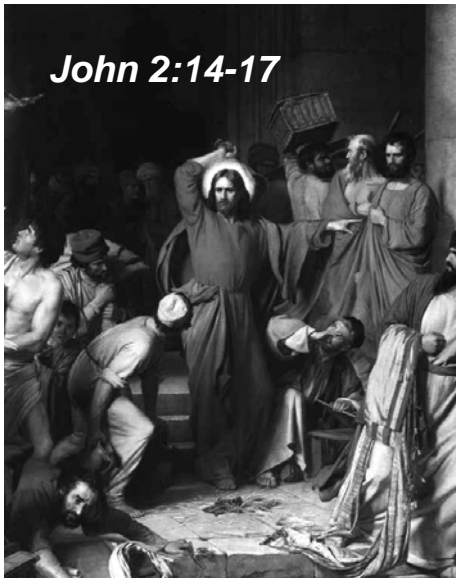


Dear Friends,

On a recent trip to Boston, we stood in front of the famous Old North Church. It was from its steeple that Paul Revere received the warning that the British regulars were on the move toward Concord and thus the Revolutionary War was about to begin. It surprised and pained us to notice that this dear old church is of the same denomination that has just elected an openly homosexual man to its senior leadership. I'll suggest that this too is a sign that the enemy is on the move and it is time for another revolution – a spiritual revolution! It's time for the church to 'get the lead out' so to speak – not lead gunshot as was stored in Concord but that which can proverbially weigh down our 'britches' – that which keeps us just sitting in the pews rather than making a real difference in the world around us. It's time to declare a revolution – to clean house – and to take the battle back to the enemy where it belongs. When our Lord returns, let Him find us engaged in serious battle, the weapons of which are spiritual. Over the top!!
John and Darlene



John 2:14-17

And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables. And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!" Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up."

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The goal of HM is to encourage our readers to "Set your minds on things above..." and thereby to be the greater and more effective witness to Christ. Our news items are not meant to scoop anyone or to simply "tickle the ear" but rather to show potentially meaningful prophetic trends. Articles may be shared freely and reproduced but only in their entirety. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. God bless you!

WOUNDED HEALERS

Is there some struggle with which you've played a game of tug 'o war for far too long? Maybe it's a wavering belief in the truth that Christ's resurrection has filled you with power to do ministry even greater than He did. Or perhaps it's a see-saw trust in His unconditional acceptance of you. It could be the occasional day when you feel rejected—as if you will never be enough.

No matter what your struggle is, there is hope.

God expresses His gracious nature in that He does not discard us simply because we haven't overcome every obstacle of faith. In fact, Isaiah 53 tells us that even Jesus made Himself weak. Although He was both God and man, Jesus humbled Himself—limiting His divine ability to transcend pain and struggle—so that He could identify with our frustration and suffering.

Verses 3-4 say that "He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face. He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely our griefs He Himself bore, and our sorrows He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."

Jesus was so passionate to woo us to the Father that He willingly accepted wounds. He incurred broken friendships, so He knew what it felt like to grieve. As He walked down dusty paths, men would not meet His gaze; thus, He understood feelings of rejection.

Yet His pain was absolutely necessary. Had Jesus not suffered for our sakes, we would not have had the opportunity to know the Father. To know real love. To know true forgiveness.

Jesus was never meant to overcome His struggle. His Father sent Him into the world for the purpose of being a wounded healer. And sometimes, our loving,

sovereign Father has similar purposes for us.

The indwelling Holy Spirit empowers us to overcome every hardship. However, certain hardships linger, no matter how much Scripture we use to renew our minds, no matter how much we ask the Lord to remove the struggle from us, and no matter how much we turn from sinful patterns.

Why would a merciful God ask us to live with struggles? Often, God can use us more *because* of our battles than *in spite* of them.

Ultimately, we were created in the image of God for one purpose: to give Him glory. Psalm 86:9 says, "All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and they shall glorify Your name."

Therefore, if you've prayed about a particular weakness and sense that God is allowing it to remain, take heart. He can turn bereavement into brilliance as you continually surrender your life according to His plans.

God is more interested in redeeming our struggles than He is in removing them. Then, He gives us opportunities to minister His comfort to others. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

Jesus, the ultimate Servant, made His Father smile . . . because He embraced hardship so that we would know God's love. "But the Lord was pleased to crush Him, putting Him to grief," writes Isaiah, "If He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His offspring, He will prolong His days, and the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand" (v. 10).

Instead of waiting for a momentous breakthrough to alleviate your struggle, ask the Lord for grace to persevere. Your spiritual limp will render everlasting fruit—revealing God's beautiful love to someone else.

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Re-reminded

Nothing, absolutely nothing is impossible with God. There was a dead child, a dead marriage, a dead husband and a dead testimony. Could anything be more desperate? She had been a temptress and he a retched leech. The consequences of their sin went on to reek violation and violence for years and nearly destroyed the kingdom. But though it is easy to use David's affair with Bathsheba to exhort upon sin, we will instead take a look at a sometimes overlooked aspect of it – the 're-ability' of our God. By this, I mean the power to re-deem, reconcile, re-store, re-establish, re-appear and re-ward. And I'll rehearse this tragedy as well as two other stories from scripture to make my point.

First, we jump back in time to find a miserable, scared, no, freaked-out young man cowering in a dark pit screaming vainly for help. To his brothers, Joseph was a jerk. They were uncontrollably jealous of his cozy, highly preferential relationship with Jacob, their dad. You know the story – they first thought to kill him but then sold him into slavery. Afterward, with hearts of stone, they convinced their pop that Joe was laid-out by a lion, torn to shreds. Now, either they hated their father as much as they did Joseph or they had no idea how this news would devastate him. It did. The deception bought far more suffering to Jacob than servitude did to Joseph. Later, Judah would confess that any more bad news like this would simply kill his dad.

A 'dead' son, a treacherous and wayward brood of children, then came a terrible famine – with not even a wife to console him. Could things get worse for Jacob? Yes. You remember – he seemingly lost another son to the dungeons of Egypt and feared even greater retribution from Pharaoh's ruthless governor for the apparent theft of grain. Considering that he could also very well lose his youngest boy Benjamin to this angry ruler and scanning the horizon of his life, he cried, "All these things are against me!" Indeed, it was a sad re-port.

Now, let's consider King David. You recall how he ceased from fighting with his army and was found wandering idly on his lofty rooftop. There he espied an attractive lady bathing in clear view. Bathsheba, we understand from the grammar used in the story was not an unwilling woman. However, as we have already mentioned, the end result was a litany of destroyed lives. David took his faithful servant Uriah's wife and had him murdered. Consequently, God took the resultant baby home to paradise. Could it get any worse for David? Yes. Although He forgave David, the Lord sent a judgment upon his household. The king experienced the incestuous rape of his own daughter, the murder of his son Amnon, the treachery and death of his son Absalom, the utter animosity of his dearest counselor Ahithophel, the rape of his concubines before all Israel and civil war.

Next, flash-forward to the scene of a stoning. Here, an angelic disciple died honorably while an angry obsessed man looked on, kicking against the 'pricks' of conviction in

his own heart. This latter man, Saul continued with a crazed persecution of every Christian he could find, searching them out and imprisoning them. His misguided zealotry destroyed the lives of many, many people all whose crimes consisted only of loving Jesus Christ. Then, he was graciously and miraculously converted to the faith he attempted to crush.

It was natural for him to think he was the perfect man to reach his countrymen with the gospel; after all, he had been the disciple of Gamaliel, a Pharisee of Pharisees, a well-known part of the religious club of his day. But likely for this very reason, he was all the more bitterly hated by the Jews as a traitor. They beat him, stoned him and plotted to kill him. The very people for whom he loved enough to sacrifice his own soul if it were possible wanted to damn his soul with hateful vengeance. Could it get any worse? Yes. Primarily incited by the Jews, Paul endured imprisonment, scourgings, starvation, the loss of friends, freedom, and loved ones.

Patriarchs in peril, a king in compromise, an apostle in persecution – all came to places of trying discouragement and defeat – or so it would seem. These weren't simply trivial inconveniences or minor setbacks. They were far beyond all human ability to deal with, to control or to change for the better. And that's exactly what God took advantage of – what He used. This is where He displayed with a grandeur that awes the saved His 're-ability'.

Contrary to Jacob's expectation, his beloved son was alive and contrary to the brothers fears, Joseph not only reconciled with them but saved them out of their distress. The 'angry

ruthless' governor was in fact an angel of mercy and God's instrument to redeem the young nation. It had been God's plan all along.

Bathsheba lost her baby but went on to have two other sons, both of whom were important to God's plan. Solomon became the next king, the wisest, wealthiest man to live on the planet, an author of two books of scripture and a part of the Messianic line. Nathan, his brother, was also a part of the Messianic line. You see, the legal or royal line flowed through Solomon and his descendants but was broken several generations later by the Lord's curse upon Jeconiah (Jer 22:28-30). Joseph, the adoptive dad of Jesus was from that line as recorded in Matt 1. The blood line so to speak, however, came through Mary who, wouldn't you know it, was a descendant of Bathsheba's boy Nathan as recorded in Luke 3. The Messianic line was ultimately restored or re-established through the very woman who participated in the sin that nearly destroyed it.

Paul was tenaciously set upon saving the Jews. In this he failed miserably, but in this he was also re-directed. The persecution God permitted in his life was a complementary force that propelled Paul to reach the Gentiles. As a result, the gentile nations were reconciled to God through Christ and even now await His re-appearing and reward. Again, all a part of God's divine plan.

God's re-ability is illustrated in these examples but is by no means constrained to them. Everyone of you has either been brought to times insufficiency or will be. It's there that your own abilities are revealed to be next-to-nil. You look around at what's

going down and find yourself going down along with it. Whether it's been done unto you or you've 'done unto' someone else – you may someday wonder what possible good could ever come from the mess you're in. You may even scoff at the scripture that says all things work together for good to them that believe. You may seem to have no hope, no light left in your torch, no grand purpose in life.

Re-consider just Who your God is. Re-new your mind, your thoughts toward Him. Re-refrain from doubt and despair. Re-peat the first works of your faith. Re-trace the steps you walked with Christ when you walked in peaceful trust. These are your responses to Him – your 're-abilities' so to speak.

You may or may not witness the end of God's plan and how He finally brings the good He has promised to bring – at least in this life. Jacob and the boys, David and Bathsheba, Paul – they all saw part of the plan and were undoubtedly greatly encouraged by God's graciousness. But they didn't see the fullness of it in their lifetimes. That's why it's so important that you hold on and keep running the race. Heavenly mindedness includes a non-myopic view of the Lord's work. It often stretches beyond the horizon, even beyond the imagination. It's a marathon, not a sprint. But God is absolutely faithful and will indeed bring the good He has planned – the repentance, the reconciliation, the restoration, the revival, the resurrection, the reunion, the reward. As Twila Paris sang...

*Courier valiant, bearing the flame
Messenger noble, sent in His name
Faster and harder, run through the night
Desperate relay, carry the light
Carry the light*

*Runner
When the road is long
Feel like giving in
But you're hanging on
Oh, runner
When the race is won
You will run into His arms*

*Obstacle ancient, chilling the way
Enemy wakened, stoking the fray
Still be determined, fearless and true
Lift high the standard, carry it through
Carry it through*

*Mindful of many waiting to run
Destined to finish what you've begun
Millions before you cheering you on
Godspeed, dear runner
Carry it home
Carry it home*

*Runner
When the road is long
Feel like giving in
But you're hanging on
Oh, runner
When the race is won
You will run into His arms*

Gideon's in His Pockets

Honestly, I think you'll agree, most folks don't listen when advice is offered on child rearing. Until a child ends up in real trouble -- jail or on drugs or in some terrible situation, most parents innately think they have enough 'on the ball' so to speak to raise their children. But then there are the few or the frustrated who seek out an oracle. For them, there are so many advisors publishing books, leading seminars and voicing opinions on the topic that they are numb to the plethora of so-called sages – Christian and secular. So why should we throw our hat in the ring with even just a couple pages?

Because we passionately believe that all of us as Christians must fight for our children. The world wants them and sure enough Satan wants to destroy them. When you consider the inroads amoralists have made in shaping our society in the last couple of decades, it screams of parental lethargy in the spiritual sense. We simply wouldn't be where we are if, on the whole, Christian parents were as effective as they want to be.

So what makes us some wellspring of wisdom? Frankly, not much. And so, we humbly offer the following words as much from our blunders as our wonders. We are so grateful to God for having given us five children, two in heaven and three here on earth – all of whom we know are born again and have a sincere, motivating love for Christ. And so we hope the brief tidbits below will edify and encourage all of you who are parenting.

Your first ministry responsibility

Think of how much God gave to make you a part of His family. Whether pastor or evangelist or seams trice or mechanic, whether CEO or teacher or homemaker – your highest priority in ministry to people should be the flock under your own roof. I struggled with this a bit when we started having children – not that I didn't love them, but rather I was so intent on making ministry monuments (for myself really). After a few years of making some ghastly and grotesque ministerial 'meadow-muffins', I realized what I was missing – the whole point. If you cannot minister in devotion and love to the little ones God has placed in your care, you dare not feign ministry elsewhere.

Now, notice that I said "ministry to people" above. Do not go the opposite direction and make your family's care something idolatrous. Do not place anyone or anything before your God and your ministry to Him. Your 'vertical' ministry should always take priority over your 'horizontal' ministry.

The Source

Go to the source, the fountain head. There are so many good books on childrearing that they can 'crowd out' the "Author and Perfector" of what we really need to understand. Nothing substitutes for lots of direct dail-in with the Lord. When our kids were growing up, God blessed me with a hour and a quarter commute to work for six years or so and I found it to be extremely valuable as prayer time – lifting up my wife and kids day after day. I also find the quiet evening hours after every one has gone to bed as wonderful prayer time. What ever time works for you, embrace it and spend LOTS of time in it.

Believing

I cannot count how many times some well meaning person expressed 'concern' for one of my kids. They were frequently the 'clown of the class' or getting into some mischief. As you well know, each child is a unique personality and rather than trying to force-fit them into some religiously defined mold of character, we found it far more important to simply have faith for each of them, that they would know and follow their Lord. I'm convinced that fearfulness for the spiritual welfare of your child can be as problematic as trusting God is beneficial. Believe God for your children. And recall that true faith is accompanied by responsive works – loving, training, disciplining, guiding, and encouraging. Don't give in to expecting the worst from them. Continually surrender your fears to God and remember He loves them far more than you. Contrary to some people's expectation, all our kids are wonderfully saved, have indeed led numerous other people to faith in Christ and are engaged in serving the Lord. What greater joy can a parent have?!

Being real – bearing fruit after your kind

Our kids have gotten so many apologies from us for myriad failures throughout their lives. Admitting your foul-ups doesn't need to demean your godly parental authority. On the contrary, it's the people who are the most real and honest with us as adults who are the ones we love and appreciate all the more. The same is valid with our kids. Now, the flip side of that coin is that we never abdicated our role as parents. Being a real person

doesn't mean that your kids are right and you're wrong. It seems like every 'family-oriented' movie we've seen in last few years puts parents in the position as total losers, goof-balls that the kids need to set straight. That is terribly damaging to a child's perspective. Rebelliousness is being glorified in our media and its origin is very sinister.

Ultimately, your kids are going to model their parents to some degree. You bear fruit 'after your kind' as the KJV Bible says. To the degree your kids witness the reality of Christ in your life, they have the best opportunity to ultimately find it for themselves. If you're lukewarm, don't expect them to be 'on fire'. Clearly, there are exceptions to this but they are exceptions. Why else do you think the scripture says of the believer that, "his righteousness is unto his children's children."?

Protecting

I'm pretty slow-witted so it took me a few years to realize that if I allowed my kids to camp out in front of the TV, that the media producers would be more influential in forming their characters than anything/anyone else. We simply turned it off. I know that's extreme, but at the very least we should, as parents, be very careful of what we allow into our kids minds, especially when they are little. We must be discerning of what messages are being planted there – it's NOT just the violence or sex or cursing – it's the MESSAge that's equally if not more impacting.

Training

They'll probably be the first to tell you, yes, I force-fed my family the scripture. We had family Bible

studies for the entirety of their youth and sometimes it was not so much appreciated as endured. As quiet as I normally am, I can drone on forever when you put a Bible in my hand and a captive audience in front of me. Ha! In addition, we strongly encouraged the kids to adopt a daily meaningful devotional time – their 'quiet time'.

You know the Word instructs us to train up a child in the way he should go. Notice the emphasis on the positive in that. Everything about loving God and serving Him is indeed put in that light in scripture – oh, not that it's easy or without trial. But rather that as parents, it's important to portray the Christian life as God sees it, not as the world does. The world taunts that Christianity is a matter of do's and don'ts with emphasis on the latter. Exposing that perspective as bogus and demonstrating that your faith in Jesus is the most powerful, real and best part of your life is critical in training your child.

Loving discipline

It's a bunch of contemporary Laodecian malarkey that you should never spank your kids. Hogwash!! That is expressly contrary to scripture. So much media focus has of late been on abuse that we've been brainwashed into a Dr. Spock-based fearfulness. If you lovingly discipline your kids, including when necessary a reasonable spanking, they will love you all the more. I recommend that if you spank, don't use your hand. Use something else and let your hands always be for comforting and support. If you need to spank, never do it in public; never humiliate your child before others; always explain what and why. If you need to spank then spank until they've gotten the message and it's clear that rebellion is

released. Now, please hear me on this – don't ever spank in anger or to an extreme. Don't ever allow such punishment to truly hurt your child if you know what I mean. My grandfather was seemingly mercilessly whipped with a belt as a child and as a consequence would never discipline his own kids – it was left to grandma. You must be calm, loving and discerning in this. And this is key – after you are done, you should love on them big time. The point is to teach a lasting lesson, not to create alienation.

My youngest, Gabe, got in trouble one time and was sent up to his room to await a spanking. Generally, I would give a few swats across the bottom. Anticipating this, he found a couple of little green Gideon's Bibles and stuck them in his back pockets. Thinking he'd outwitted dad, he was fully prepared to 'fake-it' big time. However, to his chagrin, when I came in, not knowing what he'd done, I simply said, "OK, Gabe, you really blew it this time – drop 'em." (his pants, that is) At this, I thought I noticed a certain shock and chagrin. Ha! When he grew up, he laughingly confessed to this scheme – I never knew.

You know, this is exactly what we as believers seek to do as well in a spiritual sense. But, if God let us get away with putting Gideon's in our back pockets so to speak, we'd never learn the critical lessons of our Christian walk. Who the Lord loves, He corrects. (Pro 3:12)

God bless you as you raise your children to love God in these last days.

Berlusconi, who currently occupies the EU's rotating presidency. Berlusconi, who met Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom in Rome over the weekend, told Shalom that he wants to get as many Muslim states as possible actively involved in the peace process, sources in the foreign minister's office reported.

In its messages to the Muslim world, the EU is stressing that the roadmap peace plan is based on and similar to the Saudi Arabian plan, which the Arab League has approved. In addition, it is arguing, since some Arab states already have diplomatic ties with Israel, there is no logic in other Muslim states continuing to boycott it.

United States

Religious Divide Cited for US, European Political Differences

CNS News 7/16/03

The ideological clash between the United States and certain European countries over the war in Iraq and other foreign policy/cultural matters may have as much to do with a religious divide between those countries as anything else, experts in religion and public policy told CNSNews.com.

While faith-based organizations play a significant role in American politics, the experts said, similar organizations in Europe are far less influential. The political influence of American faith-based groups also appears connected to the importance individual Americans place on religion.

According to recent findings by the Pew Global Attitudes Project, sponsored by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, 59 percent of Americans identified religion as an important part of their lives. In contrast, 11 percent of the French, 14 percent of Russians and 33 percent of Britons said religion was important to them.

"Europe is decidedly a post-Christian society," said Dr. Richard Lessner, executive director of the Family Research Council's American Renewal

Project. "Faith is far less important in the daily lives of Europeans. Their institutions are not rooted in a particular faith point-of-view. They are thoroughly secular societies, with a very different national history from the national history of America."

"In [Europeans'] minds, the outward expression of religion in the public sphere is almost instantaneously worrisome," said Melissa Rogers, executive director of the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. In America, on the other hand, "it is viewed as more of a routine, as a basic right, because of one's humanity, to express religion. It doesn't carry any destabilizing connotations."

Rogers pointed to the recent efforts of the French government to ban the wearing of traditional Muslim headscarves at public schools. French President Jacques Chirac appeared to give his support to such a ban by declaring secularism as the bedrock of the French republic and claiming a need "to put limits on the public expression of one's own characteristics."

But Americans generally have an unlimited legal right to express their religion in public, Rogers said, adding that a ban on headscarves would not pass constitutional muster in the U.S.

While public officials in Europe rarely express their faith or belief in God, President George W. Bush identified Jesus Christ as his favorite political philosopher during the 2000 presidential primary campaign. Commerce Secretary Donald Evans, one of the president's closest friends, also told *USA Today* that Bush privately believes he was called by God to lead the United States through this current period of history.

U.S. Places Unprecedented Pressure on Syria

MENL 7/17/03

The United States is said to have placed unprecedented pressure on Syria since the end of the war in Iraq.

A report has asserted that U.S. pressure on the regime of President Bashar Assad is part of an effort by Washington for Damascus to disengage from Lebanon. The report said Syria has begun reducing its military presence in Lebanon and seeks to control the country through local proxies.

'Over the last two months Syria has come under unprecedented pressure from the United States to allow its satellite state to extend its authority to all of Lebanon and to begin reducing its military presence in the country with an eye toward an eventual withdrawal,' the report entitled, 'Can Syria Deregulate Lebanon?' read. 'At the same time, American diplomats are seeking to directly engage the Lebanese government and nudge it into pursuing an independent policy regarding the peace process and the war on terror.'

Science

New Chip Can Be Implanted in Humans

AP 7/18/03

MEXICO CITY -- Borrowing from technology for tracking pets, a U.S. company on Thursday launched Mexican sales of microchips that can be implanted under a person's skin and used to confirm health history and identity.

The microchips, already available in the United States, could tap into a growing industry surrounding Mexico's criminal concerns. Kidnappings, robberies and fraud are common here, and Mexicans are constantly looking for ways to protect themselves against crime.

The microchip, the size of a grain of rice, is implanted in the arm or hip. Hospital officials and security guards use a scanning device to download a serial number, which they then use to access blood type, name and other information on a computer.

In a two-hour presentation, Palm Beach, Fla.-based Applied Digital Solutions Inc. introduced reporters to the VeriChip and used a syringe-like device and local anesthetic to implant a sample in the right arm of employee Carlos Altamirano.

"It doesn't hurt at all," he said. "The whole process is just painless."

Antonio Aceves, the director of the Mexican company in charge of distributing the chip here, said that in the first year of sales, the company hoped to implant chips in 10,000 people and ensure that at least 70 percent of all hospitals had the technology to read the devices.

Company officials said they are working on developing similar technology that would use satellites to help find people who may have been kidnapped.

Heat Wave Kills Up to 3,000 in France

AP 8/14/03

PARIS - France's worst heat wave on record has killed as many as 3,000 people across the nation, the Health Ministry said Thursday, as the government faced accusations that it failed to respond to a major health crisis.

Deaths accelerated in the past week, with up to 180 people dying in one day in Paris due to the abnormally high temperatures that have smothered France and other parts of Europe, the ministry said. The August heat also has devastated livestock and fanned wildfires that have blackened tens of thousands of acres of territory.

It was the government's first official death toll estimate. After days of complaints about the slow government response, the government on Wednesday launched crisis management measures usually reserved for epidemics, terror attacks and catastrophes.

Cloning Yields Human-Rabbit Hybrid Embryo

Washington Post 8/14/03

Scientists in China have, for the first time, used cloning techniques to create hybrid embryos that contain a mix of DNA from both humans and rabbits, according to a report in a scientific journal that has reignited the smoldering ethics debate over cloning research.

More than 100 of the hybrids, made by fusing human skin cells with rabbit eggs, were allowed to develop in laboratory

dishes for several days before the scientists destroyed them to retrieve so-called embryonic stem cells from their interiors. Although scientists in Massachusetts had previously mixed human cells and cow eggs in a similar attempt to make hybrid embryos as a source of stem cells, those experiments were not successful.

Researchers said yesterday they were hopeful that the rabbit work would lead to a new and plentiful source of embryonic stem cells for research and, eventually, for medical use. But theologians and others decried the work as unethical.

Some wondered aloud what, exactly, such a creature would be if it were transferred to a womb to develop to term.

The vast majority of the DNA in the embryos is human, with a small percentage of genetic material -- called mitochondrial DNA -- contributed by the rabbit egg. No one knows if such an embryo could develop into a viable fetus, though some experiments with other species suggest it would not.

Arms race fear over new bomb

The Scotsman 8/14/03

US SCIENTISTS are working on a space-age weapon that experts fear could trigger a new arms race, it was claimed last night.

The gamma ray bomb blurs the line between conventional and nuclear explosives. It produces an enormous burst of energy from atoms without involving nuclear fission or fusion.

Just one gram of the explosive could store more energy than 50 kilograms of TNT.

A gamma bomb would produce little fall-out compared with a normal nuclear weapon, although undetonated particles could cause long-term health problems for anyone breathing them in.

Despite the fact that research is at an early stage and a practical weapon may not be built for many years, some experts are already worried.

Dr Andre Gsponer, the director of the Independent Scientific Research Institute in Geneva, believes countries without such weapons would not be able to fight ones that possessed them.

The result could be a arms race - or, worse, a decision to resort to nuclear weapons, he claims.

At present, the main obstacle is obtaining enough of the hafnium isomer, which is currently only produced in tiny amounts. But experts believe gram quantities of the element will exist within five years.

United Nations

U.N. group in 'showdown with religion'

Gathered homosexual leaders to sharpen 'rights' strategy worldwide
WND 8/8/03

Buoyed by growing political acceptance of homosexuals worldwide, a United Nations group promoting "gay" and lesbian rights met in New York to sharpen a multi-pronged strategy that includes a "showdown with religion."

The meeting was sponsored by the U.N. Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual Employees, known as UNGLOBE, a group officially recognized by the worldwide body in 1996.

At a forum Monday, attended briefly by U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan, panel members singled out Roman Catholics and evangelical Protestants as opponents, according to the New York-based Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute.

Speakers included U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., who urged Congress to withhold support for a free trade agreement with Muslim-majority Egypt because of its treatment of homosexuals.

Paula Eitelbrick, executive director of the San Francisco-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, or IGLHRC, announced a coming "showdown with religion" and vowed Pope John Paul II's "call to arms"

against homosexual marriage would be successfully combated.

Another panel member, Princeton University professor Anthony Appiah, wondered whether or not religion should be limited, as it poses a "challenge" to the homosexual agenda.

To thunderous applause, Svend Robinson, a member of the Canadian parliament, told the Catholic Church to "clean up your own house" before criticizing the morality of homosexuals.

Robinson criticized Roman Catholic Bishop Frederick Henry of Calgary, calling his actions in defense of traditional marriage "unbelievable."

The deputy mocked "born again" Christians, asking, "Did they have to come back again as themselves?"

IGLHRC, the international group, distributed fliers at the meeting that listed laws it wants changed, including "sodomy, age of consent and other 'sex-act' laws, laws on prostitution, laws penalizing those wearing clothing of the opposite sex and laws on obscenity and pornography."

The group also is lobbying against "denial of marriage to same sex partners, denial of marriage to transgendered people and laws on parenting and adoption."

Religion

Attorney General says church abuse scandal likely involved more than 1,000 victims

AP 7/23/03

BOSTON - Clergy members and others in the Boston Archdiocese probably sexually abused more than 1,000 people over a period of six decades, Massachusetts' attorney general said Wednesday, calling the scandal so massive it "borders on the unbelievable."

Reilly's report, the result of a grand jury investigation that explored whether church hierarchy should be charged criminally for turning a blind eye to allegations of abuse, said the archdiocese received complaints from 789 alleged victims in 45 cities and towns.

However, when other sources are considered, the attorney general said, the abuse likely affected more than 1,000 victims from 1940 until today.

One protester carried a sign that read, "They let children be raped. Their punishment: NOTHING."

Major Church in Australia Okays Homosexual Ordinations

CNSNews 7/17/03

Christian conservatives called Thursday "a sad day for Australia" after the country's third-largest church denomination became the first to openly allow practicing homosexuals to become ministers.

The Uniting Church in Australia (UCA), an amalgamation of the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches, voted at its national assembly in Melbourne on a subject the church has debated upon for almost 20 years.

During two days of at times impassioned debate, opponents among the 265 delegates warned that the issue could split the church.

UCA president Dean Drayton said in a statement the vote was significant in that "it clarified the situation in the church and sought to maintain the unity of the church, by acknowledging our diversity of understanding and interpretation."

He said he hoped the wider church would see the decision as one that showed "maturity."

Cleric Condemns Suicide Attacks

BBC 7/12/03

One of the world's most influential Islamic leaders has condemned all attacks by suicide bombers at an international conference for Islamic scholars. Grand Sheikh Mohammed Sayed Tantawi of the Al-Azhar mosque of Cairo - which is seen as the highest authority in Sunni Islam - said groups which carried out suicide bombings were the enemies of Islam.

Speaking at the conference in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur, Sheikh Tantawi said extremist Islamic groups had

appropriated Islam and its notion of jihad, or holy struggle, for their own ends.

He called on Muslim nations to open themselves to dialogue with the West saying Islamic nations should 'wholeheartedly open our arms to the people who want peace with us'.

Temple Mount reopens to non-Muslim visitors

Despite threats, Israeli police begin escorting Jews, Christians to explosive Jerusalem holy site

WND 7/23/03

Jews are once again visiting the holiest site in Judaism.

Israeli police have begun to allow non-Muslims, under police escort, to enter the Temple Mount grounds in the Old City of Jerusalem, despite threats of violence by Muslim leaders.

About two weeks ago, Interior Security Minister Tzachi Hanegbi announced Jews would soon be allowed on the Temple Mount, "even if no agreement is reached with the Waqf." The Waqf is the Muslim Religious Trust, a group of Islamic clerics appointed to administer the site by the Palestinian Authority's Yasser Arafat.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon reportedly expressed skepticism about the plan to renew Temple visitations by non-Muslims. In the fall of 2001, Sharon visited the site, an event some cite as the catalyst for the outbreak of the intifada, or uprising. The Temple Mount was subsequently closed to Jews and Christians.

According to Haaretz, police officers didn't wait for an agreement to be worked out with the Waqf. Instead, officers stationed at the Western Wall began, in the last few days, to escort groups of tourists on visits to the grounds of the mosques at the site. The commander of the police station at the Western Wall, Officer Yossi Ben Haim, even approached tourists in the Old City and lobbied them to join the organized

visit to the sensitive site, according to the Israeli newspaper.

The reaction to the Israeli announcement has been predictably strong.

Ahmed Abdel Rahman, a senior political adviser to Arafat, said: "This could be the trigger for the third intifada. How else can we interpret the stupidity of Israel's police minister ...?"

The Palestinian Authority mufti in Jerusalem, Ikrimah Sabri, warned a "bloodbath" would result from such an action.

Even Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak warned of "grave" results if Jews were simply allowed to pray on the Temple Mount.

But Israelis have far more to worry about with regard to the Temple Mount than the simple matter of visitations.

For decades, Muslims have contended, despite the historical and archaeological evidence, that there is no Jewish connection to the Temple Mount. They contend the Temple never existed on this site or anywhere else in what they call "Palestine."

When the Temple Mount was under Arab control, Jews were not even permitted to pray outside the Western Wall. But since the Israelis took over the Temple Mount, they have permitted the Muslims to administer the holiest site in Judaism.

During this period, the Waqf has presided over a little known, but nevertheless extensive, "renovation" program at the Temple Mount. A new mosque has been built under the southeast corner. Additional exits have been cut through the Temple Mount walls. All supervision of this extraordinary, unprecedented effort has been denied. The Muslims have ripped physical evidence of the Temple from the Mount and mixed it with debris and garbage in various dumps around Jerusalem, most notably the Kidron Valley.

Recently, Waqf agents began cleaning one of the giant cisterns under the

Temple Mount. These cisterns served as reservoirs for both the First and Second Temples. The plan is to fill these cisterns with water from Mecca's Zamzam Spring – instantly turning the Temple Mount into a genuine holy site for Muslim pilgrims with weight equal to the Great Mosque of Mecca.

This would be the ultimate Islamicization of the Temple Mount.

Meanwhile, recent surveys show the Muslim construction projects have left the southern wall of the Temple Mount near collapse.

Observers have dreaded what might happen if the southern wall actually did fail. Hundreds, if not thousands, of Muslim worshippers might be killed. If such a calamity occurred, it would most assuredly, in the current environment, be blamed not on the construction, but on Israel, they fear.

Arafat: 'Grave consequences' if Jews keep visiting Temple Mount

Ha'aretz 7/22/03

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat warned of "grave consequences" Tuesday if Israel continues to allow Jews to visit the Temple Mount.

Muslim guards at the Temple Mount tried Tuesday to stop groups of Jews from performing religious rituals there, Palestinian sources said.

Police then removed the Jews from the Temple Mount to prevent further contacts between them and the guards. Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas, on a visit to Egypt and Jordan before he embarks on his trip to Washington, called the Israeli act "provocative" during a press

conference with Arab League Secretary-General Amr Mussa in Cairo.

Mussa echoed the feeling and said he received a call from Arafat warning of the gravity of this step. He called the developments "very dangerous" and "an insult to Moslems everywhere."

The police have recently broadened the visits they coordinate to the Temple Mount and now sometimes allow religious Jews wearing religious skullcaps to enter the

plaza area, which the Waqf Muslim religious trust closed to non-Muslims after the riots following then-opposition leader Ariel Sharon's visit there in September 2000. Palestinians say the visit sparked the Al-Aqsa Intifada, named for the mosque on the mount.



The Temple Mount in Jerusalem

Rightist MKs threaten Temple Mount trips after police ban

Ha'aretz 7/30/03

Right-wing Knesset members threatened to organize visits to the Temple Mount on Wednesday after police

suspended visits by Jews and Christians to the holy site earlier in the day due to fear of Palestinian riots.

Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, said that by denying a Jewish link to the Temple Mount, Palestinians are being "both sad and offensive," and that such an attitude is contrary to the spirit of the road map. Foxman, who is in Israel, was supposed to go up to the Temple Mount on Wednesday but didn't do so after police suspended visits.

The police decision comes in response to Palestinian anger at a decision earlier this month to ease restrictions on Jewish prayers on the Temple Mount, which were suspended in September 2000 after the outbreak of violence that accompanied Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's controversial

visit to the site, which is holy to Jews and Muslims.

Islamists Butcher New Christian WND 7/30/03

After slaughtering a Muslim-turned-Christian, Islamic extremists have reportedly returned the man's body to his Palestinian family in four pieces.

According to a report from the Barnabas Fund, the newly converted man left his friends and family earlier this month bound for a mountainous region of the Palestinian Authority area. He reportedly took Christian material with him – videos, cassette tapes and a Bible. After approximately 10 days, the body of the man, who left behind a wife and two small children, was returned to his home, having been cut into four pieces. The family believes the act was meant a warning to other Muslims who might consider becoming Christians.

The Barnabas Fund is withholding further details about the story due to concern for the safety of the family.

The organization records incidents of Christian persecution in the Holy Land and elsewhere, and works for changes in the way Islam is taught. Under Muslim sharia law, any male who leaves Islam faces the death penalty.

Police preparing to open Temple Mount to Jews next week Ha' aretz 8/11/03

Jerusalem police are preparing for renewed visits of Jews to the Temple Mount next week, following Public Security Minister Tzachi Hanegbi's statement Monday that the Temple Mount would open "to Jews, tourists and non-Muslim pilgrims next week, even if there is no agreement with the waqf."

Habegbi's statement prompted an angry response from the waqf. Adnan Al Hussein, manager of the waqf, said the minister's statement was "an unnecessary provocation." He denied there was any agreement between the waqf and the police about allowing "Christian or Jewish" tourists onto the plaza. He said "the waqf is the only authority on the mount and it will

ultimately decide who can enter and who can leave."

However, Deputy Defense Minister Yaakov Edri told Israel Radio on Tuesday that the waqf is almost certain to agree to Jews entering the Temple Mount, on Tuesday. He said that Israel has been negotiating for a long time with the Muslim religious trust.

Christian Group Blasts 'Orgy of Depravity' at Disney's Gay Days CNS 8/8/03

A Christian group this week launched a campaign against the annual Gay Days at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., releasing a videotape documenting what it calls an "orgy of depravity." The videotape depicts homosexuals kissing and fondling each other and engaging in public, simulated sex acts and alleged drug use at Disney theme parks.

Every June since 1991, homosexuals numbering up to 100,000 have descended upon Walt Disney World for the Gay Days event, which is not sponsored by the Walt Disney Company but is organized with the entertainment giant's tacit approval, according to the Christian Action Network (CAN).

"I want to point out that this event is not called 'Gay Days in Orlando,' it's called 'Gay Days at Walt Disney World,'" CAN President Martin Mawyer said.

"And as such, we believe Disney is responsible for all the activity that takes place under the umbrella of this event, whether it takes place on Disney property or off Disney property. But as you can see, there is plenty of offensive homosexual activity taking place within the Disney theme parks that would shock most parents and their small children."

The videotape released by the CAN Tuesday includes video shot by Mawyer and other CAN employees at the Disney parks two months ago, as well as footage posted on the website for the event, gayday.com. It shows multiple acts of alleged public lewdness and contains extensive and explicit . While

these activities were being taped, the Disney theme parks remained open to the general public, including children, Mawyer said.

"It's absolutely impossible to describe the depth of depravity we saw," said Mawyer. "Not only did we see men kissing men, but these shirtless homosexuals were twisting the nipples of each other and fondling the butts and groins of their 'lovers.' And all this occurred right out in the open at a Disney theme park."

A spokeswoman for Walt Disney World responded by pointing out that Gay Days is an unofficial event.

"Disney does not sponsor Gay Days, it's simply a time of year when people come to Central Florida," said Rena Callahan, spokeswoman for the Disney corporation.

Mawyer disagreed, charging that Disney's refusal to remove its name from the event constitutes an implicit endorsement.

"The name Disney means something different today than it did 20 years ago," (a CAN representative explained.) "As long as Walt Disney owned the company and his family, they had a policy at Disneyland that this didn't happen. But when [Disney Chairman Michael] Eisner came in and Disneyland was sold to a different group, they changed the moral standard."

Disney once enforced strict policies against homosexual behavior, such as same-sex dancing, in its theme parks. The company was forced to change its policy in 1984, when an Orange County (California) Superior Court judge found that Disney had wrongfully discriminated against two homosexual men who were ejected from the company's Disneyland theme park in Anaheim for dancing together.

Archbishop Calls Anglican Church Summit on Gays

Reuters 8/9/03

LONDON - The leader of the world's 70 million Anglican Christians on Friday summoned senior clergy to an emergency summit in London to discuss the impact of

the appointment of a gay Episcopalian bishop in the United States.

Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams will send formal invitations next week to Primates, which include archbishops and leaders of the faith's 38 "provinces," to attend the meeting in mid-October, his office said in a statement.

On Tuesday, the U.S. convention named Gene Robinson, an openly gay priest, as bishop of New Hampshire. Leaders of other provinces, especially in developing countries, strongly opposed the decision, as did conservatives in the United States.

Archbishop of Nigeria Peter Akinola had threatened last month to withdraw his flock of 17 million -- the largest Anglican group outside England -- from the communion if gay priest Jeffrey John were named bishop of Reading in England.

John withdrew from consideration, postponing a confrontation on the issue, but the U.S. branch of the church made Robinson its first gay bishop just weeks later.

Episcopal Priest Will Not Submit to Church's Liberal Leadership

Agape Press 8/14/03

An Episcopal pastor who is taking a stand against his denomination's decision last week to confirm a homosexual bishop says the problem started many years ago. At its annual assembly last week, the leaders of the Episcopal Church USA confirmed the election of Gene Robinson - an open homosexual who has lived with his "partner" for 13 years -- as bishop of the Diocese of New Hampshire.

Critics of the decision by the Episcopal leaders say the American side of the Anglican Communion has turned its back on the clear teaching of the Bible regarding homosexuality as sinful. But Robinson has been quoted as saying he believes those who say homosexual sex violates scripture will "come to know that they are wrong, in this life or the next one."

Rev. Steven Randall pastors St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Catonsville, Maryland. On the 1st Sunday following gay Robinson's confirmation as bishop, Rev. Randall denounced the decision from

the pulpit and announced he would no longer obey his bishop. Randall says he expected the liberal leaders in his denomination to do what he considers an unrighteous act. "I was absolutely not shocked because I knew what was going to happen -- I was certain it was going to happen," he says. "And I'm very saddened and disappointed."

Randall did more than voice his opinion on Sunday -- he took a stand. "I can no longer personally, as a priest, submit to the doctrine and the discipline of the Episcopal Church," he says, "and that means I will not be able to allow myself to be under the direct authority not only of an ungodly church but really a bishop who has shown that he will not follow scriptures."

According to Randall, leaders in many denominations are turning their backs on God's Word and the truths found in it. "I really believe the evil one is out there blinding a lot of church leaders, and some have just totally sold out -- and there's just a lot of pressure by society around us and in the newspapers to conform," he says. "But I also believe that in a genuine desire to love people regardless of their lifestyle, sometimes people go over the line."

The pastor also said he will no longer direct his church to continue to fund the denomination. Randall's church congregation responded to his action with a rousing standing ovation. The priest says he expects the Episcopal denomination to continue to deteriorate.

Also, a Christian legislator says she is deeply disturbed by the news that Gene Robinson, the recently appointed homosexual Episcopal bishop, started a homosexual advocacy organization for young people even. During his confirmation process, it was noted that Robinson, who will lead the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire, is the founder of a Concord chapter of "Outright" -- a support group for "gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning" youth. Questions regarding Robinson's type of involvement with the

group delayed by one day the vote on his appointment.

Nancy Sheltra, a Republican legislator in neighboring Vermont, says the organization brings together minors who plan group get-togethers, and supplies them with "condoms and other devices" that are used in the homosexual lifestyle. According to the legislator, Outright Vermont promotes a lifestyle that is "very detrimental and dangerous to young people." And as for Robinson's involvement? "This man obviously has an agenda," Sheltra says, "and it's very obvious if he has helped start Outright, it's an agenda which is not an agenda that parents of young people are going to support."

Turkey asks U.S. to foil Israeli plans for Mount

Ha'aretz 8/15/03

ANKARA - Turkey on Thursday asked the United States to intervene urgently to halt Israel's plan to allow non-Muslims to visit and pray on the Temple Mount.

The request came after Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat appealed to the Turkish premier, saying that opening the Temple Mount to non-Muslims would rekindle violence in the Middle East.

In a message delivered to the U.S. embassy in Ankara, Turkey warned that visits by non-Muslims to the Temple Mount could negatively impact on its ability to implement its recent decision to accede to a U.S. request to send Turkish troops to Iraq. The government's decision must still be approved by the Turkish parliament.

"We do not need a religious struggle on the Temple Mount when we are facing an internal struggle in Turkey over sending troops to Iraq," a senior Turkish official said. "A religious eruption over this issue could cause anti-American demonstrations in Turkey, leading parliament to oppose assistance to the Americans."

11 Prophecies of the Last Days

Editor's Note: There are far more prophecies about the end times than these. Hopefully, this short guest-presentation will stir you to study more. By the way, it has been attested that the odds of predicting correctly 11 events/situations some 2500 years into the future is 1: 8X10e63 or one chance in 8 with 63 zeros behind it (i.e. impossible).

1. The Jewish people would be scattered worldwide; yet Israel would become a nation again after a long time and at a time the Bible calls the "latter days"-ref Isa 66:8; Mic 5:3; Ezek 38:8. Against what appeared to be impossible odds, this prophecy has been fulfilled. It happened as predicted on May 14, 1948 after about 2500 years.

Note: Israel was destroyed in approximately 721 B.C. and Judah about 135 years later. Since that time, approximately fourteen different peoples have possessed the land of Israel. Yet as the Bible said, the nation of Israel would be reborn.

The rebirth of Israel was a key sign, indicating we had entered a time period called the "latter days." It was the beginning of a countdown leading to the Tribulation and culminating with the Battle of Armageddon and the return of Jesus. Along with the fulfillment of this crucial event are over 360 prophecies that would all come together, so we might recognize that the Tribulation is very close at hand. Some of these are listed here.

Yet the ***Bible foretells*** that most people would not believe these things, despite the overwhelming evidence of

the signs from God's Word being fulfilled exactly as predicted. As people refused to believe the flood was coming in Noah's time, so people today willingly choose to disregard the signs of the times.

2. Israel shall be brought forth in one day, at once-ref Isa 66:8. Prophecy fulfilled-May 14, 1948.

Note: On Nov. 29, 1947, the General Assembly of the U.N. approved a resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. On the morning of May 14, 1948 (the last day of the British mandate), a meeting of the People's Council took place in Israel to decide on the name of the state and to finalize the declaration. At precisely 4 pm, the proclamation ceremony began at the Tel Aviv museum. The 979 Hebrew words of the Scroll of Independence were read. All stood, and the scroll was adopted. The notorious White Paper, issued by the British in 1930 restricting Jewish immigration, was declared null and void. Members of the People's Council signed the proclamation. David Ben-Gurion rapped his gavel, declaring, "The State of Israel is established. This meeting is ended." Israel was brought forth as a nation in one day, at once, exactly as predicted. At midnight, the British soldiers and high commissioner would leave. President Truman was swift in announcing U.S. recognition of Israel. The following morning, on May 15, Israel was under attack by the Egyptian, Syrian, Lebanese, Jordanian, and Iraqi forces.

3. Israel would be brought forth (or reborn) "out of the nations"-Ezek 38:8. Prophecy fulfilled-May 14, 1948.

Note: As previously stated, on Nov. 29, 1947, the General Assembly of the

"**United Nations**" approved a resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine. This prophecy was perfectly fulfilled. Consider, for centuries the land of Israel had been occupied by **many nations**. Israel was "brought forth **out of the nations**"—the children of Israel from many nations have been returning to their ancient homeland.

4. **Israel must regain the city of Jerusalem**-Joel 2:32; Isa 28:14; Ezek 22:19. This happened just as predicted in 1967.

Note: The Bible gives us two methods so we would **know** the time we are in. One is by Israel's rebirth. The other, by a precise line of events that would all come together at one time. Israel was reborn on May 14th, 1948. The Bible indicates that from Israel's rebirth a generation would not pass till all be fulfilled. We are not setting any date; however, it seems clear from Israel's rebirth and the signs of the times—that we are living in the generation in which the Rapture and Tribulation will come and catch most people by surprise. Are you ready?

5. **The Christian church at the time of the end would be lukewarm, neither cold nor hot for Jesus**. Prophecy fulfilled. Note: God will spew them out. Many ministers and people that call themselves a Christian will not be going to heaven. The Bible tells us—you have acquired wealth, but your true condition is wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked and you **don't know it**-Rev 3:14-22. This is today's church. Most preachers use little Scripture, but lots of worldly stories. Many sing a great deal, but put little emphasis on

repentance, obeying, serving, and fearing God, on the fruits of the Spirit, Bible prophecy, water baptism by immersion, and studying your Bible faithfully every day. Many are only entertainment centers that teach what their members want to hear. Some famous ministers and Bible schools think this is the best church age ever, yet the Bible clearly shows it is the worst and most deceived.

6. The Bible gives us over 50 descriptions about the people at the time of the end. These fit the people of today perfectly, but did not fit the people of fifty years ago. Here are some:

A. Some would depart from the faith and go into devil worship-1 Tim 4:1.

B. People would mock about the last days and not believe-2 Pe 3:3; Jude 18.

C. People would become lovers of themselves-2 Tim 3:1,2.

D. People would be disobeying their parents-2 Tim 3:1,2.

E. People would be grateful for nothing-2 Tim 3:1,2.

F. Homosexuality would increase-Lk 17:28,30; ref Gen 19:5; Ro 1:24,26,27.

G. People would be without self-control in sex-2 Tim 3:1,2,6; Rev 9:21, Lk 17:28,30; Jude 7. Is this not the great sex generation?

H. People would love pleasures more than God-2 Tim 3:1,2,4.

I. People would be taking drugs-Rev 9:21. The Greek word for *sorceries*, in Rev 9:21, means pharmaceuticals or drugs. God's Word is 100% right on every one. Note: Fifty years ago, many people seldom locked their doors at night. There was little or no profanity on

television, radio, or in the movies. One of the biggest problems in public school was gum chewing. Those days are long gone.

7. **There would be weapons that could destroy the world**-Mk 13:20; Rev 6:8; Rev 9:18; Zech 14:8,12.

Incredibly, this prophecy was written in the days of spears and arrows, yet today it is true.

Note: It is estimated that the combined nuclear arsenals of the USA and Russia (as of the year 2002) could kill every living thing on earth 6 times over.

8. **The Gospel must be published in all the world**-Mk 13:10. This seemingly impossible prophecy was written when there was no printing press, but today it is true.

Note: In this last generation, to our knowledge, the Gospel is being published (or is about to be published) in the primary language of every nation of the world or "among all nations." In addition, the Gospel is available by short-wave radio nearly everywhere in the world.

9. **In the "latter days" when Israel was once again a nation, there would be a great military power to the extreme north of Israel in the land of Magog (which is modern-day Russia)**-Ezek 38:2-4,8,15,16. Incredible.

Note: How could the Bible have foretold the location of this nation, facts about its military, and even the time period it would come to pass?

10. **There would be a nation to the far east of Israel, to the end of the earth. This nation would have an army of 200 million**. This is astounding. How could the Bible have told the location of a nation and given such a huge figure regarding the size of its army nearly 2000 years ago? China has boasted that they could field an army of this exact figure.

11. **There would be an economic alliance of the nations of the Old Roman Empire. It would have a military capability**. This is an exact description of the European Economic Community today (the EEC), which has already adopted the one-currency system for many of their member nations. It is written, IN THE DAYS OF THESE KINGS (these nations, which is now) SHALL THE GOD OF HEAVEN SET UP A KINGDOM-Dan 2:44. Provided by The Bible Desk (www.amazingbible.com)

Perhaps you don't know the Lord Jesus in a personal way. Maybe you've heard about Him or have even been raised in a godly household but you don't personally know Him intimately as Savior, Lord and Friend. When He died on that cross, He did it for you. He laid His life down – no one took it from Him. Then on the morning of the third day following, He rose alive again from the grave. He truly knows the darkness you face and your painful difficulty – and He cares deeply. To take His hand is to be led into eternal LIFE and to gain an awesome relationship with the one true God who desperately loves you. If you'd like to take that open hand, open your heart to Jesus Christ right now and pray - invite Him in, confess your sin, ask for God's forgiveness and you will begin a new life. He will come into your heart to save and heal and help - and eventually He'll welcome you into His home - heaven. Read Romans 3:23, 6:23, 10:9,10, Ephesians 2:8,9, Rev 3:20, and John 3:16.