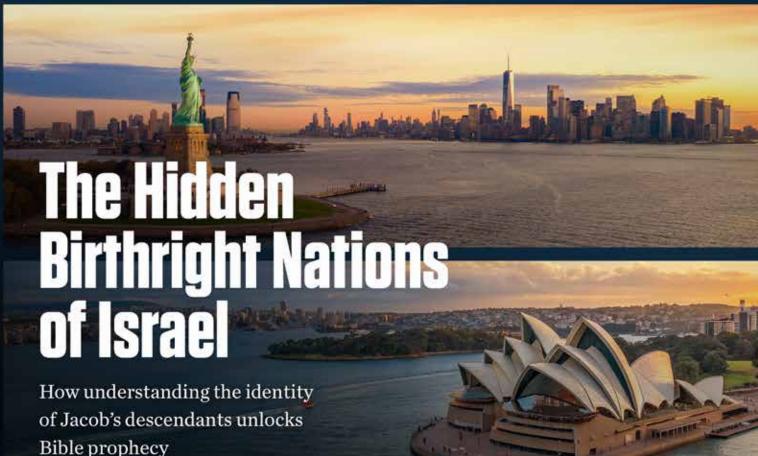
## TOMORRIAS





## **Are You in the Arena?**

e all have favorite quotes that we pick up in life, perhaps from our parents or grandparents. For example, my wife's mother taught her, "What goes around comes around."

We have seen this saying play out in the drive for gender equality in sports. In the 1970s, across the United States, women sought to invade areas that had been exclusively male-oriented. Girls wanted to be on boys' baseball, football, and basketball teams. Female reporters demanded access to men's locker rooms after games, reasoning that without such access they would not get the best postgame insights.

But what goes around comes around. Today, men who think they are women (but are not!) are invading seemingly everything female: not just women's changing rooms and restrooms, but even women's sports. Activists promoting their idea of "inclusiveness" can easily intimidate shallow-minded people who lack backbone and a moral compass, and these ideas are often allowed to pass. Thankfully, pushback seems to be gaining traction in many venues.

Some quotes come from great speeches. U.S. President Ronald Reagan, standing before the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, famously challenged the Soviet president: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" And who can forget Jim Lovell's line as given in the docudrama *Apollo 13*, "Houston, we have a problem"? That was a slight alteration of Lovell's actual words, "Houston, *we've had* a problem," but the film's expression is now often used to call attention to any form of trouble.

Some quotes are longer and not so easily memorized—but still carry great meaning. One of my favorites comes from former U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt. The quote is summarized as "The Man in the Arena," a short title that brings to mind the richness of his message.

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the

triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.

As inspiring as we may find Roosevelt's words, we must not allow emotion to blind us to their greater significance. We all live in various "arenas"—job, school, family, and other secular pursuits. However, there is a far greater arena—one that reveals the purpose of life—and it will ultimately be the only arena that counts. Jesus Christ spelled it out for us: "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew

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6:31-33).

#### Sitting on the Sidelines

Roosevelt saw that many people are satisfied while sitting on the sidelines-content with an easy life of security and comfort—while others are in the arena, putting it all on the line. We at Tomorrow's World see this every day. Through our magazines, booklets, telecasts, and other media, we reveal the pagan and worldly traditions found in modern Christianity. We show from Scripture that God is not pleased when His people borrow from paganism. Yet, how do many respond? With complacency.

Many readers and viewers of Tomorrow's World recognize that today's professing Christianity is rife with non-biblical doctrines—but they are fearful of going against family and friends, so they continue on the path of tradition over the Bible. Yet Jesus rebuked those of His day who put tradition over God's word (Mark 7:6-7). He described them as being satisfied with building their homes upon sand—before coming to ruin (Luke 6:46-49).

In the book of Revelation, the Apostle John recorded seven messages to seven first-century congregations of the Church of God. These represented seven stages—or eras—through which the true Church of God would pass from the first century until Christ's return. The last two eras are clearly extant at the time of the end. One is zealous to walk through open doors to preach the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. The other, filled with the attitude that is dominant prior to Christ's return, is complacent, compromising, and self-satisfied. These are the lukewarm Christians who are watching the game but are not in the game's arena.

Jesus spoke of these people in the Parable of the Minas. There we read of a Nobleman (picturing Christ) going into a far country (Heaven) and in His absence giving three of His servants a task—to multiply what He left with them. When He returns, He rewards two of them with different degrees of rulership, but He confronts the servant who sat on the sidelines: "Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?' And he said to those who stood by, 'Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.... To everyone who has will be given; and

from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him" (Luke 19:23-24, 26).

The Parable of the Talents conveys a similar message. Those who are in the arena multiply their talents and are rewarded. The one who sits on the sidelines loses out entirely.

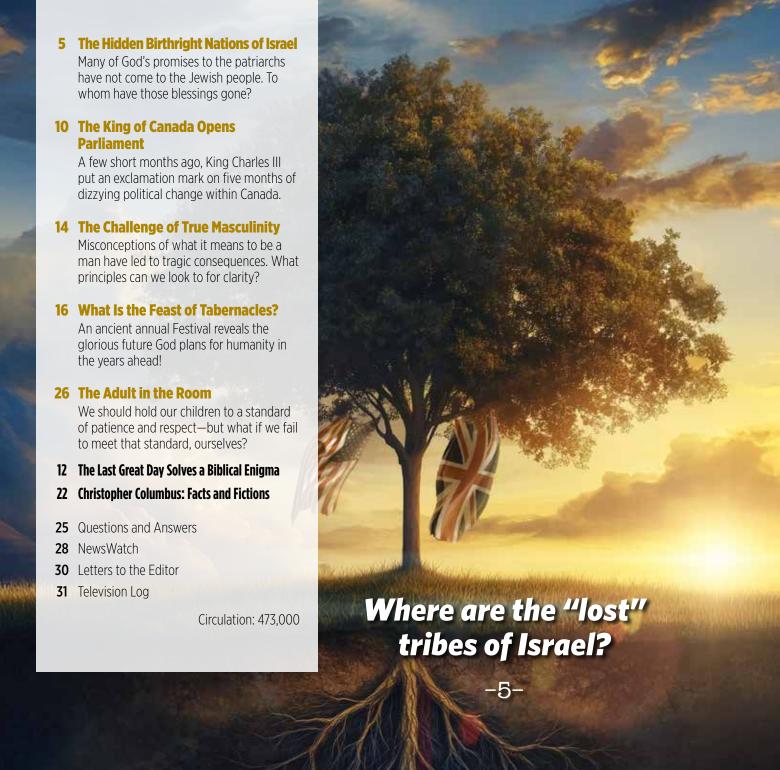
Then he who had received the one talent came and said, "Lord, I knew you to be a hard man.... And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours." But his lord answered and said to him, "You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed .... Take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.... And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 25:24-26, 28, 30).

#### The Religious Hobbyist

Many professing Christians have little more than a vague hope of going to a glorious reward when they die, though they are frankly not all that excited about a future in paradise compared to their daily lives now. Others are "religious hobbyists" who pick and choose to form their own brand of religion, different from what Christ really taught. Such people, feeling self-satisfied with their imagined personal relationship with God, are most often on the sidelines, not in the arena. Others are in an arena, but one across town from where they ought to be.

Dear reader, is it not time for you to get into the arena? The right arena? Contact us at the address nearest you, listed on page 4 of this magazine, if you would like to know more about Tomorrow's World and how to get more involved with the Church behind this Work. We have ministers around the world who are willing to help-but you must be willing to ask.

Gull & Waston



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# The Hidden Birthright Nations of Israe

#### **By Stuart Wachowicz**

he Bible is rich in prophecies about the future of Israel-a nation God chose to serve Him. Its history began with the patriarch Abraham, to whom God promised a magnificent blessing because of his willing obedience. The blessing was passed on through Abraham's son Isaac to Isaac's son Jacob, whose name God changed to Israel.

Jacob had twelve sons, and their descendants multiplied to become a nation comprising twelve tribes. God called this nation to be an example and was very much involved in its history. After He miraculously saved these people from slavery in Egypt, He gave them a mission: "And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Exodus 19:6).

The Israelites were instructed in what God required of them, and they were to live in obedience to God. Because of the blessings that would ensue if they remained obedient, all other nations would also seek to honor God. "Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should act according to them in the land which you go to possess. Therefore be careful to observe them; for this is your wisdom

and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people" (Deuteronomy 4:5-6).

God's astounding interventions not only delivered Israel from Egypt but also brought the Israelites to a promised homeland. Yet Israel continually resisted God and the prophets He sent as the centuries passed. Under David and Solomon, Israel became the greatest nation on earth, only to deteriorate as it continually rebelled after Solomon's death.

At Solomon's death, a civil war split Israel into two nations. Ten of the tribes rejected the dynastic king and chose another king, retaining the name of Israel. The remaining two tribes formed the southern nation of Judah and became known as the Jews. Eventually, each of these nations, Israel and Judah, went into captivity because of continual disobedience to God.

The identity of the peoples of Israel has been obscured through time. The nation of Judah went though many trials, but we know who its people are in modern times, and a portion have returned to establish the state we call Israel today. The Jews, however, are only a small fraction of all the Israelites.

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Where are the other descendants of Israel? God has a lot to say about them at the time of the end of this age. His promises to the patriarchs were astounding—yet they were not all fulfilled by the Jewish people. For that reason, many people today assume that these promises have failed or been given to others. Let us examine some promises that were to be fulfilled specifically for Israel, so we can understand where to find its peoples today.

### 1. Israel Would Become Many Nations and Give Rise to a Line of Kings

God promised Abraham, "I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered" (Genesis 13:16). This has never been fulfilled by the nation of the Jews alone. Consider, however, that though all Jews are Israelites, not all Israelites are Jews.

Abraham's descendants were prophesied to be exceedingly numerous. "No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for *I have made you a father of many nations*. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, *and kings shall come from you*" (Genesis 17:5–6). Certainly, the Jews have never comprised "many" nations—though, as we will see, they were to generate a line of kings. However, from Israel *were* to come many significant and influential nations.

While the descendants of Abraham's son Ishmael are somewhat populous and have or have had kings, the Bible specifically states that the inheritance would descend through Isaac: "Then God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her'" (Genesis 17:15–16).

### 2. The Nations Holding Abraham's Birthright Would Possess "Gates"

There are two very revealing truths found in Genesis 22:15–17: "Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: 'By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only

son—blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and *your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.*"

A "gate" can refer to a global "choke point"—such as Gibraltar, Suez, the Straits of Malacca, and many others. Naval control over such passages, by use of a large and capable navy, afforded the means of building and sustaining the British Empire.

Yet this phrase had an even more immediate meaning in the days of Abraham, referring to a place of administrative authority. The Bible often states that agreements and administrative decisions were made in "the city gates." For example, the agreement that enabled Boaz to marry Ruth was made in the city gate (Ruth 4:1–10). Mordecai is said in the book of Esther to "sit in the king's gate," meaning that he held a senior post in the government (Esther 2:19, 21; 5:9).

Thus this promise had very profound meaning, foretelling that the birthright granted to Abraham's descendants, due to his obedience to God, would put them in a position of power and international administrative control.

Later, this same promise was repeated to Rebekah, the wife of Abraham's son Isaac. "And they blessed Rebekah and said to her: 'Our sister, may you become the mother of thousands of ten thousands; and may your descendants possess the gates of those who hate them'" (Genesis 24:60). Anyone can see that the Jews have never exercised such decisive control over those who opposed them. Therefore, it must be other Israelites, not the Jews, who received this promise. Further, we see that God inspired Isaac to pass along to Jacob his promised birthright and blessing (Genesis 28:1–4).

#### 3. One of Jacob's Sons Would Become Many Nations

God gave Abraham's grandson Jacob, when he first left his father's home, a dream containing a prophecy: "Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 28:14). Jacob's descendants were prophesied to be a great colonizing people, occupying many different places.

A bit later, God told Jacob, whose name had by then changed to Israel, that his family would become

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a company of nations. "Also God said to him: 'I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body'" (Genesis 35:11). This prophecy sheds more light on who the modern descendants of Israel are today—at no time did Judah and the Jews become a *company of nations*, which the modern descendants of Israel must include.

God then singled out the tribe of Joseph for special attention. Joseph especially would be a great colonizing power, also prophesied to be mighty in war. We find that the rise of Israel—the tribe of Joseph in particular—would reach its fullness near the end of the age, in the "last days" before the return of Christ to the earth. "And Jacob called his sons and said, 'Gather together, that I may tell you what shall befall you in the last days.... Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a well; his branches run over the wall. The archers have bitterly grieved him, shot at him and hated him. But his bow remained in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob (from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel)" (Genesis 49:1, 22–24).

Many nations would become jealous of Jacob's descendants. For centuries, people have specifically attacked nations issuing from Joseph or plotted against them. God, coming to their aid, has delivered them time and time again. Which nations have experienced this?

### 4. Joseph Would Receive the Birthright, While Judah Would Receive the Kingship

"Therefore may God give you of the dew of heaven, of the fatness of the earth, and plenty of grain and wine. Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be master over your brethren, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be those who bless you" (Genesis 27:28–29).

Here was a promise of great wealth and rich land. Peoples would serve the descendants of Jacob. This blessing was passed to Jacob's son Joseph. Even Joseph's brothers would be subservient to him (Genesis 37:5–10; 42:6). Has this been fulfilled through the Jewish people?

Joseph had two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, and to them were promised the great birthright blessing—the choicest blessing ever given to any people.

Yet the kingship would belong to Judah: "Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel—he was indeed the firstborn, but because he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph, the son of Israel, so that the genealogy is not listed according to the birthright; yet Judah prevailed over his brothers, and from him came a ruler, although the birthright was Joseph's" (1 Chronicles 5:1–2).

Notice that the birthright was to be shared by the brothers Ephraim and Manasseh. Yet, when Israel blessed Joseph's two sons, something surprising occurred. The custom was that, when passing on a blessing, one would place his right hand on the head of the older son, the recipient of greater blessing. Yet God inspired Israel to place his right hand on the head of the younger son, Ephraim. "And Joseph said to his father, 'Not so, my father, for this one is the firstborn; put your right hand on his head.' But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations" (Genesis 48:18–19).

Manasseh was to be a great nation, but Ephraim would become a multitude of nations. This prophecy has never been fulfilled by the Jews. Rather, while the great birthright blessings were thus given to Joseph's sons Ephraim and Manasseh, the kingship would belong to Judah, who "prevailed over his brothers, and from him came a ruler, although the birthright was Joseph's" (1 Chronicles 5:2).

Judah and the Jews were prophesied to produce the kingly line in Israel. "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people" (Genesis 49:10). The phrase "until Shiloh comes" indicates that this kingly line would be extant on the earth right up to Jesus Christ's return.

#### Where Is Israel Today?

Putting these predictions together, which family of peoples fits the biblical promises made about the Israelite birthright-holders at the end of the age? The only peoples on earth matching the description of these biblical predictions are those of the British Isles, including their descendants—the peoples of Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and the United States. They have been a great colonizing power

whose arms were strengthened and delivered in war; who have possessed vast wealth in natural resources, food production, and a large population; and who have controlled much of the wealth of the world for centuries—this describes no other people in human history.

The migration of that same people out of the Middle East and across northern Europe—and some over North Africa and through Spain *en route* to France and the British Isles—is well-documented historically.

the British monarchy directly to the line of David. Our booklet *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy* describes this in much more detail, along with many specific prophecies that support this case. History aside, the words of Bible prophecy alone are sufficient to make a positive end-time identification of the American and British-descended peoples as modern-day Israel.

Yet, despite God's great effort to ensure that the people of Israel were given His law and way of

## ISRAEL, AT THE END OF THIS AGE, THINKS THE WEALTH IT HAS IS THE RESULT OF ITS OWN HAND AND IGNORES THE GOD WHO PROVIDED IT.

Though modern Israel has largely forgotten its past, hints can be found hidden in history and traditions.

The Scots' own history actually reveals their relation to Israel. In the declaration of Arbroath, signed on April 6, 1320, King Robert Bruce and the Scottish barons wrote a letter to Pope John XXII, asserting their right to independence, and they included a clause stating that the Scottish nation "journeyed from Greater Scythia by way of the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Pillars of Hercules, and dwelt for a long course of time in Spain among the most savage peoples, but nowhere could it be subdued by any people, however barbarous. Thence it came, twelve hundred years after the people of Israel crossed the Red Sea, to its home in the west where it still lives today" (*National Records of Scotland*).

Scythia is known to historians as the area above and between the Black and Caspian Seas, to which the surviving Israelites were taken by the Assyrians after they were conquered in 721 BC. Some of these survivors, now known as the Scots, then migrated through Spain and came to Scotland around 250 BC, according to Bruce's declaration.

As millions saw during the coronation of King Charles III in 2023, when British monarchs are crowned they hear some of the same words used for David and Solomon, are anointed with oil, and are seated in a 700-year-old wooden chair designed to hold a gnarled rock. The significance of that rock links

life, and despite His bringing them out of many troubles, in every age they have rejected Him. Because of this, they have lost their identity, preferring corruptions of His true religion. Yet,

even now, God wants them to repent and to heed the words of the prophets He sent. The alternative is not something any people would desire.

#### **Warnings for Today**

God anciently gave Israel watchmen, prophets, and teachers. Israel rejected these messengers, but their ancient warnings still apply. Consider Ezekiel's prophecy of a watchman's message:

So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me. When I say to the wicked, "O wicked man, you shall surely die!" and you do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. Therefore you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel: "Thus you say, 'If our transgressions and our sins lie upon us, and we pine away in them, how can we then live?" Say to them: "As I live,' says the Lord God, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways!

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For why should you die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 33:7–11).

Israel, at the end of this age, thinks the wealth it has is the result of its own hand and ignores the God who provided it: "And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the LORD your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish" (Deuteronomy 8:18–19).

The American and British-descended peoples will be destroyed if they do not undergo a sincere change of heart. Some will fall under the sway of the prophesied Antichrist and be deceived by his teachings—if they neglect the test in the Bible that allows all people to determine whether a religious figure is teaching according to God's will: "To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20).

Yes, God's law is in force today, just as it will be when Jesus Christ returns to correct our planet's many problems and to rid the world of its archenemy—Satan, the devil. Christ will establish a government in which the law of God will be fully implemented, and the peace, joy, and prosperity that will result is described in many biblical passages. Israel will be restored, and it will finally become the example to the world that it has failed to become thus far.

For out of Zion the law shall go forth, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and rebuke strong nations afar off; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken (Micah 4:2–4).

Christ will return and usher in a world of peace, prosperity, and righteous law. But what of the time until then? If there is not a widespread turning to the God of the Bible, the nations of Israel will suffer major and destructive famine, economic collapse, a third of its population killed in war, and a third taken into a brutal slavery (Ezekiel 5:12). This is a sure prophecy if repentance does not occur, and it is likely to be fulfilled in the lifetime of many alive today.

#### **Hope for You**

Even if your nation does not repent, God still offers hope for those who *are* willing to seek Him and change their lives. Zephaniah, direct descendant of the righteous Jewish King Hezekiah, was inspired to write the following: "Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth, who have upheld His justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be that you will be hidden in the day of the LORD's anger" (Zephaniah 2:3).

A person who seeks to faithfully obey God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ will be eligible for protection. God *will* protect many obedient people from the horrors that are to come. And throughout the generations, some of God's faithful people have been martyred for His truth—yet He has not neglected them. Rather, He has assured them of the greater promise of eternal life in His kingdom.

Regardless of the trials or blessings that await us, we should not place physical protection above our duty to be faithful to our God under any condition. The ultimate goal for Israel—and all humanity—is birth into the Kingdom of God. "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). If Israel through the ages had been motivated by that same truth, how much greater and more joyous their lands would have been—and indeed, all the world.

The future of the birthright nations of Israel is in their own hands, but your future is in *yours*—and we as individuals can each decide to heed the warnings presented to the people of Israel living in the last days, placing ourselves under the protection of God Almighty. Will you?

MAY WE SUGGEST? **The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy** Discover the prophesied fate of these great nations! Request this **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF and ePub are also available.



"Honourable Senators, Members of the House of Commons, It is with a sense of deep pride and pleasure that my wife and I join you here today, as we witness Canadians coming together in a renewed sense of national pride, unity, and hope" ("His Majesty King Charles")

III delivers the Speech from the Throne," *Canada.ca*, May 27, 2025). This was the introduction of a speech that opened the first session of the 45th Parliament of Canada—and put an exclamation mark on five months of dizzying political change within the nation.

Faced with a significant decline in approval ratings, Justin Trudeau officially resigned his positions as leader of the Liberal Party and Prime Minister of Canada on January 6. Mark Carney, who had previously served as governor of the Bank of Canada and as governor of the Bank of England, won the Liberal Party leadership race on March 9 and on March 14 was sworn in as the 24th Prime Minister of Canada.

According to CBC's poll-tracker, the date of Trudeau's resignation marked unprecedented polling disparities, with 44.2 percent of Canadians supporting the Conservative Party, 20.1 percent supporting the Liberal Party, and 19.3 percent supporting the New Democrat Party. At the time, many were wondering how big a majority Pierre Poilievre and the Conservative Party would win to form a new government.

Over the next three-and-a-half months, however, that 24 percent Conservative lead would completely evaporate, with the Liberal Party winning 43.8 percent of the popular vote and holding a strong minority in the House of Commons, winning 169 seats—just three seats shy of forming a majority government.

Mark Carney not only won his own riding but also avoided becoming the shortest-tenured Prime Minister in Canadian history.

One of Carney's first acts was to invite King Charles to give the Throne Speech opening parliament. While nearly everyone is familiar with Charles' role as King of England, few realize that each Commonwealth nation's monarchy is separate and legally distinct. This speech was not given by a foreign leader, but by King Charles serving in his role as King of Canada.

#### **A Pivotal Time in History**

The King's speech addressed the troubling times in which we live. "We must be clear-eyed: the world is a more dangerous and uncertain place than at any point since the Second World War. Canada is facing challenges that are unprecedented in our lifetimes." Those challenges, said the King, include affordable housing, an increased deficit, national security, and national unity. The opportunity to build a stronger economy was a theme throughout the speech.

King Charles' speech comes when, for the first time in the lives of many, the question of Canadian sovereignty is front and centre. Shortly after winning his election, United States President Donald Trump began making remarks about Canada becoming the "51st state." While some have shrugged the statements off as jokes, they have led to increased tension between Canada and the U.S., and tariffs—some fully enacted, others merely threatened—have also weakened relations between these two nations, which share the world's longest undefended border. When Prime Minister Carney visited President Trump in the

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Oval Office last May and held a joint press conference, there were more than a few awkward moments and clear differences of opinion.

Queen Elizabeth II is the only other monarch to have opened Canadian Parliament with a throne speech, doing so in 1957 and 1977. King Charles' speech emphasized the value of Canadian sovereignty, and he received resounding applause upon stating, "As the anthem reminds us: The True North is indeed strong and free!" His presence in Ottawa and the words of his speech were no doubt intended to affirm Canadian national identity. As Carney told Sky News regarding King Charles' trip to Canada, "All issues around Canada's sovereignty have been accentuated by the president. So no, it's not coincidental, but it is also a reaffirming moment for Canadians" ("Canadians 'not impressed' by UK's invitation to Trump, Mark Carney tells Sky News," May 14, 2025).

#### **Brothers Divided**

While Canada and the U.S. have had disagreements over the years, it is difficult to find two nations with a more respectful, profitable, and stable relationship. Longtime readers of *Tomorrow's World* understand that a key factor in this close bond is a shared history dating back much further than the general public realizes. If you are unfamiliar with this connection, you would do well to request a free copy of *The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy*. This study guide highlights the surprising history of the British and British-descended peoples of the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and many others.

These great nations find their historical origin nearly 2,000 years before Christ, when the patriarch



Joseph brought his father, his brothers, and their families to Egypt to escape a devastating famine (Genesis 46). Joseph brought his two young sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, to his own father, Israel, to be blessed by their grandfather. Placing his hands upon the heads of his grandsons, Israel foretold that Ephraim's descendants would "become a multitude of nations" and that Manasseh's descendants would "become a people, and he also shall be great" (Genesis 48:19). While many believe that the ten tribes of Israel taken into captivity by the Assyrians eventually faded into obscurity, important biblical passages and historical evidence show that they survived, migrated, and thrived—becoming a multitude of nations (the British Isles, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and others) and a great nation (the U.S.).

Canada and the U.S. share a common bond. While that relationship may be unsteady at the moment, Scripture tells of a future time when all the nations descended from Israel will face far greater upheaval than we see today: "Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's trouble" (Jeremiah 30:7). This time of Jacob's (Israel's) trouble is described as a time of unparalleled devastation. It is similarly described in the Olivet prophecy: "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved" (Matthew 24:21-22).

However, both of these passages offer hope that the coming time of trouble will not be the end of the story: We read that "for the elect's sake those days will be shortened" (Matthew 24:22) and "he shall be saved out of it" (Jeremiah 30:7). The book of Ezekiel describes a future time when the peoples of these nations will once again look to the Creator they had previously rejected: "I will set My glory among the nations.... So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day forward" (Ezekiel 39:21-22).

While we live in an age of rousing speeches, flag-waving, and media-driven emotions, mankind is nevertheless incapable of solving the problems facing our nations. But the world's challenges will be overcome—and its nations will be blessed with unimaginable prosperity, peace, and unity—when people throughout the earth come to know the Lord their God.

-Michael Heykoop

#### THE LAST GREAT DAY SOLVES A BIBLICAL ENIGMA

#### A great question of Christianity is answered by understanding God's annual Festivals.

ountless human beings have lived and died without ever hearing of Jesus Christ or knowing anything about the Bible.

Many more *have* heard of Jesus Christ but never understood or pursued biblical Christianity.

What is the fate of these billions of people?

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ is the only way and name by which a person can be saved (Acts 4:12; John 10:9; 14:6), and God desires that every

The Last
Great Day
foreshadows
the final period
of judgment in
which most of
mankind will
have its chance
to know the true
God and His plan
of salvation.

person repent and obtain salvation (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9). However, no one can come to Jesus Christ unless drawn to Him by God the Father (John 6:44, 65), and God does *not* draw all people to Jesus Christ in their present lifetimes (1 Corinthians 1:26-29; Matthew 11:25). In fact, Jesus spoke in parables precisely so that many people would not understand His message (Matthew 13:10-13). Furthermore, God has allowed most of mankind to be de-

ceived and blinded by Satan (Revelation 12:9; 2 Corinthians 4:4; John 12:37–40; 1 Corinthians 2:6–12).

Yet the Bible indicates in many places that God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). It says as well that God is fair, showing no partiality (Acts 10:34; Romans 2:11). Does the Bible contradict itself? Or can all of these statements be true?

How to reconcile these biblical truths is one of the great "puzzles" of Christianity—and they are impossible to reconcile without the seventh of God's annual Festivals. The Bible solves this puzzle through the meaning of what is called "the eighth day" (Leviticus 23:36–39) and "the last day, that great day of the feast" (John 7:37).

#### The Culmination of God's Plan

Leviticus 23:33–44 is one of the longest passages describing the Feast of Tabernacles, which lasts seven days. It also mentions an "eighth day," which is a separate Festival occurring right after the seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles. It is a "sacred assembly," and examples of it being observed in the Old Testament are in Numbers 29:35, 2 Chronicles 7:9, and Nehemiah 8:18.

Jesus spoke of a future time of judgment for the sinful people who lived in the ancient cities of Tyre, Sidon, and Sodom (Matthew 11:21–24). Revelation 20:5 describes the time after Christ's thousand-year Millennial reign when "the rest of the dead" will be resurrected to physical life (see Ezekiel 37:1–14). They will be taught and judged by the books of the Bible (Revelation 20:11–12). Christ will open "their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures," as He did for His disciples (Luke 24:45). During His ministry on earth, when speaking on the Last Great Day, Jesus indicated that all would have access to Him and drink of His Holy Spirit (John 7:37–39). He was describing this future time of teaching and judgment, when billions will be resurrected.

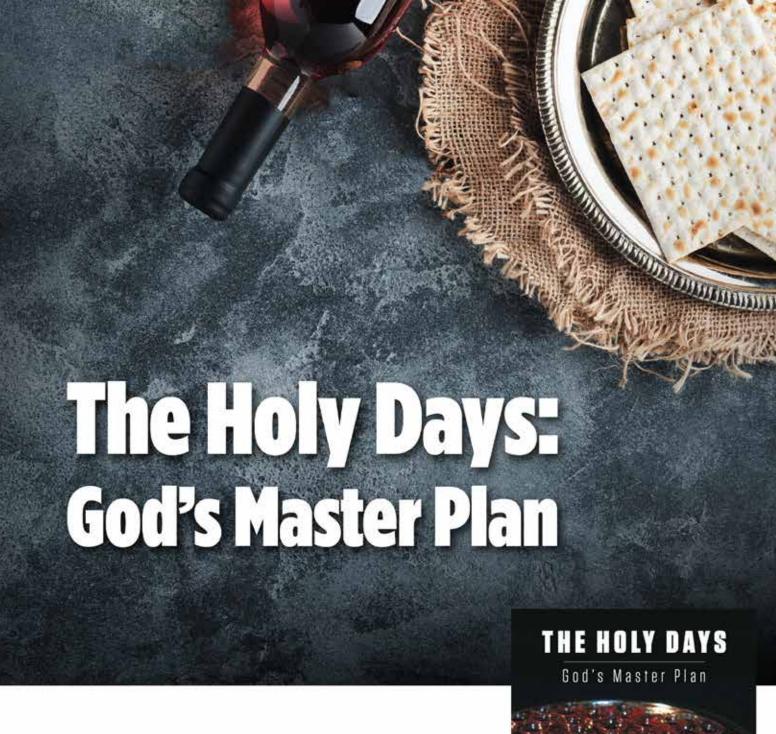
Understanding the *timing* of God's plan is vital for solving this important Bible enigma. The Last Great Day helps to explain that timing, because it foreshadows the final period of judgment in which most of mankind will have its chance to know the true God and His plan of salvation, accept Jesus Christ as their Savior, and sincerely repent. Ultimately, God will present to every human being who ever lived the same choice He set before ancient Israel: "I have set before you life and death... therefore choose life" (Deuteronomy 30:19).

The Last Great Day pictures the culmination of God's spectacular plan of salvation for all who ever lived—the time when mankind's thirst for peace, prosperity, health, abundance, and loving leadership will finally be quenched—when Jesus Christ will say to every person, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink" (John 7:37).

To learn more about the Last Great Day and the rest of God's Feasts, you can read "What Is the Feast of Tabernacles?" by Rod McNair, which begins on page 16 of this magazine. You can also order a free copy of *Is This the Only Day of Salvation?*, which explains in much more detail what the Last Great Day pictures.

-Josh Lyons

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#### Request your free booklet The Holy Days: God's Master Plan

Why do most who call themselves Christians observe Christmas, Easter, and Halloween, yet fail to observe the very days that the Bible clearly commands? Does it make that much difference which days we keep? Does it affect our understanding of God Himself?



Scan the QR code to request your *free* booklet! You can also order by calling or writing one of our Regional Offices (listed on page 4), or by visiting us online at *TomorrowsWorld.org.* 



## 量London CALLING



## The Challenge of True Masculinity

hat does it mean to be a masculine man in today's world?
This dilemma has recently been explored by British books, television dramas, and other media due to the increasingly noticeable absence of truly masculine role models in British society. Misconceptions of masculinity among young men have led to tragic consequences, which have played out in news headlines in the United Kingdom. Are there viable principles of true masculinity we can look to for the clarity young men need?

#### **Young Men Feel Lost**

Sir Gareth Southgate, former England football manager, recently asked the following question in the 46th Richard Dimbleby Lecture on 19 March 2025: "Why do so many young men feel lost, isolated, or without hope?" He highlighted how young men need to find positive male role models and build both belief and resilience to overcome these feelings. Otherwise, he warned, boys tend to withdraw and fill the void with "callous, manipulative and toxic" role models on social media, individuals who "trick young men into believing that success is measured by money or dominance, never showing emotion, and that the world, including women, is against them."

What is the context of these feelings of disorientation? There is an epidemic of fatherlessness in the UK; 2.5 million boys have no father figure at home. The Higher Education Policy Institute reports that roughly half a million men have "missed out on higher education" in the last ten years, due to their lower academic

achievement compared to that of women (March 20, 2025). Suicide rates among men in the UK are three times higher than among women—suicide is the leading cause of death for men under 50.

A recent UK-produced Netflix TV drama called *Adolescence* has received enthusiastic reviews for its portrayal of these issues. The drama reflects on a 13-year-old boy's environment at home and emphasises his need for social validation, which he seeks through peers on social media. His emotional distress, combined with his lack of impulse control, expresses itself as anger, creating a dangerous situation and tragic outcome. *Adolescence* explores the effect on this boy's family and community when he is charged with murdering his female classmate, and *The Guardian* has called the series a view of "what is known as 'incel' culture, the message spread between boys and young men about what they are entitled to expect and to take from girls and women" (March 13, 2025).

Incel, meaning "involuntarily celibate," describes heterosexual men who adopt misogynistic views and behaviours while blaming women and society for their lack of romantic success. "Incels" use various emojis in messages to communicate ideas, thoughts, and themes that those outside the community—including concerned parents who monitor their teens' social media usage—may not understand. They have used the "red pill" emoji as code for their belief that women are the cause of men's problems. The "kidney bean" emoji has been used to signal allegiance to incel ideology. The "100 percent" emoji has been used in reference to the

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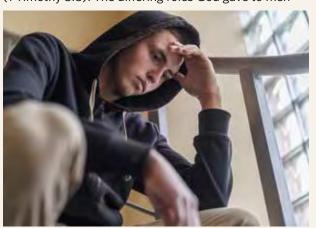
baseless notion that 80 percent of women are attracted to only 20 percent of men—implying that normal dating approaches are futile for most men. Use of emojis is very fluid, however, and varies over time and among users.

In his book Of Boys and Men: Why the Modern Male Is Struggling, Why It Matters, and What to Do About It, author Richard Reeves attempts to explain these issues. "Boys are falling behind at school and college because of how the educational system is structured," he writes. "Men are struggling in the labour market because of a shift away from traditionally male jobs. And fathers are dislocated because the cultural role of family provider has been hollowed out."

#### **God's Guidelines for Masculinity**

Reeves also observes that "the old models of marriage and family, based on the economic dependency of women on men, have been largely deconstructed. The traditional way worked well for children by encouraging the creation of fairly stable families. And it was mostly functional for men. As the sole or at least main provider, a man would join to a female carer, usually through marriage, in order to raise children." Many want to criticise this reality of the past as something we have moved on from—something now out of date. They assert that there are no fundamental differences between the sexes and that all people can pursue any role they desire.

However, we are different—biologically and, very importantly, in our family and social roles. God did not make us to be alone (Genesis 2:18). He made us male and female to join as a family unit and raise godly children (Genesis 1:26–27; Malachi 2:15), and He intended the husband to be the family's primary provider (1 Timothy 5:8). The differing roles God gave to men



and women have an equally important part in God's purpose for mankind as a whole. Revelation 12:9 states that Satan "deceives the whole world" in his efforts to destroy God's intended design, and the breakdown of the family is one of his prime methods.

The Apostle Paul explains the expected behaviour of men in the biblical structure of the family. Men are to lead, love, and cherish their wives (Ephesians 5:22-25). Paul points out that the government structure in the home models the relationship between Christ and the Church—that Christ loves, leads, and serves the Church, and men should do the same for their families. The problems with masculine role models in today's society come from man's distortion of God-given guidelines, not from the guidelines themselves. When a man abuses his God-given leadership role within the family by oppressing his wife, a boy growing up in that environment will likely learn a negative view of women—and, when a man neglects his leadership role by failing to provide a masculine example, a boy is more susceptible to the harmful ideologies touted by incel culture.

Reeves goes on to write, "Manhood is a continuous achievement, rather than just a single milestone." David Gilmore, in his book *Manhood in the Making: Cultural Concepts of Masculinity*, writes, "Real men do not simply emerge naturally over time like butterflies from boyish cocoons; they must be assiduously coaxed from their juvenescent shells, shaped and nurtured, counseled and prodded into manhood." This process is most effective when guided by positive male role models, ideally with a present and loving father taking the lead.

As a concluding thought, we can consider a comment a mother once made to Sir Gareth Southgate, which he related in his Dimbleby lecture: "One of the most impactful things we can do for women is to focus on improving young men." Young men should be taught—and can learn—to respect women and treat them with decency. By doing so, they are following the basic biblical principle of doing to others as we would have them do to us (Matthew 7:12). Ultimately, that is what we all want, and a godly, masculine man will take up this challenge and lead by example.

To learn more on this vital topic, you can read our insightful study guide *Successful Parenting: God's Way* by ordering a free printed copy or finding it online at *TomorrowsWorld.org*.

-Simon R. D. Roberts





### An ancient annual Festival reveals the glorious destiny God has planned for the world—the destiny He will bring about in the years just ahead!

#### By Rod McNair

sk anyone what Christmas is, and you'll get an answer. Everybody knows about Christmas. The same applies to the popular springtime holiday of Easter—the President of the United States even hosts an Easter egg roll each year on the White House lawn. Halloween is world-renowned as well, even as it celebrates evil.

But ask the average person on the street about the Feast of Tabernacles, and you'll get some confused looks. Most, unless they are Jewish, won't have a clue what you're talking about. Yet the Feast of Tabernacles is not just observed by Jews. There are also *Christians* who keep this annual autumn Festival—and look forward to it with great anticipation every year. Why do *they* keep these feast days? And why should you care?

Let's uncover the truth about this important Holy Day season described in the Bible. What *is* the Feast of Tabernacles?

#### **One of God's Annual Holy Days**

Many people today, if they've heard of the Feast of Tabernacles at all, might think, *That's one of those old Jewish observances that Christ did away with on the cross*. But is it?

The truth is that the Bible reveals that God instituted Holy Days for His people. And yes, these days *are* found in the Old Testament. But it may come as a surprise that they are also found in the New Testament—and that Christians have understood and observed them from Christianity's earliest beginnings in the first century AD. Let's go through a brief overview of the biblical Holy Days and Festivals.

First comes the Christian Passover. It occurs in the springtime, in late March or early April. Passover reminds us that Jesus was the Lamb of God slain for our sins. That's why the Passover is important to Christians—as the Apostle Paul wrote, "For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us" (1 Corinthians 5:7). In other words, the Christian Passover is the crucial first step in the plan of God:

Christ's sacrifice providing redemption to sin-sick humanity.

The second of the annual Festivals is the Feast of Unleavened Bread. For New Testament Christians, these seven days teach us that we must change and grow. Christ's sacrifice sets us free from the *penalty* of sin, but we must not continue to *practice* sin. We must resist sin and learn a new way of life, with God's help. As Paul wrote, "Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (v. 8).

The third Festival in God's calendar is the Feast of Firstfruits. In the New Testament it is called the Day of Pentecost, meaning "fiftieth." It is called that because its date is set by counting 50 days, beginning with the Sunday during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which puts Pentecost in late May or early

devil—the source of sin in our world—and humanity's becoming "at one" with God. The earliest followers of Jesus Christ were very familiar with the day, as we see in Luke's account of the journeys of Paul and his companions as they sailed on the Mediterranean Sea. "We came to a place called Fair Havens, near the city of Lasea.... The voyage was now dangerous, because the Day of Atonement was already over" (Acts 27:8–9, *Modern English Version*). The Day of Atonement takes place during a time of year when the Mediterranean Sea is often stormy and sailing it can be dangerous. But notice that Luke used this Holy Day as a marker of time for his audience, which included Gentile Christians, who were familiar with the Holy Day because they, too, were observing it.

The next biblical Feast is the one we're focusing on in this article, the Feast of Tabernacles. In short, the Feast of Tabernacles is a seven-day period

foreshadowing a thousand years of peace, prosperity, and abundance on earth. This Millennium is still in the future, but it's coming soon. Jesus Christ will personally reign on the earth. All humanity—those who survive the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord, as well as their descendants—will enjoy the benefits and blessings of living un-

der the rule of Jesus Christ. We'll come back to this Holy Day season later.

That brings us to the last of God's biblical Holy Days, the Last Great Day. It follows on the heels of the Feast of Tabernacles and represents the time of the general resurrection. This is the time when the unsaved billions, those who never had a genuine opportunity for salvation in this age, will be resurrected back to physical life and offered that chance. This day is for them. It represents the time *after* the Millennium of Jesus Christ's rule on earth, and at that time, those billions of human beings will have their understanding opened, God's Spirit will be made available to them, and they'll be offered eternal life (see page 12 of this issue).

So, that's a brief overview of the seven annual Holy Days as outlined in your Bible. They're not just the Holy Days of the Jews. They're not just special days for Israelites only. And they're not only taught

## ISRAEL LEFT EGYPT AND HEADED FOR THE PROMISED LAND. BUT ALONG THE WAY, THEY DWELT IN TENTS AS THEY JOURNEYED THROUGH THE DESOLATE WILDERNESS.

June. In the Holy Land, this was also the time of the wheat harvest.

In AD 31, when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the early Church, it happened on the Day of Pentecost. "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting" (Acts 2:1–2). What we learn from Pentecost is that God is not calling everyone today—just a small group of firstfruits, the early harvest. The rest will have their opportunity later.

The next Holy Day is called the Feast of Trumpets. The Feast of Trumpets occurs in September or early October on the Roman calendar, and it prophetically represents the Day of the Lord and Jesus Christ's triumphant return to this earth in power and glory.

Ten days after the Feast of Trumpets comes the Day of Atonement. It pictures the removal of the

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in the Old Testament. These are New Testament Holy Days that have *powerful* meaning for Christians today.

#### A Reminder That This Life Is Temporary

But what about our original question—just what is the Feast of Tabernacles?

First, let's examine the word *tabernacle*. The word *tabernacle* simply means "tent." The book of Exodus mentions that Moses built a "tabernacle" or *tent* in the wilderness to be the place of worship of the true God. As a tent, it was only a temporary dwelling. It was not nearly as permanent as the house—or temple—that was later built by Solomon in Jerusalem.

To understand the significance of "tents" or "tabernacles," we must go back to the Israelites as they came out of Egypt. After they had suffered for decades under the oppressive rule of Egyptian taskmasters, God set them free sometime around 1446 BC. They left Egypt and headed for the Promised Land. Along the way, they dwelt in tents as they journeyed through the desolate wilderness.

Compare this with our lives today. We are each living a temporary, human existence. We are only sojourners and pilgrims on earth, as the Apostle Peter writes (1 Peter 2:11). We seek a better, future existence in God's Kingdom, much as the children of Israel were seeking the Promised Land.

In fact, the Apostle Peter used the analogy of tents in describing his own physical life. Notice: "For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me" (2 Peter 1:12–14).

Peter compared his physical body to a tent—which, as it is continually barraged by the rain, wind, and storms of life, eventually wears out. God wants us to understand that human life is just a short journey—and that there is something far better coming after it.

Why is this important? Well, we all have trials and struggles in this life. We all have pain. But there is a better world coming. When God's Kingdom comes, Christ will rule not from up in the heavens, but right here on our troubled earth. This is where the healing and comforting needs to take place. This is where the violence, warfare, and hatred must end. And this

is where moral confusion will give way to a genuine understanding of the right way to live.

In other words, we should not despair when bad things happen. The Feast of Tabernacles teaches us that our physical life is temporary, and it assures us that there will soon come a time when Christ will reign on this earth to bring peace and prosperity to everyone.

#### A Picture of God's Rule on Earth

Many prophecies detail this. Consider: "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills" (Isaiah 2:2).

"Mountains" are used symbolically in the Bible to refer to governments, so this prophecy tells us that, in the future, God's government will be set up on earth to rule over all other governments. That clearly has not happened yet, but is still to come:

Many people shall come and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore (Isaiah 2:3–4).

Do you see this happening today? Of course not. Today, in every corner of the globe, men and women cry out for a better world. In Europe and Africa, Asia and the Middle East, South America, North America, the Caribbean, Australasia—everywhere—we see corruption, war, poverty, and violence on a massive scale. It's heartbreaking. But this time of suffering will soon come to an end. Jesus Christ will personally stop the hatred, the anger, and the bloodshed.

We read from the Prophet Isaiah, "There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse." Jesse was the father of David, and the Messiah is described as David's son, so this is about Jesus Christ. We read next that "a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD" (Isaiah 11:1–2).

This is how Jesus Christ will govern when He returns—with equity, with justice, and with profound spiritual insight: "With righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist" (Isaiah 11:3–5).

In summary: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea" (v. 9).

Obviously, the modern world is not being governed by Christ and the Bible—nor has *any* era of human history experienced the joy and tranquility offered by the government of God. But that will dramatically change. Everyone will learn God's way, and Jesus Christ will personally reign on this earth to make sure that happens. The Feast of Tabernacles revealed in your Bible pictures and symbolizes His millennial reign—and that is *good news*. That millennial period is just around the corner.

#### **A Celebration for Today**

So, let's take it one step further: What does this have to do with you? Should Christians keep the Feast of Tabernacles? To answer that, let's look at what God said about the Feast of Tabernacles to the ancient Israelites: "You shall eat before the LORD your God, in the place where He chooses to make his name abide... that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.... You shall eat there before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your household" (Deuteronomy 14:23, 25–26).

This describes the Feast of Tabernacles. In ancient Israel, an agricultural society, people were intimately connected to the land. When the summer growing season was over, they celebrated the bountiful harvest in thankfulness to God. It's ironic that some mistakenly portray God's annual Feasts as a harsh burden. Perhaps they have never read what these Feasts were like. Who wouldn't want to cele-

brate a bountiful harvest with abundant food and festivities—and to do so for seven whole days? It sounds like a wonderful time. If that's a burden, lay it on me!

What's more, the Feast of Tabernacles wasn't only about having fun. It was a celebration to honor God and thank Him for His wonderful way of life. And it helped people learn to honor Him and hold Him in awe for His majesty, power, mercy, and love. The Feast of Tabernacles was also a foreshadowing of the coming reign of Jesus Christ on earth.

So, what does this have to do with Christians today? The book of Revelation gives a fascinating glimpse into the thousand-year time period after Christ returns. Notice: "I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them.... And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years" (Revelation 20:4).

This is one of the most straightforward passages in the Bible about the prophesied Millennium—a soon-coming golden age of Christ's reign on earth and the glorified saints reigning with Him.

Why don't you hear about this from most churches? After all, this was the belief of the early Christians. The year 1789 saw the completed publication of *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, written by eminent English scholar and historian Edward Gibbon. In it, he discussed how the early church looked at the doctrine of the millennial reign of Christ:

The ancient and popular doctrine of the Millennium was intimately connected with the second coming of Christ. As the works of the creation had been finished in six days, their duration in their present state, according to a tradition which was attributed to the prophet Elijah, was fixed to six thousand years. By the same analogy it was inferred, that this long period of labour and contention, which was now almost elapsed, would be succeeded by a joyful sabbath of a thousand years; and that Christ, with the triumphant band of the saints and the elect who had escaped death, or who had been miraculously revived, would reign upon earth (1862 edition, p. 176).

This is exactly what we've been reading in God's word. The prophecies of Isaiah, Micah, and Revela-

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tion tell of a coming millennial reign of the Messiah. But why don't most churches talk about this? Gibbon explains on the same page:

It appears to have been the reigning sentiment of the orthodox believers; and it seems so well adapted to the desires and apprehensions of mankind, that it must have contributed in a very considerable degree to the progress of the Christian faith. But when the edifice of the church was almost completed... the doctrine of Christ's reign upon earth was at first treated as a profound allegory, was considered by degrees as a doubtful and useless opinion, and was at length rejected as the absurd invention of heresy and fanaticism.

In other words, the first Christians believed in the coming millennial reign of Christ—and it was a fundamental part of their belief. It gave them hope for the future. But somewhere along the way, people were told instead that the Kingdom of God was in their hearts, or that it was the church itself. Over time, the truth of Christ's millennial reign was lost to many.

But not to all.

Today, there are still Christians who observe these Holy Days. There are still Christians who value what Christ and His original disciples taught and are eagerly looking forward to the triumphant return of their Savior—and to His reign on earth.

After all, Jesus Christ Himself kept the Feast of Tabernacles. That's explained in John 7:10. If we are following in the footsteps of Christ, should we not do as He did?

#### **A Feast for All Nations**

When Jesus returns to this earth, people all around the world will be keeping the Holy Days. We read, "It shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles" (Zechariah 14:16).



This prophecy tells of a time on the heels of the Great Tribulation and the Day of the Lord—and it says that all who fought against Jesus Christ will be observing this Feast. Just think of it: People who were once Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, Shintoists, agnostics, atheists—and, yes, even followers of the mainstream, counterfeit Christianity—will all be keeping these days.

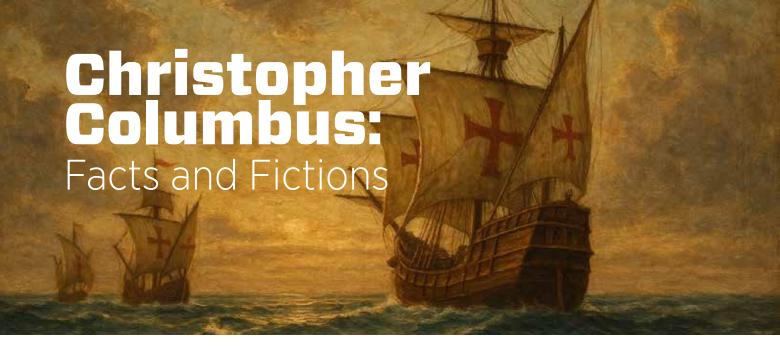
But what happens if some nations resist? Well, let's read on: "Whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain. If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles" (vv. 17–18).

God knows that His laws are so important that He cannot only *invite* the nations of the world to keep the Feast—He must make them keep it, *for their own good*. Because when they finally keep the Feast of Tabernacles, they'll begin to experience the deep satisfaction of living God's way and to enjoy the blessings that come from walking in His paths.

Thanks to God's Holy Days, we can see that there is great hope for the future. He instituted the Feast of Tabernacles so you and I could understand just how profoundly rewarding His way of life is. It's not just a historical or theoretical issue—it's about obeying God, observing His Holy Days, and experiencing the way of life He intends for all mankind.

MAY WE SUGGEST?

**The Holy Days: God's Master Plan** The meaning behind God's annual Festivals is too rich to be fully explained in one article. Request this **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF and ePub are also available.



#### **By William Bowmer**

f you grew up in the United States in the last half of the 20th century, Christopher Columbus was likely one of those figures who seemed almost too good to be true when you learned about him in school—an intrepid discoverer of new lands, a noble pioneer.

And he was certainly popular. Columbus Day celebrations have been regular events since the mid-19th century, but only in 1971 did it become an official national holiday in the U.S., fixed to the second Monday in October. This year, it will fall on Monday, October 13. For millions of Americans of Italian heritage, Columbus Day remains a source of ethnic pride, even though there was no united Italy before 1861—Columbus sailed as a citizen of the city-state of Genoa. In recent years, however, many who deplore Columbus' voyages have begun to observe the same day as Indigenous Peoples Day, a holiday that began in 1992 in Berkeley, California, and quickly gained celebrants across the nation.

Many choose to celebrate one holiday or the other, and a rare few observe both holidays together. But what will they be honoring—and why?

#### Fake News?

Anyone following today's media has heard the term "fake news," and almost everyone has heard or read their share of it. Some is laughably extreme: One political candidate "eats babies," while another "is an

alien reptile wearing a human suit." But most misinformation is far more subtle, playing on people's fear and ignorance in the cynical hope of manipulating them to support one cause or another.

And this is not a new phenomenon. Bible students will recognize that the corrupt leaders of Jerusalem's Jewish community spread fake news about Jesus Christ, with the help of Roman guards who were complicit in slander of the Logos made flesh (see Matthew 26:59–61; 28:11–15).

Fake news can make a hero of an ordinary man or turn a former hero into a villain. And it can be fickle; just look at how Elon Musk has veered between villain and hero in popular perceptions. We can also see this in how history has treated Columbus. Was he the first globalist, seeking to oppress native Americans and steal their wealth? Or was he the spark that ignited a new era of wealth and growth that would benefit the whole world? Or was he perhaps a little of both? Let's look at the facts.

#### Why Did Columbus Sail?

Before 1453, European traders could travel overland to India and China in relative safety, thanks to treaties between the Byzantine Empire and the Mongol Empire. But when Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Empire and Byzantium collapsed, traders needed sea routes instead. Had there still been safe land passage across Eurasia, Columbus might not have sailed.

Contrary to what some today assume, Columbus and most other Europeans of his day understood that

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planet Earth is a sphere. This was, in fact, ancient knowledge. The Greek philosopher Aristotle, in the fourth century BC, knew that planet Earth is spherical, and the Greek scientist Eratosthenes measured its circumference accurately in the third century BC. Both men were known to medieval scholars. In fact, Aristotle was so well respected that his entire worldview, not just his scientific knowledge, had come to shape much of the Roman Catholic philosophy that prevailed in Columbus' day. Columbus understood the dangers of lengthy sea voyages, but falling off an "edge" of the earth was not one of his fears.

#### **Roaming Catholicism**

We should also consider the religious and political environment of Columbus' time. From AD 711 to 1238, large portions of the Iberian Peninsula had been under Muslim rule, and not until 1492—the year of Columbus' first voyage—did Catholic armies reconquer Granada, the last Muslim stronghold in Spain.

It was in this environment that Pope Nicholas V in 1452 had issued the papal proclamation *Dum Diversas*, which allowed the enslavement of "Saracens [Muslims] and pagans and any other unbelievers." Furthermore, in 1493, Pope Alexander VI issued his proclamation *Inter Caetra*, ruling that one "Christian" nation did not have the right to establish dominion over lands already dominated by another Christian nation. Together, these papal decrees fueled a desire to explore "new" lands where the discoverer would have free rein to dominate resources and peoples. Growth of the Ottoman Empire may have spurred Columbus' voyages, but the papacy gave him new scope for finding profit overseas.

#### What Did Columbus Discover?

Columbus did not reach India, though native Americans came to be called Indians because of his mistaken belief that he had arrived at what we now know as the East Indies. Not until Amerigo Vespucci's voyages—after which "America" became his namesake—did Europeans understand clearly that Columbus had not found a convenient western sea route to India but had instead reached another continent.

During each of Columbus' four voyages, between 1492 and 1504, he encountered warring native tribes and sought alliances where he could. On the island

of Hispaniola, Columbus met the Taíno tribes that at first welcomed him as an ally against the Caribs, whom they despised as a violent tribe of cannibals—though scholars to this day debate whether the charge of cannibalism was "fake news" that the Taíno spread in order to defame their enemies and encourage their enslavement.

History shows Columbus to have been a diplomat, not a rapacious conqueror. Yes, he pressed the Taíno into dangerous gold mining, and many fell victim to disease and injury. But it would be a mistake to brand Columbus as simply a racist; the record shows that he also acted brutally against Europeans who dared to oppose him—one shocking report depicts him having the tongue cut out of a Spanish woman who insulted his ancestry. While Christopher Columbus may have been a cruel leader at times, he was not the genocidal maniac that many depict him to be. Contemporary accounts of Columbus' activities such as those by Bartolomé de las Casas, noted for his defense of the Taino-report that while Spanish settlers committed their share of atrocities, Columbus would at times intervene in support of the natives and punish Spanish aggressors.

#### **Plunderer, Warrior, or War Criminal?**

Was Christopher Columbus a war criminal, the Pol Pot of his day? If he sought a reputation for lording Spanish power over indigenous peoples, we must consider him a failure.

During his 1492 voyage, Columbus established on Haiti's north coast a fortress known as La Navidad. In December 1492 he staffed the new settlement—the first European colony in the Americas since the time of Leif Erickson—with nearly 40 men and extensive provisions, observing in his journal, "I am certain the people I have with me could subjugate all this island... the population are naked and without arms and very cowardly" ("Columbus' La Navidad," *AmericanHeritage.com*, accessed June 5, 2025). Yet when Columbus returned to the colony in November 1493, he found it burned to the ground, desolate but for the bodies of several settlers who had been killed by a Taíno leader after the Europeans fell to quarreling.

Did Columbus give up? Or did he make war against the Taíno? No! He established another colony to the east—naming it La Isabella in honor of the Spanish queen—from where he hoped the settlers could mine precious metals. But the new colony fell victim to hunger and disease and was soon ravaged by mutinous settlers.

Despite these complexities, it is remarkable to see how easily Columbus' reputation has been tarnished by modern critics seeking to further their political and social agendas.

#### **His Legacy**

Some historians suggest that Chinese explorers reached the west coast of North America as early as 1421, decades before Columbus' voyages. It is well known that Viking explorer Leif Erickson reached the east coast of today's Canada hundreds of years before that. And we know that indigenous peoples were in the Americas for thousands of years before they saw any European settlers.

So, what sets Columbus apart? In the words of scholar Hans Selye, "The important difference between the discovery of America by the Indians, by the Norsemen, and by Columbus is only that Columbus succeeded in attaching the American continent to the rest of the world" (From Dream to Discovery: On Being a Scientist, 1964, p. 89). Europeans brought much more to the Americas than their diseases, and they returned to Europe with new plants and new foods—potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, pineapples, peanuts, and more. When we think of Ireland's devastating potato famine of the 1840s, how many of us consider that the potato was at first an import from the Americas that had brought new vitality to Irish agriculture?

By connecting Europe to the Americas, Columbus set in motion another momentous change. For centuries, Europe had looked inward, to its own ancient past, as the measure of what could be known or achieved. It is no coincidence that so many great scientific discoveries followed in the wake of Columbus and other explorers who showed Europeans that there was new knowledge to be found outside of the dusty old books of European history.

Truly, the reality of Columbus doesn't match the caricatures presented by his opponents—or by his supporters. Columbus was far less of a barbarian than many other Spanish settlers who would plunder the Americas in the decades that followed. He was a friend to at least one tribe, and to many indigenous individuals. Yet, contending against cannibals and warriors, Columbus was no milquetoast—he did not hesitate to kill his enemies when he could. We should also remember the other side of that equation. Before Columbus arrived, indigenous tribes were routinely at war with each other, showing no less hesitation to kill each other than Columbus displayed when confronting his enemies.

#### **Focus on the Truth**

Where is God in all of this? We read, "Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales; look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing" (Isaiah 40:15). Yes, even when humanity rejects His ways, God has the power to bring about His purposes, whether through triumphs or tragedies. To learn more about God's interventions in human history, we invite you to read our vital booklet *Prophecy Fulfilled: God's Hand in World Affairs*. You can find it online at *Tomorrows World.org* or order a free printed copy from the Regional Office nearest you, listed on page 4 of this magazine.

So, is it wrong to celebrate Columbus Day or Indigenous Peoples Day—or both, or neither? No! As we have seen, most who celebrate Columbus Day or Indigenous Peoples Day share a startling range of misconceptions. But should this surprise us? As regular readers of this magazine understand, we live in a culture where countless millions of people call themselves Christians while celebrating holidays that are not only full of misconceptions, but that in fact go against the teachings of Jesus Christ.

We increasingly live in a world in which facts are not allowed to speak for themselves. It seems everyone has an agenda, and "truth" is only welcomed if it agrees with that agenda. But a time is coming when myth, fable, and political agendas will be replaced by a dedication to *truth* in all areas of society. For at Christ's return, the world will come under the Kingdom of God—and He is a "God of truth" (Deuteronomy 32:4)!

MAY WE SUGGEST? **Prophecy Fulfilled: God's Hand in World Affairs** History can be a tangled web to make sense of—until you understand the divine hand behind it. Request this **free** printed booklet from the Regional Office nearest you, or order at **TomorrowsWorld.org**. PDF and ePub are also available.

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#### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

#### Who was Melchizedek?

**Question:** I read recently in the book of Hebrews that Jesus Christ has become "High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." Who was Melchizedek, and how is He connected to Jesus?

Answer: The first reference to Melchizedek is found in Genesis 14:18–20: "Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said: 'Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand.' And he gave him a tithe of all."

Three biblical clues connect the mysterious Melchizedek and Jesus Christ. The first is that Melchizedek and Christ are both exalted kings. The name "Melchizedek" means "king of righteousness," as brought out in Hebrews 7:1–2: "For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated 'king of righteousness,' and then also king of Salem, meaning 'king of peace."

Jesus also has the title of king—He was born to be king (John 18:37) and is called the "Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6), as well as "KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS" (Revelation 19:16).

Additionally, Melchizedek and Christ share a special connection to a certain city. Melchizedek was called "King of peace," but Salem was also an ancient name for the city of *Jerusalem*. We read, "In Salem also is His tabernacle, and His dwelling place in Zion" (Psalm 76:2). *Salem* means "peace," and the word *Jerusalem* means "city of peace."

Jesus Christ will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords from Jerusalem, which is called "the city of the great King" (Matthew 5:35)—referencing Christ. When Jesus came to Jerusalem before His last Passover, He fulfilled a prophecy: "Behold, your King is coming to you, lowly, and sitting on a donkey" (Matthew 21:5; Zechariah 9:9). And we're told that when Jesus returns to earth: "Jerusalem shall be called The Throne of the LORD, and all the nations shall be

gathered to it, to the name of the LORD, to Jerusalem" (Jeremiah 3:17).

We see that Melchizedek was king of the city that became known as Jerusalem, and Jesus will reign as King of Jerusalem. But not only that—He will reign over the whole earth (Revelation 11:15).

Finally, Melchizedek and Christ are both exalted priests. We learn that Melchizedek is "without father, without mother, without genealogy" (Hebrews 7:3), meaning that Melchizedek's existence did not begin with a physical birth, "having neither beginning of days nor end of life"—that is, Melchizedek possesses eternal life—"but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually." Then we're told, "Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils" (Hebrews 7:4).

The ancient Israelites were to pay their tithes to the tribe of Levi, all of whom came from Abraham. But Melchizedek, who did not come from the Levites, "received tithes from Abraham" (Hebrews 7:6) so that "even Levi... paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him" (vv. 9–10). In other words, Melchizedek was the priest to whom even the patriarch Abraham, and thereby all the Israelites, paid tithes. This priesthood was different from—and superior to—the priesthood of the Levites that would be established later.

As we've read, Melchizedek was "made like the Son of God"—that is, Jesus Christ—and "remains a priest continually" (Hebrews 7:3). Hebrews 7:17 quotes Psalm 110:4, saying Jesus Christ is "a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek," and we likewise read that Jesus is the "High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek" (Hebrews 6:20). Other passages also point to Jesus Christ as High Priest: "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God" (Hebrews 4:14).

Examining these clues leads to only one conclusion: The two are the same Being, and Melchizedek is the One who *became* Jesus Christ. Before He had either name, He was the Word, who was with God and who was God (John 1:1).  $\[ \]$ 



## The Adult in the Room

o one enters parenthood with the intent of being a poor father or mother—but the stresses and frustrations of dealing with a vulnerable little person who does not always cooperate with us can sometimes drive us over the edge. This is part of our journey as followers of Christ, in which we continually face situations that stretch our ability to practice what we know is true. We don't get to practice patience in a world where everything immediately goes our way. We don't get to practice love and unselfishness in an environment that is always loving and selfless. And we can find ourselves demanding behavior of our children that we are not reflecting ourselves. When this happens, it is reasonable to ask, "Who is the adult in the room?"

The Bible instructs us to become living examples of God's way, reminding us to "be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was" (James 1:22–24). Our children will follow our example. If we demand from them a standard of patience, deference, and respect that we don't reflect ourselves, we are abdicating our role as the adult in the room.

#### Anger

Whether a toddler, grade-schooler, or teenager, one of the most overt displays of immaturity is the temper tantrum. We know that overcoming anger is vital to successful adulthood. "He who is slow to anger is

better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city" (Proverbs 16:32). So, when our children reach the boiling point in anger, we look them in the eye and say something like, "Okay, take a deep breath. Count to ten. Let's go for a walk." We know that helping them control the emotion of anger will help them live a better life.

But sometimes we are the ones who face the anger challenge. Perhaps we've had a long and trying day, and our patience is short. Or maybe our toddler or teen is acting in rebellion, refusing to put toys away or do chores. Do we lose our temper, allowing our emotions to take control while we expect our child to sit quietly and respectfully as we rage? We can easily let our emotions get the best of us, demanding that our children be quiet and show respect while we give them a good tongue-lashing!

But who is acting like an adult? The older person angrily yelling? Or the younger one, taking the full brunt of someone's wrath while sitting in enforced silence?

#### **Taking Secondhand Offense**

Loving parents can fall into the trap of becoming offended secondhand when their children receive healthy correction. When a teacher or other adult in a position of authority corrects our children for misbehavior, our automatic reaction may be, *How dare you treat my children like that!* Do we take such action toward our children personally—as if it were directed toward us? Such an emotional, defensive response might be expected from children who have not learned to control their emotions.

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But what example does this show? Are we as parents behaving with gracious deference toward other adults in authority? Or are we behaving like spoiled brats? We may be grown-ups, but are we really acting the part? Our job as parents is to guide our children toward becoming discerning and wise adults, helping them through their challenges without acting like children ourselves. To fail in this responsibility is to set a poor example for the young people in our care, who need to learn their own lessons and grow through them.

#### Playing "BFF"

Another way in which a parent can miss the mark of being the adult in the room is by trying to be their

Parents who are determined to act like mature adults will be more concerned with helping their children grow and develop wisely than with making them feel good during every possible moment.

child's "best friend forever."
Scripture clearly places each
parent in the role of a loving
instructor rather than a "bosom
buddy." We read, "My son, hear
the instruction of your father,
and do not forsake the law of
your mother" (Proverbs 1:8).

Parents whose chief desire is to be their children's friends inevitably prioritize their children's happiness in the moment without taking into account their long-term needs. A child naturally skews these priorities, which is one reason why we're told, "Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child" (Proverbs 22:15). Parents who are determined to act like mature adults will be more concerned with

helping their children grow and develop wisely than with making them feel good during every possible moment.

#### **Not Sharing**

Another way we can abdicate our role of the adult in the room is by not sharing. We teach our children to share their toys, we expect them to share chores and the work that is required to keep our home clean and neat, and we explain to them that helping those in need is good and godly. But what about us? Do we gladly share our time and attention? Sometimes our children want our attention, and sometimes they are content in their own personal worlds. They can seem unpredictable, but when they do need our attention, are we willing and able to act as mature parents and share it with them fully and completely? Or are we too glued to the television to listen? Is that video on YouTube so interesting that we can't break away? Is that sports game too important to miss?

One of the most frustrating things for a child or teen is to feel as if he or she is not being heard. As parents, we should be mindful of the Apostle Paul's words: "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). If we are ignoring our children, are we not provoking them to wrath?

#### **Becoming Honorable Parents**

Paul exhorted the brethren, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother,' which is the first commandment with promise: 'that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth'" (Ephesians 6:1–3). This instruction hearkens back to one of the Ten Commandments: "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you" (Exodus 20:12).

But if we expect to be honored by our children, we must be honorable. Not childish. Not immature. And not just like their friends.

When Christ taught His disciples to pray, He said, "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name" (Matthew 6:9). In other words, we are commanded to honor and revere God, our Father, because He is honorable. He is the ultimate measure of spiritual maturity—the complete "adult." He loves us, just as we love our children. He wants to be close to us, even more than we want to be close to our children. And He always provides the perfect example of parental leadership.

If we can become examples of godly maturity, truly being the "adult in the room"—whether with our children or with others around us—we will become a force for peace and harmony and a godly example for our children throughout their lives.

-Jonathan McNair

#### Landmark UK Abortion Ruling

Until recently, women in the United Kingdom seeking abortions after 24 weeks of pregnancy were breaking the law, for which they could be legally prosecuted (BBC, June 17, 2025). British members of parliament (MPs) recently voted to rescind the penalty for having an abortion after 24 weeks in both England and Wales. Although it will still be illegal for health care providers to *perform* abortions after 24 weeks, this bill paves the way for pregnant women. themselves, who have such abortions—even up until birth—to avoid punishment.

One MP attempted to attach an addendum to the bill, requiring that women receiving abortion pills by mail must have a face-to-face medical consultation prior to receiving a prescription. However, the measure failed, and the "pills-by-post" abortions will continue. Abortion advocates view this new bill as validation that "women's rights and autonomy matter," but what about the rights of the unborn child?

The Bible warns that at the end of the age, people will be "brutal" and "despisers of good" (2 Timothy 3:3). Isaiah warned that they would descend to the point where they "call evil good, and good evil" (Isaiah 5:20). As humanity slides further from biblical morality in the selfish pursuit of personal pleasures, we should expect to see a decreasing desire to preserve and protect life-including the life of a defenseless child in the womb. It is difficult to convince people to protect life when they believe that there is no transcendent purpose for that life, as the doctrine of evolution dictates. It will ultimately take the return of the Messiah to teach individuals and nations the true and awesome meaning of life.

### Bombs in the Middle East

On June 22, American B-2 stealth bombers flew undetected to Iran and attacked nuclear sites in an attempt to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear bomb (*Associated Press*, June 22, 2025). Some



view the efforts by America to aid Israelis in making the world safer and defending the land of Israel as justified, noting the persistent calls from many in Iran for "death to Israel" and "death to America." Others, however, worry that these actions by America and Israel against Iran are a dangerous escalation of hostilities that could lead to wider regional or even global conflicts. While the claim has been made that the "12-day war" is now virtually over, the ultimate outcome of these recent efforts to achieve peace through military action remains to be seen.

Numerous Bible prophecies reveal that Israel is not going to have a peaceful future. Jesus foretold that, as we approach the end of the age and His return, Jerusalem will be surrounded by armies (Luke 21:20) and that half of its people will go into captivity (Zechariah 14:1-2). Bible prophecies also record that because modern Israelite nations (including the United States and Israel) have turned away from God, their allies will turn against them (Jeremiah 30:12–14) and whatever they plan to do will come to a sudden and tragic ending (Deuteronomy 28:20).

## The Modern "Space Race"

After the Tokyo-based company ispace had its second failed attempt to land an exploration vehicle on the moon, National Public

Radio reported, "Long the province of governments, the moon became a target of private outfits in 2019, with more flops than wins along the way" (June 6, 2025). Although the press has sensationalized these failures, companies like ispace, SpaceX, and Blue Origin are confidently poised to continue their efforts to privatize space exploration. Elon Musk has expressed unabated optimism in the face of what are seen as momentary setbacks, viewing the loss of multi-million-dollar machines as all part of the learning process (Reuters, March 7, 2025). "Rockets are hard," Musk remarked after his own program's second Mars rocket failure this year (Newsweek, March 7, 2025).

Although failures like these occur, such tremendous advances and efforts cannot help but inspire us. God has created man with remarkable capacity to design, build, and explore! Still, many have also wondered about the feasibility of humanity's quest to dominate space and colonize what are, for all intents and purposes, wastelands like the Moon and Mars, where it seems as though life could never thrive.

The Bible speaks of a time when "all things" will be given to the faithful as an inheritance (Revelation 21:7) and the entirety of creation will be liberated from futility by the revealing of the children of God (Romans 8:20–21). Perhaps this holds a key to

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understanding God's true purpose for the universe.

### Germany's Power and Influence

Germany's former foreign minister, Annalena Baerbock, was recently elected as the president of the United Nations General Assembly (AP News, June 2, 2025). Despite Russia's call for a secret ballot. Baerbock won the election with an overwhelming 167 votes—nearly double the 88 necessary to win. Her one-year term begins with the opening of the 80th session of the organization on September 9. She may be regarded as the highest-profile leader to fill this role in recent decades, and her election is a major win for both Germany and the EU.

Germany's influence is also growing around the globe. The country recently deployed 5,000 troops to Lithuania. This is Germany's first permanent foreign troop deployment since World War II (*Deutsche Welle*, May 22, 2025). The

nation recently signed a defense agreement with the Philippines (*Reuters*, May 14, 2025) and concluded another deal with Singapore to provide submarines (*NavalNews.com*, May 8, 2025). Germany and Nigeria also recently pledged to strengthen ties for future mutual benefit (*Deutsche Welle*, May 22, 2025).

Few today realize that Bible prophecy has long foretold Germany's rise to prominence at the end of the age. It has dominated European and global politics in centuries past and will do so again.

## Pope Leo the Mediator?

Recent developments in the Russo-Ukrainian war have created the opportunity for a new mediator of the conflict. "Pope Leo XIV... has signaled that the Vatican might be willing to mediate. This was further reinforced by Italy's head of government, Giorgia Meloni, who announced on the social media platform

X on May 20 that she had 'spoken by phone with the Holy Father about the next steps that need to be taken to build a just and lasting peace in Ukraine." President Donald Trump of the U.S., along with "some European heads of state," had requested that Meloni "assess the Holy See's willingness" to host peace talks in the Vatican between Russia and Ukraine, and Pope Leo confirmed that he is willing to do so (Deutsche Welle. May 25, 2025).

Russia, however, is not keen on this. "Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov criticised the idea, saying that it would be 'a bit inelegant for Orthodox countries to use a Catholic platform'" for such talks (*Euro News*, May 27, 2025).

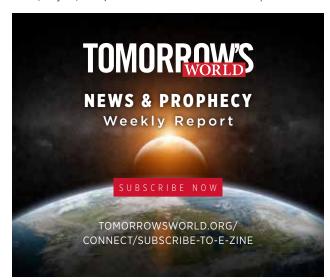
Bible prophecy tells us that a church with ties to ancient Rome, depicted in Revelation 17 as a harlot riding a great beast, will be a key diplomatic player in geopolitics as the return of Jesus Christ approaches. Leo's election has excited many about the possibility of a more unified Catholic Church—which would certainly allow him to play a more powerful role in geopolitical affairs.

#### **Massive Bee Die-Off**

Sixty-two percent of all commercial honeybee colonies died between June 2024 and January 2025, according to a recent investigation (*Science*, June 30, 2025). This record-setting die-off

followed the death of 55 percent of commercial colonies the previous winter. New research found that almost all the hives tested positive for viruses spread by the varroa mite, which has affected colonies worldwide since the 1980s. More worryingly, all the mites the researchers looked at were resistant to amitraz, the only pesticide that still works on mites without being too toxic for the bees themselves. Efforts by scientists to identify the culprit were slowed by federal funding cuts and layoffs, meaning that the findings may come too late for beekeepers to change their approach ahead of this coming winter. In the U.S., bees pollinate more than 90 commercial crops and contribute greatly to the stability of the American food supply.

This new research fits with certain biblical themes and prophetic patterns. In the Bible, bees are associated with sweetness and blessing as the sources of honey and honeycomb (e.g., Deuteronomy 8:8; Psalm 19:10). Romans 8:22 describes creation as groaning under the weight of sin, and the collapse of pollinators—essential to global food systems—could be a warning sign of human mismanagement of the environment. Revelation 6:6 describes a coming time of famine and soaring food prices, and a bee collapse could wreak havoc on vital food crops. Tw



## LETTERS TO TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

I receive your wonderful and valuable information from the Holy Bible. Your blessings and wonderful messages from God's word always inspire me. I'm serving those who are without God's word and salvation. One month ago, I was in Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand. Praying for your ministry.

-Subscriber in Bangladesh

Please! Keep doing exactly what you are doing with magazine and newsletter. Everything is just right. And don't let anyone or anything discourage you. A big thank you! -Subscriber in Colorado

I am so glad to have found a church that tries very hard to teach people the truth. You all are feeding the sheep. Keep up the good work!

-Subscriber in Indiana

Editor's Note: Thank you for your comment! The Living Church of God, sponsor of the Tomorrow's World magazine, has congregations around the world in which these truths are taught on a regular basis. If you are interested in speaking to a minister near you, you can reach out using the Regional Office information on page 4 of this issue or click on "Meet Our Church" near the bottom of our homepage at TomorrowsWorld.org.

I have been receiving the Tomorrow's World magazine for some two to three years now and most sincerely thank you and all your team for this truly exceptional magazine that conveys God's Truth. I am 77 years of age and was raised in a Mormon church. By the age of 35, I realised it was all doctrine and tradition of men. I have attended many churches over my lifetime, but none convey God's word as do Tomorrow's World. I

sincerely thank you and give all the praise and glory to God.

-Subscriber in New South Wales, Australia

Dear TW Team, Thank you! I will send as much in donations as possible because I want to help ensure that your work is able to reach more deceived people. My community has several churches that many of my extended family members are pastors, teachers, and members of. They look down on me and have judged me, that my keeping the Sabbath is denying my faith in Jesus. I do not let this sway me because some of the bystanders are wanting to hear the truth.

-Subscriber in North Carolina

Letting you know how much I am enjoying your newsletters and Tomorrow's World magazines. They are much appreciated. I read them all and they help me in my walk each day! I am 85 years old and study each and every day. -Subscriber in Texas

Thank you for [explaining] God's word in language I can understand.

-Subscriber in Virginia

I really appreciate your magazine called *Tomorrow's* World. I've studied the Bible for years and gone to many churches. Most only preach on selective parts. I hear you on Sunday morning early.

-Subscriber in Wisconsin

Thank you for your mailings. I leave them in my living room and when guests come, they want them. I am grateful.

-Subscriber in Minnesota

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Mail your letters to "Letters to the Editor" at one of the Regional Offices listed on page 4 of this magazine, or send email to Letters@TomorrowsWorld.org. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

## TOMORPOW!

#### TELEVISION LOG

AFRICA (Ghana | Kenya | Lesotho | Malawi | Nambia Nigeria | Rwanda | Tanzania | Uganda | Zambia) Faith TV Africa DSTV (GOTV) SU 9:00 a.m. CAT Faith TV Africa DSTV (GOTV) SII 12:00 a m CAT

**AUSTRALIA** 

Nationwide 7TW0 SU 7:00 a.m. Nationwide 9GFM SA 8:30 a m

**BARBADOS** 

St Michael CRC 8 FRANCE

**70UK TV** SU 6:00 a.m. Nationwide Nationwide ZOUK TV WE 5:00 a.m

FRENCH ISLANDS (St. Maarten | Guadeloupe

Martinique | French Guiana) SU 6:00 a.m. Nationwide 7011K T\ Nationwide 70LIK TV WF 5:00 a m

**GUYANA** 

Nationwide NCN 11 1LIGHT Georgetown

**JAMAICA** Kinaston

TVJ SU 7:00 a.m.

SII 6:30 a m

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 7:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 7:00 a.m.

**NEW ZEALAND** 

SU 5:00 a.m. Nationwide TVN72 Nationwide SU 6:00 a.m.

**SOUTH AFRICA** 

Nationwide CTV/SA SU 11:30 a.m. e.tv (DSTV ch 194) SU 6:30 a.m. Nationwide Nationwide Faith TV Africa (DSTV ch 341) SU 9:00 a.m.

Nationwide (DSTV ch 263) SU 11:30 a m

ST. LUCIA

Nationwide DBS (English) SII 7:30 a m TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Nationwide CNC3-TV

UK & NW EUROPE WORD (TWN) Freeview 279 Freeview 279

Philadelphia

Freely 582 Freely 582 Freely 582

Nationwide Faith TV UK SU 8:00 a.m.

SU 6:30 a.m. SU 7:30 p.m. M0 12:30 a.m SII 6:30 a m SU 7:30 p.m. MO 12:30 a.m. SII 8:00 a m

SU 7:30 a.m.



**FAITH TV** 

CHNU



Nationwide Networks (All times Eastern)





SII 2:00 n m



SA 3:30 a.m.

SU 5:30 p.m.

	Yuma	KECY (CW+)	
CA	Bakersfield	KGET(CW+)	
	Chico	KHSL (CW+)	
	El Centro	KECY (CW+)	
	Eureka	KECA (CW+)	
	Monterey	KCBA (CW+)	
	Palm Springs	KCWQ (CW+)	

SU 8:00 a.m. SU 8:00 a.m. m s 00.8 112 KHSL (CW+ SU 8:00 a.m. Redding Salinas KCBA (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. San Francisco BAVC (Public Access) WE 8:00 a.m. KCOY (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. KCOY (CW+ KCOY (CW+)

MA Springfield WWLP (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. WABI (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. ME Bangor Presque Isle WAGM (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m.

WBAE (CW+) M.s 00:8 112 Alpena WIAI ((W+) m s 00.8 112 Lansing WLAJ (ABC) SU 11:00 a.m. Lansing SU 8:00 a.m. Calumet WBKP (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Marquette WBKP (CW+ Traverse City WFQX (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m.

MN Cloquet KDLH (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Duluth KDLH (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Mankato KMNF/KECY (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Rochester KTTC (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m.

MO Columbia KOMU (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. KFJX (FOX) SU 8:30 a.m. Joplin KFJX/NFJX (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Joplin Kansas City KCWE (CW) SU 7:30 a.m. St Joseph KNPG (CW+) SIJ 7:00 a m KPLR (CW) SII 6:30 a m St Louis

Biloxi WXXV (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Columbus WLOV (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. SU 7:00 a m Greenwood WBWD ((W+) Hattiesburg WHIT ((W+) SU 7:00 a m WTOK (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Meridian

Billings KVSI (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Bozeman KCOB (Charge) SU 8:30 a.m. KCOB (Charge) Butte SU 8:30 a.m. Glendive SU 6:00 a.m. KWBZ (CW+) Helena KTVM (Comet) SU 8:30 a.m. Kalispell KCFW (Charge/Comet) SU 8:30 a.m. Kalispell KECI (Charge/Comet) SU 8:30 a.m. KECI (Charge/Comet) SU 8:30 a.m. Missoula

Asheville SU 9:30 a.m. WYCW (CW) Asheville WGGS-TV 16 SU 11:30 a.m. Charlotte WAXN-TV 64 SU 9:00 a.m. Charlotte WMYT-TV 55 SU 8:30 a.m. WMYT-TV 48 SU 10:30 a.m. Charlotte WMYV-TV 48 Greensboro SU 9:00 a.m. SU 8:00 a.m. Greenville WNCT (CW+) WWAY (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Wilmington Bismarck KXMA (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. KXMA (CW+) Dickinson SU 6:00 a.m.

Fargo KIXB (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Minot KXMA/KXMC (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. KWBQ (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. NM Albuquerque

**NV** Las Vegas KSNV (Charge/Comet) SU 8:30 a.m. Reno KOLO (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m.

Binghamton WBNG (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. BCAT/BRIC SU 7:00 p.m. Brooklyn Brooklyn BCAT/BRIC MO 12:30 a.m. Elmira WENY (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. m s 00.8 II2 Watertown WWTI ((W+) SU 8:00 a.m. Utica WFVX (CW+)

SU 9:00 a.m. Cincinnati WSTR-TV 64 Cleveland WIJAR (CW) SU 8:30 a m WWHO (Charge/Comet)SU 7:30 a.m. Columbus SU 7:00 a.m. Ada KTEN (CW+) Lawton KFDX (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m.

Oklahoma City KOCB (CW) SII 9.30 a m Tulsa KQCW (CW) SU 8:00 a.m. Bend KTVZ (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Eugene KMTR (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Klamath Falls KTVL (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. SU 8:00 a.m. Medford KTVI (CW+) WSEE (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m.

WPKD/WPCW (CW) Pittsburgh SU 7:30 a.m. 50 Charleston WCBD (CW+) M s 00.8 U2 Columbia WOLO (ABC) SU 11:00 a.m. WYCW (CW) SU 9:30 a.m. Greenville Greenville WGGS-TV 16 SU 11:30 a.m. WAXN-TV 64 m s 00.9 112 Rock Hill SU 8:30 a.m. Rock Hill WMYT-TV 55 Rock Hill SU 10:30 a m

WPSG (CW)

KCLO (CW+) SU 6:00 a.m. SD Rapid City MELO+/KELO/KPLO (CW+)SU 7:00 a.m. Sioux Falls

WNBJ (CW+) Jackson SU 7:00 a.m. WKNX (KNOX) SU 12:00 a.m. Knoxville Knoxville WKNX (KNOX) SII 7:00 a m SU 6:00 p.m. Knoxville WKNX (KNOX) WKNX (KNOX) Knoxville SA 7:30 a m SU 10:00 a.m. Memphis WLMT (CW) Memphis WATN (ABC) SU 11:00 a.m. ETVC (FOX) SU 5:00 a.m. Chattanooga TX Abilene KTXS (CW+)

SU 7:00 a.m. Amarillo KVIH/KVII (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Beaumont KFDM (FOX) SU 7:00 a.m. Corpus Christi KSCC (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Laredo KYLX (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Lubbock KICW (CW+ SU 7:00 a.m. KYTX (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Lufkin McAllen KCWT/KFXV (CW+) SU 7:00 a m Midland SU 7:00 a.m. KOSA/KCWO (CW+) 0dessa KOSA/KCWO (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. San Angelo KTXE (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. SU 5:30 a.m. San Antonio KARR (FOX) Sherman KTEN (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Tyler SII 6:00 a m KTRE (ABC) SU 6:00 a.m. Tyler Tyler KYTX (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Wichita Falls KFDX (CW+ SU 7:00 a.m.

KVCT (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Victoria Charlottesville WVIR (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Harrisonburg WSVW (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. SU 9:30 a.m. Norfolk WCKY (CKYA) SU 8:30 a.m. Roanoke WWCW (CW) WSET (ABC) SU 12:00 p.m. Roanoke Burlington WNNF (CW+) SU 2:00 a.m.

Burlington WNNE (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. WA Kennewick KEPR (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. KEPR (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Pasco

Richland KEPR (CW+ SU 8:00 a.m. Yakima KIMA (CW+ SU 8:00 a.m WEAU (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. WI Eau Claire WECX/WEAU (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. La Crosse Wausau WSAW (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m.

Wittenberg W7AW (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. SU 7:00 a.m. Superior KDLH (CW+) Bluefield WVVA (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Charleston WQCW (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Clarksburg WVFX (CW+) M s 00.8 U2

Parkersburg WOVA (CW+) SII 8:00 a m Casper KGWN (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. KGWN (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Cheyenne KGWN (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Laramie

\*Check local listings for additional airtimes throughout the week. All times are based on Eastern Daylight Time

The telecast is available on cable and broadcast stations around the world. Check your local listings for details, or go to TomorrowsWorld.org/tune-in.

#### YES TV (Ontario) YES TV (Calgary) **UNITED STATES**

CIVIT (Vancouver)

CTV (Maritimes)

CTV (Alberta)

etworks (All times Eastern) SU 9:00 a.m
vork SU 7:30 a.m
SU 7:30 a.m
SU 8:00 a.m MO 2:00 a.m
SU 8:00 a.m
SU 7:00 a.m
SU 8:30 a.m SU 11:00 p.m SA 11:00 p.m
SU 8:30 a.m
SU 9:00 a.m
etwork SU 2:30 p.m SU 7:30 p.m
* (All times Eastern)

**Impact** Ch. 268 SU 11:00 p.m. **DIRECTV\*** (All times Eastern) Ch. 380 SU 11:00 p.m. Impact Ch. 373 Word SU 2:30 p.m. SU 7:30 p.m. For the most up-to-date listings, please go to

TomorrowsWorld.org/tune-in

AK Anchorage KYUR (CW+) M s 00.9 II2 KATN (CW+) SII 6:00 a m Fairbanks luneau KJUD (CW+) SU 6:00 a.m. Dothan WTVY (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. WZDX/DZDX-TV 54 SU 9:30 a.m. Huntsville WBMM (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Montgomery SII 7:00 a m Opelika WLTZ (CW+) El Dorado KARD (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. KHBS (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Favetteville KHBS (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Fort Smith SU 7:00 a.m. Jonesboro KAIT (CW+) Little Rock KASN (CW) SU 10:30 a.m. AZ Tucson KMSB (FOX) SU 8:30 a.m.

WE 4:30 p.m. San Luis Obispo MO-FR 10:30 p.m. Santa Barbara SU 8:00 a.m. Santa Maria M s 00.8 II2 MO-FR 10:30 p.m. Colorado Springs KXTU (CW) SU 8:00 a.m. SU 12:00 p.m. Grand Junction KJCT (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. SU 7:30 a.m. WWIP ((W+) M s 00.8 II2 CT Hartford SU 1:30 p.m. Washington WDCW (FOX) SU 9:00 a.m. MO 2:00 a.m. SU 3:00 p.m. DE Salisbury WMDT (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. WBFS-TV 33 SU 6:30 a.m. Ft. Lauderdale WCJB (ABC) SU 6:00 a.m. Gainesville WCJB (CW) SU 8:00 a.m. Gainesville Jacksonville WCWJ (CW) SU 6:30 a.m. Miami WBFS-TV 33 SU 6:30 a.m. Orlando WACX-TV 55 SU 10:00 p.m. Panama City WMRR (CW+ SII 7:00 a m Tallahassee WMBB (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Tampa Bay WTOG (CW) SU 8:00 a.m. Albany WALB (CW) SU 8:00 a.m. GA WALR (ARC) Albany SU 11:00 a.m. WATL-TV 36 SU 10:00 a.m. Atlanta WJBF (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Augusta WLTZ (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Columbus Macon WMAZ (CW+ SU 8:00 a.m. Savannah WSAV (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Thomasville WMBB (CW+) m s 00.8 II2 SU 7:00 a.m. **Ottumwa** KYOU (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Sioux City NTIV (CW+) KBOI/KYUU (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. ID Roise Idaho Falls SU 7:00 a.m. KIFI (CW+) KMVT (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Twin Falls Chicago WJYS-TV 62 SU 8:00 a.m. Chicago SWAAG SU 8:30 a m WEEK (CW+) SU 7:00 a m Peoria WGFM (CW+) SIJ 7:00 a m Quincy SU 7:00 a.m. Rockford WSLN (CW+) Evansville WTVW (CW) SU 7:30 a.m. Fort Wayne WISE (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. SU 7:30 a.m. Fort Wayne WPTA-TV 21 WLFI (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Lafavette Terre Haute WTWO (CW+) SU 8:00 a.m. Kansas City KCWE-TV 29 (CW) SU 7:30 a.m. Toneka KTKA (CW+/Rewind) SIJ 7:00 a m SU 7:30 a.m. Topeka KCWF-TV 29 (CW) KFJX (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Pittsburg Troy KNPG (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. **Bowling Green** WPKO (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. WTVQ (ABC) Lexington SU 7:00 a.m. WBNA-TV 21 SU 9:30 a.m. Louisville Paducah WDKA-TV 49 SU 11:00 a.m. Alexandria KALB (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Lafayette KLFY (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Lake Charles KPIC (CW+) SU 7:00 a m Monroe KMCT-TV 39 SU 6:00 a.m. Monroe KARD (CW+) SU 7:00 a.m. Shreveport KSHV-TV 45

SU 10:00 a.m. PA Erie TomorrowsWorld.org/telecasts



**Electronic Service Requested** 



#### UPCOMING TELECASTS

#### What Is the Day of Atonement?

Jesus and His disciples observed this fascinating biblical Festival, and Scripture reveals that it still has vital meaning for Christians today! What can the Day of Atonement teach us?

August 21–27

## You Don't Know What You Don't Know

Those who are deceived don't know they are deceived, so how can you be sure you know the truth about Christ's message? Discover the true Gospel, hidden in plain sight.

August 28-September 3

#### Will A.I. Save Us or Destroy Us?

A vast and addictive world of knowledge is at our fingertips as never before—raising questions about humanity's future. Where is our world headed, and what can we do to prepare? September 4–10

#### What Is the Feast of Tabernacles?

An ancient Festival reveals the glorious destiny God has planned for the world—the destiny He will bring about in the years ahead! What can we learn from God's Feast of Tabernacles?

September II-I7

Schedule subject to change

## TOMORPOW'S

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Find your local station on page 31 of this magazine.

