

TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

WATCH

Vol. 20 No. 4

Fourth Quarter 2017

**LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE HAD A
BIT TOO MUCH TO THINK!**



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
THOUGHT POLICE

Don't speak out or question.

Closed minds STOP thought crimes!



THE BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU

1954



COMMENTARY

BEWARE YOUR THOUGHTS*They're Illegal Somewhere!**by Mark Armstrong*

YOU know what you're supposed to be thinking. And saying. The mass information environment in which we live lets us know every day what opinions and actions are kosher. Everything in government sponsored education and mainstream media has let us know exactly what is expected of us. We are to revere Global Warming dogma, or be dismissed as a "denier" who "rejects science," if not evolution. We are to respect homosexual "unions," and regard "gay" marriage with all the deference due a traditional family. We are expected to shame and ridicule anyone who dares to waver on any of these very basic tenets. We've been urged to "get in their face," even at the Thanksgiving table.

Thought control is impossible, you might say. It sounds like another of these bizarre science fiction plots where the human brain is controlled by some computer app, deleting or blocking inappropriate content and only allowing approved, politically correct thought and communication. Sounds ridiculous, implausible, and something that could only happen in a novel. On the other

hand, we often find we're given information designed to produce a particular reaction, or denied information that might produce a reaction the media considers socially unacceptable.

Who can deny that the most pervasive media have an agenda, and that information carried by the flagship media outlets drive every other paper, radio, television and internet outlet? If it's on the front page of the *NY Times*, the *Washington Post*, or *L. A. Times* you can bet it will lead the radio news-breaks, internet headlines and nightly news discussions. That's how it works, and the proof is bombarding us all.

Those publications have adopted obvious positions on a host of subjects that should require neutrality. But they've taken sides on what the public should know, and often bury or exclude facts that might produce reactions the paper would regard as detrimental in the molding of public opinion. It can be seen in numerous examples, such as Global Warming, the studies and scientists chosen for publication; the "gay" marriage/ "gay rights" coverage; the illegal immigration

debate; and, lest we forget the world in which we're living—the coverage of the 45th President of the United States.

Every day in the mainstream media represents President Trump's undoing. Between calling the president an "unhinged lunatic" with nuclear weapons, petty, mean, insulting, embarrassing, television panels of seven at a time attempt to one-up one another in their expression of dismay, outrage and anger.

While those who want an all-pervading authority to enforce political correctness at every level, some, particularly in media and government are lately ensnared in the very traps they've set for their ideological opponents. The politically correct crowd are finding that the "elite" have been in violation of a great many of the rules they've created for the rest of us. The big donors, the most powerful personalities and several of Hollywood's big moguls and stars are swept up in the righteous whirlwind they helped create! These are the "feminists," the ones who've promoted transgender as normalcy, gay marriage as an "equal right."

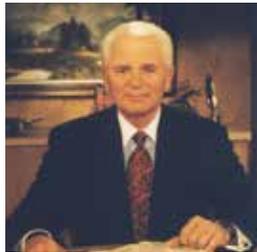
Continued on page 34

FEATURES

Commentary:
Beware Your Thoughts
Mark Armstrong



2



God Doesn't Need You
Garner Ted Armstrong

4

Fascism: A Grave Threat to Freedom
Dr. James Ricks

9



Control
Michael Armstrong

14

Photo credits:
Cover Art courtesy of Dan McCall/Liberty Maniacs
page 20–Cogiati/ Wikipedia
page 21–Sheila Fitzgerald/Shutterstock
page 22–Cantfightthetendies/Flickr
page 29 & 30–Greyboots40/Shutterstock
page 35–Alessio Pierdomenco/Shutterstock

Your Beliefs are No Longer Allowed
Taylor Lewis, American Thinker



18

Antifa Activists Say Violence Is Necessary
Katie Bo Williams, The Hill

20



Bible Study: Why Does a Good God Allow Evil?
Dr. James & Natalie Ricks

23



The Pope of Islam
Robert Spencer, Front Page Mag

27

The Last Domino Falls
Murray Allatt



29

GOD DOESN'T NEED YOU

Why is it that religion has begged, cajoled, and with quavering voice pleaded with sinners to accept Christ? Is God trying desperately to get everybody “saved” before it’s too late? Does God really NEED you so desperately, right now? Here’s what your Bible says...

by Garner Ted Armstrong

IS GOD FIGHTING THE DEVIL?

THE sum total of ALL evangelistic effort, or missionary work, of altar calls and religious endeavor seems predicated on a fervent race against time!

The Devil seems to be winning, if such a frantic struggle exists.

What about it? Have you ever wondered why it is the Devil seems to have ALL the special tools, the knack and know-how, the ingenuity and craft with which to trap his victims—while God seems to have none?

Think about it.

Society, with its bright lights, entertainment, and pleasures. The movies, TV, novels, records, dances, parties, cigarettes, liquor, sex, money, position, travel—all of this appeals naturally to the average human being. The Devil seems, according to this reasoning, to have just about all the advantages.

But, goes the faulty idea, God has virtually no weapons!

Against the natural desire

of the average human for the pleasures of the physical senses, the broken-hearted voice of “religion” seems to say, “No!” “Don’t!” “Give up!” “Go without!” “Abstain!”

Have you ever attended a “good old-fashioned revival,” or evangelistic campaign? Have you heard a hoarse-voiced, perspiring evangelist in broken, quavering tones, while the measured pulse of the choir softly chants “Just as I am,” plead emotionally: “Won’t you come? With every head bowed, with others praying for you, won’t you step out into that aisle and come down to the altar? Give your heart to the Lord right now, tonight!”

Does God, to you, seem to represent giving up everything that is “fun” and enjoyable—going without the real pleasures in life, while the Devil seems to have a corner on the market of delight?

Such ideas are utterly FALSE!

Believe it or not, there is no great struggle to get this world saved—now!

Jesus said, “Think not that I am come to send peace on Earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword” (Mat. 10:34). He explained, when His disciples asked Him why He spoke in the public in hidden meaning, in parables: “Because it is given unto you [His disciples] to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given...Therefore I speak to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand” (Mat. 13:10-13).

But WHY?

If Christ were desperately trying to plead with people to “get saved” and escape the wiles of the Devil—would He have deliberately hidden His meaning from them—obscured the very message of Salvation?

That’s what He said! That’s exactly what He did. Read it, in His own words, “And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, ‘By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand: and seeing ye shall see, and shall not per-

ceive: For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; Lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them” (Mat. 13:14-15).

Strange words, indeed, IF God were desperately trying to save this world.

But He is NOT trying to save it, now. Christ did not try to save it, then.

And, since God is NOT now trying frantically to save the world, just how badly does He really need you?

DOES CHRIST SUFFER FROM INFERIORITY?

Think about it. How has “Christ” been presented to you?

Usually, when you think of Christ, do you immediately think of death? Do you imagine a dead person, hanging on a cross? Or, like many, do you immediately imagine the manger scene—thinking of Christ as a sweet little baby, wrapped in “swaddling clothes” and being sheltered in His mother’s arms? Or perhaps you have a picture of “Christ” in your home—or in your Bible.

Look at the picture. See any power there? See any force? Any driv-

ing, magnetic, positive, masculine zeal and energy?

Or do you see, instead, a picture of weakness?

Ever seen artist’s portrayals of the Devil? If you have, you’ve noticed a “devilishly” handsome look. Dark, intense, alert, piercing eyes—strong, craggy masculine features; powerful jaw; jutting, strong nose; the very picture of force and energy.

Christ is pictured as having long hair, as looking almost feminine while the Devil is pictured as having short hair, if any. But take away the halo from the pictures of “Christ,” and remove the tail, pitchfork and horns from the “Devil” and look again!

Then read what your own Bi-

ble says about it. Notice! “Doth not even nature teach you [inspired by the Christ of the Bible], that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?” (I Cor. 11:14).

Read further! “He hath no form nor comeliness [not outstandingly “beautiful” or “handsome”]; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him” (Isa. 53:2).

Paul said, “For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda” (Heb. 7:14).

Juda means the house of Judah: the tribe of the Jewish people!

Remember also that Christ was betrayed with a kiss. And for the express purpose of buying

that all-important sign, pointing out to His accusers just WHO HE WAS, the Pharisees paid Judas a great deal of money!

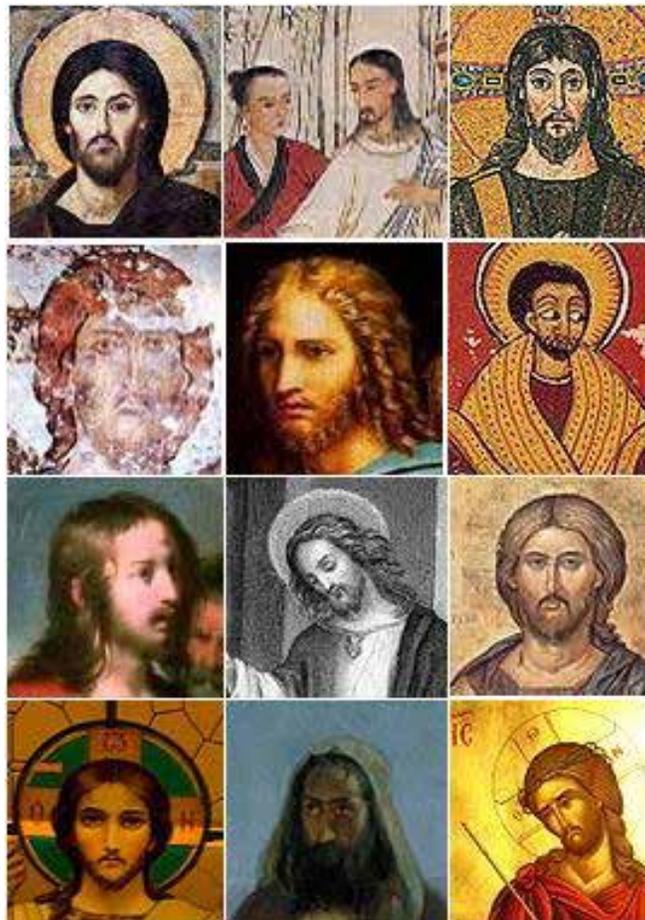
But why the bribe if Jesus was so outstandingly different He would have been easily singled out in any crowd?

Put it all together. Christ was a Jew. He wasn’t any different in appearance from any other Jewish man of His day. He didn’t have long hair, and He most certainly did NOT have an inferiority complex.

But what about the “Christ” you have always just taken for granted?

How have you thought about Him?

What have you



thought about religion? About altar calls? About “receiving Christ” and “salvation”?

Hasn’t it all been a little confusing to you?

No, the Christ of the Bible, the living Christ who is very much alive at this precise second, does not have a terrible inferiority complex. He is NOT suffering because He so desperately needs ALL people to believe “on” Him right now, or believe “in” what He did.

But this world IS suffering—and suffering because it will not believe what Jesus Christ said!

A DECEIVED WORLD

Without realizing it, you have probably been believing the exact opposite from what the Bible really says. Your Creator tells you this is a deceived world—that a great spirit being, Satan the Devil, has succeeded in blinding the vast majority.

“In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ...should shine unto them” (II Cor. 4:4). Satan the Devil is called, symbolically, a great dragon, “which deceiveth the whole world” (Rev. 12:9).

But how many really believe the plain word of God? How about you? Do you really believe this world—yes, all of it—has been deceived?

Do you believe YOU could have been? And remember, a deceived person does not know he’s deceived—he thinks he knows the truth!

Satan the Devil has turned this world to deception—has caused it to believe in lies. He is called the first liar, and the father of all lies (John 8:44).

So, today, the average person believes Christ came to destroy His Father’s laws, to free us from the law—to DIE to get us saved, and that He is trying, desperately, to save the world, TODAY.

And none of this is true!

Christ’s death did NOT destroy the law, did NOT, of itself, save us! And Christ is NOT trying to save the whole world, today!

Here’s the proof!

WHAT CHRIST DID ACCOMPLISH

Jesus said, “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am NOT come to destroy, but to fulfill” (Mat. 5:17).

He came to magnify the law of God, making it far more binding upon us, making it spiritually applicable.

He said, when asked the way to salvation and eternal life, “If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments” (Mat. 19:17). He came, keeping God’s commandments, to set us “an example; that ye should follow His steps” (I Pet. 2:21).

Christ came talking of the LOVE of God. But He didn’t leave us guessing about what kind of love is God’s love! Notice. “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not grievous” (I John 5:3).

John was inspired to write, “And hereby we do know that

we know Him [know Christ], if we keep His commandments” (I John 2:3). He went on to say, “He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (I John 2:4).

Paul was an instrument of Christ’s. Christ spoke through Paul (Gal. 2:20). Notice what Paul was inspired to say about whether the law was “done away.” “What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, ‘Thou shalt not covet’” (Rom. 7:7). Paul showed how the law pointed out what sin is, and said, “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom. 6:23).

Sin is the breaking of God’s law—His Ten Commandments (I John 3:4).

Paul said, “For we know that the law is spiritual” (Rom. 7:14). He said, “Wherefore the law is Holy, and the commandment Holy, and just, and good” (Rom. 7:12). He said, “I consent unto the law that it is good” (Rom. 7:16).

Do you still think Christ came to destroy His Father’s laws? Not if you believe and tremble before the sacred Word of God, you don’t!

DOES CHRIST’S DEATH SAVE US?

What about the broken-hearted appeals of religion today? Have you seen the signs on barns, billboards, and automobiles—

“Christ DIED to SAVE sinners”?

Probably, you have. But that is not in the Bible! Shocking as it may sound, the Bible nowhere says we are saved by the death of Christ. Now read carefully what the Bible does say.

Let's understand.

When we break God's laws, which were given us for our protection, our blessings, our good, we become sinners. And sin cuts one off from God!

The ONLY way we can ever be forgiven our sins, and be reconciled to God, against Whom we have sinned, is through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ,

“Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

Christ died to pay the penalty for sin!

And everyone has sinned (Rom. 3:23). Paul wrote, “For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly” (Rom. 5:6).

“But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).

But does the simple acknowledgment of Christ's death save us?

Can a person be truly saved, given an eternal inheritance, just by confessing he believes Christ did live once, and that He died?

Not according to the Holy word of your Creator!

“Much more then, being now justified by His blood” (Rom. 5:9).

Then the death of Christ, the

shedding of His life's blood, was required to JUSTIFY our guilty past! That means to forgive us our wrong-doings, our sins, our transgressions of God's spiritual and Holy law! It removes the barrier our sins had set up between us and God. It reconciles one to God—establishes a connection.

It always takes Christ's blood to forgive any sin, at any time, anywhere! But it takes more than Christ's death to save us.

Read it, in your own Bible. “Much more then, being now jus-

flesh to spirit, that is accomplished by His life!

Do you still believe Christ's death “saves” sinners? Not if you believe the Holy Word of God, you don't.

DID CHRIST TRY TO SAVE THE WORLD?

Obviously, if Christ tried to save the world then, He lost the battle. Still obviously, if Christ is trying to save the world now, He's fighting a losing battle.

But is Christ so weak?

Obviously, if Christ tried to save the world then, He lost the battle. Still obviously, if Christ is trying to save the world now, He's fighting a losing battle.

tified [having our past sins forgiven] by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him... For if, when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we SHALL be saved by His life.”

Yes, it takes a living High Priest, and a soon-returning King to really save us!

It takes the shed blood of Christ to forgive and atone for our sins, but it takes a living Christ to resurrect us, or to change our vile bodies into His glorious form (Phil. 3:21).

Forgiveness, reconciliation, justification come with Christ's blood. But final salvation, the gift of eternal life—being conducted into His Kingdom, changed from

Not at all. This just is not the only time of salvation.

The Devil is only allowed a certain span of time to work on human nature—to appeal to carnal vanity, and the lusts of human flesh. Satan is able to accomplish only what the great Creator allows!

God is the ruler. Christ is the soon-coming King of this earth! He WILL rule it, with a rod of iron (Rev. 2:26-27).

Christ came to deliver a message to His disciples (John 12:49), and to commission them to preach it to the world (Matt. 28:19-20).

He even predicted most people would NOT repent, and be converted.

“If the world hate you [He said

to His true followers], ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love his own: but because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you” (John 15:18-19).

does God really need you?

WHAT IS GOD DOING TODAY?

Obviously, He’s not conducting broken-hearted appeals—not struggling desperately to plead, whine, argue, beg or wheedle people into repentance. Jesus did

Gospel,” He said (Mark 1:15).

“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord” (Acts 3:19).

To those who WILL repent now, Christ offers a free salvation—a conversion now—and a responsible place with Him, in conducting the most vitally important work being accomplished on earth. And He offers more—He offers a change at Christ’s coming—from mortal to immortal, and a position of rulership with Him in His soon-coming RULE on this earth!

“To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in His throne” (Rev. 3:21).

“And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father” (Rev. 2:26, 27).

But He’s not begging. He’s not pleading. And He doesn’t really need you.

No, you NEED Him!

You need Him desperately, you need Him badly, you need Him urgently.

Christ doesn’t need to ask you—you need to ask Him! Christ doesn’t need to plead with you—you need to plead with Him to grant you real broken-hearted repentance—to fill you with His precious Holy Spirit!

He commands us to repent, before it’s too late. But He doesn’t have to beg. He doesn’t need to bargain.

He predicted, “I have given them thy word [He was praying to the Father] and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world” (John 17:14-15).

He said His true servants would be ridiculed, impugned, injured, even martyred for the truth they would preach (John 16:2; Mat. 24:9).

He warned His servants, “...beware of men; for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues; and you shall be brought before governors and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them and the Gentiles...and ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved” (Mat. 10:17-22).

Do you still think Christ had any illusions about saving the world, either then or now? Not if you tremble before the very word of that Christ, you don’t.

So, after all, just how badly

nothing of the kind—nor did Peter, Paul or other Apostles—nor is the living Christ, through His true ministers, today. He is NOT trying to save the world now.

But God is warning this world!

Jesus Christ gave His servants an awesome responsibility.

He commissioned them to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, as a warning, as a witness against them. (Mat. 24:14).

God thunders to us a stern warning about the future. He warns us where our frightful crime, divorce, lusts, hatreds, bigotries and violence are taking us.

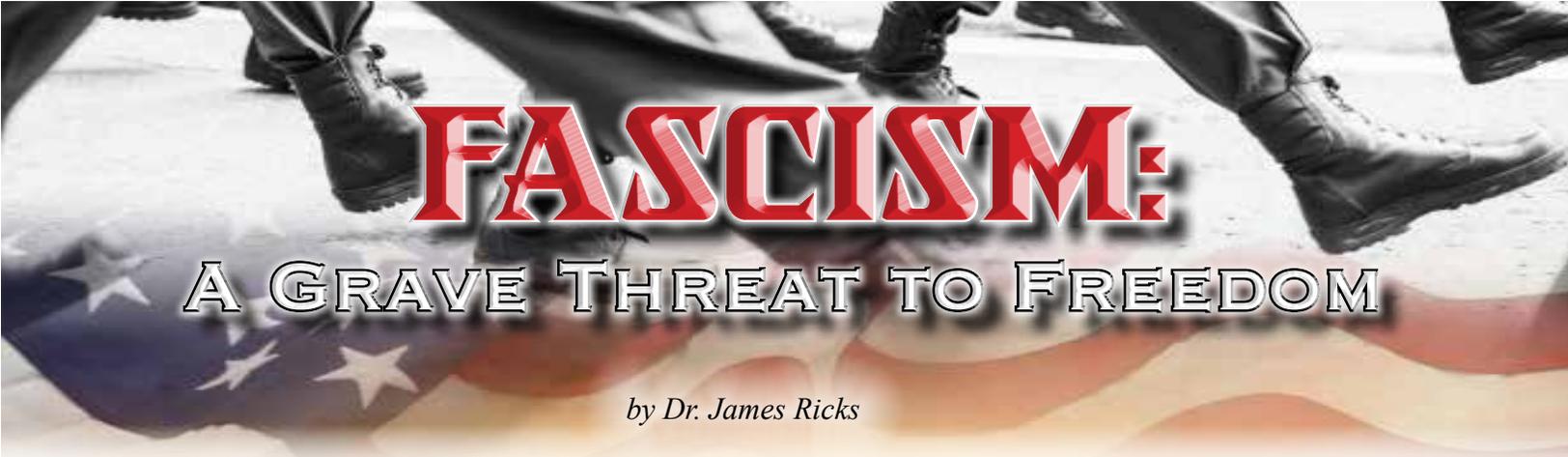
He commands us to repent, before it’s too late.

But He doesn’t have to beg. He doesn’t need to bargain.

Almighty God demands total surrender—absolute and unconditional!

“Repent, or ye shall all likewise perish,” said Jesus Christ (Luke 13:3, 5).

“Repent ye, and believe the



FASCISM:

A GRAVE THREAT TO FREEDOM

by Dr. James Ricks

TRUTH REVERSED TO CREATE THE BIGGEST LIE POSSIBLE

FOR years academia and the media have convinced people that the conservative movement is fascist. The truth is just the opposite. Fascism has common roots with modern day progressives. It can be seen that the tactics of modern progressives are similar to ones used by fascists. Many of their goals are similar as well.

Fascism uses violence to force itself upon the people who are too stupid to know what is good for them, or so the elites believe. Hitler wrote that the masses are more likely to believe a big lie than a little lie! Karl Marx, and other misguided scholars, had predicted that socialism would naturally be chosen by workers of the world and would take over western nations. But that has not happened.

There are those who are trying to make it happen. The modern left has their street thugs in black as well—"Antifa" which stands for "Anti Fascist." They claim to oppose fascism but they are fascist! They misname them-

selves to cloak their actual purpose and function, which is to intimidate their opposition. The future forms of socialist empires might choose new labels to further deceive but will be in truth some form of the old, discredited fascism.

FREEDOM WITHIN THE LAW IS WHAT GOD WANTS

God allows us to have free moral agency. Repressive large governments hinder individual freedom. The first such repressive government in human history was created by Nimrod in Babylon. A dictatorship that can suddenly swoop down and confiscate anything it wants is in violation of the commandment against stealing. Nations with freer markets are more prosperous, which shows the inviolability of God's Laws. The younger generations don't understand the tents of fascism.

Conservative Beliefs

- Strong belief in Individual rights
- Free speech prized
- Freedom of religion

- Small government
- Freedom of the press
- Right to bear arms
- Local control of education
- Lower taxes
- Pure Capitalism
- Private healthcare between patient and doctor

Socialist/Fascist Beliefs

- Statism—the state is more important than the individual or any nominal religion
- Big government controls everything from speech to thoughts
- Only Politically Correct speech is allowed
- Press must support the Leader and their socialist ideas
- Arm the government while disarming the people
- Higher taxes to support big government
- Nationalization of industry
- Government run healthcare

Communism was a more extreme form of Socialism in which one could have no private property, while fascism was less extreme and therefore, not as bad economically. However fascist

Continued next page

governments are large and try to centralize all decision making so the leader can have more control.

It is erroneous to consider conservatism as fascist or Nazi. Remember the name of the NAZI party is The National SOCIALIST Party. They were not God fearing conservatives or any kind of conservatives for that matter!

all powerful central government. Fascism is a form of Statism. The state is more important than the individual.

He also celebrated the use of violence. Mussolini was born in 1883 to a socialist father that named him for a famous Mexican socialist revolutionary. He was expelled from school twice

lence, he thought, “turned the wheels of history.”

WWI found Italy neutral. Mussolini believed that the violent upheaval of the Great War would advance the Socialist revolutionary cause. He supported entry into the war. The French government secretly paid him and others of influence to encourage Italy to enter the war on the side of the western allies.

His war position separated Mussolini from most of the other Socialists. Italy lost half a million men in the war and even though on the victors side, they were not given any territorial gains in the Versailles Treaty. This set off post war upheavals in Italy and led to unstable governments and street clashes of various parties.

They fed off having an enemy or bogey man to stir up the crowds. Many of their members were former storm troopers from WWI. Their motto was “I don’t give a ----”! They used the famous Roman salute, jutting out of the right arm and hailing their leader. Just as ancient Romans would say, “Hail Caesar,” so the fascists saluted their leader, “Il Duce” (the Boss). Mussolini’s name had to be written in all capitals.

Many European leaders would try to bring back the full power of the Holy Roman Empire. Mussolini and Hitler thought they had achieved it for a few short years.

Mussolini’s Fascist Party fought with the red shirt thugs of the Communist Party. The fascist street thugs wore black shirts.

Mussolini differed from other Socialists in that he openly supported direct violence to achieve political goals. Violence, he thought, “turned the wheels of history.”

THE BEGINNING OF FASCISM

Today people misunderstand the term Fascism. We might think of any dictatorship as an example of fascism. But fascism has some specific factors that are not found in all dictatorships or autocratic monarchies.

It began in 1919, as Mussolini started a powerful movement in Italy. He hated Democracy and championed order and a large,

for stabbing a classmate. He was a man of action. He wanted to be a socialist leader, one that could control everything (including the economy).

Mussolini was a charismatic speaker. He became a socialist leader and editor of several Socialist publications. He differed from other Socialists in that he openly supported direct violence to achieve political goals. Violence,



Protesters “fighting Fascism,” while espousing Fascist ideology.

The Fascist Party organized their own street thugs. He named the party after the term “Fascio,” an ancient Roman Empire military standard. Mussolini was symbolically bringing back to life the Holy Roman Empire.

This concept of the fourth and final beast of the Roman Empire has never left European thinking. Europe has always had a certain fascination and connection to the Holy Roman Empire. The current EU had its start as the Treaty of Rome. This Empire, dominant in the past, is still sort of around in loose form and will arise again as a great end-time empire.

Rev. 17:8, “The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.”

Fascism fused three elements together: Socialism, Nationalism and revolutionary fervor, spiced with heavy violence. It was more of a corporate type of socialism. They got people to betray others in a cold hardhearted drive to crush all opposition. The black shirts brutalized opposition parties.

In October 1922, they used

the bogey men of the Communist Party to stir up support. The Fascists claimed that Communists were about to take over Italy. In a preemptive strike, they would march and congregate into greater and greater numbers as they closed in on Rome. If the Fascists were not given power, they would take it.



Mussolini and Hitler. Oct. 25, 1936, an Axis was declared between Italy and Germany.

The king caved and allowed Mussolini to become Prime Minister. He slowly consolidated his power in stages, and in 1926, ended parliamentary elections. By 1929 he had gained absolute power. Intimidation in this evil world does work.

Mat. 24:10-12, “And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

“And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

“And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.”

One of the fascist’s critics accused them of “Totalitarianism.” Mussolini found the term to his liking, surprisingly. He wanted total power over the population. People could not simply allow his power, but must totally and enthusiastically support the Fascist regime—or else.

They used the media to deify the “Leader.” Media supported the “Leader” totally. The media propaganda machine worked hard to deify Mussolini as “Il Duce.” People, even children, were taught to spy on each other to find the non-believers. This is the beginning of the infamous, all seeing “Big Brother.” Youth were regimented into fascist organizations like Sons of the Wolf.

However Mussolini was not as totalitarian as Hitler and Stalin. Totalitarianism to Mussolini meant the state embodied in him took care of everything. He wanted total control but found himself forced to share some power with the King and the church.

He later signed a concordant

with the Catholic church giving them much control of education. Throughout his twenty years of power he killed few people compared to Hitler and Stalin. He even allowed people to leave the country including Jews.

GLOBAL RADICALS DESIRE AN ALL-POWERFUL SUPER STATE

What do many of the globalists desire? Do they want a world-spanning super state? Many of them that believe in

since it switched to capitalism.

The Bible supports voluntary charity—in which America leads—but not governmental socialistic confiscation.

Acts 5:3-4, “But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

“Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived

world’s problems, the failure and abuses of the past would need to be covered up. You would need a new paradigm disseminated to the public. You would also need to discredit your opposition.

What better way than to label Christian conservatives as fascists? Most people are so poorly educated regarding history they would not really know anything about the fascists except that they are the bad actors from WWII! This great deception is here and the worship of a big government “Leader” is coming in the near future.

II Thes. 2:3-11, “Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

“Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

“Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

“And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

“For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

“Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with

Fascism fused three elements together: Socialism, Nationalism and revolutionary fervor, spiced with heavy violence.

such a state are revolutionaries. They believe that the failure of all previous socialistic states was because the wrong people were in charge. They think that if they and their comrades were put in charge, earth would be a socialist utopia.

None of socialistic theory matches human nature, as history has so often revealed, but they still believe. For instance, the Pilgrims came to America and had, as an economic system, a commune. They all received the same rewards as a group. The colony was an economic failure until they realized the problem of the “free rider.”

People needed profits to motivate them. Once Governor Bradford switched to capitalism, the colony was a huge success. America has been a shining beacon of economic success ever

this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.”

One does not learn to love others when government forces you to give up your property for unproductive redistribution. One cannot redistribute what has not been produced. Socialism greatly reduces motivation for production, which causes lower production, which leads to poverty and suffering for all except the governing elites of a society. The Communist Empire demonstrated this beyond any doubt. Look at North Korea for examples of poverty and communism (total socialism).

THE GREAT DECEPTION OF THE WESTERN WORLD

If you were a Socialist or Progressive who believed the government could solve all the

all power and signs and lying wonders,

“And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

“And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:”

The media propaganda machines of Central Europe made demigods of Mussolini and Hitler. They could do even more nowadays, with better technology and a population that does not LOVE the truth.

PROPHECY POINTS TO THE LAST GREAT ROMAN EMPIRE

Europe will again find a charismatic leader. He will turn the weak EU into a powerful Holy Roman Empire again. The final Empire will come to this earth. Will America be strong, secure, free and safe? Will we have freedom of speech and thought?

Looking at the younger generation and our media, we should fear the future! Will we be the ones who can see through the smokescreen of lies and poor education and be called the wise by God?

Dan. 11:31-38, “And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate.

“And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be

strong, and do exploits.

“And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days.

“Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries.

“And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.

“And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

“Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

“But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god

whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.”

Note, this leader believes in the god of armed forces AND VIOLENCE just like Mussolini. The fascists love violence and force. They think violence is cleansing to mankind. Scary! This future king or dictator will probably be some future version of a fascist. Mussolini and Hitler were mere models of what is to come soon.

PARADISE AND TRUTH WILL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE RETURNING MESSIAH

Rev 21:3-4, “And there came to my ears a great voice out of the high seat, saying, See, the Tent of God is with men, and he will make his living-place with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God.

“And he will put an end to all their weeping; and there will be no more death, or sorrow, or crying, or pain; for the first things have come to an end.” □





Control

by Michael Armstrong

THE prophecies of the Bible yet unfulfilled mostly refer to events on a grand scale. A time of world trouble, the worst ever. Such sweeping statements as “no man might buy or sell” (Revelation 13:17) imply the exercise of power so great as to limit the contact individuals have with one another the world over. No authority of that magnitude exists today. Some use the fear of its coming to exercise total control of their own over the naive or uninitiated. We can see the results of this type of abuse, and they are not the fruits we have been instructed to cultivate.

We can also see in our increasingly connected and interdependent lifestyle the potential for the rapid enactment of a one-world system. But mankind has not yet completely ceded self-determination to centralized civil engineering. Bastions of freedom, democracy, and representative government still exist, but often men give away their sovereignty willingly and feel gratifyingly righteous about it.

Free will is God’s gift to man. If God had wanted robots, He could have made robots. He

made us in His image—we bear it both physically and mentally. If you understand God’s plan for us, you know that mankind is intellectually independent. We must learn to resist the tugs of our fleshy nature, repent of our transgressions, and with the help of the Holy Spirit endure temptation until the end of our lives.

We have the capacity for understanding, for observation, for innovation and, using the raw materials God has put at our disposal, even a limited type of creation. Medicine, mechanics, music... Man is unique among the creatures of the earth, yet subject to all the same necessities of the flesh.

The book of Hebrews quotes the 8th Psalm to explain the nature and current position of man, but goes on to show that we can become the brethren of Jesus Christ—literal members of the family of God.

“For unto angels hath He not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak.

“But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him?

“Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands:

“Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him.

“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

“For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

“For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren,

“Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

“And again, I will put my trust in him. And again, Behold I and the children which God hath

given me.

“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

“And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

“For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.

“Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

“For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted” (Hebrews 2:5-18).

Man was made in the image of God, but man was made flesh. Our physical necessities occupy a great deal of our time and interest.

Christ said, “...Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

“Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

“Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

“And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they

toil not, neither do they spin:

“And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

“Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

“Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Where-withal shall we be clothed?

Deviating from God’s expressed will in our own behaviors can take us out from under God’s protection.

“(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matthew 6:25-33).

In addition, He created us on earth, the very place to which rebellious angels have been bound. We are subject not only to our own weaknesses, but tempted and tested both physically and spiritually by outside sources. Deviating from God’s expressed will in our own behaviors can take us out from under God’s protection. Metaphorically, it exposes a gap in our armor, a weakness to be exploited if we do not constantly appeal to our Lord for mercy and cultivate the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common

to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it” (1 Corinthians 10:13). The gift of eternal life is freely given, but it will only be received by those with the character to handle such an awesome responsibility.

In all we do, whether defiant or obedient, we exercise our free

will. This small measure of control, though often buffeted, prodded, manipulated and outright misled, is ours. Its expression is life, it is who we are. “Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right” (Proverbs 20:11).

What, how, and why we do the things we do defines us. The actions and their accompanying motivation are the criteria for the coming judgment. Man is in a position of authority over the earth. God intends for that authority to be greatly extended and permanently established in those whom He will clothe with immortality.

So our lives are spent. Recorded history bears witness to our endeavors whether good, bad, or indifferent. This gift God has given us, to think and act, often showcases the worst and weakest parts of human nature.

The small measure of self-de-

termination we have been given is distorted, blown out of proportion by ego and misused against those similarly endowed. In this the wisdom of God is made manifest. No generation is without its examples of obedience and disobedience. As the parable of the talents makes clear, it is not how much we are given, or how little, but what we do with it.

Those who lived in the ancient world saw power concentrated in a way few of us can comprehend. Imagine living under the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, or Alexander. Christ and the apostles spent their entire lives under the power of the Roman Empire. These entities controlled most of the known world in their day.

Illustrating what was undoubtedly thought by most early Christians, Paul wrote, "For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep" (1 Thes-

salonians 4:15). They thought Christ would return during their lifetimes. Certainly many of the events to come must have appeared even closer than they do now. Take the abomination of desolation for instance. With the temple standing and Roman emperors already in the habit of claiming divinity it is easy to see how quickly that prophecy could have been fulfilled.

Today, these events may not seem so immediate. Indeed, much of Christianity pays no mind to prophecy at all. Many don't even believe in the literal return of Jesus Christ. They exercise their free will and turn a blind eye to the larger questions posed by life entirely. It is easy to be lulled to sleep by the daily grind of work, eat, sleep, etc. To think only of satisfying our immediate wants and needs.

Selfishness and the demands of ego can quickly become our main motivators. Greed and lust or sloth and ease can as well if

we do not carefully and diligently guard our minds. Should we succumb to complacency, then this record of life that each of us is creating will be filled with nothing more than frivolous vanity. Is that the kind of character that God wants to make immortal?

As Solomon said, "God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions" (Ecclesiastes 7:29). Fear can cause us to hide our talents, and so we oppress ourselves, squandering both our gift and our opportunity. It can also cause us to give up our self-determination, to willingly subject ourselves to the rule of another. Safety and security sometimes come at a price. A lack of necessities such as food or water could quickly cause you to surrender sovereignty. In times of war or unrest desperate allegiances can have unintended consequences.

The modern era has showcased man's attempts to balance self-determination with centralized control. How well is it working? In throwing off monarchy and empire, societies have been set up that more closely resemble what God outlined for man. The seed of Abraham, both physical and spiritual, largely prospered on this account.

The divine concept of liberty in law, when coupled with deeply moral personal convictions, produces and has produced a fountain of blessings that profits the entire world. Naturally the bulk of this prosperity settles closest to home.

Then, just as the first generation to be born in the promised



land, those born after begin to take these blessings for granted. They did not believe the report of their fathers, breaking the fifth commandment, and sought the gods of their neighbors, breaking many more. The results are automatic: Poverty, calamity, persecution. These are the effects of breaking the natural law, the laws of nature and nature's God. These are the laws to which men must look to direct their way.

After creating man, God gave him a job. "And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it" (Genesis 2:15). Have you ever done any gardening? It is work! Tiring, time consuming work. Adam was to maintain and beautify what he was given. In doing so he was blessed and provided for. He was not micromanaged. He was given responsibility and autonomy.

When he listened to his wife repeat the lies of the evil one, he was not prevented from partaking of her sin. Consequently he bore the penalty and was driven out of the garden. Their transgression had physical consequences. Adam and Eve's lives were significantly harder outside of the garden.

This freedom of decision we have been given is at once a great blessing and an ever-present stumbling block. We can eschew evil and reap the reward or indulge ego and suffer accordingly. God has given us the choice. In whatever measure we cower before this responsibility we will suffer.

When the children of Israel rejected the system of government God had given them, they

asked for a king. They eagerly gave some of their sovereignty to a fallible man. The result? Read 1 Samuel 8. How different are the requests we make of government?

People are constantly asking for more laws, new regulations, more benefits, free health care, free college, and so on. Those who empower these systems end up being the ones who suffer the most when they get out of hand. The maxim "might makes right" is adhered to most often. Men become drunk on controlling their brethren and evil is the typical result.

This is what we can expect to find at the end of the age. Mankind will pledge its allegiance to a system so vile that it will literally fight against Jesus Christ on His return. We may not know the day or the hour of His return but we know something about the nature of this system: its coming will be deceitful and insidious. What will you allow to control you? Do you have the courage to be firm in your convictions? Would you cling to the truth, even when faced with death, like Daniel or Stephen or our Lord Jesus Christ?

When this system begins to assert itself, when men are coerced, pressured and pushed into allegiance with it, it will not be easy to resist. How many people are self-sufficient in such staples as food, water or shelter? How long could most last without buying or selling?

This is not a call to get off the grid and start prepping. Relatively few generations ago, the majority of humanity was in the habit of providing for themselves. They

grew their own crops, raised their own animals, and even made their own clothing. Now the average individual is almost entirely dependent on commerce. The implications of a single power controlling all of it are enormous. Many will feel like they have no choice but to comply.

"If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God" (Revelation 14:9-10). And those who refuse to receive the mark? This system will not be tolerant of dissent.

"And I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshiped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years" (Revelation 20:4).

Notice that last part, "reigned with Christ." Those who demonstrate the character necessary to control their own flesh will be given authority. They will have proven themselves equal to the task at hand. They will have passed the test.

This is our goal, to be in the kingdom of God, to be part of the family of God and to exercise the character of God. It is the ultimate reward. Should we prove weak or unwilling, we will lose control of even this temporary flesh we have been given. God is truly in authority, He set the plan in motion and He will bring about its conclusion. □



Your beliefs are NO LONGER ALLOWED

by Taylor Lewis, with permission by American Thinker

AERICAN progressives have finally gone all the way to a totalitarian vision, demanding control over not just your behavior, but your thoughts and beliefs. This is the price of simply living without being attacked.

And hats off to Erick Erickson for naming it first. The former *RedState* honcho and Nev-

pronoun wordplay—they are increasingly unwilling to brook resistance.

Do you believe in traditional marriage but don't care that gays marry? Think it's OK teenagers take hormonal injections to swap genders but it's not right for your kids? Don't really give a hoot about someone who identifies as "xe"?

Ford, who is prone to pique-filled tantrums, is the site's LGBTQ editor. His beat consists of sniffing out any hint of pro-heterosexual bias and lambasting it as bigoted, backwards, and tyrannical. He's a proud atheist who doesn't hesitate to cite science when it's convenient. But, nota bene, he believes men menstruate and become pregnant.

In response to an essay by Bethany Mandel in *The Federalist*, Ford had a bigger meltdown than Sex in the City fans when Mr. Big dumped Carrie at the altar. In her piece, Mandel admitted to once being a supporter of gay marriage, but the liberals' Torquemada-inspired campaign for transgenderism inclusion among children has changed her mind. Feeling hoodwinked, Mandel pointedly wrote, "The Left has shown the totalitarian manner in which it exacts support, or at least silence, from everyday Americans."

Ford wasn't having any of it, no siree. Even though Mandel was an "ally" during the fight for

"The Left has shown the totalitarian manner in which it exacts support, or at least silence, from everyday Americans."

er-Trumper called it right, and no, I'm not talking about his near-demonic hatred of President Trump.

Last year, Erickson released a book with a title he popularized: *You Will Be Made to Care: The War on Faith, Family, and Your Freedom to Believe*. The book is a summation of an argument Erickson has long made. As the sexual left makes progress on its biggest projects—same-sex marriage, transgenderism acceptance,

Well, too bad, sucker. The new dispensation doesn't care for your waffling. Going forward, your private beliefs must align with your public stance. No exceptions made or allowed.

In short: You will be made to care.

Erickson's warning was just vindicated in a tweetstorm by Zack Ford, the flamboyant correspondent for the liberal blog *ThinkProgress*.

same-sex marriage, her opinion that grates upon the “Approved Position” on transgenderism is hereby invalid. “What [Mandel] argues that [sic] she should be ALLOWED to believe what she believes, even though those odious beliefs harm others,” Ford tweeted. “Indeed,” our hysterical scribe continued, “she is a quintessential example of claiming free speech to justify her bigotry.”

Then came the kicker: “You’ll be ‘made to care,’ because intolerance harms people and is unjustified and the rest of us want the world to be a better place.”

Ford tweeted this outburst without a hint of self-awareness or irony. Yes, Mandel also cited the famed Erickson phrase in her criticism. But that a prominent liberal writer actually evoked it, giving full approval to its thought police connotations, is quite stunning.

Lenin, eat your heart out.

It just goes to show that well-meaning conservatives who were willing to concede the culture war in the hopes the Left would cease marching forward were hopelessly wrong. Waving the white flag was never going to be a suitable compromise. Liberals aren’t satisfied with open-ended sexual rights; they want the complete eradication of bourgeois convention.

How did we get to the point where 8-year-old cross-dressers are celebrated as norms-smashing pioneers and not odd (and mentally ill) quirks?

Like his campus-tied intellectual colleagues, Ford is guilty of what Jonathan Haidt calls “concept creep.” In a recent interview with *spiked*, Haidt described how the psychological term has become the Excalibur of social justice warriors: “When a word like ‘violence’ is allowed to creep so that it includes a lot of things that are not violence, then this causes a cascade of bad effects.”

For decades, university intellectuals have stretched the terms “oppression” and “violence” like rubber bands, trying to fit them

doesn’t allow for empty spaces. If there is one corner of the brain that still holds fast to outlandish beliefs like marriage was made for man and woman, your chromosomes determine your gender, race is a biological reality, or countries have the right to determine and enforce their borders, then it must be reprogrammed or wiped out.

Just ask Tim Farron, the former leader of the Liberal Democrats party in Britain. A long-time supporter of same-sex marriage, once it was discovered he was

How did we get to the point where 8-year-old cross-dressers are celebrated as norms-smashing pioneers and not odd (and mentally ill) quirks?

over more gentle concepts like “disagreement” and “dialogue.” The slow creep eventually worked; hundreds of thousands of students graduate college every year believing words truly constitute aggression.

Ford completely buys into the notion that a person’s private belief represents “harm” to others. Worse, in strict Manichean terms, he positions himself as someone who wants “the world to be a better place,” and Mandel, accordingly, as someone who pushes death and destruction.

The terms of war can’t be any clearer. For traditionalists, being left alone to think, worship, gather, and evangelize in private is not an option. The logic of the Left

a closeted Christian, the press wouldn’t relent. Journalists were dying to know if Farron thought gay sex—sodomy, in Dantean terms—was a sin. Farron begged for his own private conscience, but it was to no avail. He was forced to resign from his position last month, saying it was impossible to be a faithful Christian and a politician of prominence.

And so another trophy for the undaunted Left. In the liberal view, a society isn’t free until the last breadcrumbs of bigotry are swept away. A sincere leftist accepts no moderation.

When they’re as candid as Zack Ford, at least faithful conservatives know where we stand: blindfolded, on the firing line. □

Antifa Activists Say VIOLENCE IS NECESSARY

by Katie Bo Williams, with permission by *The Hill*

ANTI-FASCIST activists, or “antifa,” increasingly mobilized in the wake of President Trump’s election, are unapologetic about what they describe as the necessary use of violence to combat authoritarianism.

While both experts on the movement and activists within it emphasize that not everyone who participates in anti-fascist ac-

mate tool to combat the creeping threat of what he deems authoritarianism.

“There is the question of whether these people should feel safe organizing as Nazis in public, and I don’t think they should,” said Isaacson.

“I don’t think anyone should think that someone who is intent on politically organizing for the

cause if you let it grow, that poses a danger to society,” Bray said.

Dubbed the “alt-left” by President Trump, antifa has increasingly been making their presence known after his victory in the 2016 election was openly embraced by white supremacists.

On Sunday, antifa protesters hurled glass bottles and bricks at police officers monitoring a far-right march in Portland, Ore.

And the University of California, Berkeley, is bracing for the possibility of more violent clashes on Thursday, when conservative political commentator and former *Breitbart* editor Ben Shapiro is scheduled to speak.

There is no central organizing committee governing antifa, and different affiliated groups have different priorities and governing principles, making it impossible to gauge the growth of the movement in the wake of the election.

But activists and law enforcement sources say anecdotally that their numbers have almost certainly swelled. Jim Pasco, executive director of the Fraternal Order of Police, the nation’s largest

Antifa protesters hurled glass bottles and bricks at police officers monitoring a far-right march in Portland, Oregon.

tivism engages in violence, they say the use of force is intrinsic to their political philosophy.

“The justification [of the use of violence] is that Nazi ideology at its very core is founded on violence and on wielding power by any means,” said Mike Isaacson, one of the founders of Smash Racism D.C., an antifa organization in Washington.

Isaacson is unequivocal in his defense of violence as a legiti-

sake of creating a state-sponsored genocide—I don’t think is something that we should protect,” he said.

Antifa activists justify their use of violence as self-defense against “the inherent danger of fascists organizing,” according to Mark Bray, a Dartmouth historian and author of a recent book on the movement.

“The argument is that it needs to be stopped immediately, be-

law enforcement union, told *The Hill* that he has “for sure” seen rising interest in the movement since Trump’s election, noting that six months ago he had never even heard of antifa.

As early as 2016, the Department of Homeland Security and the FBI warned state and local officials that antifa had become increasingly confrontational and were engaging in “domestic terrorist violence.”

While Bray says antifa focuses mostly on nonviolent activities, such as researching white supremacists and disrupting their efforts to organize, the movement’s more violent methods—and its use of so-called black bloc tactics, where activists wear black masks and clothing to conceal their identity—have drawn fierce criticism from the right and

divided the left.

House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), for example, has condemned antifa’s use of violence.

Liberal activist Cornel West, in contrast, said that antifa activists saved him and other counter-protesters in Charlottesville, Va., from “being crushed like cockroaches” by “alt-right” demonstrators.

The antifa movement traces its roots to militant leftists who combated fascism in the streets of Europe in the 1920s and 1930s. The movement saw a revival in response to neo-Nazi activity in the U.K. and Germany in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s.

The philosophy was first transposed to the U.S. in the 1980s by anti-racist activists in Minneapolis, according to

Bray, and while its popularity has ebbed and flowed since then, there are several current groups that have been around for almost 10 years. Rose City Antifa in Portland, Ore., for example, was established in 2007.

If the loosely affiliated network of far-left activists can be said to have a creed, it is to combat what it sees as fascism wherever it occurs.

Rose City Antifa defines fascism as “an ultra-nationalist ideology that mobilizes around and glorifies a national identity defined in exclusive racial, cultural, and/or historical terms, valuing this identity above all other interests (ie: gender or class).”

Antifa also tends to be deeply mistrustful of the police and often overlaps ideologically with anarchism, a political philosophy



that Isaacson defines as a society built on cooperation and mutual aid. Isaacson, who is an anarchist, argues that in order to be successful, anti-fascism has to operate outside of government.

“Getting state involved in this is no better than letting the Nazis go free,” he said, pointing to the Virginia State Police response to the violence at the white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, which many protesters and counterprotesters criticized as too slow.

Activists, including Isaacson, claim that police departments and the military have been infiltrated by Nazis and “have them kind of on their side.”

Pasco insists that police officers are agnostic as to whether a person committing a crime is antifa or “alt-right.”

“We don’t really have a perspective on [antifa] because it’s not really a movement—it’s kind of an amorphous group of people,” Pasco said.

“Nobody gets policed unless they need policing—there are just not enough police officers in the United States to satisfy the vanity of those who believe they are under constant surveillance,” he said.

Others see evidence of a disproportionate police response to antifa activists, such as those who criticized law enforcement in Portland for firing rubber bullets and stun grenades into a crowd of antifa protesters on Sunday.

“The way law enforcement has reacted to the protests far exceeds the amount of danger involved, particularly when we talk about violence at far-right protests—because there is a long

and deep history of murderous violence coming out of the far-right movements that continues up to today that far exceeds anything associated with antifa,” said Mike German, a former FBI agent who works on law enforcement issues at the Brennan Center for Justice’s Liberty and National Security Program.

Antifa’s use of violence continues to dominate the national conversation. In January, shortly after a black-clad protester attacked the far-right activist Richard Spencer, *The New York Times* mused: “Is it OK to punch a Nazi?”

Isaacson, for his part, has not engaged in the use of violent tactics himself, “if for no other reason than I’m rather slight of frame,” he said with a chuckle.

“I’m not so good in a fight,” he said. □



You Tube

Watch us online!

Find Sabbath sermons from the **Intercontinental Church of God.**

Updated each week with messages from a variety of inspiring speakers.



BIBLE STUDY

by Dr. James & Natalie Ricks

Why Does A Good God Allow Evil?

**THE ISSUE HAS BEEN USED TO
CONFOUND MANY BELIEVERS**

THE history of mankind is littered with a trail of evil atrocities and diseases. Many have wondered how could a loving God allow evil. They call this issue “Theodicy.” The Bible states that when Adam rejected God to explore “good and evil” for himself, he was ejected from paradise. Then God told him that he would live in a world of hard knocks apparently, a world of all sorts of evil: violence, disease, disasters. Adam and Eve soon learned about the violence that would erupt as their oldest son killed his younger brother.

Genesis 3:17, “And to Adam He said, Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree, of which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat of it! The ground is cursed for your sake. In pain shall you eat of it all the days of your life.” (MKJV)

This verse explains some of the “why” involving mankind’s condition, but does not answer the questions of how could a good God allow suffering. However, looking at Adam and Eve, we can say existence of evil in the world is not a God problem, but is our problem. People are evil. It is undeniable.

Philosophers have divided evil into two cate-

gories. One category is moral evil, like lying and child molestation. The other category consists of happenings like natural disasters, earthquakes, cancer and storms. Atheists can use this apparently difficult issue as a reason to reject God altogether. Some Atheists have no understanding of actual Christian doctrine concerning the fall of man and are arrogant as well.

Friedrich Nietzsche was one of the eighteenth century philosophers that are foundational to much of our world’s beliefs. Friedrich Nietzsche announced, based on human suffering, that God was dead. He rejected Christianity and God’s Laws because they were counter to man’s true desires.

He also rejected humility as contrary to human nature. He thought that the foremost drive in people should be for power. He realized people needed some order if we no longer had God. He then started to write his own set of laws for man’s behavior. However, at age 40 he went insane and was put in a mental institution for megalomania among other symptoms. Years later Hitler used—or misused—Nietzsche’s theory of the superman to justify his holocaust policies.

**THE GLORIOUS REWARD MORE
THAN COMPENSATES FOR THE
SUFFERING OF MANKIND**

BIBLE STUDY

Paul stated that the glory we shall receive will more than compensate for our human suffering. We need to appreciate what it means to be in God's family. It is beyond our ability to imagine or appreciate the glory that will be present in us at the return of Christ.

1 Timothy 6:16, "Who alone has immortality, dwelling in light which cannot be approached, whom no one of men have seen, nor can see; to whom be honor and power everlasting."

Romans 8:16-18, "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God.

"And if we are children, then we are heirs; heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ; so that if we suffer with Him, we may also be glorified together.

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the coming glory to be revealed in us."

God is "unapproachable" light—or energy, power—beyond anything we can imagine. God is so glorious that it is beyond us to appreciate it. Paul says our sufferings cannot even compare to what awaits mankind. It is like a woman that suffers normal child birth pangs. She is happy when the child arrives.

Ephesians 1:17-18, "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

"The eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints."

God would not allow the amount of suffering that exist in this age unless the reward was enormous and for all Eternity. Our reward has to be more powerful than we can imagine.

THE PHYSICAL CREATION IS ALSO UNDER A CURSE

People do not understand Bible doctrine and therefore are more confused by the presence of evil in the world. The Bible clearly states that the planet

earth is under a curse because of Adam and the sons of Adam—us.

Romans 8:19-22, "For the earnest expectation of the creation waits for the manifestation of the sons of God.

"For the creation was not willingly subjected to vanity, but because of Him who subjected it on hope;

"That the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

"And we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now."

Because the earth is in the hands of man and suffers from the results of sin, it too is in bondage until the second coming of Jesus. The Bible explains that we lost paradise, but Jesus will bring it back to us. This doctrine explains the natural evil we see on earth. People would be less troubled by the presence of evil, as well as a loving God, if they really read and understood the Bible.

IS FREE WILL WORTH THE SUFFERING IT CAUSES?

If we are truly given free will, then we have the freedom to hurt others and ourselves. This Christian doctrine is challenged by some. They say the suffering is too great. But can one be truly free if you cannot hurt others? If we are not given free will, then we are like cows who do only what is within their instincts or programming. God does not need more cows. He is preparing many sons to glory! Sons who can think and exercise free will prudently.

Many people think about the rape, torture and murders and will not accept the free will doctrine. One teacher gave this powerful example:

He placed his pen up to his eye and said, "I have the free will to stab myself in the eye. But you all know that I will not do it. Why? Because I know it is painful and destructive. But you will not give such a sharp object to a toddler because he is not experienced and educated."

God is allowing mankind to learn the hard

BIBLE STUDY

way that actions without God and His laws lead to destruction and pain. In the last day, the period of judgment, mankind will eventually learn the great spiritual lessons. Then, when we enter God's family we will not be tempted to abuse our free will. We will know better!

Isaiah 30:20-21, "And the LORD gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction; yet your teachers shall not be removed into a corner any more, but your eyes shall see your teachers.

"And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left."

In the final period of judgment for all those resurrected but not called, there will be reminders of their previous evil ways. They will be told "You cannot do that anymore." The people will reflect on the suffering seen in the ungodly world and compare it to the paradise of obeying God. The Bible will be opened to their minds. Mankind will learn to avoid evil actions because they are painful and destructive.

Most will learn the invaluable lessons. Those who refuse to learn will not be in the family of God. The lake of fire will erase them from memory. The free will of that person will no longer be able to hurt others or themselves.

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?

It is obvious that no one understands all the decisions made by God. No one can know why God allows some evil events and prevents others. One day, when we are with God, we will understand. One of the reasons given in the Bible for suffering is following bad spiritual leaders who preach that we do not need to repent and follow God. Israel went into captivity and suffering because of following these false leaders!

Lamentations 2:14, "Your prophets have seen false and foolish things for you, and they have not uncovered your iniquity, to turn away your captivity; but they have seen false oracles and seductions

for you."

Lamentations tells of the horrors of Israel's defeat and captivity. If we are converted, we should allow our suffering to mold us and help us become more like God. People learn more from mistakes and suffering than periods of smooth sailing. Yet even in such suffering there is hope.

Lamentations 3:22-23, "It is by the Lord's kindnesses that we are not destroyed, because His mercies never fail.

"They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:31-33, "For the Lord will not cast off for ever:

"But though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

"For he doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men."

Even in times of darkness and suffering keep hope strong and look for God's answer and blessings. He is long suffering and very kind. Even in captivity he told the Israelites to not lose hope. We can learn much through our problems and sufferings.

Romans 5:3-5, "And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

"And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

"And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

Believers are told to rejoice in trial because we can learn from God's discipline. It can help us grow and live happier lives in the long run. Remember, the first death is not the end of the story! All mankind will learn from what we have suffered in this first life.

ALL MANKIND MUST LEARN THE FOLLY OF REBELLION AND SIN

We are learning that sin is stupid. It is the cause of suffering in the world. Isolation from the true

God is disastrous. People will learn what life would be like if we went our own way. Many have years of experience in our lives: human crimes, abusive governments, corruption, and pain of all sorts. We will learn from our judgment by God of the many things we need to repent of having done in the past. People will grow through such a process and the vast majority will be saved by the grace of God.

Romans 14:10, "But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ."

Humanity's ultimate growth and learning through the sufferings of this age are the best explanations for the presence of evil in spite of God's goodness.

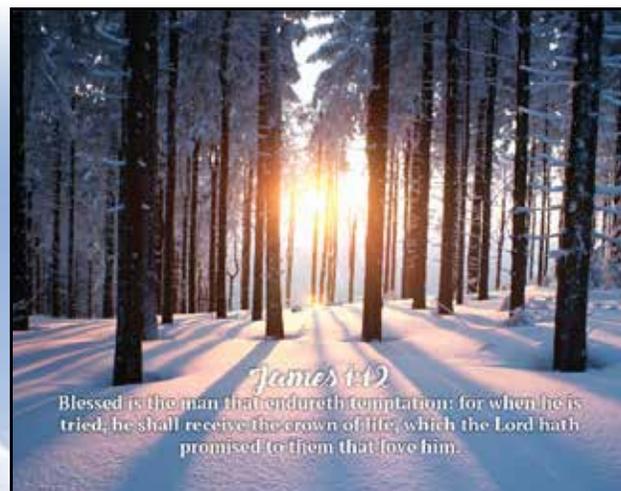
However, atheists shape the question in such a way as to get the answer they want. They say, "If God is good then why does He allow suffering?"

The problem is that we are using man's definition of goodness.

God is both good and just. People assume that our sins should go unpunished. God told Adam from the very beginning that sin was a dangerous and deadly way of life. Christ came to earth in the flesh to deal with the sin. The world is scarred by sin and is separated from the true God. Christ will save us by His grace and His teaching mankind to live and repent.

Isaiah 57:15-16, "For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

"For I will not contend forever, nor will I always be angry; for the spirit would fail before Me, and the souls which I have made." □



Call to order your FREE
2018 Annual Holy Day Calendar.
 Beautiful pictures accompany powerful scriptures for each month. Sabbaths and Holy Days marked in red. Call now, while supplies last!
 (903)-561-7070

January						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sabbath
	○ 1	2	3	4	5	6
7 ^a	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 ^b	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 ^c	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 ^d	31			

THE POPE OF ISLAM

by Robert Spencer, with permission by Front Page Mag

As if he weren't already committed enough to foolish false charity and willful ignorance regarding the jihad threat, Pope Francis on Wednesday met in the Vatican with Dr. Muhammad bin Abdul Karim Al-Issa, the secretary general of the Muslim World League (MWL), a group that has been linked to the financing of jihad terror.

During the meeting, al-Issa thanked the Pope for his "fair positions" on what he called the "false claims that link extremism and violence to Islam." In other words, he thanked the Pope for dissembling about the motivating ideology of jihad terror, which his group has been accused of financing, and for defaming other religions in an effort to white-wash Islam.

I don't object to the Pope's meeting this man. After all, Jesus was a friend of tax collectors and sinners. But the meeting appears to have been a pointless feel-good session, probably featuring some sly dawah from al-Issa. According to *Breitbart News*, "the two men reportedly exchanged views on a number of "issues of common interest" including peace and global harmony, and discussed cooperation on issues

of peaceful coexistence and the spread of love."

The spread of love. Yes, that's what the Muslim World League is all about.

Nor is this the first time a Muslim leader has thanked the Pope for being so very useful. Last July, Ahmed al-Tayeb, the Grand Imam of Cairo's al-Azhar, thanked him for his "defense of Islam against the accusation of violence and terrorism."

Has any other Pope of Rome in the history of Christianity ever been heralded as a "defender of Islam"?

Of course not. But the Catholic Church has come a long way

since the days of Pope Callixtus III, who vowed in 1455 to "exalt the true Faith, and to extirpate the diabolical sect of the reprobate and faithless Mahomet in the East."

If time travel could be arranged and Pope Francis could run into Callixtus III, Callixtus could "expect a punch," for Francis is not just a defender of Islam, but a defender of the Sharia death penalty for blasphemy: after Islamic jihadists murdered the Charlie Hebdo cartoonists who had drawn Muhammad, Francis obliquely justified the murders by saying that "it is true that you must not react violently,



Pope Francis welcomes to the Vatican the head of a Muslim group tied to the financing of jihad terror.

Continued next page

but although we are good friends if [an aide] says a curse word against my mother, he can expect a punch, it's normal. You can't make a toy out of the religions of others. These people provoke and then (something can happen). In freedom of expression there are limits."

So for the Pope, murdering people for violating Sharia blasphemy laws is "normal," and it isn't terrorism for "Christian terrorism does not exist, Jewish terrorism does not exist, and Muslim terrorism does not exist. They do not exist," he said in a speech last February. "There are fundamentalist and violent individuals in all peoples and religions—and with intolerant generalizations they become stronger because they feed on hate and xenophobia."

So there is no Islamic terrorism, but if you engage in "intolerant generalizations," you can "expect a punch." The Pope, like the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, apparently thinks that the problem is not jihad terror, but non-Muslims talking about jihad terror; Muslims would be peaceful if non-Muslims would simply censor themselves and self-impose Sharia blasphemy restrictions regarding criticism of Islam.

For Pope Francis has no patience with those who discuss

such matters: "I don't like to talk about Islamic violence, because every day, when I read the newspaper, I see violence." He said, according to *Crux*, that "when he reads the newspaper, he reads about an Italian who kills his fiancé or his mother in law." The pontiff added: "They are baptized Catholics. They are violent Catholics." He said that if he spoke about "Islamic violence," then he would have to speak about "Catholic violence" as well.

That comparison made no sense, for Italian Catholics who killed their fiancés or mothers in law were not acting in accord with the teachings of their religion, while the Qur'an and Islamic teaching contain numerous exhortations to violence.

But Pope Francis, defender of Islam, cannot concern himself with such minutiae. Nor does he appear to be particularly concerned about the fact that all his false statements about the motivating ideology behind the massive Muslim persecution of Christians over the last few years only enables and abets that persecution, for if that ideology is not identified and confronted, it will continue to flourish.

The Pope of Rome, whom Catholics consider to be the earthly head of the Church, should be a

defender of Christianity, not a defender of Islam, the religion that has been at war with Christianity and Judeo-Christian civilization since its earliest days. That any Christian leader would be called a "defender of Islam" by anyone only casts into vivid relief the absurdity of our age and the weakness of the free world. The creeping idolatry of the papacy that is rampant in today's Catholic Church, with all too many Catholics treating every word of the Pontiff as if it were a divine oracle, only makes matters worse.

Can you imagine any Muslim leader ever being called a "defender of Christianity"? Of course not: Muslim leaders are more aware than their fond defender in the Vatican that Islam mandates warfare against unbelievers, not defense of their theological views.

Pope Francis is not only disastrously wrongheaded about an obvious fact that is reinforced by every day's headlines; he is also deceiving and misleading his people about a matter of utmost importance, and keeping them ignorant and complacent about a growing and advancing threat.

"Leave them; they are blind guides. And if a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit" (Matthew 15:14). □



LIVE WEBCAST BY
INTERCONTINENTAL CHURCH OF GOD

Watch Weekly
FRIDAY AT 9 PM^(EST) • WWW.LULICG.ORG

Stay Connected

lineuponline2810@gmail.com • facebook.com/lineuponline2810
 youtube.com/lineuponline2810 • plus.google.com/+LineuponLine

THE LAST DOMINO FALLS

by Murray Allatt

ON Wednesday November 15, 2017, the *Australian Statistician* declared, in a long winded announcement, that the “Yes” campaign for same sex marriage had won the day in the eight week long national opinion poll, or postal plebiscite, conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics at the Australian Government’s direction.

Voting, or rather completing and returning the survey form was voluntary, unlike elections and referendums in Australia, and survey papers were sent out to everyone on the Federal Electoral Roll. This exercise took the form of a postal survey rather than a plebiscite because the Labor/Greens/Cross Bench alliance in the Senate would not approve legislation for a plebiscite. This alliance opposed any effort or measure to allow the population a say in whether same sex marriage legislation should be enacted.

A survey by the Bureau of Statistics did not require parliamentary approval. (Of course, after the result they all sought to claim credit for themselves for the genius of the process and the outcome. The original idea for a plebiscite had been that of former conservative Prime Minis-

ter Tony Abbott. He thought the Parliament should not legislate to change millennia old traditional marriage without an opportunity for the voting public to express a definitive view on such a monumental social change.

The question on the paper was, “Should the law be changed to allow for same sex couples to marry?”

Nationally, about 79% of those eligible to “vote,” by completing and returning the survey form—with a simple “Yes” or “No” box ticked or crossed—participated.

Of that number 62% or 7.82 million responded “Yes.” Those

were too lazy to tick a box and place the form in a “free post” envelope was 20 % of those eligible to complete the survey.

This was a case where the opinion polling, both before and during the voting period, actually reflected the final result. Indeed, the postal survey was itself an opinion poll.

So, what does this fateful survey result lead to? It leads to the Federal Government attempting to fulfill its promise that in the event of a “Yes” vote it would legislate same sex marriage by Christmas. Second, third and fourth it means that all of the negative impacts of same sex mar-



responding “No” were 38% or 4.87 million. Those who had no opinion, could not care less or

riage on Australian society will now inevitably flow. But these will be touched on later.

Continued next page

A LITTLE HISTORY

The Australian Constitution grants exclusive jurisdiction to the Commonwealth of Australia (the Federal Government) in respect of marriage. The Commonwealth's power with respect to marriage comes from s. 51(xxi) of the Constitution. Section 51(xxii) states:

“The Parliament shall ... have power to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to: Marriage.”

At the time that the Constitution was framed there was no doubt as to the meaning of marriage—namely, a formal, monogamous and heterosexual union for life. That was the description of marriage enshrined in the Marriage Act 1961 and the Family Law Act 1975. Various High Court judges, in reasons given for several leading decisions over the century since Federation and

the passing of the Constitution, have pondered whether it may mean more but the definition has held—till now.

In a 1999 High Court decision *McHugh J in Re Wakim; Ex parte McNally* gave a hint of things to come: “The level of abstraction for some terms of the Constitution is, however, much harder to identify than that of those set out above. Thus, in 1901 “marriage” was seen as meaning a voluntary union of life between one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others. If that level of abstraction were now accepted, it would deny the Parliament of the Commonwealth the power to legislate for same sex marriages, although arguably ‘marriage’ now means, or in the near future may mean, a voluntary union for life between two people to the exclusion of others.”

And, of course 18 years later that is precisely the result of this

public opinion survey.

The push for same sex marriage is long standing. Undoubtedly that prospect even back in 1999 led Justice McHugh to postulate a change to “voluntary union for life between two people to the exclusion of others.”

That push for same sex marriage and utterings from the High Court, such as that of McHugh, certainly would have influenced former Prime Minister John Howard to legislate the Marriage Amendment Act 2004 that amended the Marriage Act 1961 so as to insert the definition of marriage as being “the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life.” And also introduced section 88EA that reads:

88EA Certain unions are not marriages

A union solemnized in a foreign country between:

***(a) a man and another man; or
(b) a woman and another woman;
Must not be recognized as a marriage in Australia.***

No doubt all that is about to change.

THE ARGUMENTS

“Yes.” Homosexuality was decriminalized across Australia decades ago. Over the years homosexual rights have been legislated at both the State and Commonwealth level with equal rights legislation across the gamut involving same sex partner rights in superannuation law, inheritance law, leave entitlements, carer entitlements, adoption rights, fostering rights, even legally



Adelaide, AU—September 16, 2017: Over 5,000 supporters of “Marriage Equality” gather at the South Australian Parliament House for the largest Equal Rights rally held in Adelaide.

recognized same sex unions—the list is long and comprehensive of every aspect of modern life and entitlements. Ostensibly, the only area left where some claim of discrimination by the State could be mounted by the homosexual community, collectively known as the LGBTQI (or alphabet people), was the time old and tested institution of marriage; the principle building block of tribes, clans—nations—through the establishment and stability of family. Husband, wife. Father, mother, children. So time tested that we find in Genesis 2:23-24:

“And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.”

The campaign for the “yes” vote was premised on a slogan, “Love is love” and an argument for “marriage equality.” The claim is that homosexual couples have as much right to have their loving relationships sanctified as a heterosexual couple.

62% of respondents to the postal survey seemed to agree not only with this proposition but by force of their choice that this ‘right’ trumped several actual fundamental human rights, hard fought for over centuries and even set forth and confirmed in United Nations treaties and covenants.

But many of them probably

did not look further than “love is love” and let’s just get this over with. Many expressed frustration that this issue was chewing up the national political discussion and just wanted to see the back of it. They just thought this whole ex-

“Once ‘equality’ defines heterosexual and homosexual relations the same, then differentiating between the two will be regarded as discrimination.”

ercise was about letting two people who “love” each other get legally hitched, with little or, more likely, no regard for the foreseen and unforeseen consequences to the operation of civil society.

“No.” Those consequences were what the “No” campaign highlighted. The “No” campaign was conducted in large part by an organization called “Marriage Alliance” of which the Australian Christian Lobby organization was a leading participant, as well as numbers of actual (not fake) conservative politicians. The campaign highlighted the consequences for schools, for children and for fundamental freedoms such as freedom of religion and freedom of speech.

In brief, the arguments put forward were:

- ***The Consequences for Schools***
“When marriage is redefined, there are consequential changes in education programs and policies in schools, and parents are increasingly excluded from having a say in the sex education of their children.”

“Once ‘equality’ defines het-

erosexual and homosexual relations the same, then differentiating between the two will be regarded as discrimination. The LGBTQI activists will demand that all schools teach ‘queer gender theory’; that biological sex

cannot be understood as male/female; that sexual diversity and gender diversity are a natural part of each individual’s true identity; that identity in all its forms must be affirmed and celebrated...”. This includes the lunacy of so called “sexual fluidity”—a concept that in all of human history till now had not raised its pointy head in even radical circles.

A program called “Safe Schools,” passed off as an anti-bullying program, was rolled out across Australia and later curtailed, and Federal funding withdrawn, once parents found out what it was teaching—and Coalition Government politicians (now in power) woke up. It was instigated by the Labor Socialist Government of Julia Gillard. The program was devised by activists pushing queer gender theory. Astoundingly, this “safe schools” ideology found root with the education bureaucracy around the country, and the teaching profession at large. Some few teachers have publicly declared they could not teach the content to their classes. But this program

is to be made compulsory for all schools in Victoria in 2018 at the direction of that State's Socialist Labor government. Elements of it still exist in NSW, Queensland and elsewhere. Will it now be mandated to come back in full across the country? If as expected the next Federal Government is a reversion to Labor Socialist it undoubtedly will come back with perverse sex education starting in kindergarten.

- ***The Consequences for Children***

Homosexual couples have for years been able to adopt children, have children through IVF, through surrogacy, and of course, it is often the case that both men and women who have been in a heterosexual relationship and have children, discover after years of marriage to a member of the opposite sex, that they are in fact "homosexual." They get divorced. And, often they get the children of that former traditional marriage or relationship and bring them along into the new same sex "partnership."

The Convention on the Rights of the Child states that a child has, as far as possible, "the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents." The redefinition of marriage would, from the very beginning, deliberately deprive a child of this right. In most instances, if not every instance, of a homosexual couple raising a child, at least one, and possibly both, biological parents are out of the picture.

- ***The Impact on Freedoms***

The freedoms likely to be

impacted as a result of the law changing to allow same sex marriage are freedom of speech and association, freedom of conscience and freedom of religion.

- ***Freedom of Association and Speech***

There are now a number of examples of all these freedoms of association and speech being eroded and lost to individuals. Corporations have now adopted diversity policies that rejoice in the LGBTQI agenda and woe betide any employee who expresses any dissent. Some companies and corporations have forced employees to resign their membership of bodies outside the employing entity that espouse views on same sex marriage and queer-ness contrary to the employing entity, or face the sack. Some have been forced out of their job for it being revealed they contributed, perhaps years before, to an anti LGBTQI cause or pro traditional marriage organization.

- ***Freedom of Conscience***

There are now many examples in various countries that have adopted same sex marriage laws where suppliers of goods and services have been prosecuted for refusing to have their business involved in a same sex marriage—venue owners, cake shop proprietors, florists, photographers. It is claimed these individuals have no right to express their moral stance in respect to lending their material support to enabling a same sex marriage ceremony or celebration. It's just business after all. And business is amoral, is it not? Oh, except when it

is moral to say, boycott Israeli businesses, boycott and demonize various industries thought to be "destroying the planet"—think coal, oil among others. Ethics is situational, right?

The Bill currently being debated in the Australian Parliament (and which will probably be law by Christmas) apparently contains protections for only clerics. The Government has appointed an "expert" panel to advise on other protections. That expert panel would report mid 2018 and a separate Bill may emerge with recommended protections. However, the Leader of the Socialist Opposition has vowed that if his party won government at the next election it would repeal any such protections. And it is likely, very likely, that the Opposition will form Government after the next election according to the polls.

- ***Freedom of Religion***

The push for marriage "equality" was framed in the language of "tolerance." Now having succeeded with a mantra of "tolerance" with the "yes" vote, can anyone think the LGBTQI lobby, especially the Left activist faction is going to be "tolerant" of religious freedoms? There is at least one example of an LGBTQI activists dragging a churchman before an "anti-discrimination" tribunal just for espousing his churches doctrinal beliefs on what constitutes marriage. What's more the Tribunal was prepared to hear the matter. Thankfully the complaint was later dropped—because it wasn't a good look in the midst of a campaign based on "toler-

ance.” But without legislated protections how long before the next religious leader or layman is hauled off to an anti discrimination tribunal merely for stating his churches doctrine?

CONCLUSION

The attitude of many who voted in favor of changing Australia’s marriage law seems to have been governed by a belief that it truly was just a simple question about two people of the same sex having exactly what two people of the opposite sex can have; a society approved and legally binding union for life to the exclusion of all others—that is marriage.

Having achieved their goal, many of those voters will think that is the end of it. They won’t have to hear about it anymore, they won’t have to listen to the cries and claims of LGBTQI types that they are victims of a terrible discrimination in marriage. It’s all done. Indeed, many did express the view that they just wanted to put the issue behind and get on with the important issues for the country.

Is it all done? Not really. Not done at all. As indicated by the arguments of the “No” case there is now much fertile ground for the LGBTQI activists to till, and till it they will until every last vestige of traditional society, its freedoms of speech, conscience and religion are gone. In other words, they won’t stop. Radicals never do stop.

The schools will be overrun with gender fluidity theory, individuals will be hounded in

and from their employment for not toeing the corporate toady LGBTQI line on “diversity.”

If there was any doubt about the nihilistic, secular nature of Australia, this postal survey put that to rest. The “No” campaign made no effort at all to frame their position in terms of God’s Law and Commandments; that the Bible condemned homosexuality and everything associated with its practice. That argument was lost long ago, even before homosexuality was decriminalized and

The “No” campaign made no effort at all to frame their position in terms of God’s Law and Commandments.

certainly many years ago with the recognition of homosexuals’ rights in every aspect of law.

Yes, it has been obvious for years that Australia as a whole is irreligious, unbelieving, secular. No point mounting a religious argument to those who despise religion. Especially when even many members of so called “Christian” churches openly support same sex marriage, including many of their ministers/pastors, some of whom led the charge.

Australia was the last hold out for same sex marriage in the Anglo-sphere and perhaps the western world. And with Australia, or at least a substantial majority of those who bothered to vote, acquiescing with this indulgence of fake marriage we can see where the world is now as the Bible in fact describes it:

“This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

“For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

“Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

“Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”

The Apostle Paul expands on this litany of appalling conduct in Romans 1:18-32 if you have the time to read that passage. Remember, the Roman Empire is the exemplar of a civilization collapsing in large measure under the weight of prurience, licentiousness and every perverse and sexual deviancy, leading to the decay of the family and the Empire over centuries (See Edward Gibbon’s *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*). But remarkably, Rome never did legalize or sanctify homosexual “marriage.” Not even they thought that was a good idea!

Are we in the last days? It certainly feels like it. The last domino has fallen. □

Beware Your Thoughts

Continued from page 2

They believe fervently in “global warming,” and want repercussions for those who are helping “destroy the planet.” Recent pronouncements by Rome’s pontiff indicate that he just might want to challenge Al Gore for his position as the reigning high priest of the religion of Global Warming.

Mitt Romney paid dearly for his obvious disrespect of the female gender. When he said he

other agencies) targeted Tea Party groups and made them disappear during the 2012 Presidential election, for instance. It did happen, which has been admitted by the current Department of Justice by paying millions in damages to the aggrieved parties.

IRS Director Lois Lerner, held in contempt of Congress for stating her case and then refusing to answer questions, has demanded that her testimony be sealed “forever” because she “fears for her safety.” That’s a new twist! She’s afraid that some of those polite,

issues on earth. Either you side with pope Francis and want every European city transformed into a haven for “refugees,” or you’re racially biased and beneath contempt. National governments publish explanations as to why Muslim immigration is having virtually no effect on the culture, and is not responsible for an increase in crime.

So called “hate-crimes” do exist on the books of many Western nations, thankfully not in the United States. It’s not a “hate crime” when a cell of “immigrants” blow up part of a shopping district, bomb an airport, mow down concert attendees or drive a truck over pedestrians, all of which happen with sickening regularity. But, say that Muslim immigrants are violent, or anti-Semitic, or lacking in basic hygiene? That might well constitute a crime.

A bombshell has dropped in Europe. It appears to pit warnings from the late pope John Paul II in direct opposition to the pro-Muslim immigration positions of pope Francis, who casts the issue purely one of “empathy toward the poor,” denouncing borders and national sovereignty all the while.

According to perhaps the former pope’s most trusted aide, he warned (some are calling it a prophecy) that an enemy more fearsome than those faced in recent history would threaten the culture of Europe. The quote, widely available on-line, reads as follows:

“Remind this to those whom you will meet in the Church of the third millennium. I see the

There is a pitched battle for our thoughts and public opinion everywhere in this age of information.

had “binders of women” (considered for employment), it said everything you needed to know about his complete and utter lack of respect. (In hindsight, maybe it’s just as well he didn’t win the presidency. If he had, we’d probably never have gotten to go on the thrill ride we’re on!) Bill and Hillary? Now there’s a couple who believe in “feminism!” They champion equal pay for women, excepting entities under their control, of course. Women who make charges of unwanted contact must be believed! Unless of course they’re accusing Bill himself, then there might be extenuating circumstances with a liberal bent.

Perhaps the most effective use of thought control is not media shaming. Maybe it’s when a government employs the clout of a fearsome agency to enforce its point of view. When the IRS (and

friendly and cleanly Tea Party ladies are going to come after her if they should learn of what she said in her defense in sworn testimony? Sure she is. That would be almost as frightening as being harassed by the EPA, OSHA and the IRS all at the same time.

In what has to be the most abusive, un-American administration of all time, the Obama regime didn’t take kindly to resistance of any kind, and we’ll see if the extent of their attempts at behavior control, and ultimately thought control within government and without, is ever brought to light. What about so-called “universal health care”? Either you demand it or “you don’t care about people.” If the price for your participation is more than the mortgage, too bad.

The same can be said about many of the most hotly contested

Church of the third millennium afflicted by a mortal plague, which compared to those of this millennium will be deeper, more painful,” the Polish pope confided, having meant Communism and Nazism as the plagues of his time.

“It is called Islam. They will invade Europe. Europe will be a cellar; old relics, twilight, cobwebs. Old family souvenirs. You, the Church of the third millennium, must contain the invasion. But not with weapons. Weapons will not be enough, but with your faith, lived with integrity.”

The current pope, Francis, is no doubt squirming uncomfortably with this accidental revelation. This is the kind of talk that has been condemned by Francis. It is “Islamophobic” by current standards of the governments of the EU, Germany, Belgium, France, Sweden, Norway, and by factions within the UK. There’s no comment from the Vatican since the bombshell dropped, and European governments are silent as well. But they’ll come up with an explanation. They always do.

Have you noticed? No one

on the left, promoting socialist group-think, ever concedes a point even when faced with checkmate? They continue pandering to the uninformed, telling us what the “majority” believe even when said beliefs have been heavily manipulated to produce the desired result. How this plays out in the European sphere in the immediate future is critical. Germany finds itself mired in confusion, with their elected candidate, Angela Merkel, unable to form a government after winning the popular vote. The reason is that the “Green Party” is demanding that the “refugees” be allowed to bring in their extended families from Syria and elsewhere in the Middle East, and after allowing them to inhabit Germany in the first place, Merkel just can’t bring herself to exacerbate the situation by embracing what would be a disaster for her remaining popularity.

We see the efforts at manipulation and thought control playing out across the media bandwidth, and see that as much as half the population of the United

States see what’s going on. And boy, does that ever tick off the talking heads. They’ve lost nearly every scrap of credibility they may have had, and they’re fighting mad. The vitriol is on display daily. Recognition of the thought control exerted on the masses seems largely limited to the United States, so far. All the other nations of Western civilization are lost in a sea of induced reactions, and seem caught in the grip of left-wing conventional wisdom as righteously conveyed by media and politicians alike.

Muslims, “gays,” illegal aliens, they are the “minorities,” the victims of Western prosperity. Every media giant, every CEO of the large social media platforms are heavily indoctrinated and we keep seeing evidence that they have used their power to “manage” what becomes widely accessible, what is allowed and what is rejected and censored. The mainstream world, religious leaders included, just can’t wrap their minds around people who worship God and yet want to preserve something of their heritage for future generations. How very xenophobic! There is a pitched battle for our thoughts and public opinion everywhere in this age of information.

The stakes are highest in Europe, particularly Germany. Bible prophecy indicates that an evil entity will ultimately prevail and enforce beliefs and behaviors upon all mankind. It’s what the “global warming” zealots, the “gay” marriage crowd, and those that demand open-borders and mass amnesty crave above all else: An enforcement mechanism. □



“A mortal plague... it is called Islam.” – John Paul II.

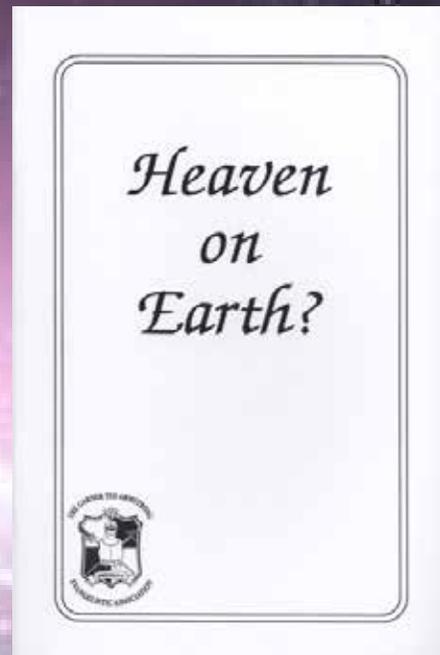
Heaven is spoken of as the place of God's throne. It is where God dwells. It is the place from which Christ came to this earth; the place to which He returned when He was received by His Father after His resurrection.

Will we go to heaven when we die? Certainly, there is no more commonly-accepted belief among millions.

How **STRANGE** it is that Christ said
"NO MAN HATH ASCENDED UP TO HEAVEN!"

You will be **ASTONISHED** and **JOYOUS** to learn the **TRUTH** about where "heaven" is, and where you will be when you are ultimately "in heaven!"

Call, write, or visit us
online to order your
FREE copy of
"Heaven on Earth?"
by Garner Ted Armstrong



Garner Ted Armstrong Evangelistic Association
PO Box 232, Sandy Bay, Tasmania 7006
Phone: 1300 885 066
www.gtaaustralia.org.au

