

The International Prophetic Voice for the Endtimes

# Midnight Call

midnightcall.com

April 2022—\$4.75



## COMFORT FROM THE CROSS

**The Stubborn Inclinations of  
Backward People**  
P. 13

**The Russia/Ukraine Conflict**  
P. 36

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- Forsaken by God
- Covid-19
- The Third Temple  
P. 32

# Up to 73% Off!



## How Seven Days Reveal God's Plan for the World

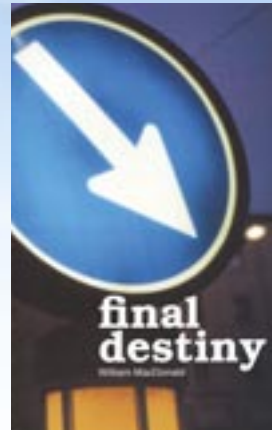
This booklet shows that the countdown has long since begun, and we're headed straight for the ultimate turning point in world history.

SEVEN DAYS TO ETERNITY ITEM #1089

36 pgs. • Booklet

~~\$4.50~~ Sale \$2.50

Author: Norbert Lieth



## The answer to life's most important question

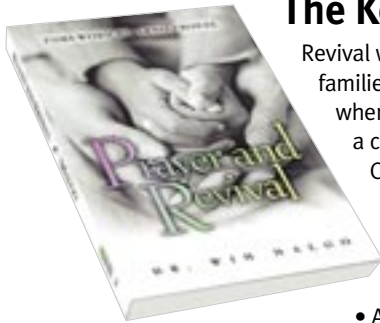
Every thinking person must wonder where they will go when they die and where they will spend eternity. What will be your final destiny? This booklet will help you find out. Read it carefully. It could change your life and your destiny—forever.

FINAL DESTINY ITEM #2377

32 pgs. • Full-color Booklet

~~\$5.95~~ Sale \$3

Author: William MacDonald



## 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:

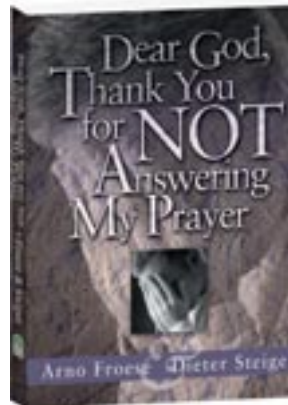
- Pathway To Revival
- What Is Our Calling?
- The Importance Of Giving Thanks
- And Much More

PRAYER AND REVIVAL ITEM #1002

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$10.99~~ Clearance \$3

Author: Dr. Wim Malgo



## Have you ever felt that, because your prayers were not immediately answered, God was disregarding you?

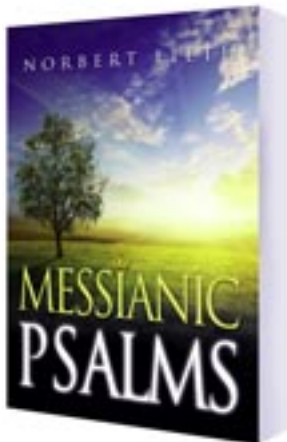
DEAR GOD, THANK YOU FOR NOT ANSWERING MY PRAYER

ITEM #1047

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$12.99~~  
Clearance \$4

Authors: Arno Froese and Dieter Steiger



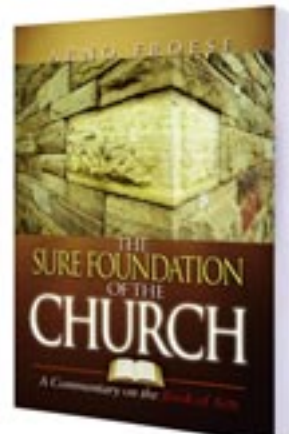
## The Old Testament Psalms contain immense treasures!

MESSIANIC PSALMS ITEM #1074

384 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.95~~  
Clearance \$5

Author: Norbert Lieth



## A refreshingly different view of the book of Acts!

THE SURE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH ITEM #1066

544 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$18.50~~  
Clearance \$6

Author: Arno Froese



## 6 COVER STORY Comfort from the Cross

By Norbert Lieth

God forgives completely and definitively. Your sin will never be held against you again. You have been taken out of the kingdom of darkness once and for all, and placed in the kingdom of the Son through His love.

## 13 Money: Ends and Trends

### The Stubborn Inclinations of Backward People

By Wilfred Hahn



## 17 The Source of Truth

By Arno Froese

## 24 Spiritual Fitness

By Dr. Ron J. Bigalke

## 36 The Russia/Ukraine Conflict

By Arno Froese

## 28 WORLD On the Verge of Chaos and Anarchy



## 29 SOUTH KOREA Government Cares for Elderly

## 30 UK What Is the Quantum Apocalypse?



## 31 USA John Deere Automated Tractor

### DEPARTMENTS

4 Editorial ..... By Norbert Lieth

32 Letters to the Editor ..... By Arno Froese  
FORSAKEN BY GOD... COVID-19... THE THIRD TEMPLE

34 Fellow Laborers ..... By Jan And Isabelle Eisses

39 The Ebenezer Home – Haifa, Israel ..... By David Phillips

41 Action for Israel ..... By Arno Froese





# Future in View



**By Norbert Lieth**

*Director of Missions, Midnight Call International*

**M**ost people seem to realize that we are living in an evil time. The outlook is gloomy: forecasts negative, politicians at a loss, churches without a message, more and more people unstable. A positive view of the future is missing ... yet that is exactly what the Bible offers.

This is what a world without God has to offer. Aphorisms without help. Throwing a lifeline of sugar—the words are sweet—but it dissolves in the water of need. How different is the help offered by God! He doesn't let us drown helplessly while calling out pious words to us. No, He is different. He holds out His Almighty hand. "For I, the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee" (Isaiah 41:13). No one has to go on alone, for God comes along.

Certainly, the end time is also associated with tribulation and coming judgments... But God's judgments are always designed to regenerate and restore; they are educational measures. God's endpoint is not destruction, rather construction of something new.

One day, all the kingdoms of this world will be transferred to Jesus (Psalm 2; Rev. 12:10). Then, the present ruler of the world, Satan, will be bound and locked away. God says: "Behold, I make all

things new" (Rev. 21:5). There are seven things that God will make new:

1. A new heaven (Rev 21:1)
2. A new earth (Rev 21:1)
3. A new city (Rev 21:2, 9-23)
4. New nations (Rev 21:24-27)
5. A new river (Rev 22:1)
6. A new tree (Rev 22:2)
7. A new throne (Rev 22:3-5).

We, the Church of Jesus, have the legitimate hope of being taken up to heaven even before all these new things will be accomplished. From there, we await our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (Phil 3:20). We live in the anticipation of being brought together: we, His body, with Christ, the head (Eph 1:22), and later to be revealed with Him (Col 3:4). Thus, the future is far from bleak, and we have the task of keeping our eyes and our lives focused on the returning Lord.

As a ministry, we want to keep this glorious future in our view; as co-laborers, keeping our lives aligned with it, and proclaiming this message to our fellow human beings. It was the testimony of the Lord's return that brought my wife and myself to conversion.

Someone once said: "When the water is up to your neck, it's very important not to let your head hang." Concerning end-time events, our Lord told us not to be dejected, but to lift up our heads in anticipation of our deliverance through His return (Luke 21:28; 2 Peter 1:19).

Our world is not abandoned to self-destruction; not left to environmental influences, or the wheelings and dealings of a godless society. Our world was created by Jesus Christ, and He maintains all things by His powerful Word (Heb 1:2-3). "The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof, the world, and they that dwell therein" (Ps 24:1).

This world belongs to God, and He will bring it to His destination and goal. That needs to be proclaimed! We have the future in view, head held high. Go your way, head high and eyes focused on Jesus, the "author and finisher of our faith" (Heb 12:2). *Future in View*—that should therefore be our new and positive slogan. From now on, that will be seen in our magazine and other publications. At this point, we would also like to thank all of our friends who support us in fulfilling this joyful mission. Will you continue to participate?

*Future in View!* 

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 pg. 47, call 800-845-2420 with your credit card ready, or order online at [midnightcall.com/nfi](http://midnightcall.com/nfi)

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

☎ 1-800-845-2420

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, Samuel  
Rindlisbacher, René Malgo,  
Stephan Beitze and Thomas Lieth

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

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

• *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 and Stone Hughes

• *Special Order:* Andrea Giles • *German-English Translators:* Barbara  
Lavery, Melanie Makin and Helga Tirrell

• *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](http://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; "Ejfele Kialtas" (Hungarian) HU 1135 Budapest, Pálóc 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 unchanging 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 twelve 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-tribulation 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, and in the resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the lost.



# COMFORT FROM THE CROSS

**Norbert Lieth**

Even when the times become dark, we find comfort in the Cross of Calvary: be it in forgiveness, reconciliation, or the responsibility the Lord gives us.



The synagogue in Essen, Germany

**T**he synagogue in Essen is one of the most famous in Germany—not just because of its beauty, but also because of its special history. On the night that spanned November 9-10 in 1938, during *Kristallnacht*, this synagogue was also set on fire out of hatred for Jews. It burned completely, and the attackers would have liked to have gotten rid of it entirely. However, due to its stable construction from reinforced concrete, the synagogue couldn't be demolished (or even collapsed with a controlled explosion, due to risk to the surrounding homes). So, it remained a visible sign of hatred toward God and His people. Yet, in addition to this, it also became a source of deliverance and comfort for hundreds of people at the end of World War II.

This story was told by Wilhelm Busch, pastor in Essen at that time, and author of the famous book, "Jesus: Our Destiny."

On the night of the devastation, hate-filled people broke into the synagogue and set it on fire, jeering and chanting Nazi slogans through megaphones. The ruins remained, gutted and devastated, a symbol that couldn't be completely wiped out.

Toward the end of the war, the Allies came and launched their firebombs on German cities,

including Essen. Now many people were helplessly searching for a place that could keep them safe, and they found only one: the synagogue, long since burned out. Hundreds took refuge there; its strong walls offered protection from the detonations that were causing everything nearby to collapse. Since the synagogue had already been burned out, it offered refuge for many. Because fire had already raged there, others could now hide in it.

Young and old, men and women, those from the crowds that had raged against it just a few years earlier ... or even helped start the fires themselves, sympathizers, or those who had simply kept their heads down and ignored what was happening ... people from all walks of life found protection in the synagogue.

This is reminiscent of the Cross of Calvary, on which Jesus accomplished the work of salvation.

### **Comfort in Forgiveness**

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins" (Col 1:13-14).

Forgiveness means, "to allow to depart." For example, releasing a debtor from his debt; letting him go without resentment or asking for repayment.

This becomes clear in the two goats for the sin offering on the Day of Atonement (Lev 16:4-10). One goat was sacrificed, and the other sent

## Comfort from the Cross

---

Jesus Himself is the sacrifice for our sins, and that is why we have been released into freedom.



off into the desert. In this way, Israel's sin was removed from the people.

Something similar happened with the law on cleansing from leprosy. Two birds were to be brought (Lev 14:1-7). One would be slaughtered, and the other set free. Jesus Himself uses a parable to tell a similar story:

“Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt” (Matt 18:23-27).

Consider the unimaginable size of the debt: one talent was worth 6,000 denarii. One denarius was a day's wage for a laborer. So,

10,000 talents would be the wages for 60 million working days, or 250,000 working years.

Jesus Himself is the sacrifice for our sins, and that is why we have been released into freedom. In this context, forgiving—letting go—means that no one can ever demand payment for our guilt again. It has been forgiven once and for all.

The phrases, “who hath delivered us” and “hath translated us,” as well as, “in whom we have redemption,” in the original text are written in a verb tense that expresses a unique, completed, and selective act, with a clearly defined beginning and end. Salvation was accomplished once and for all, and is irreversible. “It is finished.”

God forgives completely and definitively. Your sin will never be held against you again: “For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more” (Jer 31:34b).

Forgiveness extends so far that the sins of the past, present, and future are completely forgiven (Heb 7:27; 9:12; 10:10, 14). If this were not the case, a redeemed person could still be





Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum adds another interesting aspect: “Those three English words translate to only one Greek word, *tetelestai*, an accounting term meaning ‘paid in full.’”

lost. However, the person who has been redeemed is still redeemed and no longer lost. He has been taken out of the kingdom of darkness once and for all, and placed in the kingdom of the Son through His love. Forgiveness frees us from our previous ruler and places us under a new one, just as slaves were sometimes ransomed.

Therefore, conversion to Jesus is simultaneously connected to liberation from every demonic burden. That is why we see no reference to the casting out of demons in the apostolic letters. This is underlined in Colossians 2:14-15:

“Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”

In the 19th century, Johann Hinrich Wichern built a Christian home for neglected children near Hamburg, Germany. One day, he was assigned another boy and asked to take him in. The youth welfare office had provided a devastating report on the boy. His young life had already been so tainted by abuse and misdeeds. After reading the letter, Wichern looked at the boy and said, “You can start fresh here. Jesus died and rose again for you too.”

He then placed the report from the youth agency into the flame of a burning candle, and

told the boy that his guilt could burn away in Jesus’ love in the same way the paper had. All he needed to do was ask. After that, Wichern advised the boy not to tell anyone about his past so that it couldn’t be used against him.

“With God’s help, you’ll become a new person here,” said Johann Hinrich Wichern.

Two things happened through Jesus’ finished work on the Cross:

First, we are no longer guilty. Regarding Jesus’ exclamation, “It is finished” (John 19:30), Wilfried Plock writes, “The Greek word *tetelestai* could also be translated as, ‘It is paid for’ or, ‘It is done.’” Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum adds another interesting aspect: “Those three English words translate to only one Greek word, *tetelestai*, an accounting term meaning ‘paid in full.’ Receipts for taxes found in papyri have written across them this single Greek word, which means ‘paid in full.’ All of the animal sacrifices made over the centuries were merely installment payments. With Yeshua’s death, the final atonement was made: It is finished; our sin is paid in full! The price for our redemption from sin was paid in full by our Lord’s death.”—We can’t contribute anything more to this redemption.

Second, the devil has no right to the people who believe in Jesus. He can no longer prosecute them. Satan no longer has any weapon that he can use against us, and he no longer has any means with which to accuse us (1 John 5:18).

## Comfort from the Cross

---

Forgiveness is, and remains, a sacred duty. Everyone who does not forgive will suffer.



There is a lovely illustration of this in the Old Testament. Goliath, a metaphor for the devil, stepped out and blasphemed against Israel and the God of Israel. He challenged Israel by mocking it. Then David, a metaphor for Christ, met him, trusted in God, and defeated him. Later, the Bible says, “And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem” (1 Sam 17:54a).

But forgiveness also means responsibility. The Lord Jesus’ parable of the debtor was His answer to Peter’s question, “Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven” (Matt 18:21-22).

A Christian who has been forgiven has the highest duty to forgive others as well. That is why the Lord continues His parable and says: “But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down

at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt” (verses 28-30).

Forgiveness is, and remains, a sacred duty. Everyone who does not forgive will suffer.

I was once invited to a conference held at a Christian retreat center. The director of the facility read from a devotional book one morning, and it moved me very much. I asked him to lend me the book, and he gave it to me as a gift. The devotional reading was from June 17th. I asked why, since it was currently March 15th. He told me that he sometimes does it that way. He just selects a topic that speaks to him. It couldn’t have been more fitting for me. “God always comes on time, at the last minute.”

The book was written by a renowned psychotherapist, lecturer, and founder of several training centers. Above all, he is a Christian. He writes about forgiveness: “Forgiveness and mental health belong together. Those who can’t forgive strain their organs ... false forgiveness is like suppression. It causes psychosomatic disorders. People who keep silent or suppress, those who have misgivings and nurse wounds, are not exempt from this. The body reacts, the organs cry out, the person will groan. True forgiveness is grace. A gift, not an unauthorized effort. It liberates and lets body, soul, and spirit become healthy. It does not burden” (Reinhold Ruthe, “You Are by My Side”).

Reconciliation means changing completely. God didn't have to change; He has always been love, and has always had human salvation on His heart. But He changed things by giving full access to grace through Jesus' atoning death.

Whoever forgives frees others, as well as himself.

However, forgiveness doesn't mean trivializing guilt, approving of injustice, or pretending that nothing has happened. It has to be discussed, condemned, and forgiven. The Word of God and the Holy Spirit in our conscience bring up, condemn, and forgive sin when we recognize our guilt and confess it.

### Comfort in Reconciliation

“And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister” (Col 1:20-23).

Reconciliation means changing completely. God didn't have to change; He has always been love, and has always had human salvation on His heart. But He changed things by giving full access to grace through Jesus' atoning death. He brought about a complete change through Jesus. “To wit, that God was in Christ,



reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation” (2 Cor 5:19).

This has nothing to do with cheap forgiveness and reconciliation. The price is Jesus' blood and the Cross. We truly have been bought at a high price.

In February 2015, soccer player Gareth Bale was transferred from the Tottenham Hotspurs to Real Madrid for what was then a world record transfer fee of 101 million euros. But in the coach's opinion, his performance didn't live up to the fee that had been paid. He wasn't featured, remained on the bench, and was written about poorly in the newspapers. He was booed and eventually left Madrid.

It's not like that with God. In His eyes, you have the value that Jesus does. You are made fit for heaven once and for all. American psychiatrist Chris Thurman has written a book on “The Lies We Believe” (“we” being Christians).

## Comfort from the Cross

---



There is no such thing as a hopeless case before God. Jesus accomplished it all, for all.

He discovered 30 lies that Christians in all walks of life believe to be true and concretely practice. One lie is described as, “My worth is determined by my performance.” He writes: “Many of us who struggle with those two issues—having to be perfect and having personal worth dictated by achievement—reach a point of total despair, even suicide, when we experience failure.”

God’s Word testifies: “Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus” (Rom 3:25-26).

### Comfort in Responsibility

“If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister” (Col 1:23).

What does that mean now? Can a Christian lose his salvation? In the end, are his own efforts

and works responsible for his salvation or doom after all?

We find that forgiveness and reconciliation are eternal and immutable. They spring from God’s complete and perfect grace. That’s why Paul also writes, “Yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death.” It is a completed act, but this redemption serves a purpose; namely, “to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight.” If we aren’t established and steadfast in faith, but are instead open to legalities, asceticism, philosophies, sins, disobedience, and other unbiblical things (Col 2), then our practical sanctification suffers. One day we will have to answer for that before the judgment seat of Christ: “Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is” (1 Cor 3:13).

It is in this context that Paul warns, “For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s” (1 Cor 6:20). “Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men” (1 Cor 7:23).

To sum up, it can be said that there is no such thing as a hopeless case before God. Jesus accomplished it all, for all. And so there is perfect salvation for everyone who turns to Jesus. But we should also forgive others and obey in accordance with our salvation.

(MR0421/1155)





## THE STUBBORN INCLINATIONS OF BACKWARD PEOPLE



Backwards ... forwards? People of course know the difference in the practical matters of life. We intentionally switch our gears back and forwards when driving a car. But it is not so cut and dry when it comes to truths and beliefs.

**By Wilfred Hahn**

**T**here, mankind is often insistent on backward reasoning, thinking he is enlightened and forward-looking. Actually, much worse; he finds himself reduced to nonsensical “backwardation” in his attempts to justify his wrong and backward perspectives.

Sadly, in this way, much Biblical truth—i.e., the 7-day creation ... the plan of salvation—is “backwarded” away.

It reminds of the well-known novel by Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*. The main character, John Yossarian, is so paranoid that he insists on walking backwards so as not to be followed. Doing so of course made him even more vulnerable.

But this is exactly what we see in the world. People reason backwardly in their attempts to support their misguided beliefs.

To no surprise, the human being has an incredible capacity for denying facts and treat-

ing his own logic inconsistently. He is therefore prone to being wrong ... and in the position of also rejecting obvious truth.

The prophet Jeremiah observed this corruptible tendency of humans several millennia ago, saying: “But they did not listen or pay attention; instead, they followed the stubborn inclinations of their evil hearts. They went backward and not forward” (Jeremiah 7:24).

We see here that supposedly sensible people can choose to go backwards ... to deny the obvious. Why? In many cases this is because people will cling to their a priori views—which may be wrong—even though the facts and truths point to the exact opposite. They must then bend and twist the facts to fit their theories.

In this case, Jeremiah clearly links this twisted “backwardation” to the “stubborn incli-



To no surprise, the human being has an incredible capacity for denying facts and treating his own logic inconsistently. He is therefore prone to being wrong ... and in the position of also rejecting obvious truth.

nations of evil hearts.” The truth is repudiated in order to follow their evil desires.

### Ignoring the Obvious

As we have reviewed, it is simply amazing how opinions can be completely backward in the face of obvious Truths. This applies to lay people, academics, professionals, and experts ... potentially everybody.

These supposed deep thinkers therefore also hold on to backward views, making convoluted arguments to support their views and opinions. Often, they choose not to accept the obvious or straightforward view, simply because they are biased and refuse Truth.

Doing so, instead they make their theories and scenarios much more complicated and unlikely ... even ridiculous.

Here we see the rule of Occam's Razor being ignored. What is this principle? It says that when a simpler or more efficient explanation (hypothesis) suffices, then one should not seek more complex arguments or theorems. The latter are almost always twisted and backward views ... jamming round pegs into square holes.

Let's next consider some examples of obvious truths being flouted and reversed.

### Backwardation #1: The Foul History of Language

Consider the origin of language. Taking the “evolutionary” view, it is theorized that lan-

guages evolved very slowly, appearing much later in the human timeline. Language perhaps may have begun with grunts and physical signals. This prehistoric state of communication then eventually evolving into actual verbal communication systems. At first, these would be simple languages; then gradually becoming very sophisticated, with large and complicated vocabularies. At least, so it is theorized.

This perspective is nonsense, of course, as most readers will conclude for themselves.

Not surprisingly, the natural evidence says otherwise. One need not be an academic ... someone frocked in a white lab coat ... etc. Common sense suffices.

For example, one can see for oneself that the natural tendency for language is to deteriorate, left to its own. Just as the earth is gradually deteriorating and winding down (2nd Law of Thermodynamics), so does everything else in this dispensation. Says the Bible: “[...] look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke; the earth will wear out like a garment” (Isaiah 51:6).

Who has not encountered people that have an extremely small vocabulary ... and at that, mostly comprised of expletives. Their language is basal ... showing a regressive tendency.

There is a major deficiency with the theories of evolutionary linguists. Research shows that the exact opposite occurred to what they theorize. As it turned out, the older, ancient languages were more sophisticated than recent languages ... the latter languages clearly inferior.

Nevertheless, we observe that evolutionists have spent 160 years fabricating proofs and theories ... constantly revising their theories. To date, they have not found one verifiable, uncontested proof of a “missing link.”

This finding clearly invalidates the evolutionary view.

This should be the end of this topic—one would think.

Not at all.

Linguists still strain to find another answer ... i.e., the one that they want and will validate their a priori views. Essentially, they reason that since there is no God who created all things, the obvious evidence must be wrong. Linguists are virtually knocking themselves out with complicated and speculative explanations, in their attempts to buttress their wrong evolutionary suppositions.

### Backwardation #2: The Fossil Record Upside Down

Here is another example of a major “backwardation.” Fossils are found everywhere—from the deepest oceans to the peaks of mountains. The earth is literally teeming with fossils. Archaeologists agree that millions of species of creatures have died off and become extinct over time.

Interestingly, viewing this record, there has not yet been one “uncontested” missing link found. This must be very embarrassing for evolutionists, we imagine. After all, since the first perpetuation of this unlikely theory of evolution (leading to Darwin’s book, *On the Origin of Species* in 1859), evolutionists have had some 160 years to find supporting evidence for their theories.



They are still digging for the “missing fossils.” Should we allow the archaeologists an additional 50 years more time to search ... perhaps another 160 years? Their insistence that links will yet be found appears unrealistic and, frankly, even comical.

Why comical? Consider the plain facts. What we clearly see in the fossil record—and for all to observe as well—is a story of thousands of years of death. A kindergarten child could easily and logically conclude from the fossil record, that it evidences a history of death (massive numbers of extinctions) and not new life.

Life does not come from death.

Looking over the history of expired species, death, and lack of links, how is it that a story of evolutionary life can be spun from such evidence?

Nevertheless, we observe that evolutionists have spent 160 years fabricating proofs and theories ... constantly revising their theories. To date, they have not found one verifiable, uncontested proof of a “missing link.”

Instead, they propose explanations that are twisted, complex and speculative. Evolutionists



Consider also the roles of debt and money. Today's world monetary systems are based upon extreme and unprecedented indebtedness. This is not what God had in mind. The Bible clearly says that the creditor should “forgive us” (Matthew 6:12) our debts.

are therefore in a state of “backwardation”—denying the obvious.

But why adopt very complicated and unlikely theorems, when the evidence supports a simple and clear answer (recall Occam's Razor)?

### Backwardation Everywhere

We have only presented two examples of “backwardations.” In this fallen world, there are many more we could review at length.

Briefly, for example, consider the position of the Jews. For two millennia, they have ignored or denied the proof statements of the Messiah in their Torah. Admittedly, God Himself blinded them for a time to fulfill His punishment and for our sake.

Be that as it may, they have been in “backwardation” for a long time. The good news is that the Jews will eventually bow their knees to their Messiah. As the prophet Daniel says, at that time the “knowledge of the Lord” will become obvious to them. They “will run to and fro” (KJV), re-discovering the “knowledge of the Lord” (Daniel 12:4).

Consider also the roles of debt and money. Today's world monetary systems are based upon extreme and unprecedented indebtedness. This is not what God had in mind. The Bible clearly says that the creditor should “forgive us” (Matthew 6:12) our debts.

Indeed, forgiveness of debt was the standard practice several millennia ago. Rulers would



announce “clean slates” when necessary. Now, living in the Roman era, the opposite is the norm. Creditors are dominant and powerful; the poor are held prisoner.

Much backwardation exists in this perspective. Most disturbing is the prevalent view that “unfettered capitalism” finds Biblical basis. This could not be more wrong. The Bible does not support any of mankind's “isms.”

This Roman monetary bias will change dramatically when the “day of the Lord” occurs.

### Thoughts to Ponder

The world will remain in “backwardation.” They are going “backward and not forward” (Jeremiah 7:24).

“The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them” (Psalm 2:4). Ignoring common sense evidence indeed is laughable.

“Thinking themselves wise they venerate their baseless thoughts. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools” (Romans 1:22). (MC)



---

# The Source of Truth

BY ARNO FROESE



**“And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s. And they marvelled at him”  
(Mark 12:17).**

**I**n a most simple way, Jesus teaches us to understand the difference between God and the world. In this case, paying taxes to Caesar on the one hand, and being the chosen people of God on the other. To whom should they listen and obey? Answer: both.

Israel was subject to Roman occupation. We often hear and read about the alleged hatred between the Romans and the Jews, yet there are exceptions.

## **The Centurion**

For example, when Jesus came to Capernaum, there was a Roman centurion who implored

Jesus to come and heal his servant. Luke 7:4-5 states: “And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this: For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.” This clearly exemplifies the friendship between the occupiers and the occupied. This centurion “loved our nation.”

## **The Clean and the Unclean**

It was the apostle Peter who opened the door of the Gospel to the Jews, the Samaritans, and the Gentiles. We have the report in Acts 10. Peter was taught not to distinguish between

# The Source of Truth

---



Don't go anywhere for information regarding eternal life except the Word of God; it's the ultimate authority.

the Jews and the Gentiles. While praying, he was in a trance and saw a great sheet of cloth containing all kinds of unclean animals, and the order was: "kill and eat." Peter was shocked: "Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean" (v. 14b). "What God has cleansed, that call not thou common" (v. 15b).

He then receives visitors, who invite him to come to the house of Cornelius the centurion.

This is the testimony: "And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee" (v. 22). Here we have another respected and apparently beloved occupier. He had a "good report among all the nations of the Jews."

## **"Shall Never Die"**

These two examples teach us to distinguish between political and spiritual realities. When reading the Bible, we often notice that our physical life here on earth is almost ignored. In John 11 we read of Mary and Martha, whose brother Lazarus had died. After he was dead for four days, Jesus arrives. To Martha's statement, "if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died," Jesus answers: "And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" (vv. 21b, 26). Jesus totally dismisses the physical life here on earth by the unilateral state-

ment, "whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

## **Our Days Are Numbered**

That's the urgent lesson we need to grasp with our spirit, especially those of us who are up in years. We, each one of us, will experience death—that is, if the Rapture does not occur first. The Bible insists, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

Psalm 90:10 proclaims: "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." The following admonition is added in verse 12: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

What do we need to learn? Simply, to get our information about spiritual matters from the proper source—the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

It is an error, even dangerous, to get information from any other source. Once I heard it said: "Don't go to the butcher to buy bread." In other words, don't go anywhere for information regarding eternal life except the Word of God; it's the ultimate authority.

## **Information Explosion**

We live in an age marked by the explosion of information. We are being flooded with all

---

The source of the information we seek is of utmost importance. For spiritual things, you consult the Bible; for physical things, you consult medical science.

kinds of news reports, not just from our town, state, or nation, but about the entire world on a daily basis. That often leads in the wrong direction: focusing on the things that are happening on planet earth, more than realizing our spiritual reality.

### **The Grey Line**

Let us go back to the beginning of this message, trying to understand the distinct difference between our life here on earth in the flesh, and our spiritual life.

Paul says: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me” (Galatians 2:20).

Paul emphasizes that his spiritual life is what counts: “I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.” These are the words of a servant of the Lord, who did not look forward to a life on earth, but rather the real thing: life with Christ in eternity. Not surprisingly, he states in 2 Corinthians 5:8: “... willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

### **Permanent Destination**

Abraham is called the father of all believers. He received the promise about his descendants and the Promised Land. But Hebrews 11:10 testifies: “For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” That seems strange; after all, Abraham

left his country of origin. After many difficulties and dangers of weeks, months, or more, he arrived in the Promised Land. He should have been happy and content, but not so. Because he was the father of God’s people through Isaac, Jacob, and the twelve tribes of Israel, he looked to his permanent destination.

How did these men of God choose the right thing and not follow the wrong path? Where did they receive their information? They believed in the God whom they had not seen. Their information was based on the Word of God; they refused to listen to information which would have led them from the path of following the Lord. Thus, the question: who are we to follow? Where do we get our information about our world, and most importantly, our future?

### **Right Source of Information**

The source of the information we seek is of utmost importance. For spiritual things, you consult the Bible; for physical things, you consult medical science. For your vehicle, you go to a mechanic. Want to buy groceries? Go to a grocery store, not a junkyard. The lesson I am attempting to convey is, choose the source of your information carefully.

### **Church and State**

It is the Apostle Paul who makes the profound statement in Romans 13:1: “Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are

# The Source of Truth

---

We are duty-bound to do what the government tells us, but we serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

ordained of God.” The statement, “the powers that be are ordained of God,” has resulted in diverse interpretations by various teachers, preachers, and theologians.

In simple terms, any and all governments—now and in the past—were and are subject to the ordination of God.

This is directed to Christians and is not a political statement. Every government on planet earth—whether it’s communist, socialist, capitalist, monarchy, dictatorship, etc.—is based on laws and regulations. Their duty is the benefit of their citizens.

Jews, when they were dispersed into all the nations of the world, obeyed: “Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers.” That is also true of the Church of Jesus Christ. Christians—born-again of the Spirit—are to be found in all 200+ nations on planet earth. We speak different languages, practice different cultures, and are subject to different laws and regulations, but we the Church constitute the most perfect unity on the planet. We are the result of Jesus’ words, “I will build my church.”

## Two Distinct Identities

“Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour” (Romans 13:7). These fundamental truths need to be taught continually, whenever and wherever the Word of God is preached.

We operate as distinct, individual identities: we are in the world, but we are not of the world. We walk among the people of this world, go to work, buy groceries, and pay taxes just like anyone else. But our destiny is totally different; it is heaven, in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Service and Duty

We are duty-bound to do what the government tells us, but we serve our Lord Jesus Christ. Duty is what we *must* do; service is what we *may* do—it’s voluntary. Jesus said, “No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon” (Luke 16:13).

The word “service” is very important. In our days, it is greatly misused. For example, one reads advertising on vehicles or in the local media here in South Carolina: “Serving Columbia for over 40 years.” That’s not service, but is strictly business. Profit is the motivating factor of business.

In Matthew 4:10, we read the word “serve” for the first time: “Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.” Notice the connection to worship. These are voluntary actions. That, and only that, is true service.

Of course, we may call those who work for the government and wear a uniform “servants.” But upon taking a closer look, they do



---

Y2K: Hundreds, if not thousands of articles were written, and millions of books sold. These dear Christians—many of whom have done great jobs as ministers of the Gospel—suddenly fell for incorrect information.



not qualify for that definition, because they have signed a contract for their work for a specific duration of time and are compensated for it.

We, however, worship the Lord and serve Him; there is no immediate compensation. We do it out of love, for we know our ultimate destiny. Thus, we serve Him voluntarily.

### **The Y2K Example**

Going back to the year 1999, we were overwhelmed with a flood of reports about the impending worldwide catastrophe resulting from the Y2K bug.

My son Joel, who is responsible for the computers at the ministry, used to receive many publications from the computer industry. We took a half dozen magazines and looked through every page, marking those that mentioned Y2K. After going through thousands of pages, we found about five references.

We were stunned! Did Christians suddenly become computer scientists?

An article in the *Baltimore Sun* by John Rivera, dated 17 February 1999, was headlined: “Apocalypse now? Y2K spurs fears; Alarm: Some evangelical Christians are predicting doom and gloom for year’s end.”

[Some] evangelical Christians believe that Jan. 1, 2000, will unleash an unprecedented crisis that will result in God’s judgment on a sinful world. Some of the most extreme believe it could usher in the Apocalypse, the biblical prophecy of the end of time and the second coming of Christ.

In the same article, the manager of a Baptist bookstore in Baltimore, Johnny Smith, stated:

The Y2K issue has sparked a publishing flurry, with books coming out every week with titles such as, “The Millennium Bug: How to Survive the Coming Crisis,” “The Millennium Meltdown,” and “Y2K=666?”

“It’s housewives, it’s businessmen, it’s pastors,” he said. “People who just have heard about it and want to read about it.”

In “Judgment Day 2000,” Richard D. Wiles, a founder of the Christian Businessman’s Association, says that the Y2K crisis will be God’s punishment for His rebellious children.

Hundreds, if not thousands of articles were written, and millions of books sold. These dear Christians—many of whom have done great jobs as ministers of the Gospel—suddenly fell for incorrect information. They took it upon themselves to play computer scientists.

# The Source of Truth

---

Israel's Ministry of Health noticed that over 35% of all known cases were contracted in synagogues. Although religious meetings with more than 10 people were forbidden, that was quite often ignored; subsequently, the coronavirus spread increasingly.

## Tragedies

In previous conversations with the late Dave Hunt, I learned of many sad stories where Christians had sold their property and taken cash out of their bank accounts, all in preparation for the big Y2K hoax. Families were ruined, marriages were broken, bankruptcies were declared—all because of sensationalism. These dear Christians followed false information published by Christian ministries. I wondered, how did these believers suddenly become computer experts?

## Coronavirus

On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the coronavirus a global pandemic. Besides the WHO, innumerable other reliable sources reported about the dreaded virus, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state departments of health, the National Institute of Health (NIH), as well as renowned medical centers such as the Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins University and Medicine, and many, many more. Actually, there are hundreds if not thousands of hospitals, clinics, and medical organizations around the world, all united in one purpose—analyzing and fighting coronavirus. Interestingly, they all came to the same conclusion: social distance, masks, vaccine!

## Source of Truth

Scanning various reports, not just locally but

internationally, one observation becomes immediately clear: religious people suddenly became “medical scientists.” We will refrain from mentioning individual churches or denominations, but we must mention Israel. It is the nation that counts for us Christians. They gave us our Bible, and Jesus says, “Salvation is of Jews.”

The first Covid-19 case in Israel was confirmed on 21 February 2020. On 11 March 2020, Israel began enforcing social distancing and lockdowns. On 15 March 2020, no more than 10 people were allowed for gatherings. Then, on 24 March 2020, Israel's Ministry of Health noticed that over 35% of all known cases were contracted in synagogues. Although religious meetings with more than 10 people were forbidden, that was quite often ignored; subsequently, the coronavirus spread increasingly.

## Mount Meron

On 30 April 2021, the largest gathering of people took place on Mount Meron, where religious Jews ignored the clear instruction of the health department and the government. The result? *The Times of Israel* reports, “45 crushed to death and over 150 hurt at the mass Lag Ba'omer event at Mount Meron in northern Israel.” While estimates vary, the number of people gathered illegally was between 50,000 to 100,000.

Here too the religious authorities suddenly became “medical scientists,” they so presumed.

---

Let us return to the absolute authority; namely, the Word of God. Let us seek knowledge from Holy Scripture. God forbid that we mingle in the office not entrusted to the Church: politics, or in this case, medical science.

But they became messengers of death.

Israel has one of the best health-care systems, with educated, well-trained physicians and modern clinics throughout the country. Quite obviously, the followers of this religious group ignored medical science and listened to their religious authorities. It ended in catastrophe.



### **We Pray and Act**

Christians always pray. But when our physical body malfunctions, we visit the appropriate medical facilities. When one's car breaks down, a reputable mechanic is the answer. No one in their right mind would go to a barber, asking him to fix their car. However, that seems to be the case with religious people. Unfortunately, a great number of true believers, born of the Spirit of God, were led astray as well. Why? They believed wrong information.

Disregarding preventive measures, an unknown number of people died before their time due to the spreading of this dreaded virus. That's a tragedy.

But there is another item to consider; namely, the person's responsibility to render the things that are Caesar's unto Caesar, and to God the things that are God's.

Christians became "computer scientists" during Y2K, and "medical scientists" during Covid-

19 by propagating false information. Individuals, ministries, television hosts, radio speakers, etc. have definitely contributed toward the pollution of the name of the Church. Obviously, that will have repercussions in the not-too-distant future. Churches and non-profit ministries, which are subsidized by tax credits, will in the long run pay the price for following fake information.

### **Absolute Authority**

In conclusion, let us return to the absolute authority; namely, the Word of God. Let us seek knowledge from Holy Scripture. God forbid that we mingle in the office not entrusted to the Church: politics, or in this case, medical science. We have a task to do, and our time is short. Only when we let our light shine and proclaim nothing but the truth, will those who are still in darkness come to the light and be added to the Church—thereby fulfilling the words of Matthew 5:16: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (MC)



# Spiritual Fitness

DR. RON J. BIGALKE

**Have you ever known someone who was intrigued with extreme health plans, like eating eucalyptus bark in the vicinity of a Himalayan monastery?**

**F**ruitarianism is a diet of nothing except fruit. Fruitarians believe their diet is what God originally desired according to His command to eat “every plant yielding seed” and “every tree which has fruit yielding seed” (Gen 1:29). God’s people sometimes get ensnared in a similar approach in the pursuit of authentic spirituality, becoming involved in things

that are too esoteric to have genuine value. Subsequent to the warning with regard to apostasy (vv. 1-5), First Timothy 4 (vv. 6-16) then reveals how to “discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness.” To summarize these verses with contemporary terminology, one could regard this section of Scripture as a 5-part spiritual fitness program.

---

A consistent walk with the Lord makes a believer spiritually healthy.



**First, exercise ambitiously (1 Tim 4:6-10).** What a believer needs is a proper focus upon godly living: “discipline [exercise] yourself to godliness” (which is living in such a manner that one’s life is a reflection of God’s character). Society today is preoccupied with physical fitness and beauty, which makes it all too easy for believers to become enamored with exercise regimens that have limited value, and thus become distracted from the pursuit of godliness. The active pursuit of godliness profits a believer now and for eternity.

How does one pursue godliness? According to verse 7, one must “exercise” to achieve it. The word “exercise” in the Greek is *gymnaze*, from which is derived the words “gymnastics” and “gymnasium.” The word includes the idea of rigorous training intended to improve a person’s fitness or skill. As it applies to the pursuit of godliness, a person must exercise with the commitment of an athlete in the pursuit of godliness.

**Secondly, live consistently (vv. 11-12).** A consistent walk with the Lord makes a believer spiritually

healthy. Scripture suggests that a believer can establish credibility by being “an example . . . in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” One does not demand respect; rather, it is earned by godly living.

**Third, diet faithfully (v. 13).** A healthy believer focuses upon the Word of God, and is not distracted by less significant matters. Reading the Bible aloud is important, and has always been a regular habit of God’s people. “Exhortation” focuses upon understanding the Bible’s relevance. The word for “teaching” suggests systematic study of biblical principles, for the purpose of developing a resolute, skeletal system of truth, which will anchor one’s faith and provide discernment to protect from error.

**Fourth, serve actively (vv. 14-15).** A healthy believer is an active participant as a member of the body of Christ, not just a passive spectator. Regard it as imperative to know the eternal contribution that God intends for you to make. Commit yourself to the diligent use of the resources that God has assigned to you.

**Fifth, evaluate your life carefully (v. 16).** A person who is engaged in a disciplined physical fitness regimen will naturally monitor his or her own progress. Similarly, a believer should monitor his or her spiritual fitness. In your personal evaluation, daily ask yourself whether you (1) are strengthening your walk with the Lord, (2) pursuing spiritual growth, (3) maintaining doctrinal integrity, and (4) are influencing others to become devoted worshippers of God, by grace through faith in Christ Jesus.



## Spiritual Fitness

---

Be aware of distracting and misleading ideas and practices that are presented as spiritual, yet produce ungodly results.

“For as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you” (v. 16). Believers in Jesus have a responsibility to pursue spiritual growth! God will bring the results.

### BE ON GUARD

**(1 Tim 4:1-5)** Subsequent to the triumphant hymn of 3:16, is a warning to be on guard against those who “in later times . . . will fall away from the faith” (v. 1a). “Later times” is not a couple of years; rather, it is the entire timeframe between the first and second coming of Jesus Christ. Apostasy (departing from belief in God) has been a threat for as long as human history. When “some . . . fall away from the faith,” they abandon the essential teachings of Scripture. The Bible repeatedly and unequivocally gives warning with regard to the dangers and results of apostasy (e.g. Heb 6:4-8).

The necessity to address false teaching decisively is explained in light of the origin of such beliefs: “deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons” (1 Tim 4:1b; cf. 1 John 4:2-3). False teaching found receptivity in those who are hypocritical liars, whose conscience is seared “as with a branding iron” (v. 2). Hypocritical liars are those who willingly embrace falsehood to justify their pride or sin; it also refers to those who claim to believe the Bible, yet distort it to support their own agendas or ideas. A seared conscience is one that would have convicted a person not to depart from the truth, yet now has become unresponsive.

Furthermore, false teaching is contrary to God’s creation order of marriage and His giving of food as a gift (vv. 3-5). The insidious nature of false teaching is that it subverts God’s plan. The simple call to faith in God’s Son—Jesus Christ—is frequently abused either through legalism (emphasis upon strict adherence to moral codes as a means to gain divine favor) or libertarianism (emphasis upon personal rights).

In the time in which 1 Timothy 4 was written, the tendency was toward legalism, which is described in verses 3-5. Obviously, moral codes are not bad, but they become disastrous when adherence to them becomes an attempt to placate God or to earn divine favor. The only manner in which a person can be reconciled to God and maintain a relationship with Him is by grace through faith in Christ.

### BE DISCIPLINED

**(1 Tim 4:6-16)** Apostasy in these “later times” should not be unexpected, for it is prophesied (vv. 1-5). Nevertheless, there are positive directions to overcome the influence of false teaching. “A good servant of Christ Jesus” is one who is “*constantly* nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine” (v. 6). Ongoing spiritual nourishment is essential, because it is the wellspring for life. One’s effectiveness and strength for spiritual service will falter whenever spiritual development is neglected.

Not everything promoted as spiritual is helpful. Some things are better avoided entirely, such as “worldly fables fit only for old women” (v.

---

Believers discipline themselves not because of duty; rather, because of delight in the Lord God. Godliness is the goal, the motivation, and discipline is the means to that end.

7). There are many curiosities, spiritual movements, and worthless theologies, which are godless myths of the sort that “old women” with too much time available to them like to proliferate. Be aware of distracting and misleading ideas and practices that are presented as spiritual, yet produce ungodly results. To discern the truth, a believer must be disciplined “for the purpose of godliness.” In contrast to the legalism or libertarianism of false teachers, authentic godliness is focused upon a life lived by biblical truth.

Christians do not discipline themselves for greatness, but rather for godliness. Such discipline arises from a biblical understanding of God’s grace, for He is the one who transforms a heart of stone into that of flesh, with new affections and desires. Believers discipline themselves not because of duty; rather, because of delight in the Lord God. Christians depend upon the Holy Spirit for their labor and strive, because their hope is fixed “on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers” (v. 10). Godliness is the goal, the motivation, and discipline is the means to that end.

The discipline of an athlete is what is needed (v. 8), but not mere physical exercise of the body, which has some value. Physical training is not to be despised, but its benefits are trivial in comparison to “godliness [which] is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and *also* for the *life* to come.” Who we become in this life goes with us into eternity!

Spiritual development and maturity, in addition to discipline for the purpose of godliness, do not exist in a void. “A trustworthy statement” follows the importance of this observation; namely, that labor and struggle for the purpose of godliness occurs by fixing one’s “hope on the living God” (vv. 9-10). Believers trust in a God who is active, living, and present in their lives. The desire to please God in all of life is because eternity will be in the presence of the Lord. Moral codes are helpful for discipline but not for godliness (v. 11).

Chronological age does not guarantee spiritual maturity (v. 12; cf. Heb 5:11-14), which is why the issue for spiritual leadership is never youth or adulthood; rather, it is being an example of godliness, which involves a person’s words (“speech”), actions (“conduct”), “love” for people, trust (“faith”) in God, and moral “purity.” How can you improve your ability to serve in a spiritual manner? *First*, “give attention” to the Word of God, the Holy Bible, and actively seek “exhortation and teaching” from Scripture (v. 13).

*Second*, do not neglect God’s working in your life (v. 14). *Third*, “take pains with these things” (i.e., authentic biblical living) (v. 15). *Lastly*, “pay close attention to yourself” and what you believe (v. 16). Persevere in life (your conduct)—as one who is empowered by the Holy Spirit—and do so with a relentlessly biblical faith (true doctrine) for the present and in view of eternity. You will then delight God, and produce goodness and godliness in all you do.


(1202)

# WORLD FOCUS

## WORLD

### On the Verge of Chaos and Anarchy

Finance Minister Avigdor Liberman has a catchphrase for any time he is asked how he is doing. “Gan Eden,” he says, a reference to the heavenly Garden of Eden and his way of saying that everything is just fine.

 That is not the Liberman we met with for a long conversation at the Finance Ministry. This Liberman was concerned and full of dire warnings. The world, he told the *Magazine*, needs to wake up immediately because if it doesn't, it will be thrown into a dark period of chaos and anarchy.

There are, he explained, four catalysts behind the chaos.

First, he said, is the emergence of more technology driven by artificial intelligence. There are young hackers, he said, who are capable of doing things with their computers and cellphones that were unimaginable just a few years ago.

The second catalyst, Liberman continued, is the rise of cryptocurrencies across the globe. There are, he noted, 15,000 different types of cryptocurrencies today.

“Every few people get together and make a digital currency,” he said. “There are crypto markets in Iran to evade sanc-



**FINANCE MINISTER Avigdor Liberman:**  
**Four catalysts behind the chaos.**  
(photo credit: YONATAN SINDEL/FLASH90)

tions and to launder money and it can be used to finance terrorism and crime.”

Countries like Israel that have advanced technology, he said, can meet the challenge. “But there are 193 countries in the United Nations and 140 of them have no way of confronting this,” he explained.

The third catalyst, according to Liberman, is what is happening on the Darknet, a gathering place for criminals and terrorist activities. Liberman said that he became familiar with the Darknet from his roles as defense minister and chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

“This becomes all the more complicated with far-reaching consequences due to the ability to spread fake news and conspiracy theories,” he said.

The fourth catalyst, he explained, is the breakdown and collapse of international order and systems.

An illustration of this, he said, can be seen in Vienna where the world superpowers continue to negotiate with Iran in pursuit of a new nuclear deal. They speak to the Iranians at the same time that Iran is supplying the Houthis in Yemen with ballistic missiles and drones and ordering them to attack the United Arab Emirates.

“We need to rise above the regular daily problems in each country to stop these trends,” he answered. “There is only one chance and that is to regulate and coordinate together with all of the big players working in unison.”

What that means, he explained, is getting the G7—an inter-governmental political forum consisting of Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States—to work with Russia and China to find ways to regulate a new world order and to stop the slide toward global chaos.

Liberman is not sure his plan will work but he believes that the world is at an inflection point and now is the time to act.

He said that he recently met with the president of Tel Aviv University and asked him to convene the brightest minds on campus to build simulations and models for where the combination

*(continued next page)*

## Anarchy (continued from page 28)

of technology, cryptocurrency, Darknet and collapsing world order will lead the world.

“There is time to act,” he said. “I hope they do.”

-[www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com), 3 February 2022

**Commentary:** Soviet-born Avigdor Lieberman may be controversial, but he has occupied significant governmental positions:

- 2001–2002 Minister of National Infrastructure
- 2003–2004 Minister of Transportation
- 2006–2008 Deputy Prime Minister
- 2006–2008 Minister of Strategic Affairs
- 2009–2012 Deputy Prime Minister
- 2009–2012 Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 2013–2015 Minister of Foreign Affairs
- 2016–2018 Minister of Defense
- 2021–present Minister of Finance

We learn from the article (of which we publish excerpts) that the world is in apparent danger originating from high tech, particularly in the communications industry.

What is the answer? “An inter-governmental political forum” to establish laws regarding artificial intelligence, cryptocurrency, the Darknet, and other issues, which if not controlled will lead to the collapse of world order, he insists.

Lieberman speaks Russian, Yiddish, Romanian, Hebrew, and English. His prominence increased due to the over one million Russian immi-

grants in Israel. On his official website, he wrote in Russian on 22 September 2014: “My countryman may be a Jew, a Muslim, a Christian—I do not differentiate people by religion. Let them be religious or secular, the main thing is that they are a true citizen of the State of Israel.”

Does Mr. Lieberman have reason to be concerned with the world’s condition? We believe so. Most leaders across the globe today would probably agree. Therefore, a new coalition of nations, with diverse languages, political ideologies, etc., must strive toward the creation of a truly global world—



to assure peace, prosperity, and security for all.

7700

(See *End-Times Super Trends*, Item #2342, \$15.99.)

## SOUTH KOREA

### Government Cares for Elderly

Care giving for seniors has traditionally been perceived as a duty of their family members. Sons and daughters were responsible for the care—both physically and economically—of their elderly parents.



But this outdated system has faced challenges in modern society. Unlike the past when extended families lived under one roof, family ties are loosening, with more and more elderly people living alone.



**An elderly woman participates in an arts and craft session at a nursing home.**

Courtesy of National Health Insurance Service

As a result, the enhancement of public care services for the elderly population has become a priority for Korea, a country which is predicted to become a “super-aged society” by 2026, where one-fifth of the total population is aged 65 and older.

Against this backdrop, the National Health Insurance Service (NHIS) launched what is called the Long-Term Care (LTC) Insurance scheme in 2008 aiming to shift elderly care away from the family-dominated system to an insurance-based one.

All Korean nationals are eligible for LTC insurance, which offers a comprehensive caregiving system to elderly people who are unable to perform daily activities on their own.

Under the insurance scheme, the NHIS pays for 85 percent of home-living benefit expenses, and 80 percent of facility care benefit expenses, within the monthly limit which may differ depending on the level of care.

According to a survey conducted last October among 2,500 beneficiaries, 91 percent said they were satisfied with the services which include short-term accommodation at facilities, bathing services and community residence for the elderly.

-[www.koreatimes.co.kr](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr), 17 February 2022


*(continued next page)*



 **U K**

## What Is the Quantum Apocalypse?

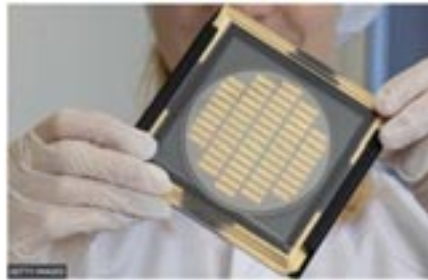
Imagine a world where encrypted, secret files are suddenly cracked open—something known as “the quantum apocalypse.”

 Put very simply, quantum computers work completely differently from the computers developed over the past century. In theory, they could eventually become many, many times faster than today’s machines.

That means that faced with an incredibly complex and time-consuming problem—like trying to decrypt data—where there are multiple permutations running into the billions, a normal computer would take many years to break those encryptions, if ever.

But a future quantum computer, in theory, could do this in just seconds.

Such computers could be able to solve all sorts of problems for humanity. The UK government is investing in



the National Quantum Computing Centre in Harwell, Oxfordshire, hoping to revolutionize research in the field.

“Everything we do over the internet today,” says Harri Owen, chief strategy officer at the company PostQuantum, “from buying things online, banking transactions, social media interactions, everything we do is encrypted.

“But once a functioning quantum computer appears that will be able to break that encryption... it can almost instantly create the ability for whoever’s developed it to clear bank accounts, to completely shut down government defense systems—Bitcoin wallets will be drained.”

-[www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com), 27 January 2022

**Commentary:** While these computer scientists in themselves are not evil, the development of such advanced technology will contribute toward the ultimate imitation of God. That will not be the quantum computer, but as we read in Revelation 20:12-15: “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

7687

(See *40 Days Through Revelation*, Item #2304, \$15.99.)

## Elderly

(continued from page 29)

**Commentary:** The Korean government is implementing a much-needed service, as the population among advanced societies worldwide is rapidly aging, while at the same time, fewer children are being born to pick up the slack.

The article states that 91 percent were satisfied with the program, which is incredible considering how in the US, complaints about

the healthcare system abound, and for good reason. The astronomical costs, combined with much inefficiency, have led to poorer care than most modern economies.

Asian cultures have traditionally placed great value in honoring one’s parents, although the Western mindset of independence is gradually taking hold, which is unfortunate. Scripture states: “...children

or grandchildren...should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God” (1 Timothy 5:4, NIV).

7698

(By K. Farmer)

(See *Heavenly Rewards*, Item #2357, \$14.99.)





 **USA**

## John Deere Automated Tractor


The heavy-duty machine can be activated by smartphone, using cameras and sensors to navigate farmland.



Cameras—visible here in the lower front of the vehicle—detect objects as the tractor tills



The required equipment can be installed on existing tractors if compatible

 The company is not the first to showcase automated tractor technology, but is among the largest farm equipment makers in the world.

The new kit unveiled at the CES technology expo uses six pairs of stereo cameras to monitor its surroundings, using machine learning to detect objects and avoid collisions.

Agriculture remains far more dangerous than other employment sectors, with fatal injuries per 100,000 workers about 20 times higher than the average across all sectors.

Automated tractors and other farm equipment arguably remove the farmer

from close proximity to heavy machinery, but also rely on the technology's ability to detect potential dangers.

The company has previously come under fire for its technology developments, which some farmers have argued make it much harder to repair their own equipment. John Deere opposed so-called "right to repair" rules in the US, arguing they posed a safety risk.

-*www.bbc.com*, 5 January 2022

**Commentary:** The agricultural industry has made nearly unbelievable progress. Statistics for the US reveal that in 1800, 90% of the workforce was employed in agriculture; in 2021, only 1.4%.

Now comes farm equipment without a human operator.

John Deere is listed as the world's largest agricultural machinery manufacturer. It is headquartered in Moline, Illinois. Statista lists its worldwide employment at 75,550 in 2021.

When analyzing the history of farming, we quickly realized that machines—in this case, run by artificial intelligence—are taking over. The result? An over-abundance of the highest quality farm products.

Another report stated that not only in the US, but also throughout the world, more than 45% of agricultural products are wasted.

Now we must look at Scripture. This is the curse God pronounced

upon Adam: "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (Genesis 3:17-19).

Interestingly, technology is detouring this curse. Modern farmers use chemicals against unwanted weeds (thistles). Most tractors are equipped with air-conditioning—no sweat. But the final statement, man



will not detour: "for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return."

7678

(See *Searching for Adam*, Item #2319, \$24.99.)

Visit [midnightcall.com/pn](http://midnightcall.com/pn)

Need More Up-to-Date News?

**Prophetic News**

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





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.

## FORSAKEN BY GOD...COVID-19... THE THIRD TEMPLE

### **Forsaken by God**

Dear Brother Arno,

I feel we are brothers, and I am looking forward to meeting you. It could be “soon.” *Midnight Call* is something I look forward to each month. I know I missed a lot before I began receiving it. It is a joy to share it.

When Jesus cried out, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” was it really because He had been deserted by the Father? That seems to be the common idea. If that was so, what happened to the unity, the one-ness of Elohiym? How could that be when they are “ONE”?

If there was a note of despair in that cry, it seems to me it could have been the expression—maybe the last expression of the human in Jesus. He experienced hunger, thirst, tiredness. He was tempted in all ways as we are. Could not that have been a sensing of abandonment, but not reality? Was that not similar to our feelings when we face a time, a circumstance that leaves us feeling alone—abandoned by God? That is when we must by faith believe the words of Jesus, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

-G. Beers, ID

**Answer:** Your analysis about Jesus being forsaken is based on sound arguments. But Jesus literally and physically died in the flesh as the Son of Man, while simultaneously being the Son of God. In the capacity of the Son of Man, He was forsaken by God. He became sin, and God cannot look upon sin.

Also, Jesus’ statement that He does not know the day or hour of His return, except the Father (Matthew 24:36; Mark 13:32), is only applicable to Jesus as the Son of Man. But as the Son of God, He is equal to God—omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient. But in the capacity as Son of Man, He did not know.

### **Covid-19**

Mr. Froese,

I have been a subscriber to *Midnight Call* for years and have appreciated your spiritual insight and perspective on the Word of God, but cannot continue reading your magazine.

Since the world has been dealing with the Covid pandemic, where hundreds of thousands have died, you have on several occasions repeated that, according to the experts, the vaccines are effective. Those comments have great influence on the readership, but the whole story isn’t being told.



Respectfully, your research is lacking. Vaccine injuries, deaths, and incidents of myocarditis, especially in the young, have risen to an alarming degree, along with an avalanche of miscarriages and stillborn births (lifesitenews.com, 12/23/21). Yet not one mention of these alarming consequences of a vaccine not tested long-term are included in your comments.

I cannot continue reading *Midnight Call* when commentary doesn't reflect the whole truth of what is going on. I will not be renewing my subscription.

-G. Lillie, GA

**Answer:** Checking your source, *Wocheblick* [which you included separately], the Austrian Press Council had this to say: "...having nothing in common with professional and responsible journalism." LifeSiteNews.com is another site which publishes half-truths. It is a "Canadian, Catholic far-right website and news publication and has published misleading information and conspiracy theories in 2021. It was banned from some social media platforms for spreading Covid-19 misinformation."

When doing research on medicine, go to reliable sources: the World Health Organization (WHO), US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Mayo Clinic, Johns Hopkins University and Medicine, and many others. These have a long history of continued research backed by medical science. Whether in Europe, Asia, Africa, or Australia, all have established the same conclusion: to fight this dangerous virus, social distancing, masking, and vaccination.

Israel implemented strict rules, and their numbers are only 936 coronavirus deaths per million. In Australia the number is 127, and the neighboring country, New Zealand, only 11 deaths per million! Numbers don't lie.

## The Third Temple

Dear Mr. Froese,

I have enjoyed reading your magazine for several years, and was interested in reading your booklet, *What About the Third Temple?*

I became somewhat confused as I moved through your booklet, since I understand from Jesus' statements in Matthew 24:15 and Mark 13:14 that the next temple will function during the Tribulation. Satan incarnate will duplicate the actions of Antiochus Epiphanes in desecrating this Tribulation temple.

Thus, it would seem that your third temple must exist before that mentioned in Matthew and Mark. As I understand your position, this temple is spiritual; thus, not visible or in physical existence at this time, but in the process of collecting believers to populate heaven. Also, that when we worship God now, we are attending this temple. Do I correctly understand what you are saying?

-F. Vincent, MT

**Answer:** Yes, I do believe that it is the spiritual temple, since a physical one is virtually out of the question—at least at this time. Matthew 24:15 and Mark 13:14, to my understanding were fulfilled when the temple was desecrated and then destroyed in 70 AD.

Incidentally, we don't *attend* a temple, but we *are* the temple: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" (1 Corinthians 3:16).

I don't see a physical, earthly temple built in Jerusalem in the near future, but I allow for the possibility that I am in error. (MC)



### URUGUAY

## New Bible School and Mandatory Advertising

Why Radio El Libertador needs advertising and what new doors the Lord is opening.

BY JAN AND ISABELLE EISSES, MONTEVIDEO



Each month, radio stations in Spanish-speaking countries must have at least 24 new programs (Bible studies, radio magazine, women's interest, and youth programs). Additionally, there is programming from Radio El Libertador and New Hope Radio.

Preparations to launch a Bible school on YouTube are also in full swing. Series on hermeneutics, apologetics, christology, and marriage and family have been recorded. Thus far, we had lacked someone to write the scripts for the individual lessons, so our proofreader Miguel agreed to take it on. This is an answer to prayer! When the material is ready, Bible school will officially begin.

In June 2021, Midnight Call Argentina, Uruguay, Guatemala, and Bolivia held another

virtual conference, this time on the subject of “Our Blessed Hope.” This helps the message reach thousands all over Latin America—an open door that we'd like to make use of in the future, along with other mission fields.

Once a month, we (Jan and Isabelle) make a two-day trip to Vergara, the site of Radio El Libertador, and to other cities nearby. We visit the businesses that advertise on the radio, and try to find new customers for commercials. Radio El Libertador wouldn't exist without these advertisers, because according to Uruguayan law, the media (considered the fourth power of the state) is not permitted to accept donations. We are dependent on this advertising income, and due to the difficult economic situation, our current amount is inadequate.





**Rodrigo Rincon**, audio engineer and jointly responsible for the radio ministry



**Victoria Pereira**, radio announcer at Radio El Libertador and moderator for the radio magazine



The first hermeneutics lesson for Midnight Call's online Bible school



**Jan & Isabelle** at the studio in Montevideo



**Victoria San Martin**, responsible for New Hope Radio and women's programming

church in Vergara and are grateful for the opportunity to share some of their worries and burdens.

Our longtime translator Sigrid Woelke is now retired. We are grateful for her loyal collaboration for over 20 years. Since translating *Midnight Call* magazine and *News from Israel* is too much for Isabelle

In August, however, we experienced the Lord opening doors and encouraging us to continue waiting on Him! Of course, the monthly visit also facilitates communication and fellowship with Pastor Ricardo and his wife Mayka. In addition to their radio work, they also lead a Protestant

to do alone, we had been looking for another translator for some time. Sigrid recommended a young woman from a German Mennonite colony to us, and so Verónica Regehr has already begun as our new translator. This is also an answer to prayer.

(MR1121)



"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

MC0422

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

monthly     one time    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Web: midnightcall.com/fl





# THE RUSSIA/UKRAINE CONFLICT



By Arno Froese

“He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth” (Psalm 46:9-10).

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine is the number one story the media currently proclaims. Apparently, Covid-19 has taken a back seat. What does war do? Kill and destroy. That is what all military personnel are taught in their respective war colleges.

History books are filled with the enumeration of wars and their subsequent casualties and physical destruction.

Where did it all start? We can go back approximately 6,000 years ago, when one brother killed another, as recorded in Genesis 4:8: “And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.”

From that time until this very day, the killing has not ceased—precisely according to the prophetic words of our Lord: “And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for

all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places” (Matthew 24:6-7). That is exactly what is going on today.

Thus, the question: when will war cease? The answer is in our introductory Scripture: “He maketh wars to cease.” How? “He breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.” That simply reveals total elimination of weapons of war.

The prophet Micah declares, “And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more” (Micah 4:3).

Historically, Israel has deep roots in the former Soviet Union. It was the Belarusian Andrei Gromyko, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, who made the passionate plea at the United Nations in favor of the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab nations, which led to Resolution 818 of the General Assembly, on 29 November 1947.

While we talk much about peace and freedom, in reality there is no such thing. In the New Testament, James addresses the Church: “From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?” (James 4:1).

When it comes to peace and freedom, the late Dr. Scofield made a profound statement:

Theoretically, we are free politically. Actually, we are the slaves of party, of the caucus, of the bosses. The very minute I give over into the hands of a convention the right to formulate my political creed I am no longer absolutely free. When I take my opinions, or convictions, concerning morals or religion, second-hand from other men, whether they are men of today or men of the Reformation period or of the early church council, I am no longer free.

When I allow a habit to dominate my life, I am no longer free. When I allow pride or vanity or ambition or pleasure to control my life, I am the basest of slaves. The very fact that I do not, cannot, of myself, cease from sin proclaims me a slave. Jesus Christ came into a world of slaves.

-Scofield, C. I., *The New Life in Christ Jesus* (2007), p. 35

### **Israel’s Dilemma**

While the Western world outright condemns Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, Israel did so only after being prodded, particularly by the United States. Why Israel’s hesitancy? There are multiple reasons, the first being that the overwhelming majority of immigrants to Israel came from the Soviet Union. The *Jerusalem Post* reports that about a million people in Israel are Russian-speaking.

Historically, Israel has deep roots in the former Soviet Union. It was the Belarusian Andrei Gromyko, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, who made the passionate plea at the United Nations in favor of the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab nations, which led to Resolution 818 of the General Assembly, on 29 November 1947.

Israel also remembers that it was the Soviet Union who permitted Czechoslovakia to send military equipment to Israel, while most powers in the world refrained from sending military hardware to conflict areas.

We must also note that the 37 signers of the Declaration of Independence, governed by the Histadrut (trade union), followed the ideology of com-



munism, which resulted in the establishment of the well-known kibbutz movement in Israel.

It is noteworthy that nine of the 37 original signers of the Declaration came from Ukraine, with eight from Belarus and five from Poland. Thus, we see: whether it's the fatherland or the motherland, a large part of Israel's population has its roots in the former Soviet Union.

Doubtless, many Israelis have family, relatives and friends in the countries involved in this war.

Israel's former Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman (now the Finance Minister)—who was born in Moldova and immigrated to Israel in 1978—previously said regarding Russia:

"We are not looking for any confrontation with Russia," Israeli Public Radio quoted Lieberman as saying.

"On the contrary, in recent years, there was an open and transparent dialogue with Russia—both when our opinions have been compatible and [when they have been] incompatible," he added.

According to Israeli radio, Lieberman made the remarks in [an] interview with Russian daily *Kommersant*.

"Israel does not intend to interfere in Syria's internal affairs; [Syrian] President Bashar al-Assad would do well not to work against us," the hardline defense minister was quoted as saying.

"Israel takes into account Russian interests and hopes Moscow will also take into

account our security interests in the Middle East," he said.

*www.aa.com.tr*, 3 May 2018

Israel's main enemy is Iran. They use war-torn Syria as a staging ground against Israel. Subsequently, hundreds of raids have been conducted by Israel against Iranian military targets in Syria. Russia is supporting the Syrian government, but assents to Israel targeting Iranian military movements in Syria.

In summary, what we know is that the prophecies uttered by the Lord Jesus Christ in Israel will continue to be fulfilled, until "He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth." Then, and only then, will all the lies proclaimed by all governments around the world, throughout the millennia, be exposed. There is no peace, and there will be no peace until the Prince of Peace arrives. He will immediately abolish all weapons and command real peace, prosperity, and security for Israel, and from there to the rest of the world.

Our position as Christians is to pray for His church in the affected countries, so that they may stand strong in upholding and sending forth the Word of God. His Church is the "salt of the earth" and "light of the world." That's the Church Jesus is building—"I will build my church" (Matt 16:18b). (MC)



# Passover



**By David Phillips** *COO (Chief Operating Officer)*

“Then He said to them, ‘With desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer’” (Luke 22:15).

**P**assover is one of the most important Jewish holidays of the year, and it is no different in the Ebenezer Home; our dear residents await this day. It’s a time to remember what God has done in liberating the people of Israel; consecrating and preserving them as His own people. It’s a time for retelling the actual Passover story and how God rescued His people from slavery in Egypt.

For Jewish believers, it is also a special time to remember Messiah Yeshua’s death and resurrection on this holy day.

Identifying and understanding the symbolism and ways in which Passover points to Yeshua, will infuse your Passover with rich meaning—whether you are Jew or Gentile.

At the Ebenezer Home, just as with many families, we will eat a special ceremonial meal known as the **Seder**, which commemorates the Exodus from Egypt. We use a book called the Haggadah (literally meaning “narration”), which relates the story of the Exodus from Egypt.

On the Seder table is a special plate containing several special foods:

- A roasted egg—symbolizing the special sacrifices that were brought into the temple.
- A roasted shank bone—recalling the special Passover lamb offered and eaten in temple times.

- A mixture of chopped apples, nuts, wine, and cinnamon known as charoset—symbolizing the mortar that the Hebrew slaves in Egypt used to make bricks.

- Sprigs of parsley and lettuce—symbolizing spring.

- Bitter herbs—symbolizing the bitterness of slavery.

- And salt water—recalling the tears shed by the Hebrew slaves in Egypt.

Three sheets of matzah are placed on the table, traditionally marking the division of the Jewish people into priests, Levites, and the general population.

For believers, it also symbolizes God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The middle matzah (“the Son”) is broken in half and hidden for the children to search for (a Pesach game). This is very symbolic, as the Son’s body was broken on the cross for our sins. Most of the children of Israel are still searching for this missing “piece...”

The Passover Seder continues with a child asking (or with the Ebenezer family, our youngest resident Ron, 73, asking this question): “Why is this night different from all other nights?”



wants to celebrate with His redeemed (those who have accepted Yeshua’s gift of salvation) in His coming kingdom!

The cleaning, the preparations, and the cooking bring us into a festive atmosphere, and we all can’t wait to be together and celebrate.

An elder replies: “Tonight is different because we remember that our people were slaves in Egypt under Pharaoh, and our God brought us out with strength and the might of His hand.” He continues, “If God had not brought us out, we would still be slaves.”

As believers, we can also add: “This night is different because our Master and Savior Yeshua died for us, paid the price and shed HIS blood for atonement once and for all, the most significant sin offering throughout history.”

This night is different because He wanted so much to celebrate with His disciples, and He

Yes, this night will differ from other nights. We will have to be more careful because of Covid, but we at the Ebenezer Home understand we are one year closer to being able to celebrate together with our Master Yeshua, in His kingdom!

This month’s donations will go toward the building and renovation project, to enable us to keep a place for our senior brothers and sisters—until the glorious day when we will all be celebrating in heaven with Yeshua.

As we say here, may we celebrate together next year in the Heavenly Jerusalem—together with all of you who pray for and love us!



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

MC0422  
EH

Yes, I wish to support the Ebenezer Home Project.

monthly       one time      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Web: [midnightcall.com/ebenezer](http://midnightcall.com/ebenezer)

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



“And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days” (1 Kings 3:14).

**BY ARNO FROESE**

**G**od revealed Himself in Solomon’s dream. The next verse starts, “And Solomon awoke; and, behold, it was a dream.” Yet, it wasn’t a dream we normally have, but verse 5 clearly states, “In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night.”

It is of interest that the most glorious king with unsurpassed wisdom did not follow the instructions God had given him. Based on Wikipedia, Solomon died at the age of 58-59, not even 60 years old. His father David did not reach an advanced age either; he died when only 70.

This is the first expiration date, even for modern man today. It is confirmed in the prayer of Moses: “The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away” (Psalm 90:10). That is 70-80 years.

Today, according to Worldometers.info, global life expectancy stands at 73.2 years.

Do we have evidence that those who keep themselves to the Word of God live longer? The answer is no. The countries with the longest life expectancy are of different religions:

- |              |            |  |
|--------------|------------|--|
| 1. Hong Kong | 85.3 years | 57% non-religious,<br>only 4.5% Protestant         |
| 2. Japan     | 85.0 years | 69.2% Shinto,<br>66.8% Buddhist,<br>1.5% Christian |

- |                |            |  |
|----------------|------------|--|
| 3. Macau       | 84.7 years | 62% traditional<br>Chinese religions,<br>2.2% Protestant |
| 4. Switzerland | 84.3 years | 41.8% Catholic,<br>33% Protestant                        |
| 5. Singapore   | 84.1 years | 40% Buddhist,<br>7.1% Catholic,<br>3.9% Protestant       |

An article published in the *Jerusalem Post*, in collaboration with the Samson Assuta Ashdod University Hospital, was headlined: “Israel’s life expectancy is higher than average, international data shows.” The report comes from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), headquartered in Paris, France, with an Australian Secretary-General, Mathias Cormann. Below are excerpts from the article:

For the past two years we’ve complained about our healthcare system, fearing that it would collapse under the demands of the pandemic, so the following figures may surprise you.

According to [a] report, the average life expectancy of an Israeli man has increased in recent years and is almost three years longer than the average among men in OECD countries (81 in Israel compared to an average of 78.3).

The report shows a few more important things about the Israeli lifestyle. For example, the rate of al-

cohol consumption here is significantly lower than the average of the organization's countries, standing at 3.1 liters per year, just over a third of the 8.8-liter average among the other countries of the organization, making it one of the lowest in the OECD.

Another measure in which Israel excels is the suicide rate. This alarming number did increase in 2019, standing at 6 per 100,000 people. However, this rate is only about half of the OECD average, which stands at 11.6.

The rate of doctors active per thousand people is about 9% lower than the average in OECD countries and stands at about 3.3 doctors per thousand people. The rate of nurses per thousand people is one of the lowest in the OECD with five nurses per thousand.

The rate of beds for general hospitalization in Israel is also relatively low compared to other countries that are members of the organization (fourth from the bottom of the list), standing at about 2.2 beds per thousand people, compared to an average of 3.5 in the OECD.


"OECD data faithfully reflect the state of the health system in Israel, which shows excellent results,

but with relatively low resources," said Health Ministry Director-General Prof. Nachman Ash.

-*www.jpost.com*, 3 February 2022

This is most unusual, considering that Israel is surrounded by hostile countries—expecting war to break out at any moment. The major threat comes from Hezbollah in the north, and in the south, Hamas. Yet, the report card by the prestigious OECD shows Israel to be well off: secure, enjoying peace and prosperity, and quite amazingly, reaching the average of 83.5 years, according to Worldometers.info (US 79.10).

But, that's not the end; we read the following in Isaiah 65:19-20: "And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed." That is Israel's real future, yet to come. (MC)



MIDNIGHT CALL

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

Mail to: Midnight Call Ministries, PO Box 84309, Lexington, SC 29073 MC0422

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

monthly     one time    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

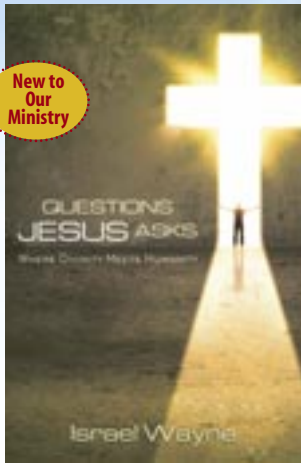
Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Web: [midnightcall.com/afi](http://midnightcall.com/afi)

# Midnight Call's **April Resource Guide**



## Who Do People Say That I Am?

Jesus rarely answered questions He was asked, but instead turned the tables by asking a piercing question of His own. *Questions Jesus Asks* goes through a broad spectrum of these, dealing with issues like morality, suffering, humility, faith, and much more.

- Explore the unique paradox of Jesus' divinity and humanity

- Be challenged by the questions Jesus asks each of us
- Learn more about Jesus and find the answers to your own life's questions.

John 17:3 tells us: "And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." There is no higher purpose in life than the knowledge of God through His Son. Prepare to learn far more about God and the nature of Jesus than you thought was possible. Jesus asks penetrating questions that cut past the pretense and reach the target of our hearts.

QUESTIONS JESUS ASKS ITEM #2392

186 pgs. • Paperback

**\$12.99 New to Our Ministry**

Author: Israel Wayne

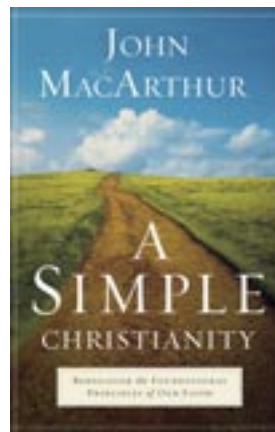
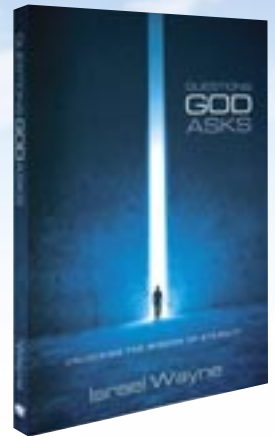
## Understanding the Omnipotent God... Who Asks Questions of Us

QUESTIONS GOD ASKS ITEM #2281

144 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$11.99~~ **Sale \$8**

Author: Israel Wayne

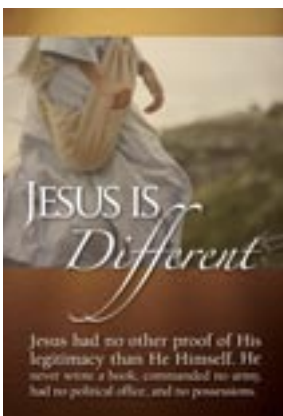


## Rediscover the Foundational Principles of Our Faith

This practical tool will help Christians restore the fire and conviction of their first love for Christ by helping them better understand His character, His glory, and His love for them.

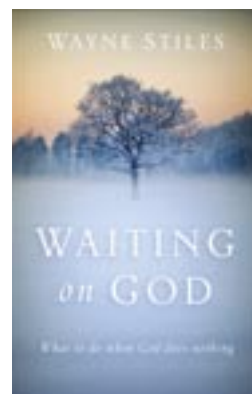
A SIMPLE CHRISTIANITY ITEM #2324 • 192 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ **Sale \$12** Author: John MacArthur



## 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.

Almost 2,000 years ago, He traveled within a radius of about 150 kilometers of His hometown of Nazareth, and yet His name is still well-known today.



## What to Do When God Does Nothing

WAITING ON GOD

ITEM #2311

256 pgs. • Paperback

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

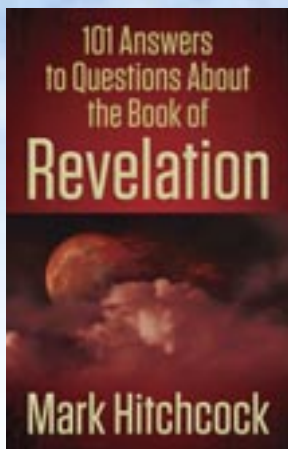
Author: Wayne Stiles

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

**\$3 for 100 copies**

Author: Michael Kotsch





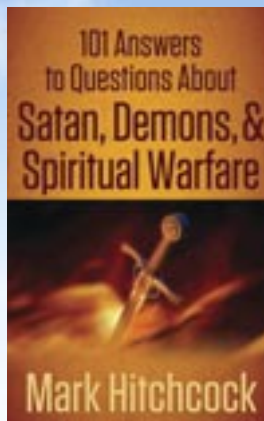
## What will happen during Armageddon?

101 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BOOK OF REVELATION

ITEM #2295  
256 pgs. • Paperback

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

Author: Mark Hitchcock



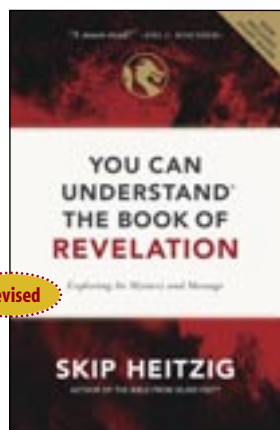
## Who is Satan? What is Spiritual Warfare?

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

ITEM #2289  
240 pgs. • Paperback

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

Author: Mark Hitchcock



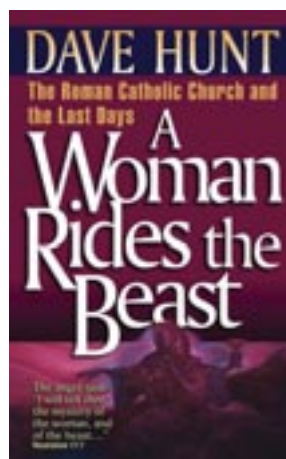
## Can Revelation be made simple?

YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE BOOK OF REVELATION

ITEM #2306  
Paperback • 288 pgs.

~~\$16.99~~  
**Sale \$12**

Author: Skip Heitzig



## Are you missing half the story about the last days?

A WOMAN RIDES THE BEAST

ITEM #2296  
580 pgs. • Paperback

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

Author: Dave Hunt



## Your Key to Understanding Revelation

This DVD will enable people to read the last book of the Bible with renewed appreciation and a much greater understanding of why it's so important to them. A wonderful resource that's great for use with church and home study groups.

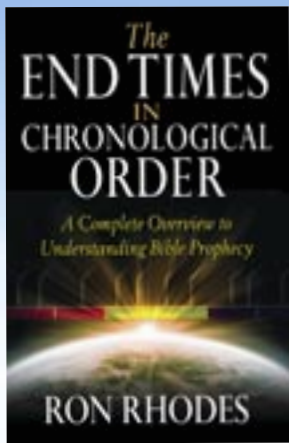
UNDERSTANDING REVELATION IN 60 MINUTES (DVD) ITEM #7084

~~\$19.99~~ **Sale \$15**

Speaker: Ed Hindson

[midnightcall.com/specials](http://midnightcall.com/specials)  
Sign up for FREE weekly special offer emails.





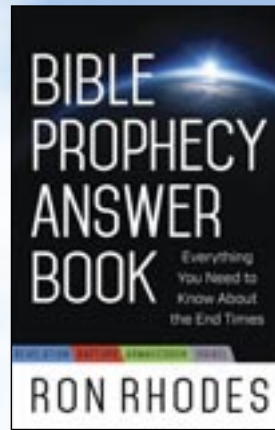
## A Complete Overview to Understanding Bible Prophecy

THE END TIMES IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

ITEM #2284 • 240 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12

Author: Ron Rhodes



## Studying Prophecy Can Change Your Life

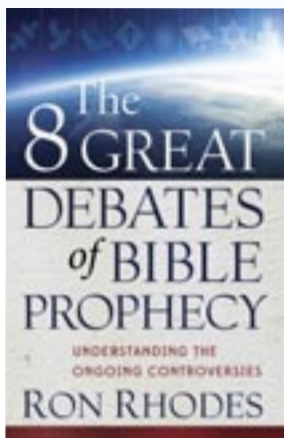
BIBLE PROPHECY ANSWER BOOK

ITEM #2333

256 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12

Author: Ron Rhodes



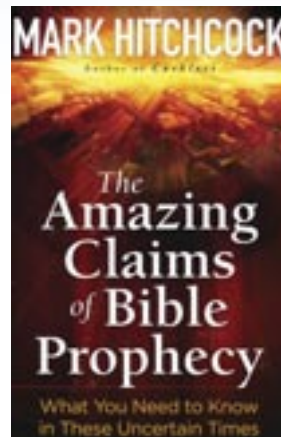
## 8 of the Most Important End-Times Discussions

THE 8 GREAT DEBATES OF BIBLE PROPHECY ITEM #2287

288 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12

Author: Ron Rhodes



## Earth's Final Hour Is Approaching

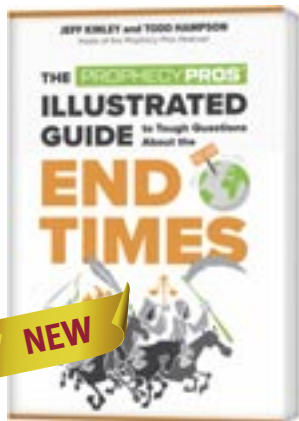
THE AMAZING CLAIMS OF BIBLE PROPHECY

ITEM #2259

238 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ Sale \$10

Author: Mark Hitchcock



## Clear Answers to Complex Questions

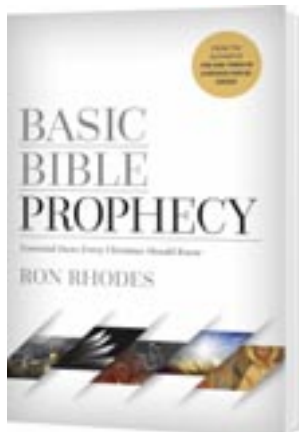
Packed with charts, timelines, and infographics, *The Prophecy Pros' Illustrated Guide to Tough Questions About the End Times* delivers speculation-free, biblically sourced answers to your questions on one of the Bible's most significant topics. You'll learn about imminent events like the rapture, Jesus' second coming, and life in heaven, while understanding exactly what Bible prophecy is, where it's found in Scripture, and why Christians should study it.

THE PROPHECY PROS' ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO TOUGH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE END TIMES

ITEM #2379 • 208 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$17.99~~ Sale \$14

Authors: Jeff Kinley and Todd Hampson



## Get the Who, What, When, Where, and Why of Bible Prophecy

*Basic Bible Prophecy* will help you view history past and still-to-come as a reason to live expectantly, righteously, and with a Christlike perspective. Most of all, you'll discover how prophecy can fill you with confidence, peace, and a heart of praise, grateful that all of eternity rests under God's control.

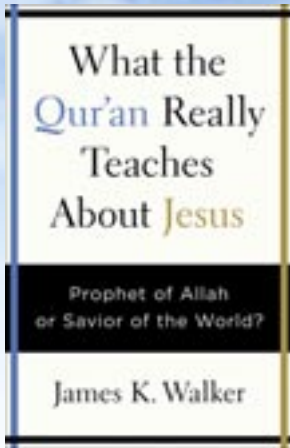
You'll understand the

- primary players, places, and events relevant to Christ's second coming
- timeline the Bible gives for when each event will take place
- sovereignty and trustworthiness of God, who has a perfect plan for your future

BASIC BIBLE PROPHECY ITEM #2374

224 pgs. • Paperback ~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12 Author: Ron Rhodes





## 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



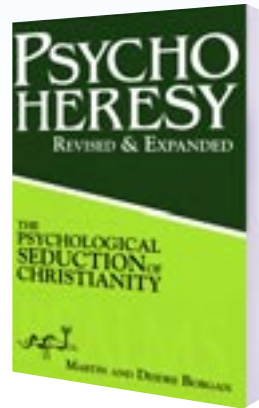
## How do you share the gospel with those who don't think they need it?

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

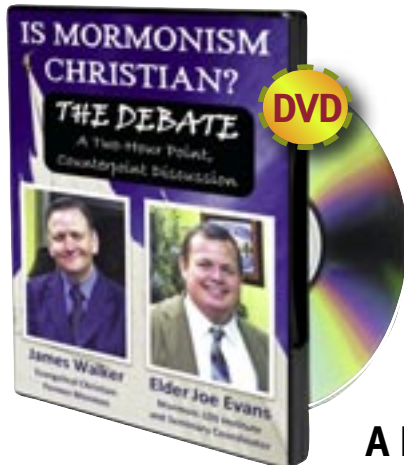
Almost everywhere one turns in the church one sees psychology. As we have repeatedly demonstrated, the psychologizing of the church is neither biblically nor scientifically justifiable. *PsychoHeresy* demonstrates the fact that psychological explanations about life and

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**

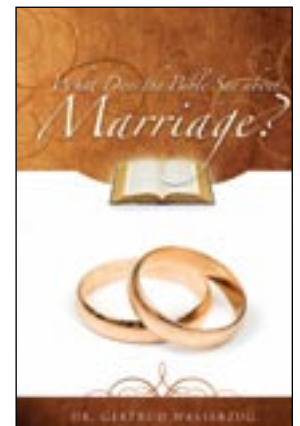
## A Biblical View of Marriage

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 by 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



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: \_\_\_\_\_

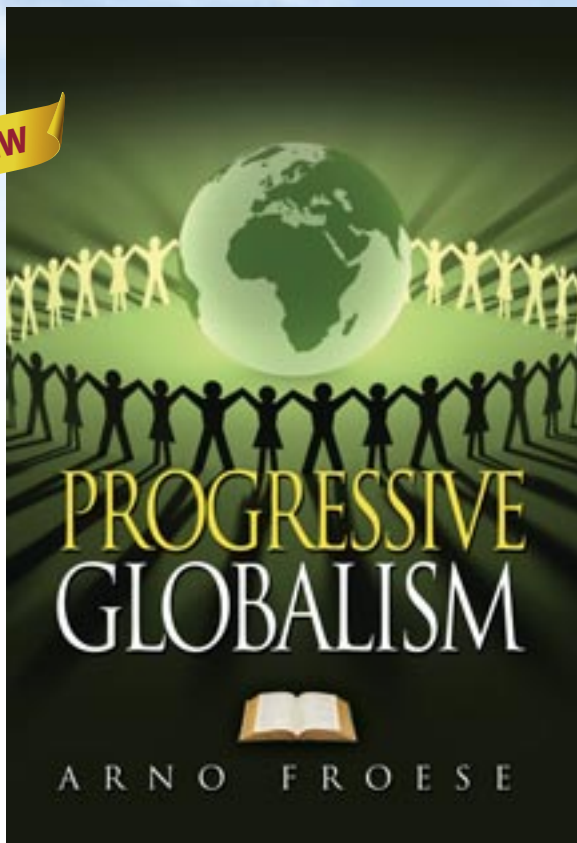
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

ITEM#	ITEM DESCRIPTION	QTY.	COST	TOTAL
* Large items marked with star require \$30 per item surcharge when sent outside USA.		<b>Flat Rate Shipping Cost</b> US Addresses \$4.95 USA Priority \$10.95 Canada \$15 All Other Countries \$25		<b>Total for Order</b> S&H (see box, left) Extra Gift to MC Total Enclosed

# THE WORLD WILL BECOME ONE.

NEW



This three-part, 60-page booklet takes a serious look at globalism: emphasizing the great imitation of the Church of Jesus Christ, His body, the temple of the Holy Spirit. The headquarters of this truly global nation is heaven, and the Supreme Ruler is Jesus Christ our Lord.

It uncovers the truth regarding much-proclaimed conspiracy theories based on questionable sources.

And finally, it includes a serious investigation of the pandemic that has affected us all to a greater or lesser extent, “Coronavirus Prophetically.”

This is a MUST READ.

PROGRESSIVE GLOBALISM ITEM #1092

60 pgs. • Booklet

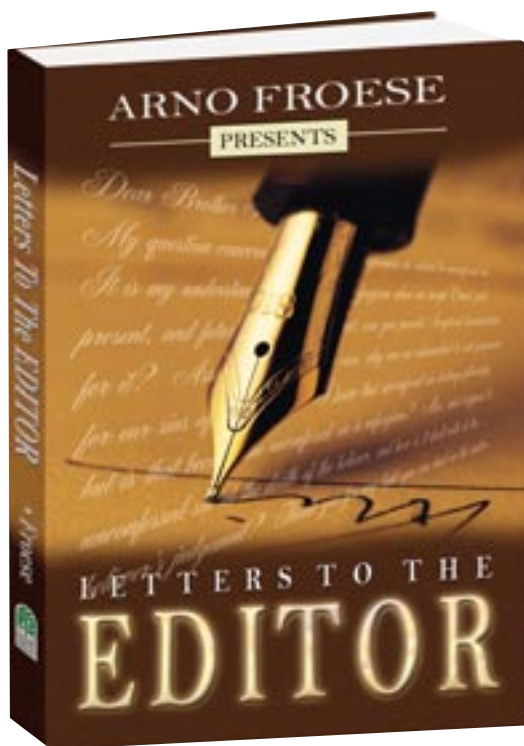
~~\$5.50~~ Sale \$3

Author: Arno Froese

Your Subscription

Important Notice

When calling our office (800-845-2420 or 803-755-0733), please note that we have limited staff answering the phone: generally only Mon. – Fri. from 8–5 Eastern Time, excluding most federal holidays. Even during these hours, staff may be temporarily unable to take your call; in this case, please try again in 15-20 min. Thank you for your patience in this matter.



## Midnight Call Magazine's #1 Feature!

*Letters to the Editor* consists of 438 pages, divided into 22 chapters in topical arrangements, all from original letters that appeared in *Midnight Call* magazine.

Discover what readers think about:

- Sabbath or Sunday?
- Holy Spirit Removed?
- The Last Generation
- Die Twice?
- Tribulation Saints
- And much, much more!

### Questions That Need Answers!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ITEM #1045

438 pgs. • **Hardcover**

~~\$22.99~~ **Clearance \$8**

Author: Arno Froese

What people write and how we answer. Be sure to reserve your copy of this important book today.