasts • And much, much more!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ITEM #1045

438 Pages • Hardcover ~~\$22.99~~ **CLEARANCE \$8**

Author: Arno Froese

“Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God”
(Isaiah 40:1).

BY ARNO FROESE

The first question one has is, who is to comfort whom? Who is “my people”? When reading the entire chapter, we notice a distinct emphasis on two groups of people. One is “my people”; the other, verse 17 proclaims: “All nations before him are as nothing; and they are counted to him less than nothing, and vanity.” That is hard to swallow for nationalists. Your country is not only nothing, but “less than nothing.”

“Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD’s hand double for all her sins” (Isaiah 40:2).

We take note that these are the direct words of God, and again, the word “comfort” appears. Why should we Gentiles speak comfortably to Israel, to the Jewish people? Because “she hath received of the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.”

Now the question, when did Israel receive double punishment for all her sins? Was it when they were led captive into Babylon and returned to Jerusalem after 70 years? Ezra 9:13 gives us the answer: “...after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that thou our God hast punished us less than our

iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this.” Note not “double” but “less.”

In attempting to clarify the introductory Scripture, we must take into consideration that prophecy has multiple fulfillments. Take Deuteronomy 28:37, for example: “And thou shalt become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword, among all nations whither the LORD shall lead thee.” Verse 66 emphasizes: “And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life.” When were these words fulfilled? Simply stated, beginning with Pharaoh’s intended genocide of the Hebrews over 3,500 years ago, until the most horrendous event the Jewish people ever experienced under the Nazi regime in Europe—the Holocaust, when 6 million Jews were systematically murdered. While that horrible event is the most precisely documented genocide in history, research reveals that there were thousands of different times and places in which Jews were persecuted and killed.

Based on the available documentation, we can say with certainty that Israel indeed has experienced “of the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.” In plain words, God addresses and challenges the people on planet earth to “Comfort ye, comfort ye my people.”

How does the world react? The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) headlines an article, “More than 2,000 [antisemitic] incidents reported in US since Hamas massacre—a 337% increase.”

A report from Britain documents a fourteenfold increase in antisemitism since 7 October 2023.

France recorded 819 antisemitic acts in 2023, compared to 436 in 2022.

In Germany, a survey found a 240% increase in antisemitic incidents.

These are just a few examples to show that the world at large is not neutral, but hatred of Jews for no obvious reason is dramatically and frightfully increasing.


Many statements from the news media reveal that antisemitism is on the increase in countries that have little to no relations with Israel or the Jewish people.

Thus, we clearly see that antisemitism and anti-Zionism originate with the father of lies. Reading Revelation 12, we understand that the “woman” represents Israel. Verse 5 documents: “And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.” That child is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Verse 17 reports: “And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to

make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

The woman, Israel, had been persecuted before they became a nation in Egypt. Therefore, antisemitism originates in the invisible world, by diabolical powers that desperately try to hinder the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. They want to eradicate Israel; they want to destroy the Jewish nation.

But God has different plans; He will cause Zionism to triumph: “O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!” (Isaiah 40:9). No antisemitism or anti-Zionism will hinder the ultimate fulfillment. For the Jewish people, “Behold your God!”

In the meantime, let us continue to pray for the nation of Israel, and target our prayers toward His Church in Israel, in Gaza, and in all other countries of the world, so the fullness of the Gentiles may come in soon: “And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob” (Romans 11:26). 

Action for Israel



MIDNIGHT CALL

“I will bless them that
bless thee...”
(Genesis 12:3).

Mail to: Midnight Call Ministries, PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073

MC0524

After prayerful consideration, I/we have decided to support “Action for Israel.”

monthly one time \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Card #: _____ Exp: _____

Security Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

With credit card
ready, call:
800-845-2420

Web:
midnightcall.com/
afi



ASCENSION DAY



By Peter Malgo

We usually celebrate Ascension Day in May in Switzerland. In Germany, it has become common to replace this holiday with “Father’s Day.” It is as though we don’t want to acknowledge the Ascension of Jesus, honoring our fathers instead. However, as believers, we should honor the Father in heaven in a special way on this day, looking forward to His Son’s return for the Rapture of His own.

At Jesus’ Ascension, two men (angels) spoke to the disciples as they were gazing after Jesus: “...Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven” (Acts 1:11). More than any other holy day, the Ascension clearly points to the return of Jesus Christ. This gives us a small glimpse of what it will be like when God’s children are lifted up to heaven at the Rapture, and transformed in the twinkling of an eye.

God’s plan of salvation is impossible to comprehend for a person of rational thinking. Jesus was born as a man. He lived like a man. He suffered like a man. He died like a man. And yet, He was the Son of God!

After three days, He rose from the dead! He spoke to His disciples, ate with them, showed them the signs of His wounds. And yet, He had a glorified body for, among other things, He could pass through closed doors (John 20:19)! One day, while answering His disciples’ question as to when He would come to establish His kingdom, He was suddenly lifted up to heaven. It is quite possible that Jesus Himself did not know exactly when He would ascend to heaven, as He said of His return: “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, but My Father only” (Matt 24:36). That Jesus did not ascend to heaven by His own power, but that God the Father brought Him back to Himself, into the Father’s house, becomes clear by the words, “was taken up.”



Our Lord Jesus made a covenant with us through His sacrifice on the Cross of Calvary. And when His work was completed, He ascended to heaven, drawn by the Father. Just as Abraham was given a new name, so we too will have a new name, according to Revelation 2:17.

Our Lord Jesus waited, and God acted and raised Him upward to Himself. That is a wonderful picture of the Rapture of the faithful, which will take place very suddenly.

Jesus' resurrection from the dead at Easter and His Ascension into heaven 40 days later, remind us of 1 Corinthians 15:51-53. Those who have died in faith in Jesus are raptured "in the twinkling of an eye"; the corruptible will be transformed into incorruption, and those children of God who are still alive will be transformed. "...The dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thess 4:16-17). This is what our ascension will be like! Our Lord Jesus has gone before us. And that is the reason for this Ascension holiday. The "enlightened" man considers all this impossible, for he doesn't know the divine dimensions ... thus, he changes it to "Father's Day."

We find the Ascension prophetically foreshadowed in the Old Testa-

ment. When God made His covenant with Abraham, at the end we read: "And God ceased to speak to him and ascended from Abraham" (Gen 17:22). One translation (Menge) says at this point: "When God had finished His conversation with Abraham, He ascended into heaven, away from Abraham." God opened dialogue with Abraham with these words: "I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect" (Gen 17:1). And then He made a covenant with Abraham and gave him a new name. Finally, He ascended into heaven. That is the Old Testament Ascension.

Our Lord Jesus made a covenant with us through His sacrifice on the Cross of Calvary. And when His work was completed, He ascended to heaven, drawn by the Father. Just as Abraham was given a new name, so we too will have a new name, according to Revelation 2:17.

As we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord, at the same time may we remember our own impending ascension to heaven, and do what Paul tells us: "Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1 Thess 4:18). (MC)



Holocaust Memorial: Remembering the Last of the Holocaust Generation

By David Phillips (*Ebenezer's CEO*)

With Holocaust Memorial Day approaching here, we wanted to address some common questions we receive. One is, “Does Ebenezer have Holocaust survivors still living in the home?” Yes, in fact, we have quite a few still living in the home. The other common question we receive is, “Are they believers in Yeshua/Jesus?” Again, it may surprise many to learn that every single one of our survivors is a believer in Yeshua! Each one has found their Messiah, and their testimonies are all very special.

Please remember to keep these precious believers in your prayers. This time is especially difficult for them. Many survivors have shared that what took place on October 7, 2023, brought many flashbacks to them. Each year we say, “Never again,” and yet, it happened again.

There is a significant lesson we can learn from those who made it through the camps and survived the Holocaust: It's called forgiveness.

The topic of forgiveness is a challenge to many of us. Forgiving, letting go, and moving on can be a challenge, especially when we have been mistreated in the worst possible ways.

“Who is God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea” (Micah 7:18-19).

We all enjoy the forgiveness of sin through the blood of the Lamb, Yeshua. Learning from Him to forgive others and mastering it in our own life, can be the most challenging yet also the most rewarding thing.

Ministering to the Holocaust survivors who still struggle with this is an eye-opening, spiritual and educational experience. One begins to understand the grace we found



through salvation from the Messiah dying on the cross. The moment we learn to forgive, we experience the healing that only He can provide. So many times, we see the results of forgiveness; and in return, we receive love poured into our hearts, which we can then share with others.

Realizing that this first generation of Holocaust survivors are quickly passing away (as most are over 90 years old), we wanted to put something together to share their testi-

monies with all of you, and some lessons they have learned through His forgiveness. Thus, a 16-page booklet entitled *Remembering the Last of the Holocaust Generation*, was born. While it doesn't include all the survivor testimonies or fully capture the impact of what He has done in their lives, it contains some powerful testimonies. By checking the box in the coupon below, you can request your copy today!

Our prayer is that this small booklet will be a blessing to you.



Mail to: Midnight Call Ministries, PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073

MC0524
EH

Yes, I wish to support the Ebenezer Home Project.

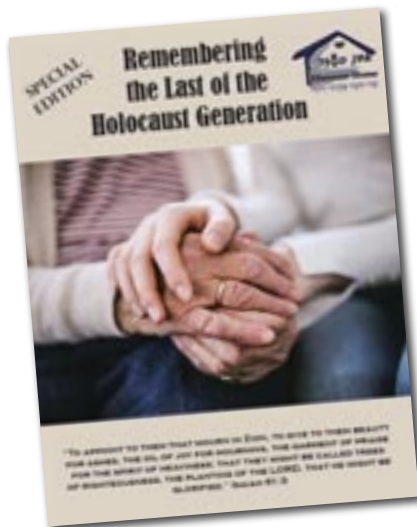
monthly one time \$ _____

Please send me *Remembering the Last of the Holocaust Generation* (Item #1095) for \$5.

Note: Donations for the project by check/money order should be made out to Midnight Call, and specify Ebenezer Home in the memo line.

With credit card ready, call:
800-845-2420

Web:
midnightcall.com/
ebenezer



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Card #: _____

Exp: _____ Security Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



BRAZIL

Hope from Prophecy in Times of Crisis

More than 700 attendees took part in last year's large-scale prophecy conference. A report on the experience.

BY HENDRIK MALGO



The October 7th Hamas terrorist attack against Israel, also had an impact on the prophecy conference that was hosted by Chamada (Midnight Call Brazil), in Águas de Lindóia just over a week later. Meno Kalisher, one of the scheduled speakers, was unable to travel from Jerusalem, so he gave his message digitally. It also meant that the traditional Friday evening gathering focused on Israel had to be reorganized, since Meno has historically hosted this special event along with his daughter Jael and Irit Iffert. Roger Liebi gave

the address, while Jael and Irit were able to appear as planned (they had traveled from the US). Roger Liebi classified and explained the situation in Israel and Gaza from the Bible, in a way that was both impressive and helpful. He was able to convey hope through God's Word in the face of all the suffering and hatred.

The major theme of the conference was the hope that biblical prophecy offers in different circumstances. Michael Kotsch spoke of hope on the basis of Church history, and Roger Liebi referred to hope in another lecture, where he



provided an exegesis of Isaiah 53. The various speakers, which included Philipp Ottenburg and local pastor Daniel Lima, complemented each other well in their respective areas of expertise.

Markus Steiger and the Chamada team, along with many helpers from the São Paulo region, put together an impressive conference that was superbly organized. The large conference hotel (actually, a Brazilian vacation resort) was reserved exclusively for the participants and the Chamada team. It was in the mountains surrounding São Paulo, about three hours from the airport, and was not inexpensive. Yet a good

700 attended, most of them using vacation time to come. There is a great hunger for the prophetic Word among Brazilians, and they purchased about 90% of the items at the expansive book table. Because people were purchasing so many books, cardboard boxes had to be provided instead of bags to transport them home.

The conference was a wonderful and encouraging experience for us. At its end, the 2024 conference was announced. Norbert Lieth, Fredy Peter, Jeff Kinley, and others will headline under the theme, “God’s Greatness in Fulfilled Prophecies.” (MR0124)



“To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever” (Jude 25).

Mail to: Midnight Call Ministries, PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073

MC0524

After prayerful consideration, I/we have decided to support “Fellow Laborers.”

monthly one time \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Card #: _____ Exp: _____

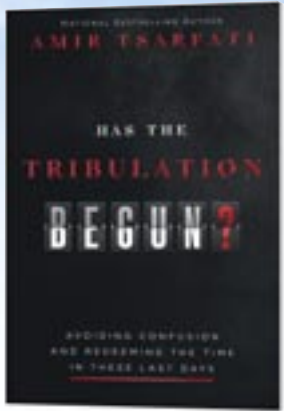
Security Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

With credit card ready, call: 800-845-2420

Web: midnightcall.com/fl

Midnight Call's **May Resource Guide**



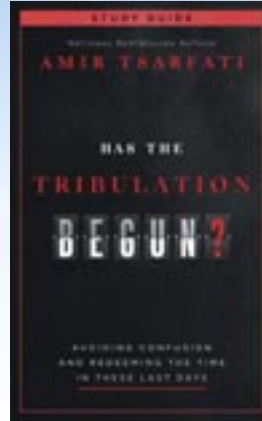
Avoiding Confusion and Redeeming the Time in These Last Days

As we wonder how close the end times truly are, we must return to God's Word for clarity and wisdom. *Has the Tribulation Begun?* delivers enlightening biblical truth alongside powerful encouragement to live for the Lord today.

HAS THE TRIBULATION BEGUN? ITEM #2406

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$16.99~~ **Sale \$12** Author: Amir Tsarfati



Gain a Clearer Picture of the End Times

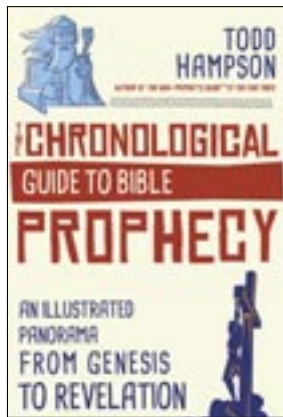
With this study guide companion to *Has the Tribulation Begun?*, bestselling author and prophecy expert Amir Tsarfati guides you through a biblical overview of the last days.

This insightful resource will help you untangle the mysteries of the end times while encouraging you with a peace that comes from living with an eternal perspective.

HAS THE TRIBULATION BEGUN? STUDY GUIDE ITEM #2407

144 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$10.99~~ **Sale \$8** Author: Amir Tsarfati



A Big-Picture Overview of Bible Prophecy

THE CHRONOLOGICAL GUIDE TO BIBLE PROPHECY

ITEM #2399

208 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$18.99~~ **Sale \$14**

Author: Todd Hampson



Key strategies for protecting your finances in these uncertain times

BANKRUPTCY OF OUR NATION ITEM #2244

320 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ **Sale \$10**

Author: Jerry Robinson



Scripture-Based Knowledge About the End Times

- In what basic order will the end times unfold?
- How do we know Jesus is literally returning to earth?
- How should Christians live if Jesus might return any day now?

A QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO THE END TIMES

ITEM #2371 • 64 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$6.99~~ **Sale \$5** Authors: Jeff Kinley and Todd Hampson



Understand the Battle Before You Enter It

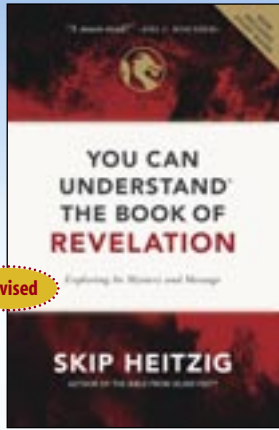
SPIRITUAL WARFARE IN THE END TIMES

ITEM #2370

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ **Sale \$12**

Author: Ron Rhodes



Can Revelation be made simple?

YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE BOOK OF REVELATION

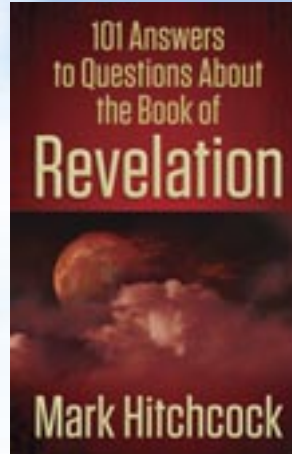
ITEM #2306

Paperback • 288 pgs.

~~\$16.99~~

Sale \$12

Author: Skip Heitzig



What will happen during Armageddon?

101 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BOOK OF REVELATION

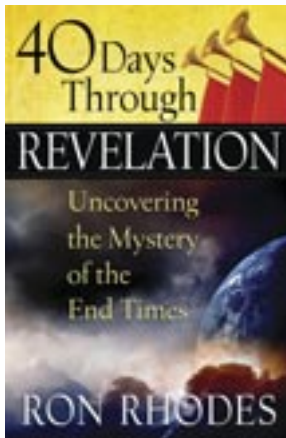
ITEM #2295

256 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~

Sale \$12

Author: Mark Hitchcock



Uncovering the Mystery of the End Times

The book of Revelation begins and ends with guarantees that its inspiring message leads to blessing. Popular Bible teacher and author Ron Rhodes guides readers on an encouraging journey through this prophetic book, interpreting its picturesque language and revealing its reassuring promises.

40 DAYS THROUGH REVELATION ITEM #2301

304 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ **Sale \$12** Author: Ron Rhodes

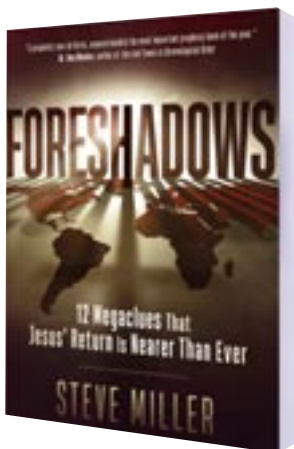
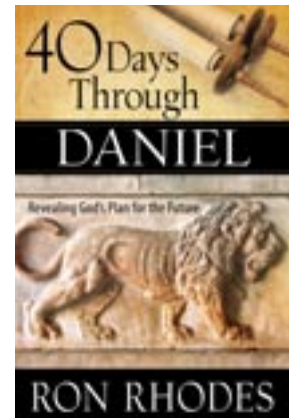
Interact personally with the vital truths of Daniel.

40 DAYS THROUGH DANIEL ITEM #2304

304 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ **Sale \$12**

Author: Ron Rhodes



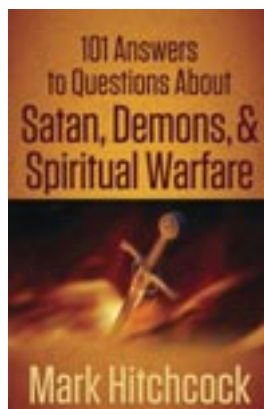
Important Clues That Inform Us of What Is to Come

FORESHADOWS ITEM #2393

336 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$17.99~~ **Sale \$14**

Author: Steve Miller



Who is Satan? What is Spiritual Warfare?

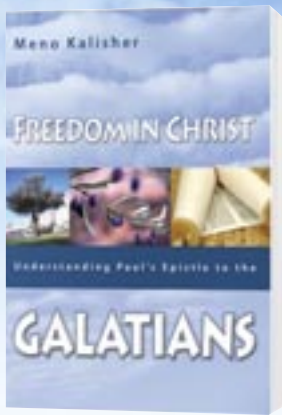
101 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT SATAN, DEMONS, AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE

ITEM #2289

240 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ **Sale \$12**

Author: Mark Hitchcock



Understanding Paul's Epistle to the Galatians

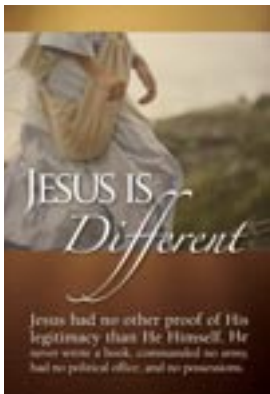
- Are we obliged to keep the Old Testament commandments—what the Bible calls the Law?
- If so, does that include all of the commandments or just some?
- And what about religious traditions—should we keep them, or shouldn't we, or is that something we shouldn't worry about?
- Or do the Old Testament commandments as well as the

traditions oblige only Jewish believers in Jesus, i.e. Messianic Jews, while Gentile believers can do as they please?

FREEDOM IN CHRIST ITEM #2400

288 pgs. • Paperback • Author: Meno Kalisher

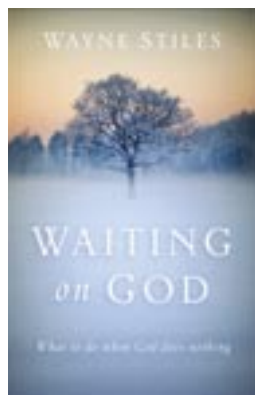
~~\$10.95~~ **Sale \$8**



Jesus had no other proof of His legitimacy than He Himself. He never wrote a book, commanded no army, had no political office, and no possessions.

JESUS IS DIFFERENT ITEM #9118 • Tract • 6" x 4.25"

\$3 for 100 copies Author: Michael Kotsch

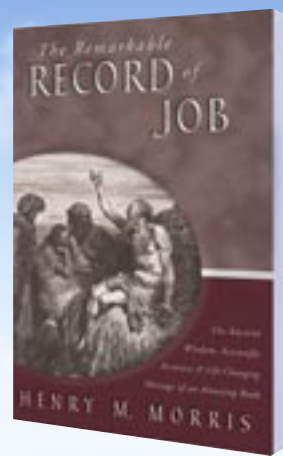


What to Do When God Does Nothing

WAITING ON GOD
ITEM #2311
256 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~
Sale \$12

Author: Wayne Stiles



The Ancient Wisdom, Scientific Accuracy, & Life-Changing Message of an Amazing Book

THE REMARKABLE RECORD OF JOB ITEM #2273
144 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$9.99~~
Sale \$7

Author: Henry Morris



A Verse-by-Verse Exposition of His Amazing Record

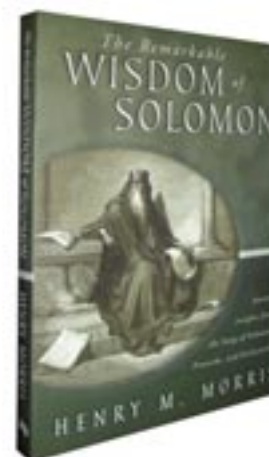
This book is a fascinating commentary on the life of the great prophet:

- Could a man spend three days inside a huge fish?
- His prayer of deliverance
- Why did he run from God?
- The influence of the ancient city, Nineveh
- Jonah and the twenty-first century

THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF JONAH
ITEM #2272 • 135 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$12.99~~ **Sale \$8**

Author: Henry Morris

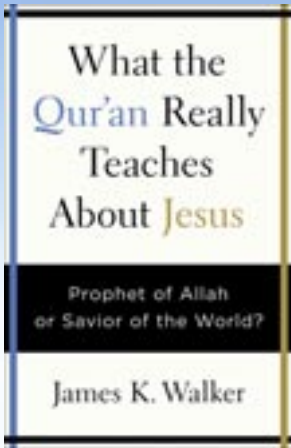


Ancient insights from the Song of Solomon, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes

THE REMARKABLE WISDOM OF SOLOMON ITEM #2223
256 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~
Sale \$10

Author: Henry Morris



Who Is the Jesus of Islam?

WHAT THE QUR'AN REALLY TEACHES ABOUT JESUS

ITEM #2351
240 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~
Sale \$12

Author: James K. Walker



The Truth about the Roman Catholic Church

PREPARING FOR ETERNITY

ITEM #2268
240 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15~~ **Sale \$12**

Author: Mike Gendron



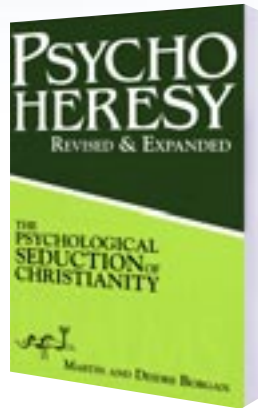
How do you share the gospel with those who don't think they need it?

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS WITH MORMONS

ITEM #2352
352 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$19.99~~
Sale \$15

Editors: Eric Johnson and Sean McDowell



The Psychological Seduction of Christianity

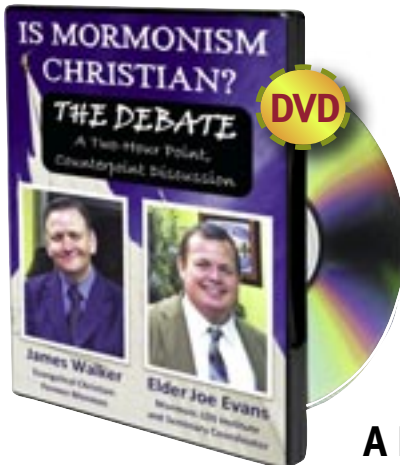
Almost everywhere one turns in the church one sees psychology. As we have repeatedly demonstrated, the psychologizing of the church is neither biblically nor scientifically justifiable. *PsychoHeresy* demonstrates the fact that psychological explanations about life and

psychological solutions to life's problems are questionable at best, detrimental at worst, and spiritual counterfeits at least.

PSYCHO HERESY ITEM #2213

468 pgs. • Paperback ~~\$20~~ **Sale \$16**

Authors: Martin and Deidre Bobgan



What Separates Mormonism from Christianity?

IS MORMONISM CHRISTIAN? ITEM #7083

DVD • 120 min. • Speaker: James Walker

~~\$20~~ **Sale \$15**

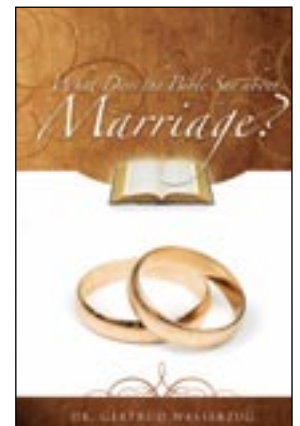
A Biblical View of Marriage

Marriage is God's holy institution: it is intended for the reproduction of the human race. This institution stands for all time and cannot be changed by human thoughts, fleshly lusts, or modern trends. There is no such thing as a modern marriage, only modern abuse of marriage.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MARRIAGE? ITEM #1076

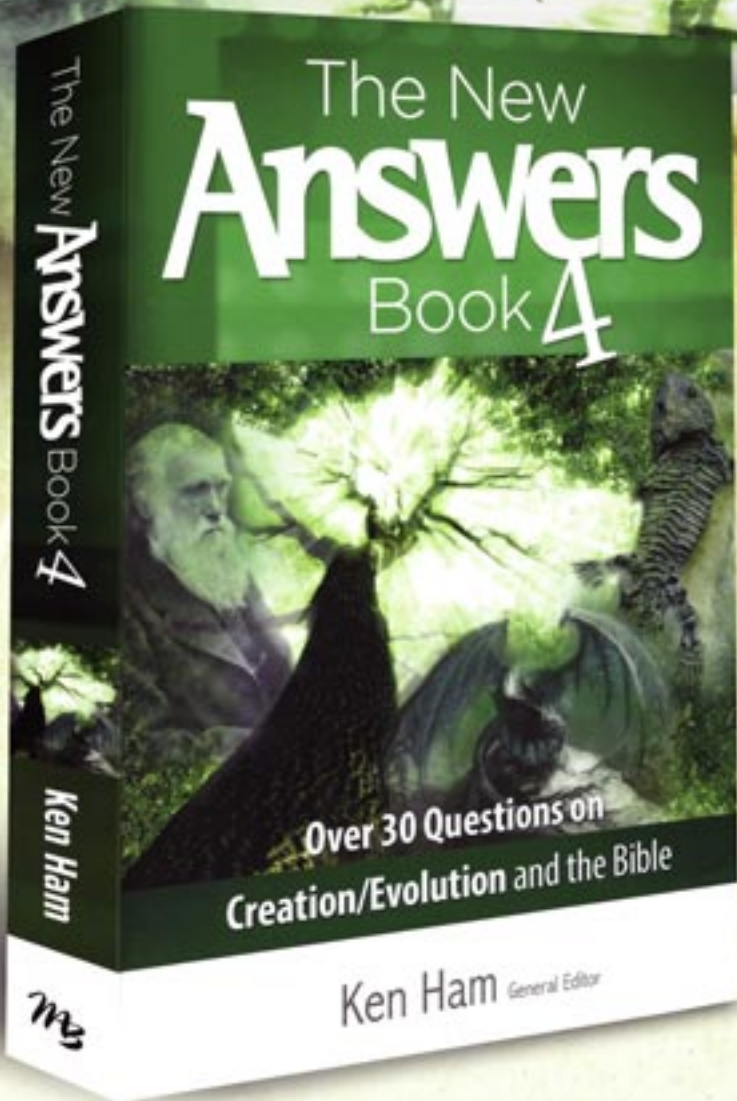
32 pgs. • **Booklet**

~~\$2.50~~ **Sale \$1.50** Author: Dr. Gertrud Wasserzug



Cavemen...Really? Was Charles Darwin a Christian?

Dragons... Were They Real?



You, your family, and your church can be prepared to answer the questions of friends—and skeptics—and to defend against the prevalent humanist culture that is invading our schools, government, and even the Christian community.

From the lies of evolution to genetic engineering, this powerful team of apologists will inspire you and give you answers about:

- The truth concerning climate change
- How the Ark could survive all the tsunamis, storms, and upheavals during the Flood
- Evolution being the bloodiest religion ever
- The best evidences for a young creation
- Tactics of new atheists
- The intelligence of ancient man
- Whether there are transitional fossils in the fossil record
- New genetically-modified organisms
- Whether dragons were real

Many have walked away from their faith because they sought answers for what seemed a contradiction in Christian belief and scientific teaching. For those who desire a deeper walk and thriving faith in the face of growing cultural adversity, here is a book to spur the heart and mind to give glory to God.

THE NEW ANSWERS BOOK 4

ITEM #2280 • 410 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ **Sale \$12** Editor: Ken Ham

THE NEW ANSWERS BOOK 3

ITEM #2247 • 384 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ **Sale \$12** Editor: Ken Ham

THE NEW ANSWERS BOOK 2

ITEM #2240 • 380 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ **Sale \$12** Editor: Ken Ham

THE NEW ANSWERS BOOK 1

ITEM #2232 • 384 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ **Sale \$12** Editor: Ken Ham

The New Answers Books 1, 2 and 3 will complete your Answers Series collection. They hold over ninety faith-affirming answers to some of the most challenging questions about faith, science, and the Bible!



ITEM#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	QTY.	COST	TOTAL										
<p>When shipping more than 2 items outside the USA (also applies to items marked with *), flat rate not valid. Please call for postage quote.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Flat Rate Shipping Cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>US Addresses</td> <td>\$4.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>USA Priority</td> <td>\$10.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Canada*</td> <td>\$15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Other Countries*</td> <td>\$25</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Flat Rate Shipping Cost		US Addresses	\$4.95	USA Priority	\$10.95	Canada*	\$15	All Other Countries*	\$25	<p>Total for Order S&H (see box, left)</p>		
Flat Rate Shipping Cost														
US Addresses	\$4.95													
USA Priority	\$10.95													
Canada*	\$15													
All Other Countries*	\$25													
		<p>Extra Gift to MC</p>												
		<p>Total Enclosed</p>												

Midnight Call MC0524D
 PO Box 84309 • Lexington, SC 29073
 midnightcall.com/store
 with Visa/Master/Discover/Amex call TOLL FREE
 1-800-845-2420 (8-5 EST, M-F)

Visa
 Master
 Discover
 Amex
 Check/Money Order
 Card#: _____ Exp: _____
 Security Code: _____ Phone: _____
 Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Email: _____

Credit card orders call 800-845-2420. Send check or money order to:
 Midnight Call Ministries • PO Box 84309 • Lexington, SC 29073
 Online: midnightcall.com/store



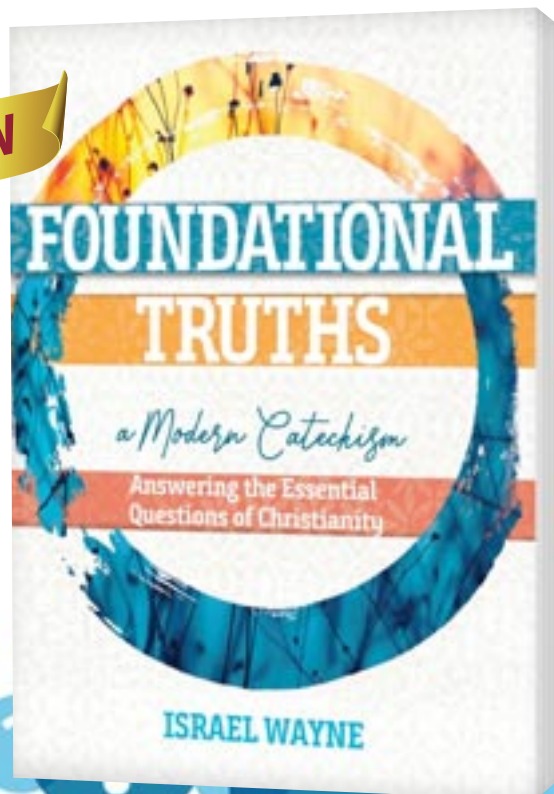
52 Weekly Bible Lessons – Personal Q&A with God

Inside the colorful and engaging pages, you will find answers to 52 important biblical questions such as:

- What is the purpose of God's law?
- What is justification?
- When will Jesus return?
- Why must Christians obey God?
- What is our primary purpose in living?

Each of the 52 weekly lessons include:

- A Life Question
- A Bible Answer (a summary of the Bible verses used to address the initial questions)
- Complete verses listed in the King James Translation
- An In Action section providing guidance on how to apply what you have learned during the week
- Definitions of theological or challenging terms
- A Scripture checklist to help facilitate memorization or further Bible study



FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS: A MODERN CATECHISM ITEM #2417

232 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$24.99~~ **Sale \$20** Author: Israel Wayne

Your Subscription

Important Notice

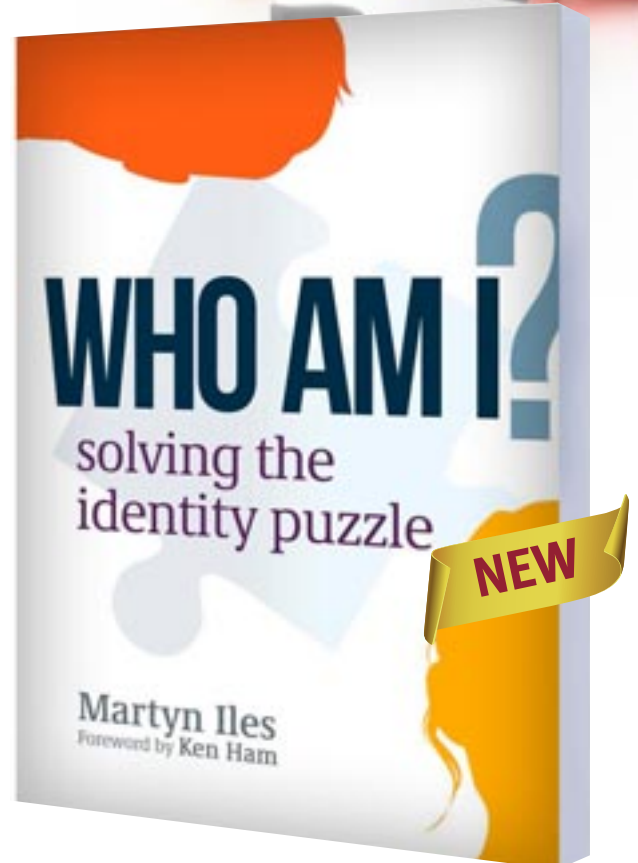
Business Reply Envelopes require no US postage stamps. Even when postage is applied, we are charged for each envelope received. Previously, we were able to get a 90% refund on postage for these, but our local post office is currently unable to process these refunds. Nevertheless, we are happy for you to use our business reply envelopes for any order, payment, or communication—just don't bother putting a postage stamp on it.

Who Am I? Solving the Identity Puzzle

"Who am I?" A new generation is preoccupied with the question of identity, and it's getting complicated. We see a rise in psychology, genders and sexualities, identity politics, and obsession with the self. The identity crisis is making us look at ourselves to come up with subjective answers based on how we feel and lists of attributes supplied by political activists, ideologues, and pop culture.

But do the shifting sands of "my truth" and "their truth" hold the answers? What is the solid foundation of "the truth" that solves the identity puzzle once and for all?

In *Who Am I?*, Martyn Iles, the Executive CEO of Answers in Genesis, confronts the cultural shift towards self-created identity with truth and hope from God's Word. This book is a double-edged sword of biblical truth meant to penetrate and dispel the deception covering our culture. Whether used in family devotions, Bible study groups, or evangelical events, *Who Am I?* empowers readers to reclaim a biblically rooted understanding of identity. Graphically designed to appeal to this generation and easy to read, this critical Christian resource points readers towards the transformative work of Christ on the Cross.



WHO AM I? ITEM #2422

208 pgs. • **Hardcover**

\$19.99 New Author: Martyn Iles