

The International Prophetic Voice for the Endtimes

# Midnight Call

midnightcall.com

June 2023—\$4.75

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

- Covenant Terminated?
  - Sinim: China
  - Doomsday Clock
- P. 37

Endtime  
Stratagem:  
Super-Jamming  
the Mind  
P. 12



## Between Saving the Planet and Saving Souls –Part 2



The incredible doctrine of the return of Christ commands us to investigate *The Great Mystery of the Rapture*.

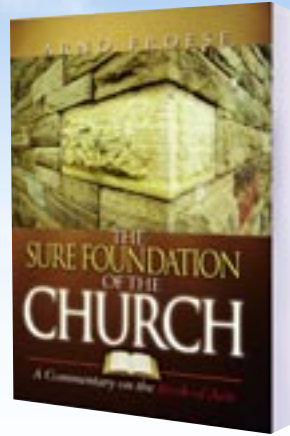
THE GREAT MYSTERY OF THE RAPTURE ITEM #1038

368 pgs. • **Hardcover**

~~\$18.99~~

**Clearance \$9**

Author: Arno Froese



A refreshingly different view of the book of Acts!

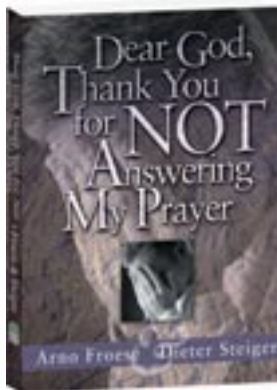
THE SURE FOUNDATION OF THE CHURCH ITEM #1066

544 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$18.50~~

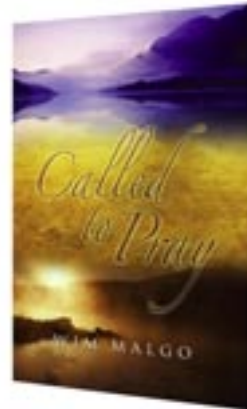
**Clearance \$8**

Author: Arno Froese



**When God Is Silent...**

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



**Be a Prayer Warrior**

This is one of our least popular, but most important books. What true prayer is all about, how it affects each of us, our family and surroundings is the content of this remarkable book. It ends with the words, "You are called to pray!"

CALLED TO PRAY ITEM #1032

144 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$11.90~~

**Clearance \$4**

Author: Dr. Wim Malgo

DEAR GOD, THANK YOU FOR NOT ANSWERING MY PRAYER ITEM #1047

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$12.99~~ **Clearance \$4**

Authors: Arno Froese & Dieter Steiger



COME INTO HIS PRESENCE ITEM #9064 • CD • 56 min.

~~\$14.95~~

**Clearance \$4**

*Come Into His Presence* by Michael Shull will lead you through 28 of the most beloved Christian hymns, starting with *Sweet Hour of Prayer* and concluding with *God Be With You*. This instrumental presentation (dulcimer) will touch your heart and lead you to worship Him, who is the Author and Finisher of our faith.



WINDOWS OF WORSHIP

ITEM #9062 • CD • 46 min.

~~\$14.95~~

**Clearance \$4**

Pat Frazier's *Windows of Worship* piano medleys will stir your soul as you hear the old-fashioned, greatly beloved and enduring hymns of times past.



## 6 COVER STORY

### Between Saving the Planet and Saving Souls – Part 2

By Hartmut Jaeger

People who have God in their lives are primarily seeking Him and His kingdom. This means recognizing that God the Father has dominion over every aspect of life. It means doing what He says. It means walking the path of righteousness that God reveals to us in His Word.

## 12 Money: Ends and Trends

### Endtime Stratagem: Super-Jamming the Mind *By Wilfred Hahn*

## 16 Herodium: God at Work in the Desert

By Dr. Ron J. Bigalke



## 21 Extreme Weather as a Sign of Climate Change

By Thomas Lieth

## 25 The Overcomers of the Philadelphia Church

By Wim Malgo

## 41 Just For You!

### Saving Love *By Peter Malgo*

## DEPARTMENTS

4 Editorial ..... *By Norbert Lieth*

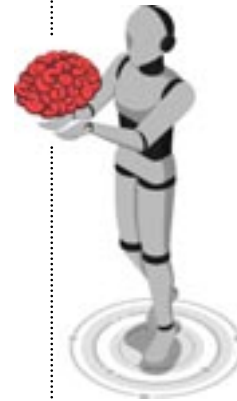
32 Action for Israel ..... *By Arno Froese*

34 The Ebenezer Home – Haifa, Israel ..... *By Esther Meyer*

37 Letters to the Editor ..... *By Arno Froese*

COVENANT TERMINATED?...SINIM: CHINA...DOOMSDAY CLOCK

39 Fellow Laborers ..... *By Mathias and Doro Rindlisbacher*



27 WORLD  
Dangers of Artificial Intelligence

28 KENYA  
The Fruit of False Prophets

28 NETHERLANDS  
Welcoming the End of Life

29 POLAND  
Renewable Energy Oversupply



30 USA  
Threats from Beyond Earth

31 CHINA  
Questions Sovereignty of Ex-Soviet Nations



# Tracks

**By Norbert Lieth**

*Director of Missions, Midnight Call International*

“The time is short, oh man be wise,  
Each moment fully utilize.  
You travel only once this way—  
Consider well the tracks you lay.”

**W**e encounter tracks and traces everywhere. Foot tracks of people and animals ... but also traces of natural disasters, which often leave devastation in their wake. When someone has committed a crime, he tries his best to remove all traces of evidence. But the police, tracing back the smallest details, finally detect the perpetrator. If someone in a family doesn't take off his muddy boots at the door, he will leave a dirty trail all the way to his room. There is the saying: “That did not happen to him without leaving a mark.” Sometimes the term is used regarding travel; for example, “in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul.” Or in Israel, “in the footsteps of Jesus.”

Traces are often revealing. One can tell from pawprints not only that an animal has run by, but also what kind of animal it was. We know the expression of following in someone's footsteps. If a son

takes up his father's profession, he is said to have “followed in his father's footsteps.” In such case, it means to emulate in pursuance of the same work.

We often find this expression in Scripture. Thus, we read in 2 Corinthians 12:18b: “Walked we not in the same spirit? Walked we not in the same steps?” And in 1 Peter 2:21: “For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.”

Anyone who follows or will have to follow in someone's footsteps, must try to meet the expectations associated with the role model to be emulated. The term “follower” is often used in Scripture. “Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me” (1 Cor 4:16). “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ” (1 Cor 11:1). “Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children” (Eph 5:1). “Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example” (Phil 3:17). “And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost” (1 Thess

## EDITOR'S NOTE

1:6). "For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, as they have of the Jews" (1 Thess 2:14). "And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?" (1 Pet 3:13).

What impression do we make on our surroundings ... on our family, friends, acquaintances, and children? Do we leave destructive marks or blessings? Let us think of someone who is tending a flower bed in the garden. There are traces surrounding the flower bed that show the care taken by that person. And then someone comes by and heedlessly tramples everything down.

Have we ever considered what kind of tracks we are leaving behind in the world? Whether others will think it worthwhile to become our imitators? Our life will leave the best mark if we become imitators of Christ.

Albert Schweitzer once said: "The only things of importance in life are the traces of love we leave behind when we are gone."

Wishing you a blessed middle of the year. ☺

**Correction:** An alert reader pointed out that the death toll figures for WWI and II were reversed in the May issue, page 14. The sentence should have read: WWI alone was responsible for the lives of some 20 million. WWII claimed another 50 million.

## In light of the times, *News From Israel* is

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



To start or renew your *News From Israel* magazine subscription, use the order form in the insert or pg. 47, call 800-845-2420 with your credit card ready, or order online at [midnightcall.com/nfi](http://midnightcall.com/nfi)

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

☎ 1-800-845-2420

Published 12 times a year by  
**MIDNIGHT CALL, INC.**

PO Box 84309  
Lexington, SC 29073

**Physical Location:**  
4694 Platt Springs Road  
West Columbia, SC 29170

**Founder** — Dr. Wim Malgo (1922–92)

**International Editor** — René Malgo

**Executive Editor** — Arno Froese

**Contributing Authors** — Norbert Lieth,  
Wilfred Hahn, Dr. Ron J. Bigalke,  
Johannes Pflaum, Samuel  
Rindlisbacher, René Malgo,  
Stephan Beitze and Thomas Lieth

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

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

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

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

• **Special Order:** Andrea Giles • **German-English Translators:**

Barbara Lavery, Melanie Makin and Helga Tirrell

• **Webmasters:** Ricardo Rempel and Matias Steiger

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRY

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

### MAILING ADDRESS

USA and Canada:  
PO Box 84309  
Lexington, SC 29073

### PHONE

Toll free phone: 1-800-845-2420

Local and International: +1 (803) 755-0733

### WEBSITE

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

### INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS

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

### OUR TASK

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

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

### STATEMENT OF FAITH

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Between Saving the Planet and Saving Souls –Part 2



**Hartmut Jaeger**

At the moment, we're experiencing new and completely different existential problems that are pushing climate goals to the side. If we're not firmly anchored in God and His Word, we quickly relativize nobler goals and subordinate them to new problems. What other explanation is there for pacifists suddenly demanding that tanks be delivered to war zones?

Questions of stability and orientation are being asked more and more loudly. What can we rely upon? In his book *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*, Carl Trueman examines the path humanity has taken to its current state, where our perceived identity takes precedence over everything else. He writes: “Prior ages were characterized by a transcendent frame, a belief that this world stood under the authority of a reality that transcended its mere material existence ... The fact that third worlds [societies not founded on the sacred] do not build their moral codes on a sacred order renders their cultures profoundly volatile, subject to confusion, and liable to collapse.” Doesn’t that sound like the state of politics today? Ultimately, more and more people are feeling that everything is pointless. All wickedness has its origin in ungodliness.

Jesus tells us to seek first God’s kingdom (Matt 6:33) and speaks of the importance of serving God fully. However, making this our focus doesn’t exempt us from everyday worries. But here is the encouraging part: The Father in heaven provides food and clothing for the plant and animal world. And if He provides for the living things we eat, how much more will He provide for us who have Him as our Father? Then Jesus re-emphasizes that the ungodly have other priorities. He warns against giving everything we have to gain the

world, thereby damaging our souls. How does this even benefit a person? He gambles away eternal fellowship with God, relies on fleeting things, and then dies.

People who have God in their lives are primarily seeking Him and His kingdom. This means recognizing that God the Father has dominion over every aspect of life. It means doing what He says. It means walking the path of righteousness that God reveals to us in His Word, and which our Lord Jesus Christ has already walked.

As far as social justice is concerned, it’s striking that Jesus didn’t establish His own political party in this unjust world, to fight against the oppression of the Roman rulers. He lived out and taught justice in the existing environment. If he had tried to improve or change the world, it would have ended in blood and tears. He knows that the problem lies much deeper. The devil is the prince of this world, and the source of many problems is the human heart (Matt 15:19-20).

The well-intentioned will fail in their good ideas because, quite simply, they themselves aren’t good. Attempts to “save the planet” will also fail. We want to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but we’re simultaneously destroying the environment mining lithium and cobalt to manufacture batteries. Experts say that the production of an electric car pollutes the environment twice as much

## Between Saving the Planet and Saving Souls: Part 2

---

The well-intentioned fail in their good ideas because, quite simply, they themselves aren't good. Attempts to "save the planet" will also fail.



as the production of a diesel vehicle, to say nothing of its disposal at the end of its useful life. In order to extract a ton of lithium, 2 million liters of water have to be used (in other words, poisoned). The way I see it, water is the most important resource for the future. We must prevent our water from being permanently polluted, and our forested areas from being cut down to make room for wind turbines. In my view, that would be the most important contribution we could make toward preserving Creation.

You have to wonder how some decisions even get made. How can we explain the unbridled hubris it took to think we could stop climate change? It reminds me of what the Apostle Paul said in Ephesians 4:18: "They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the igno-

rance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart."

Therefore, our most important task is to point out that every human being needs to have a new heart, a new mind. And this is possible in and through Jesus Christ. That is our mission. Paul summarizes it in 2 Timothy 4:1-5:

"I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

This is the last challenge we have from Paul concerning our commission. As such, it not only has special significance for Timothy, but also for us as well.

"Be sober-minded" means not going to extremes ... keeping to the middle path ... disarming our speech ... not just complaining about the negative. And don't stop there: Preach the good old Gospel. Walk trusting in your Lord.



God has a plan. It accounts for the fact that there will be a kingdom of peace on this very earth for a thousand years, despite all the environmental destruction.

“Endure suffering” means that we have to put up with insults, being misunderstood, opposition, and more. We endure this while praying for the situation, as well as for wisdom in our ministry.

“Do the work of an evangelist” means that we have a clear mandate: to proclaim the Gospel. How much energy has been wasted in the last two years while we were arguing about Covid measures? This pleases God’s enemy, but never the Lord Jesus. We have a mission, and today we’re experiencing a special openness to the Gospel. The principle still applies: Every trial is an opportunity. We need everyone to make use of these new opportunities in times of difficulty. So, let’s focus on our actual mission again, together. That brings honor to our Lord.

“Fulfill your ministry” means not giving up, not abandoning our service to His Highest. Carry out what the Lord has commanded you to do until He returns. With this in mind, let’s stand united and joyful as we fulfill the most beautiful commission in the world: telling the unsaved about the Savior, Jesus Christ, as redeemed sinners ourselves.

God has a plan. It accounts for the fact that there will be a kingdom of peace on this very earth for a thousand years, despite all the environmental destruction. Afterward, this earth will

perish. So, it makes sense not to put our primary focus on fleeting things but on what is imperishable: the soul of man.

Jesus says, “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved . . . we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2 Pet 3:10-13).

This makes it clear that our message is an urgent one. So, let’s do everything we can to show people the way out of their dead-end street. Embracing the ministry of reconciliation that Paul calls us to in 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, is our job as rescuers of souls. All things are made new in Christ! Instead of encouraging people to chain themselves to things or resist, we encourage them to be reconciled to God. God Himself paid the price for that possibility, by making His own Son become sin on our behalf. It’s more than we could possibly imagine, and yet, it’s true! This is the message a broken world needs to hear.

To get back to the point, I’d like to share some excerpts from a moving letter by Franz Kronbeck, which I recently read:

“Dear Greta and all of your followers, It’s true that the world we’ve left to you really isn’t in the greatest shape.

## Between Saving the Planet and Saving Souls: Part 2

---

No matter how dark things may seem, we know the light. As hopeless as things may be, we have hope.



The environment is polluted, and there are wars, natural disasters, poverty, disease, and misery. But believe it or not, it was like that when we and your grandparents were your age. It wasn't much different, even then. Just the same, our efforts aren't enough for the world and generations to come.

Because the most important resource of all is being senselessly wasted: the meaning of life.

Early in life we snatch your mother from you when you need her. You wake up isolated and distraught when you should have the right to grow up in safety and security, in a family with two parents and siblings ... Yes, we've failed at the really important things. Now you're having to worry about your future, but what does your present look like?

You're spending most of the day in front of a computer. You're constantly fleeing into a virtual world that's feeding on you. If you gave up smartphones, tablets, game consoles, you'd soon realize how worthwhile and beautiful the world can be ... You're worrying about the global climate but forgetting what's really being threatened: your heart! People will steal it from you and plant every kind of impurity in it.

Isn't it strange? As dreams become more universal, disasters become more personal.

So if you want to save the world, it's best to start with yourself, where the effect is greatest and lasts longest! Above all, don't let your faith or hope be taken from you, because without God, nature will perish all on its own."

“Everyone’s life is a journey toward death, that much is dead certain. But as a Christian, my death is a journey toward life, and that’s just as certain.”

Yes, we’re talking about hope. No matter how dark things may seem, we know the light. As hopeless as things may be, we have hope. And no matter how pointless things may seem, we have a chance.

Jürgen Habermas, one of Germany’s most influential philosophers and sociologists of the 20th and 21st centuries, summarizes the dilemma of mankind without Jesus: “When we consider guilt, loneliness, suffering, and death, the human condition is generally hopeless.”

If this world is everything and man is just a biological algorithm, then we truly have no sustainable hope. This is the conclusion that those with an evolutionist worldview must logically arrive at. Refusing to accept that the world came into being through supernatural processes, they want to save it using natural ones. And thus, they’re doomed to failure. Hope is only justifiable when it’s grounded in reality.

Our hope as Christians is different from how it is commonly understood. It isn’t an unknown; it isn’t a pious desire; and it isn’t consolation drawn from better times. It’s reality. German theologian Hans-Joachim Eckstein writes, “What is yet to come is already there, prior to its arrival, in the form of hope.”



For us, hope is one person: Jesus Christ. And it isn’t theoretical. How much stability, confidence, and consolation this living hope gives us becomes particularly clear at a grave. I became aware of this some time ago, when I presided over the burial of a man whom I had never personally met, and whose relatives have no interest in God. I reflected on how I could help them understand the difference between a non-Christian and a Christian. So, I said:

“Everyone’s life is a journey toward death, that much is dead certain. But as a Christian, my death is a journey toward life, and that’s just as certain.”

That’s why we’re primarily on this path as rescuers. It’s only after this top priority that we responsibly handle the Creation that our Creator has entrusted us with. Grace be with us all. Maranatha! (MR1122/1300)



## ENDTIME STRATAGEM: SUPER-JAMMING THE MIND



Twenty plus years ago, in this space we published an article titled "The Business of Snatching Minds."

**By Wilfred Hahn**

**I**t was a shocker. At the time, we were incredulous as to how much of people's waking hours were taken up with media devices. The latest surveys at that time reported that the average person living in North America spent 9.2 hours on such devices (social media, iPhone, internet, radio, TV ... etc.) every day. Yes, 9.2 hours per day. This was a stunning increase of 45% from five years before. Surely this trend could not extend much further, we reasoned. After all, people need to sleep too!

However, now two decades later, updating the data, we are shocked again. Perhaps people don't sleep after all ... or have no need of quiet times to rest their brains. (Granted, some of the increased media usage is attributable to Covid-19.)

Consider this statistic: According to recent surveys, people in the US over

18 years of age are spending a seemingly frivolous 11.1 hours a day on their media devices (smartphones, iPads, gaming consoles ... etc.). That equates to an average of 70% of one's waking hours. What to make of these trends?

This and related trends are highly significant and must be seen in an end-time context. However, we should be careful to mention that technology in and of itself is not evil. However, it can facilitate great evil if applied to nefarious agendas ... especially so given the power of its globally interconnected infrastructure.

We commented at the time that, just as the concept of "share of wallet" had been used by marketing strategists to great effect, the same would apply to a strategy focused on "share of mind."

We postulated that Satan himself has masterminded this strategy of "share

According to recent surveys, people in the US over 18 years of age are spending a seemingly frivolous 11.1 hours a day on their media devices (smartphones, iPads, gaming consoles ... etc.). That equates to an average of 70% of one's waking hours.

of mind.” The proof? The “share of mind” that God's truths or a relationship with Jesus Christ attract in our time—specifically also in so-called Christian nations—is at an all-time low. In fact, the collapsing “share of mind” trend that we reference is actually a phenomenon applying to last day Bible prophecy (as we will show).

But why is this stratagem to jam people's minds and thinking so important and effective? Why is the mind such an important facet of Satan's endtime strategies? And, sadly, why has this strategy been so successful?

### Targeting the Mind

The human mind is a strategic focus in the cosmic battle for at least three important reasons. First, our faith involves the mind. “Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord” (Isaiah 1:18a). Faith, belief, and obedience are connected to reasoning. As Apostle Paul admonished, we are urged to use our mind ... to not put our brains on the shelf: “...I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind” (1 Corinthians 14:15).

In contrast, cultic religions try to immobilize and disable the mind ...



to circumvent the natural safeguard of the mind. Not so our Lord. Yes, it is true that our minds are not able to fully understand His greatness and His ways. But that does not mean we do not accept logic and reason to support our beliefs.

The next reason is that our mind is the place of the spiritual battleground. It is precisely what thoughts gain access to the mind—whether through eyes, ears, or spirit—that have an impact upon our hearts and soul. In fact, what the Bible calls the heart is in essence what our mind chooses to believe and pursue.

Our thoughts represent reality and are just as eternally important as our physical actions. Christ made this point very clear, saying, “But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Matthew



We now understand the main reasons why the human mind is the logical point of assault. It is the essence that exercises faith and chooses a relationship with God. It is the spiritual war zone.

5:28). Here we see that the evil thoughts of the mind—if not repulsed—become an actual sin of the heart, whether there has been physical consummation or not.

Lastly, the mind finds its interface in the brain, a fleshly organ that learns and adapts. This grey matter can become habituated to lifestyle, thought patterns, and thinking processes. Just like an exercised muscle becomes stronger, so also the physical pathways of the brain.

These pathways can become trained and expert. To the extent that we have trained our brain to allow bad thoughts and behaviors, we need to undo them. Apostle Paul refers to this as renewal. “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will” (Romans 12:2).

In conclusion, we now understand the main reasons why the human mind is the logical point of assault. It is the essence that exercises faith and chooses a relationship with God. It is the spiritual war zone. And lastly, through our physical brain, our mind can entrench behavior and responses that we may have to strive to unlearn.

### Super-Jamming the Human Mind

The onslaught against the attentive human mind continues. Without question, the mind of modern-day humanity remains under assault. The incursions are increasing and coordinated as perhaps never before. Moreover, a global communications bandwidth has rapidly taken form, which plays a pivotal role in enabling the Antichrist and the Beast to deceive the world, both on a macro and personal basis.

(An earlier article published in this space was entitled “The Last Technology.” It explained why the internet-connected smartphone is the last and final technology required for prophetic enablement.)

The result is that the average person’s mind is bombarded with entertaining images and populist messages. With that kind of informational diet, the mind loses its alertness ... its ability to discern truth from fiction ... to see and recognize the signs of the times.

“So let us not be like the others, but let us be alert and self-controlled” (1 Thessalonians 5:6). Fewer and fewer people today have the ability to test and approve what God’s will and plans are. Moreover, Jesus Christ counseled

## We must also willfully act to govern and guard our minds.

His followers to be alert and to watch. How many find the time and focus to do so today?

### The Focus of Mind That the Bible Wants

What “share of mind” does our Lord encourage? The Bible leaves no doubt. Hundreds of Scriptures indicate that Jesus Christ should possess our total being. God’s truth and presence should dominate our mind. Perhaps the most quoted passage is found in Psalm 1: “Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night” (vv. 1-2). “Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long” (Psalm 119:97).

### Thoughts to Ponder

Sadly, all of us living in the age of the super-charged media and commercialized culture of our time, struggle to attain the type of devotion that Scripture upholds. Apostle Paul was already worried about this type of assault upon the minds of Christians 2,000 years ago.

“But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent’s cunning, your minds may somehow be

led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ” (2 Corinthians 11:3). Yes, Paul may not have understood the “somehow.” But today, we do recognize the devices and means being deployed to lead our minds astray.

What can we do? Acknowledge this encouragement: “Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:2-3). But in our time of a massive, coordinated assault upon the functions of people’s minds, more than acknowledgment is required.

We must also willfully act to govern and guard our minds. The Bible provides much counsel on this task. “Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy’” (1 Peter 1:13-16).

“The end of all things is near. Therefore, be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray” (1 Peter 4:7). (MC)

Ruins of Herodium (Herodion), Fortress of Herod the Great  
Judean Desert near Jerusalem, Israel

# Herodium: God at Work in the Desert

(Sites of the Bible Series)

DR. RON J. BIGALKE

The Judean wilderness extends 15 x 50 miles from Wadi Kelt in the north to the Negev in the south. Throughout the centuries, it has remained unchanged.

**T**he wilderness is an ideal place for escape and seclusion, due to its arid and unappealing nature; it is both desolate and unwelcoming. The majority of people would only pass through the wilderness on their journey to somewhere else. Yet it has been an important and much documented location throughout history. The Hebrew people wandered for 40 years in the wilderness, where they learned to trust God.

However, the wilderness did appeal to unconventional persons, such as fugitives, hermits, and outcasts. Notable members of society would often seek asylum there. Whenever a dignitary embarked on an expedition or journey, especially through a foreign or inhospitable country, he would often send a herald (forerunner) to prepare the way. The monarch's visit necessitated preparations: any obstacles needed to be removed, and roads



---

would need to be leveled and repaired to allow for an unobstructed journey (cf. Luke 3:5).

John the Baptist served as the forerunner of the coming Messiah, in fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy of a "voice crying in the wilderness" (Isa 40:3; Mal 3:1; Matt 3:1, 3). Luke 3:4-6 refers to the necessary preparations that would be common for a dignitary making a journey. John's ministry was to make the Jews ready for the appearance of Messiah, so that when He emerged, they would repent and believe in Him. John compared the hardened hearts of the people to mountains and hills needing to be leveled, the crooked becoming straight, and rough roads requiring smoothing (Luke 3:5).

With his message of repentance, John was exhorting his listeners to change their minds in regard to a relationship with God, and to demonstrate genuine repentance by means of righteous conduct (Luke 3:7-14). He also proclaimed Jesus as "the Christ" (vv. 15-17). Just as vipers will seek to escape an approaching brush fire, so also did John's hearers attempt to flee God's "wrath to come" by having John baptize them (v. 7). Perceiving their motivation for baptism as self-preservation rather than authentic repentance, John specified what changes proved the reality of their contrition (vv. 8, 10-14). "John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea"

(Matt 3:1), compelling his listeners to evaluate their spiritual lives. Then they would avoid unlevel ravines and rocks that would cause them to stumble.

Jesus, of course, retreated to the wilderness to fast for forty days and nights, during which He was repeatedly "tempted by the devil" (Matt 4:1). Although the Lord's time of fasting may be compared to that of Moses (Exod 34:28) and Elijah (1 Kgs 19:8), the primary meaning and purpose of that period was to demonstrate how Jesus responded to temptation in terms of His humanity. The Judean desert still provides quiet and tranquility, in contrast to the constant politically tense circumstances that have existed in Jerusalem throughout the ages. For this reason, the wilderness could have appealed to paranoid rulers such as Herod the Great.

### **Herodium in the Time of Herod**

Herod was a ruthless monarch who ruled as the Roman-appointed king of Judea from 37 BC until his death in 4 BC. Despite his tyranny, he was a visionary and built many aqueducts, fortresses, theatres, and other public buildings. In addition to other projects, he was responsible for reconstruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem, the magnificent port at Caesarea, and the palace-fortress in the Judean desert, on the West Bank of Israel.

## Herodium: God at Work in the Desert

---

Scripture first mentions King Herod regarding his response when hearing that “Jesus was born in Bethlehem ... [the] King of the Jews” (Matt 2:1-2). Herod “was troubled” (v. 3) because he knew the Jews yearned to be liberated from Roman rule, as well as from his kingship. Herod was an Edomite (descendants from Esau), whom the Jews regarded with much prejudice and suspicion, even referring to them as half-breeds (Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, 14.15.2). Not only Herod but also “all Jerusalem with him” (Matt 2:3) was disturbed, in trepidation that if the king received news from the magi regarding Jesus’ birth, he might respond with cruelty, which would be consistent with his character. Such fear was valid, since he did indeed exercise his power with the disposition of a monster (v. 16).

In 40 BC, the Parthians (the eastern empire fighting the Romans at the time) invaded Syria, which also included Jerusalem. They had a profound hatred toward Rome, borne out of the excessive taxation of Mark Antony and Cleopatra to support their extravagances. Thus, they wanted to install a Judean king opposed to Rome. Antigonus II Mattathias made a treaty with the Parthians, whereby he was able to conquer Jerusalem. The Parthians installed Antigonus as king of Judea (40-37 BC), thus forcing Herod to flee for his life from Jerusalem. Antigonus and his allies pursued Herod and were

able to threaten him southeast of Bethlehem. Herod barely escaped. He fled quickly from Masada, leaving his family there, and went to Rome where the Senate (with the recommendation of Mark Antony) appointed him king of Judea.

Herod opposed Antigonus for three more years, and when victorious over him and his supporters, Herod then became sole ruler over the land in 37 BC, with the support of the Roman Empire. With the defeat of Antigonus, the Jews’ fierce three-year struggle for independence from Rome came to an end. According to Josephus (*Antiquities* 15.1.2), Antony had Antigonus beheaded at Antioch to quiet the Jews, believing that was the only option to “bend the minds of the Jews so as to receive Herod.” Antony became “the very first man who beheaded a king,” and Hasmonean rule was abolished with the execution of Antigonus.

The memory of the desperate battle with Antigonus remained with Herod, and (in approximately 28 BC) he began to build Herodium. Josephus wrote, “And in this very place where he overcame the Jews, it was that he some time afterwards built a most excellent palace, and a city round about it, and called it Herodium” (*Antiquities* 14.13.9). “And as he transmitted to eternity his family and friends, so did he not neglect a memorial for himself, but built a fortress upon a mountain towards Arabia, and named it from him-

Credit: R. Bigalke

Credit: R. Bigalke



Model of Herodium at the Visitor's Center



Model of the Mountain Palace-Fortress

self Herodium; and he called that hill that was of the shape of a woman's breast, and was sixty furlongs distant from Jerusalem, by the same name. He also bestowed much curious art upon it with great ambition, and built round towers all about the top of it, and filled up the remaining space with the most costly palaces round about, insomuch that not only the sight of the inner apartments was splendid, but great wealth was laid out on the outward walls, and partitions, and roofs also. Besides this, he brought a mighty quantity of water from a great distance, and at vast charges, and raised an ascent to it of two hundred steps of the whitest marble, for the hill was itself moderately high, and entirely factitious. He also built other palaces about the roots of the hill...." (*Wars of the Jews* 1.21.10). Herod also built his tomb at Herodium, where he gave orders for his burial.

### **Herodium After the Time of Herod**

Archelaus came to power after the death of his father in 4 BC, and Herodium then became part of his kingdom. Archelaus was the eldest surviving son of Herod, since his father murdered his three older brothers. Archelaus was responsible to see "that the procession to his father's sepulcher should be very presumptuous" (*Antiquities* 17.8.3). Josephus indicated that Herod was buried at Herodium (*Antiquities* 17.8.3; *Wars* 1.33.9), though the exact location is not certain. In 2007, Israeli archaeologist Ehud Netzer claimed to have located Herod's tomb at Herodium, though other scholars have expressed doubts.

Scripture notes the change in political leadership "when Herod died" (Matt 2:19) and when Archelaus began ruling the majority of his father's kingdom as ethnarch for nine years (4 BC-

# Herodium: God at Work in the Desert

Credit: R. Bigalke

Credit: R. Bigalke



System of Tunnels



Large Water Cistern

AD 6). An angel commanded Joseph to return to the land of Israel from Egypt, “but when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Then after being warned *by God* in a dream, he left for the regions of Galilee, and came and lived in a city called Nazareth” (Matt 2:22-23a). Herod Antipas, the younger brother of Archelaus, was tetrarch over Galilee and Perea.

Herodium is just 3 miles southeast of Bethlehem. It is unlikely that Joseph would want his family to live in such close proximity to Herod’s palace-fortress and with the reminder of how the male children were slaughtered. Herodium is 8 miles south of Jerusalem, yet for Joseph, Mary, and Jesus to live in the royal city would attract potential dangers. The peaceful atmosphere of Nazareth was an ideal location for Joseph and Mary to raise

Jesus. Christ was born in the shadow of Herod’s palace-fortress, yet was born “King of the Jews,” with His birth heralded by angels and honored by magi.

In the First Jewish-Roman War (the Great Revolt) in AD 66, rebels seized control of Herodium, entrenching themselves there. Approximately 6 months subsequent to the destruction of the Temple in AD 70, the Romans determined to defeat the remaining Jewish strongholds, which included Herodium. The Romans conquered and destroyed the palace-fortress in 71 AD. During the Bar Kokhba Revolt (AD 132-35), rebels took control of Herodium, which was partly ruined. Archaeological evidence for the revolt was found, revealing a system of caves and secret tunnels. During the Byzantine period (4th-7th centuries), monks spent time at Herodium, and three churches have since been excavated at the site. (1304)

**I**n February, a violent hurricane swept across northern Germany. Ships on the Elbe River sank or were driven ashore. The hurricane, which was accompanied by heavy rain and hail, destroyed countless buildings and uprooted hundreds of thousands of trees. Numerous people and animals were killed and large areas devastated, remaining flooded for several months.

In May, severe thunderstorms erupted over large parts of central Germany. Rivers rose by several meters within just a few hours, and over 2,200 people lost their lives.

In July, the Ahr Valley region in southwestern Germany was hit by an extremely serious storm and flooding, the likes of which had never been experienced before. Hundreds of homes were

# Extreme Weather as a Sign of Climate Change

**Thomas Lieth**

How should we classify current weather extremes? Is there any truth to climate change? Some considerations from a biblical perspective.



# Extreme Weather as a Sign of Climate Change

---

Mankind will never be able to influence the climate, either for good or for bad.



destroyed, bridges washed away, crops destroyed, and hundreds left dead.

In autumn, violent hurricanes swept through the Atlantic, wrecking ships and leaving thousands killed or unaccounted for. Beyond this, there was damage on islands and inland—the Caribbean islands, southeastern United States, and Central America were all affected.

In December, an unprecedented storm hit the British Isles and the English Channel, causing a storm surge across the North Sea region that killed around 10,000 people. The British Navy lost 13 ships and more than 1,500 sailors.

All of these examples can be said to be clear evidence of manmade climate change ... so climate activists must be right when they say that it's already five minutes past midnight. But there is one thought-provoking thing to consider: the hurricane in northern Germany took place in February of 1648. The heavy thunderstorms over central Germany erupted on May 29, 1804, and the catastrophe in the Ahr Valley occurred on July 21, 1804 (and similar events took place there in 1601

and 1910). The devastating hurricanes were 17th-century events. And the heaviest storms to ever hit the British Isles and the English Channel occurred in 1703. A drought is also known to have hit central Europe in 1540, and large parts of Europe scarcely received any rain for most of a year. A 2016 publication suggests the average summer temperature that year was well above today's averages. A Swiss historian, specializing in the fields of environmental history and historical climatology, describes the events of 1540 as follows:

“There was virtually no rain for eleven months, and the temperature was five to seven degrees above the normal values for the 20th century: the temperature must have climbed to over 40°C [104°F] in midsummer. Countless forested areas went up in flames, acrid smoke obscured the sunlight, and not a single thunderstorm was recorded over the course of the summer. Water was running out as early as May. Wells and springs dried up, mills stood motionless, people starved, cattle were slaughtered. An estimated half a million people died in Europe.”

Do you notice anything? Catastrophes of devastating magnitude, even climatic changes, have always existed and always will. Mankind will never be able to influence the climate, either for good or for bad. You can protect the environment, animals, and people, buildings and land, but not the climate. I can make sure I don't get wet if it rains, but I can't stop the rain. So, I wonder: How can intelligent people be so naïve as to believe that they can change the climate and save the world? As the Bible says, “Claiming to be wise, they became fools” (Rom 1:22).

---

From the very beginning, the devil questioned God's Word: "Did God really say...?" And the devil is seducing people to question God to this day.

In fact, I conclude that with all the madness in the world ("saving the climate," gender ideology, abortion "rights," the theory of evolution, "pride month," etc.), mankind has become misguided and blind, the devil's plaything. In the end, all of this is simply the fruit of having turned away from God and His Word. It is the consequence of a lack of fear of God, of refusing to acknowledge sin. From the very beginning, the devil questioned God's Word: "Did God really say...?" And the devil is seducing people to question God to this day.

When God says that He is the Creator of heaven and earth, deceived man says, "No, everything was created by chance." When God says that He watches over His creation and ensures that sowing and reaping will not fail as long as the earth endures, then deceived man says, "No, it's five minutes past midnight; we have to save the earth at all costs." When God says that all of creation is transient, man replies, "No, we'll save our planet with renewable energy, climate protection, and carbon offsets." When God says that He created mankind as male and female, man says, "No, there are many more genders, and a man can also be a woman, or both, or neither." When God says that it's shameful for a man to lie with a man or for a woman to lie with a woman, man replies, "No, that's diversity; that's love; that's good and completely normal." When God says that a man shouldn't leave his wife, man replies, "No, I want to be free. I don't want to be tied down. I want to make my own choices." When God says to multiply and that children are a great blessing, man

replies, "No, children are a burden; children destroy the environment; and, 'my body, my choice.'"

If our ancestors were convinced of the Law and allowed it to guide them in their responsibility before God, today, this Word of God is being trampled underfoot and fought by any means necessary. True, Bibles aren't being burned, and we have freedom of religion. But politics, economics, and society are not only questioning God's Word, but also reinterpreting and eliminating it. Yet what does God's Word tell us, especially with regard to future events? During the Olivet Discourse, the Lord Jesus says, "There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven" (Luke 21:11).

"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken" (Luke 21:25-26). The forces of the heavens (the sun and moon) directly influence the climate and weather extremes. For example, the sun's intensity is a deciding influence on the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> released in the oceans. In other words, global warming causes higher CO<sub>2</sub> levels, but higher CO<sub>2</sub> levels don't necessarily cause global warming. And the moon in turn influences the tides. According to a NASA report, a routine "wobble" in the moon's orbit could be responsible for flooding.

## Extreme Weather as a Sign of Climate Change

---

What man needs is to turn back to God, not a clean energy revolution. What man needs is to fear God as commanded, not fear the climate. What man needs is to trust in God, not believe in himself.

In Luke 21:25-26, the Lord is prophesying about the future. We're not yet witnessing it, but it's exciting to see the shadows of events that are on their way. For example, 2 Peter 3:10 says, "and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed." Years ago, who could have imagined what these words meant? But when the atomic age began, Peter's writings (from as early as the 1st century AD) became conceivable.

When we think of Revelation, the coming events on earth will make everyone who experiences them lose sight and hearing. One of the things it says is, "...the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, and the stars of the sky fell to the earth..." (Rev 6:12-13). Or, "...there followed hail and fire, mixed with blood, and these were thrown upon the earth. And a third of the earth was burned up, and a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up" (Rev 8:7). The events described in these passages eclipse all previous fires and reveal the powerlessness of people who have forgotten to give glory to God, and instead worship creation.

Further on in the text, "He opened the shaft of the bottomless pit, and from the shaft rose smoke like the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened with the smoke from the shaft" (Rev 9:2). This is where peerless volcanic eruptions are described, which release more emissions than a person could offset in a lifetime. This

passage gives the impression that by freeing this belching volcano, God is giving a resounding slap in the face to all human activity intended to save the climate. It's like a kid on the beach trying to create a hole in the sand with his bucket, when the next wave will undo all his work.

Finally, Revelation 16:8-9 says, "The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to scorch people with fire. They were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues. They did not repent and give him glory." This heat far surpasses any global warming. And so, I ask: Do you really believe that mankind can save the world and prevent God's judgment, by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and embarking on climate neutral projects? No, because man will reap what he sows. Accordingly, people should be less concerned with climate change and more concerned with the social change that's associated with rampant, progressive godlessness.

What man needs is to turn back to God, not a clean energy revolution. What man needs is to fear God as commanded, not fear the climate. What man needs is to trust in God, not believe in himself. And so, I'd like to conclude with the certainty that this world's destruction isn't the end, but God's new beginning with those who are saved in and through Jesus Christ. According to 2 Peter 3:13, "But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."

(MR0622/1241)



# The Overcomers of the Philadelphia Church



**Wim Malgo (1922-1992)**

An interpretation of the last book of the Bible. Part 38. Revelation 3:10-12.

**T**he church in Philadelphia must have been a wonderful one. While the Lord had to rebuke the knowledge-rich church at Ephesus (“I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love”), the members of the church of Philadelphia express their ardent first love. Their faithfulness to the Word and adherence to the precious name of Jesus are such that the Lord can envelop them in His precious love: “...to know that I have loved thee.”

It’s wonderful that this fact is recognized by people who had been religiously self-righteous. Do your adversaries recognize you are loved by the Lord through your love for Him? No one can see this if you’re halfhearted. Is Romans 5:5 a visible, tangible reality in your life? That verse says, “...because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”

The church in Philadelphia, however small and weak, must have been a victori-

## The Overcomers of the Philadelphia Church

---

ous one because the Lord gave its members an open door. It was on the offensive, attacking the world. This is an unavoidable statement when we see the Lord both assuring them of an open door, and twice testifying that they have kept the Word and not denied His name. Moreover, in Revelation 3:11, He exhorts her to “hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.”

The church already has the conqueror’s crown, which means it fought victoriously! For no one is crowned unless they have rightly fought the good fight of faith. That’s why Philadelphia’s future outlook, revealed by the Lord, is so full of promises and highly charged prophecy. This prophecy is being fulfilled in our day. If you read the whole thing in context, then you know with certainty that the Church will be raptured before the Great Tribulation (and not midway through or even afterward): “Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth” (Rev 3:10).

The “hour of temptation” is the anti-Christian Great Tribulation, described further on in Revelation. If ever a word has been relevant in our time, it’s this one: “I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world ... Behold, I come quickly.”

Hence the either/or for you and me: Either we as individuals and as a Church

are victorious in attacking the world (including the religious world), or we are forced into a defensive war through compromise. But those who are on the defensive will be surrounded and mercilessly destroyed by Satan. Jesus is coming soon! So, let’s affirm we are devoted to Him, lest we be ashamed when He returns.

The promise for Philadelphia’s overcomers reads: “Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name” (v. 12).

This conqueror’s reward has its starting point in a newly-founded kingdom, in a new city, in a glorified new citizenship. The overcomer will become a pillar of a temple not made by human hands, which will endure forever. The prophet Isaiah speaks of this citizenship: “And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem” (Isa 4:3).

The overcomers of Philadelphia receive indescribable glories which, although foreshadowed with words, can’t be rationally explained in their substance (cf. 2 Cor 12:4; 1 Pet 1:8).

(MR1022/1290)




# WORLD FOCUS

 U K

## Dangers of Artificial Intelligence

A man widely seen as the godfather of artificial intelligence (AI) has quit his job, warning about the growing dangers from developments in the field.

 Geoffrey Hinton, 75, announced his resignation from Google in a statement to the *New York Times*, saying he now regretted his work.

He told the BBC some of the dangers of AI chatbots were “quite scary.”

“Right now, they’re not more intelligent than us, as far as I can tell. But I think they soon may be.”

In artificial intelligence, neural networks are systems that are similar to the human brain in the way they learn and process information. They enable AIs to learn from experience, as a person would. This is called deep learning.

The British-Canadian cognitive psychologist and computer scientist told the BBC that chatbots could soon overtake the level of information that a human brain holds.

Dr Hinton joins a growing number of experts who have expressed concerns about AI—both the speed at which it is developing and the direction in which it is going.



**Dr Geoffrey Hinton, the ‘godfather of AI,’ has left Google.** Photograph: Linda Ny Lind/The Guardian

AI is behind the algorithms that dictate what video-streaming platforms decide you should watch next. It can be used in recruitment to filter job applications, by insurers to calculate premiums, [and] can diagnose medical conditions (although human doctors still get the final say).

But the pace of AI acceleration has surprised even its creators. It has evolved dramatically since Dr Hinton built a pioneering image analysis neural network in 2012.

Make no mistake, we are on a speeding train right now, and the concern is that one day it will start building its own tracks.

-[www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com), 2 May 2023

**Commentary:** It is of interest that Geoffrey Hinton is the great-great-grandson of Mary Everest Boole (11 March 1832—17 May 1916), of whom Wikipedia writes: “Boole was inter-

ested in parapsychology and the occult, and was a convinced spiritualist.” About spiritualism, Wikipedia writes: “Spiritualism was a social religious movement in the nineteenth century, according to which an individual’s awareness persists after death and may be contacted by the living. The after-life, or the ‘spirit world,’ is seen by spiritualists not as a static place, but as one in which spirits continue to evolve.”

The development of artificial intelligence is unstoppable. Hundreds of thousands, even millions of intelligent scientists the world over are in the process of creating an artificial human with body and soul—but, we add, no spirit.

We know from Revelation 13 that a manmade image will have the capacity to determine who is really worshipping and who is not: “the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed” (Revelation 13:15b).

Finally, the world will have a fool-proof system whereby all of humanity can be controlled. That prophecy will be fulfilled in due time.

Should Christians be concerned? The answer is both yes and no. Yes, because virtually all of us make use

(continued next page)

## Dangers of AI

(continued from page 27)

of modern technology, whether it's TV, cell phones, the internet, or computers. Yet most of us are not really aware of the progress being made toward total control.

The last three verses of Romans 8 are applicable to believers: "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us

from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

7991

(See *The Greatest Love Story*, Item #9116, \$3 per 100 tracts.)



### KENYA

## The Fruit of False Prophets

Malindi sub-county police chief John Kemboi said that more shallow graves have yet to be dug up on the land belonging to pastor Paul Makenzi, who was arrested on April 14 over links to cultism.



The total death toll is 43, because a further four people died after they and others were discovered starving at the Good News International Church.

A tipoff from members of the public led police to raid the pastor's property in Ma-



Police and local residents load the exhumed bodies of victims of a religious cult into the back of a truck in the village of Shakahola, near the coastal city of Malindi, in southeastern Kenya. AP

lindi, where they found 15 emaciated people, including the four who later died. The followers said they were starving on the pastor's instructions in order to meet Jesus.

The pastor has been arrested twice before, in 2019 and in March of this year, in relation to the deaths of children. Each time, he was released on bond, and both cases are still proceeding through the court.

-[www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org), 23 April 2023

**Commentary:** Under the umbrella of the Christian religion, Mr. Makenzi is responsible for the death of those who followed "his gospel," not the one found in our Bible. Galatians 1:8 proclaims: "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."

What led Paul Makenzi to follow his own deception? Obviously, self-manifestation ... highlighting his own experience, which did not correspond to Holy Scripture.

Previous arrests should have raised red flags among his followers. Quite obviously, Makenzi did not adhere to the instructions we find in Romans 13:1-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-2, Hebrews 13:17, or 1 Peter 2:13-17.

Doubtless, this horrible event will have a negative effect on the believing Church in the land of Kenya. When Jesus said, "I will build my church," He then adds: "and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18). What do these "gates" represent? Namely, the consultation of darkness. At the gate of a city in olden days, the elders made decisions, tax was collected, and unwanted guests kept out. But unfortunately, the "gates of hell" continue to be rather successful on planet earth, deceiving those who do not love the truth. 7989

(See *The Church Subtly Deceived?* Item #2091, \$9.99.)

### NETHERLANDS

## Welcoming the End of Life

I'm a member of the European Understanding Tiredness of Life in Older People Research Network, a group of geriatricians, psychiatrists, social scientists, psychologists and death scholars. We want to better understand the phenomenon and unpick what is unique about it. The network is also working on advice for politicians and healthcare practices, as well as caregiver and patient support.



Professor of care ethics Els van Wijngaarden and colleagues in the

(continued next page)

## End of Life

(continued from page 28)

Netherlands listened to a group of older people who were not seriously ill, yet felt a yearning to end their lives. The key issues they identified in such people were: aching loneliness, pain associated with not mattering, struggles with self-expression, existential tiredness, and fear of being reduced to a completely dependent state.

Surgeon and medical professor Atul Gawande argues that in western societies, medicine has created the ideal conditions for transforming aging into a “long, slow fade.” He believes quality of life has been overlooked as we channel our resources towards biological survival. This is unprecedented in history. Tiredness of life may be evidence of the cost.

-*studyfinds.org*, 3 May 2023

**Commentary:** The above excerpts from the article authored by Sam Carr, attempt to document “tiredness of life.” A life without hope is hopeless. How different the Word of God views the aged. Psalm 92:14 promises: “They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing.” Isaiah 46:4 adds: “And even to your old age I am he; and even to

hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you.” 7989


(See *When Death Comes*, Item #1056, \$12.99.)



## POLAND

### Renewable Energy Oversupply

Poland’s grid operator temporarily disconnected its wind and solar facilities due to an oversupply of renewable energy threatening the country’s electrical grid.

 Photovoltaic installations in Poland have been breaking popularity records in recent years, both among entrepreneurs and private individuals.

The scale of oversupply of electricity exceeded 3 gigawatts, necessitating the reduction of renewable energy sources, PSE said, including those connected to the medium-voltage grid, and those connected to low-voltage grid.

Per *Notes From Poland*, [this] marked the second time since September that the grid operator has temporarily disconnected solar sources from the grid.

Poland officials conceded that its power grid would need a huge upgrade if it can cope with the transmission of energy from renewable and nuclear sources.

The country’s new strategy envisages nearly three-fourths of energy coming from zero-emission sources, including renewables and nuclear power.

-*www.foxbusiness.com*, 24 April 2023

**Commentary:** Too much electricity is being generated, overloading the existing power grid.

This should be met with jubilation from environmentalists, who con-



A number of solar collector panels are attached to the front wall of an old house in the center of Krakow, Poland. (Beata Zawrzel/NurPhoto via Getty Images)

tinue to insist that only “zero emission” power sources will save planet earth.

Will it? First of all, the world does not need to be saved, but individuals do. Salvation is only available through and by the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord of all.

Consulting Scripture, we know that the world will continue to function under the Creator’s authority until the very end, when 2 Peter 3:12 is fulfilled: “Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?” However, that’s not the end for believers, as the next verse reads: “Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for

new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.”

7988


(See *A Flood of Evidence*, Item #2345, \$15.99.)



 **USA**

## Threats from Beyond Earth

“The threats that we face to our on-orbit capabilities from our strategic competitors [have] grown substantially,” Gen. Chance Saltzman, the U.S. Space Force’s second-ever chief of space operations, said in a CNBC interview. “The congestion we’re seeing in space with tracked objects and the number of satellite payloads, and just the launches themselves, have grown at an exponential rate.”

 The message comes at a key moment as space rapidly commercializes and a heightened geopolitical backdrop increasingly sees threats extending beyond Earth to a domain for which rules of engagement remain unclear.

Military experts say space is likely to be the front line in any future conflicts—a battlefield that could extend to the private sector and impact civilians in real time.

“We’re seeing satellites that actually can grab another satellite, grapple with it and pull it out of its operational orbit. These are all capabilities they’re demonstrating on-orbit today, and so the mix of these weapons and the pace with which they’ve been developed [is] very concerning,” he said.

To respond to evolving threats and secure space assets more quickly, Saltzman is looking to further augment the [Space Force’s] capabilities to make satellite constellations more resilient and acquire more launch services by tapping into a burgeoning cadre of commercial space players.



**US Space Force General B. Chance Saltzman, Chief of Space Operations, testifies about the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget request during a Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC.**  
(Photo by SAUL LOEB / AFP)

An expanding budget helps, too. While still just a fraction of the country’s overall defense budget, the Space Force’s \$30 billion request for fiscal 2024 represents a 15% increase from this year’s enacted levels.

-[www.cnbc.com](http://www.cnbc.com), 20 April 2023

**Commentary:** With the increase in nations sending satellites into space, it stands to reason that laws and regulations must be established.

One must emphasize that when the word “space” is used, it’s just a tiny fraction of the space around earth. For example, the first space station, *Salyut 1*, was initiated by Russia on 19 April 1971, followed by the US’s *Skylab 1* on 14 May 1973. The International Space Station is only about 360 kilometers (220 miles) from earth. Compare that with the earth’s diameter of almost 13,000 km (8,000 mi.). However, space has become an issue in the last few decades, primarily because of communications and, bluntly stated, spying on

each other. Thus, all civilized, responsible nations must take such issues into account.

Will it work? We think so, because planet earth has already become one. For example, there are about 100,000 planes in the air every day; 50,000 ships cross the oceans loaded to the brim with merchandise; and one statistic claims that 1.2 billion vehicles are on the road daily.

Where will all this lead? One word: unity, achieved with innumerable compromises on all sides.

These comments may contradict what is presented to us by the news media, which emphasizes wars and rumors of wars. True, but not as it was a century or two ago. During those days in Europe, the main continent, small nations and kingdoms were fighting each other brutally. That has largely ceased for all practical purposes. While it seems rather unlikely in view of Russia and Ukraine in our days, in the end, all wars will cease.

What is the future? Again, peace, prosperity, and security. That’s absolutely necessary for the world to unite closer and finally come up with a truly global system, dominated in

the end by a global dictator—Antichrist.

7986


(See *How Democracy Will Elect the Antichrist*, Item #1064, \$17.95.)



**CHINA**

## Questions Sovereignty of Ex-Soviet Nations

The governments of former Soviet republics Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were among those who rejected Ambassador Lu Shaye's comment. Macron, at a summit in Ostend, Belgium, said in an interview with TFI Info, that "I don't think it's the place of a diplomat to use such language."

 He offered "full solidarity to countries which were attacked in the reading of their histories and their borders."

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson said earlier that "China respects the sovereign status of the former Soviet countries after the dissolution of the Soviet Union." Mao Ning said Beijing's position is "consistent and clear" but gave no indication whether Lu's comment was considered incorrect.

The ambassador drew a parallel between Ukraine and the other former Soviet republics that declared independence from Moscow when the Soviet Union broke up in 1991.

"With regards to international law, even these ex-Soviet Union countries, they do not, they do not have the status—how to say it?—that's effective in international law, because there is no international agreement to solidify their status as a sovereign country," Lu told news channel LCI.

The Chinese Embassy in France clarified the ambassador's remarks, saying in a statement that Lu was not making a

"political declaration, but an expression of his personal view during a televised debate."

Following the breakup of the Soviet Union, it said, "China was among the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the nations concerned. ... The Chinese side respects the status of sovereign nations born after the breakup of the Soviet Union."

[France's Foreign Ministry] said the international community—China included—recognized the 15 nations which gained or recovered independence with the break-up of the Soviet Union, including Ukraine and its borders that included Crimea when it declared independence in 1991.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said he doesn't recognize Ukraine's sovereignty. The Kremlin has also made clear that it sees the independence of the Baltic States and their role in NATO and the EU as threats to Russian security.

*-abcnews.go.com, 24 April 2023*

**Commentary:** While China proudly presents its ancient history with documented evidence, one must realize that the former Soviet Republics do as well: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and also Ukraine. Wars and political ambitions have changed borders throughout Europe and, for that matter, the rest of the world. Long before there was a Soviet Union, the Ukraine existed with its own culture, language, and traditions. Wikipedia states that the early Slavic

Chernoles culture goes back to 500 BC. But in the Ukrainian case, borders continue to change. According to analysis, it seems all but impossible for Crimea to be Ukrainian again.

It is of interest that among the 37 signers of the Israeli Declaration of Independence, most originated from Ukraine. Israel's only female prime minister, Golda Meir—who became the first ambassador of Israel to the Soviet Union in 1948—was born in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Here is what the Bible says about the borders of the nations: "When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel" (Deuteronomy 32:8). Interestingly, we read in the New Testament: "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation" (Acts 17:26). We emphasize the words, "and the bounds [boundaries] of their habitation." 7987

(See *Traced*, Item #2398, \$24.99.)



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

Need More Up-to-Date News?

Prophetic News

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

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound” (Isaiah 61:1).

**BY ARNO FROESE**

**A**bout seven centuries before Jesus was born, the prophet Isaiah declared the coming of the Messiah, the Anointed One. A few hundred years later, we read in Psalm 118:26: “Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.” Finally, Jesus the Son of David, the promised Messiah was welcomed to Jerusalem with the words, “Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord” (Mark 11:9b).

These Scriptures testify that there was an expectation for the coming Redeemer, the One who would set all things right for the people of Israel. Later, when John the Baptist was born, his father Zacharias prophesied of the coming of the Messiah: “And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David” (Luke 1:69). He then adds, “That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our ene-

mies might serve him without fear” (v. 74).

One thing is clear: time does not seem to matter. When Zacharias spoke some 2,000 years ago, he did not include the horrible times of suffering for the Jewish people throughout the millennia. Even today, they are still not “delivered out of the hand of [their] enemies.” Very unfortunately, Israel continues to have many adversaries. And, in making a casual observation, these enemies seem to increase ... at least in some parts of the world.

But we ask: What is the purpose of the deliverance from the enemies? Simply to “serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life” (Luke 1:74b-75).

It is so refreshing when one experiences the peace which passes all understanding, meaning we have the absolute assurance that the Word of God will be fulfilled to its finest detail in due time.



Going back to Isaiah 61, we read in verse 2: “To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn.” Quite interestingly, some 700 years later, the Messiah of Israel makes this proclamation in a synagogue in Nazareth: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised” (Luke 4:18). He then adds: “To preach the acceptable year of the Lord” (v. 19). Next, we read: “And he closed the book” (v. 20a). After this, He makes the amazing declaration: “This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears” (v. 21b). Jesus did not quote the continuation of the proclamation in Isaiah 61:2: “and the day of vengeance of our God.” Why not? Because that’s yet to come.

We learn from these biblical facts that our eyes and ears should not be focused on what we see, hear, and read in our news media, regardless of the source. They are all temporary; their knowledge is extremely limited, and quite often wrong. Actually, most of the so-called documentaries are no more than simply products of the imagination, issuing from the hearts of those who have no contact with the Eternal One, the Creator of heaven and earth. Whether it’s climate change or the next world war, all statements are merely groundless speculation.

When it comes to Israel, He will yet “comfort all that mourn.” With these assurances in mind, let us continue to pray for Israel as well as for the Church: that the fullness of the Gentiles may soon come in, so Romans 11:26 will be fulfilled: “And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob.” <sup>MC</sup>

# Action for Israel



MIDNIGHT CALL

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

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

MC0623

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Web:  
midnightcall.com/  
afi



## A Testimony from an Ebenezer Resident: Part 1

By Esther Meyer

I was born on August 15, 1936 in Schaffhausen (Switzerland), as the fourth child in a believing family.

At seven, I started grade one and completed nine years of schooling altogether. One unforgettable incident that happened during my school years was the bombing of Schaffhausen on April 1, 1944. I relived this experience during the following nights, and could only find rest when my mother let me share her bed. This brought me comfort and quickly, these frightful episodes ended.

In 1948 at age 12, I consciously asked the Lord Jesus to forgive me of my sins and enter my heart. I received the assurance that through His death on the cross and the blood that He shed, I had been forgiven and

was forever accepted as His child. I felt sorrow whenever I did something I knew would make Him sad. What I hadn't been taught was that we have to struggle with our old nature, but can come at any time to our Lord in order to be forgiven and cleansed.

After I finished my nine years of schooling, I went to Geneva for a year, to stay with a family and better my knowledge of the French language. Upon arriving back home, I began my studies to be a women's dressmaker. Two and a half years later, I got my degree and started working in my profession for several years.

On January 1, 1962, during a New Year's sermon, the Lord spoke to me through His Word from Isaiah 6:8: "And I heard the voice of the Lord,



saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, Here am I; send me!”

Through this word, I received the assurance that I must attend a Bible school, to deepen my knowledge of Scripture and better prepare myself to serve the Lord.

I envisioned myself working in an orphanage—not merely working there, but living out the love of Christ and being a witness for Him.

Thus, I attended the Beatenberg Bible School in Switzerland from 1963-65. During that time, I asked to be baptized by immersion. The congregation I had attended until then practiced infant baptism, so I wanted to obey the Word of God by testifying to my faith publicly.

During my time in Beatenberg, I put my future completely into the hands of God. I asked Him to give me clear confirmation of the place in which He wanted me to serve Him. I was already in my last semester, but I still didn't know where God wanted me. Together with my roommate, we fervently prayed that it would be HIM showing us the way, as we both still didn't know where we would go.

At the Bible school, we were to study the book of Esther. To prepare myself for the lessons of the coming week, I began reading the whole book.

I came to that critical point where Esther comes in and lets Mordechai know: “...And so I will go in to the king ... And if I perish, I perish” (Esther 4:16). It hit me like a lightning bolt—Israel! I knew from our Bible school that they were building a conference center in Haifa. Until then, it had never really interested me, even though one of my teachers (who would later become my brother-in-law) always took groups to Israel and presented slideshows from different places. Israel for me? Never! I put that thought about Israel to rest and continued with my prayers for guidance.

I went on with my life as usual, but the next time Israel came into my thoughts, I couldn't put it away that easily. So, I went to speak with my supervisor about it, and from there I had to go to the director. It took some time until I could talk to both of them. During that waiting period, my roommate and I prayed intensively. I want to add here that I had already spent two semesters in Germany, which was where I knew they wanted to send me, so it is really a miracle that God answered our prayers and intervened.

The director had already asked my parents to go to Israel and work there as house parents at the Beth Shalom Conference Center. They had readily agreed ... especially since my father



had just started his retirement. When I shared with her my desire to be sent to Israel, miraculously she answered, “There isn’t anything nicer than a daughter joining her mother and being a help to her!”

Because the senior Meyer couple was searching for domestic help, they sent me to Israel on the 23rd of June 1965. I arrived in Haifa and started my time with the Meyer family. The property that the new center was being built on had belonged to the Meyer family, and on the adjoining piece stood their newly built home. Their youngest son, Hans—who was an electrician and worked for Beth Shalom—was busy installing the electricity in the new conference building.

It was my first time in Israel, and it felt very special to me that the

Meyer family really made me feel welcome in their home ... like I had come back home from vacation, even though they were strangers to me. The only person I knew from my time in Beatenberg was the nurse that took care of the senior Meyers.

As Hans had to install all the electricity by himself, he sometimes needed a helping hand. So, during the day, I helped him with his job, and in the evening, he helped me put the kitchen back in order. Often, we went for an evening walk to the Panorama Street, where we could see the beautiful view of the harbor and the city of Haifa.

*(Continued next month.)*

**Correction:** In the May issue on page 39, we mistakenly wrote that there are six Holocaust survivors living in the Home: the correct number is eight.



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

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

MC0623  
EH

Yes, I wish to support the Ebenezer Home Project.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



# Letters to the Editor

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

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

## COVENANT TERMINATED?... SINIM: CHINA... DOOMSDAY CLOCK

### **Covenant Terminated?**

I have condensed a rather lengthy letter I began after receiving the January 2023 *News From Israel*, which boldly stated, "...the Mosaic Covenant has since been terminated." This statement was made in the 7th part of the article "Does Israel Have a Future?" by Norbert Lieth and Johannes Pflaum (page 7, 2nd sentence of the first paragraph).

YHVH gave us all a choice between good and evil, life and death. Setting His standard of righteousness in the law, He commanded Moses to give them to His people Israel and also those Gentiles who enter His everlasting and perpetual covenants—ALL of which are still in effect, as the Lord testified (Matthew 5:17-18; Deuteronomy 30:15-16). YHVH suggests we

choose life (Deuteronomy 30:19-20).

Therefore, as the fiery flame devours the stubble and the flames consume the chaff, their root shall be rotten and their blossom will go up as dust, because they have cast away the law of the Lord of hosts and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel (Matthew 3:11-12; Luke 3:16-17).

Cancel my subscription.

-S. Isabell, AK

**Answer:** Reading your Bible carefully, you will notice that the Mosaic Covenant was conditional, while the Abrahamic Covenant was unconditional. Regarding the Mosaic law, Hebrews 8:13 testifies: "In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away."



### Sinim: China

In the April 2023 issue of *Midnight Call* on page 12, Wilfred Hahn’s article on “Red China” quotes Isaiah 49:12. He states that the word “Sinim” identifies China. The notes in the NIV and ESV say it is in “southern Egypt.” What is the source that says this refers to China?

-E. Hutson, IN

**Answer:** The word “Sinim” in Isaiah 49:12 is somewhat rare. The margin note in one of the German translations says, “The city of Sin in Lower Egypt.” Then it adds, “Others interpret it as [the name for] China.” Wikipedia explains: “Some English versions simply transliterate the word, others translate the Hebrew as Syene or Aswan, and still others associate Sin with China. Sinim resembles *Sinae*, the Latinization of *Qin*, after the Qin state, founded in 778 BC, and the Qin dynasty, founded in 221 BC by Qin Shi Huang-Di.”

### Doomsday Clock

In the April 2023 *Midnight Call* on page 30, regarding the article on the Doomsday Clock, what measurement of time are they using? What amount of time does each second represent?

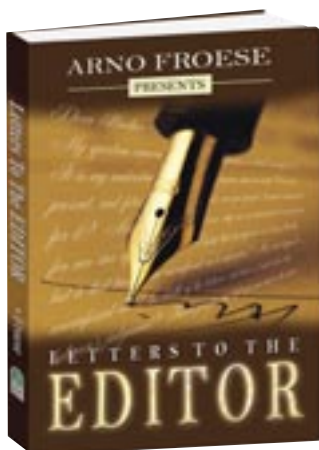
Also, where is North Korea in the Bible? Are they part of the Kings of the East?

-L. Shinabery, OH

**Answer:** Based on cursory research, the “Doomsday Clock” was invented in 1945 and is operated by the Science and Security Board of the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. In simple terms, these people are attempting to measure how close the world is to a nuclear war. Scripturally, it has no prophetic value.

For Christians, Matthew 24:44 is applicable: “Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”

Korea is not in the Bible.



## Midnight Call Magazine’s #1 Feature!

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

Discover what readers think about:

- Do Deceased See the Living?
- Eternal Fire?
- Wills and Estates
- Resurrection of Satan?
- Cremation
- And much, much more!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ITEM #1045

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

Author: Arno Froese



## BOLIVIA

# A New Meeting Space and Alcohol Abuse

BY MATHIAS AND DORO RINDLISBACHER, SANTA CRUZ

Our new mission work among the Mennonites in southeast Bolivia.

It's been a full year now since we returned to Bolivia. We would have loved to have begun the construction project of our mission, but it hasn't been possible for time, financial, and planning reasons. The clinic, intended to attract many Old Colony Mennonites in the future, is still under construction. Our prayer is that work on the clinic will move ahead soon, and that many Old Colony Mennonites will gather there (and on the mission grounds).

Since our big project can't be carried out yet, we're hoping to start with a smaller one. There is a canopy next to our mission house that we'd like to expand into a meeting room (17 x 8 m or 55 x 26 ft). One of its uses would be for theological instruction and Bible studies. And, during the day, the premises can be used for a mobile exhibit on Protestant history.

So, we're continuing to pursue our goal of reaching Mennonites with the Gospel and the Word of God, just on a smaller scale for now.



The Rindlisbacher family

## Alcohol Abuse

We've met several people from the Old Colony who used to be very addicted to alcohol. We also got to understand their culture better. They all said that alcohol abuse is a big problem in the colonies. Although alcohol consumption is technically forbidden there, it is tacitly tolerated.

One factor that leads to alcohol abuse is that many activities (such as soccer and volleyball) are strictly forbidden. When young people get together on the weekends, they don't pursue any sort of meaningful occupation. Instead, they drink, often to the point of collapse. Another factor is that the alcohol can help them forget



their worries and guilt. Some Mennonites have accumulated debts resulting from failed crops, and don't know how to manage their anxiety. Others use alcohol to numb the guilt of sins they've committed. Unfortunately, sexual promiscuity and abuse aren't uncommon. They know that their behavior is wrong, but they don't

know what to do about the guilt, so they turn to alcohol.

We need to have a great deal of wisdom on how to correctly apply the Word of God through pastoral care. It's our prayer that we may lead people into a healthy relationship with God and their fellow people.

(MR0123)



MIDNIGHT CALL

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

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

MC0623

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

monthly     one time    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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





## SAVING LOVE



By Peter Malgo

Off the coast of a Philippine island, a ferry carrying more than 800 people on board goes into distress and sinks into the ocean. In the media, this tragedy is mentioned only in passing. Italy losing to Spain in the quarterfinals of a soccer tournament, by contrast, seems to be far more important ... taking up a great deal of space in coverage.

**T**hat hundreds of passengers lost their lives close to the Philippines is found under “also ran” news. This then raises the question of what value a human life still has in our time. Sports—“fun”—has become priority.

It is frightening to observe how rapidly the death of hundreds, even thousands, of people is passed over today. What about the 80,000 earthquake victims in China? Or the victims of the typhoon in Myanmar? They are basically no longer an issue... How very differently does the Bible value each individual life! This is conveyed impressively in Abraham’s intercession, when he implored God to refrain from destroying Sodom if 50 righteous people still lived there. Abraham gradually spoke of lesser and lesser numbers of righteous ones, until he finally arrived at 10. And the Lord God responded to

his pleading! He agreed to spare Sodom if only a few righteous people still lived there (Genesis 18:22-32).

However, God did much more! The life of every single human being was and is so valuable to Him, that He gave His only Son as payment for our sins. We do well to keep John 3:16 before our eyes again and again: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

In Matthew 10:29, Jesus describes the infinite, loving care which God the Father surrounds us with. He draws a comparison to the birds and states that God even cares about their welfare: “Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.” But you and I are worth much more to God than a bird. However, God does not limit His care to



us alone. It is precisely with the words of John 3:16 that Jesus wants to open our eyes to a lost world. The term “world” does not mean something abstract, or the farthest corners of the earth. No, this expression refers to our fellow human beings, our neighbors; in short, people whom we come in contact with every day. Jesus died for them too! They are worth as much to Him as we are, who call ourselves His children. God has, so to speak, right of ownership over these people.

This must not leave us indifferent, for we should be His helpers, messengers from Christ. Are we filled with His saving love? Do we use all our strength to search for what is lost? Matthew 18:11-13 illustrates in a poignant way how God rejoices when

even one of these lost ones finds Jesus: “For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth not he leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray.”

Maybe you cannot go yourself to save a lost sheep. But you can very well participate by supporting others in the rescue operation. May everyone serve with the gift and talent he has received from the Lord. Let yourself be used by Him! (M)

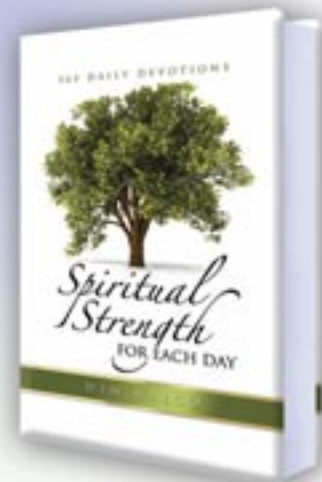
## Powerful Daily Devotional

*Spiritual Strength for Each Day* serves as a guideline for believers who seek a deeper and closer relationship with Jesus Christ our Lord. This book is intended to remind the reader throughout the year that life as we know it is temporary, and the ultimate goal of our lives should be to prepare for eternity...desiring to hear the words from our Lord, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant... enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.”

SPIRITUAL STRENGTH FOR EACH DAY ITEM #1062

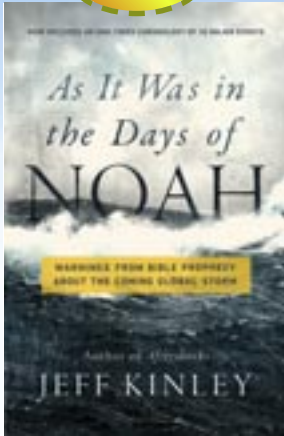
400 pgs. • **Hardcover**

~~\$16.95~~ **Clearance \$7** Author: Wim Malgo



# Midnight Call's June Resource Guide

Revised



## Striking Parallels Between Noah's Day and the End Times

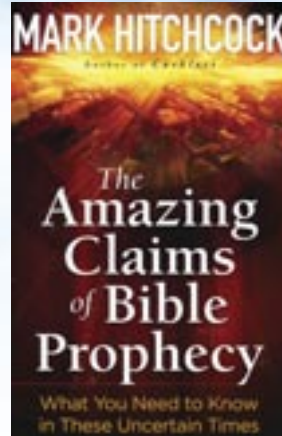
AS IT WAS IN THE DAYS OF NOAH

ITEM #2286

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$16.99~~ Sale \$12

Author: Jeff Kinley



## Earth's Final Hour Is Approaching

THE AMAZING CLAIMS OF BIBLE PROPHECY ITEM #2259

238 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ Sale \$10

Author: Mark Hitchcock



## Get a Clear Picture of the Last Days

*The Most Asked Prophecy Questions* will enrich your knowledge of one of the Bible's most important subjects—and empower you to live in light of Jesus' soon return, heaven, and eternity.

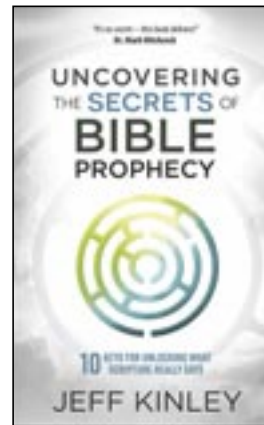
THE MOST ASKED PROPHECY QUESTIONS

ITEM #2388

224 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$16.99~~ Sale \$12

Authors: John Ankerberg and Renald Showers



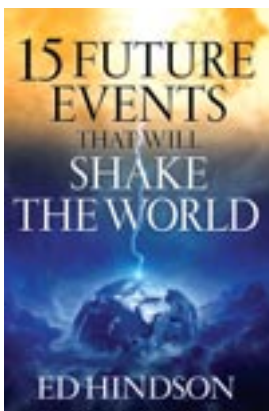
## What God Really Said Will Happen

An extremely helpful guide to understanding the nature and purpose of the prophetic passages in Scripture.

UNCOVERING THE SECRETS OF BIBLE PROPHECY

ITEM #2349 • 192 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$14.99~~ Sale \$10 Author: Jeff Kinley



## What can people on Earth expect during the last days?

15 FUTURE EVENTS THAT WILL SHAKE THE WORLD

ITEM #2285

212 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12

Author: Ed Hindson



## Christian Fiction...or Biblical Fact?

- Why do some believers object to the idea of a rapture?
- Does the timing of the rapture really make a difference?

As you explore what Scripture says about the end times, you'll get a grander glimpse of your glorious future and the deepest hope of every follower of Jesus.

CAN WE STILL BELIEVE IN THE RAPTURE? ITEM #2332

240 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12

Authors: Ed Hindson and Mark Hitchcock

## Know the Timing of Biblical Prophecy

Respected author Dr. Ron J. Bigalke addresses these fundamental issues from the perspective of premillennialism. He assesses the views of prophetic timing in relation to amillennialism, postmillennialism and premillennialism, with an extended emphasis upon the Biblical texts that describe Christ's return to the Earth. This volume will prove to be an invaluable reference in understanding the schedule of prophetic events—and why such doctrines are relevant to each of our lives.



Key strategies for protecting your finances in these uncertain times

BANKRUPTCY OF OUR NATION ITEM #2244

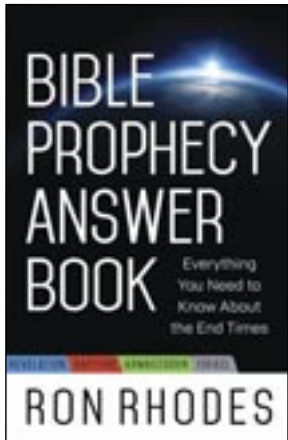
320 pgs. • Paperback

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

Author: Jerry Robinson

WHEN? ITEM #2340 • 338 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$34.95~~ **Clearance \$10** Author: Ron J. Bigalke



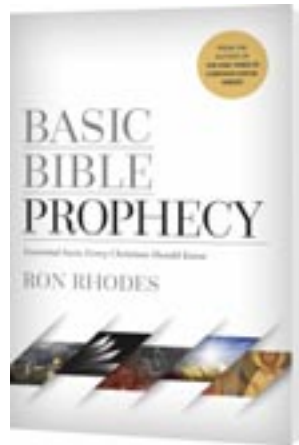
## Studying Prophecy Can Change Your Life

BIBLE PROPHECY ANSWER BOOK ITEM #2333

256 pgs. • Paperback

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

Author: Ron Rhodes



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

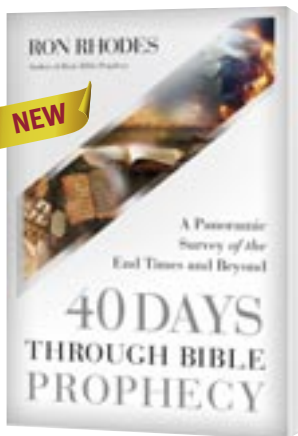
BASIC BIBLE PROPHECY

ITEM #2374

224 pgs. • Paperback

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

Author: Ron Rhodes



## A Panoramic Survey of the End Times and Beyond

With helpful question-and-answer sections and insightful outlines of key takeaways, Ron has designed this study to help you retain the big-picture truths of Bible prophecy. You will

- gain fluency in Bible prophecy vocabulary, learning terms like rapture, millennial kingdom, and eternal state
- identify the chronology of prophetic events, from what has already occurred to what is still to come
- get to know the prominent personalities of the end times, including the two witnesses, the antichrist, and the false prophet

40 DAYS THROUGH BIBLE PROPHECY ITEM #2404

272 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$17.99~~ **Sale \$14** Author: Ron Rhodes

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





## Experiencing God's Pursuit of You Through His Chosen People

*Israel Always* is a sweeping journey through Israel's prolific history, its modern-day influence, and its promised future, highlighting the continuous throughline of God's provision for His people.

ISRAEL ALWAYS ITEM #2403

264 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$18.99~~ **Sale \$15**

Author: Christopher Katulka



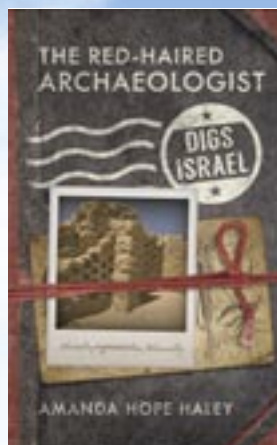
## Everything You Need to Know About Israel Today

WHAT SHOULD WE THINK ABOUT ISRAEL? ITEM #2358

336 pgs. • Paperback

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

Editor: J. Randall Price



## Travel Israel—past and present—to learn about its people and its God.

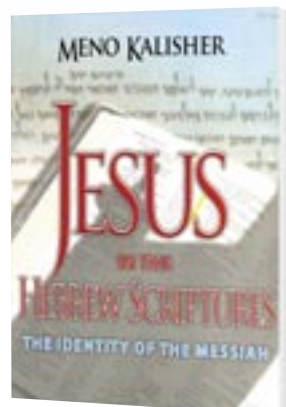
THE RED-HAIRED ARCHAEOLOGIST DIGS ISRAEL

ITEM #2384

208 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$15.99~~ **Sale \$10**

Author: Amanda Hope Haley



## Why should one bother learning all those details out of a book that is nearly 3000 years old?

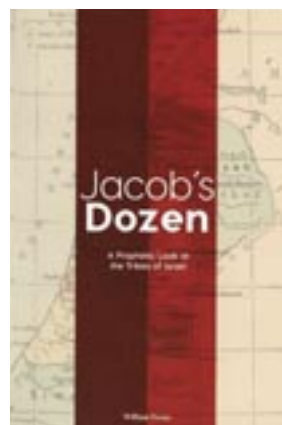
JESUS IN THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES ITEM #2373

172 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$9.95~~ **Sale \$7**

Author: Meno Kalisher

## Were Jacob's prophetic utterances true?



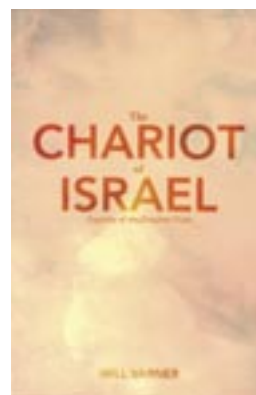
Have they been fulfilled? If so, how and when? Are some of Jacob's prophecies still awaiting final fulfillment? These questions are answered in this study of biblical history and the prophecies associated with each of the 12 tribes. Other fascinating subjects—such as the lost tribes of Israel and the role of the tribes in the end-times—are explored.

JACOB'S DOZEN ITEM #2385

96 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$7.95~~ **Sale \$6** Author: Will Varner

## The prophet Elijah is one of the most outstanding personalities in history.



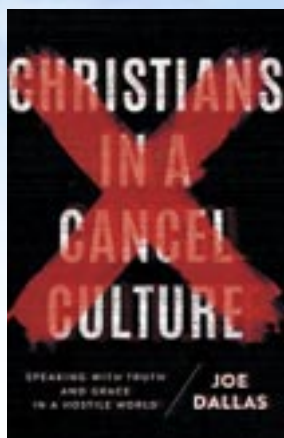
This study of Elijah's life will captivate you as it walks you through a pivotal period in Israel's history. When he was caught up to heaven, his disciple Elisha cried out, "the chariot of Israel, and its horsemen." Elisha was referring not to the chariot but to the prophet. It was Elijah's intimate relationship with God that gave the prophet his title, and his amazing confrontation with the prophets of Baal endures as one of Scripture's most vivid accounts of how God demonstrated His awesome power before the unbelieving.

THE CHARIOT OF ISRAEL ITEM #2386

96 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$8.95~~ **Sale \$6** Author: Will Varner

## The WHO, WHAT, and HOW of Responding to Those Who Want to Silence You



This book will affirm your understanding of the Bible's views on sin, salvation, racism, gender identity, homosexuality, and abortion while teaching you...

- why today's world has grown so hostile to Christians and biblical values
- where you can find room to minister within challenging conversations
- how you can sustain relationships with those who feel threatened by God's truth

CHRISTIANS IN A CANCEL CULTURE  
ITEM #2383 • 208 pgs. • Paperback

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

Author: Joe Dallas



## Hit the Mark with a Gospel Reset!

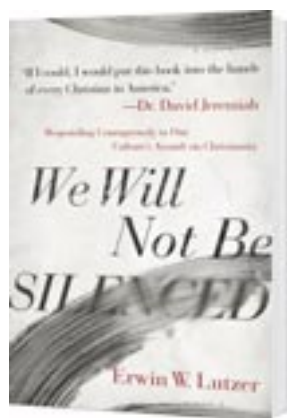
How to effectively reach the lost with a message of salvation that actually makes sense to them.

GOSPEL RESET ITEM #2344

128 pgs. • **Hardcover**

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

Author: Ken Ham



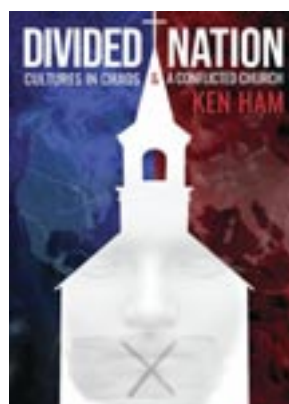
## How can you not only stay rooted in your faith, but also continue to publicly testify for Jesus?

Will ready you to move beyond fear and boldly accept the challenge of representing Christ to a watching world that needs Him now more than ever before.

WE WILL NOT BE SILENCED ITEM #2372

288 pgs. • Paperback

~~\$17.99~~ **Sale \$14** Author: Erwin W. Lutzer



## Has the Church Lost Its Influence?

To combat today's chaotic culture and the conflicted church, Ham addresses five specific issues:

- There is no neutral position
- There is no non-religious position
- There are ultimately only two religions
- Creation apologetics
- How to think foundationally to develop a truly Christian worldview

DIVIDED NATION ITEM #2381

160 pgs. • **Hardcover**

~~\$15.99~~ **Sale \$12** Author: Ken Ham



## A Ticking Climate Bomb?

The Bible isn't a richly illustrated, glossy magazine like the leading scientific journals. The latest article in it was written a long time ago. I search for the phrase "climate change," to no avail. But I believe the Bible still concretely addresses the topic.

ITEM #9119 • 6" x 4.25" • **Tract**

**\$3 per 100** Author: J. Grimm



## Religion or the Gospel?

Where can "God" be found now? Which religion is the right one; which one relieves and satisfies our deepest human longings? Is there really one objectively true religion, or do we just need to be tolerant of everyone?

ITEM #9120 • 6" x 4.25" • **Tract**

**\$3 per 100** Author: K. von Reitzenstein

### Midnight Call

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

Visa  Master  Discover  Amex  Check/Money Order

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



### Nuclear Deception

The Mossad has uncovered Iran's plans to smuggle untraceable weapons of mass destruction into Israel. The clock is ticking, and agents Nir Tavor and Nicole le Roux can't act quickly enough.

Nir and Nicole find themselves caught in a whirlwind plot of assassinations, espionage, and undercover recon, fighting against the clock to stop this threat against the Middle East. As they draw closer to danger—and closer to each other—they find themselves ensnared in a lethal web of secrets. Will they have to sacrifice their own lives to protect the lives of millions?

Inspired by real events, authors Amir Tsarfati and Steve Yohn reteam for this suspenseful follow-up to the bestselling *Operation Joktan*. Filled with danger, romance, and international intrigue, this Nir Tavor thriller reveals breathtaking true insights into the lives and duties of Mossad agents—and delivers a story that will have you on the edge of your seat.

BY WAY OF DECEPTION ITEM #2402

384 pgs. • Fiction

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12

Authors: Amir Tsarfati and Steve Yohn

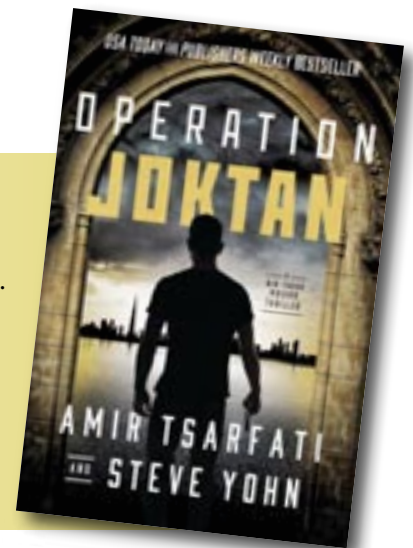
**“It was the perfect day – until the gunfire.”**

In this thrilling first book in the series, authors Amir Tsarfati and Steve Yohn draw on true events as well as tactical insights Amir learned from his time in the Israeli Defense Forces. For believers in God's life-changing promises, *Operation Joktan* is a suspense-filled page-turner that illuminates the blessing Israel is to the world.

OPERATION JOKTAN ITEM #2389

368 pgs. • Fiction

~~\$15.99~~ Sale \$12 Authors: Amir Tsarfati and Steve



Your Subscription

Important Notice

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

# A God-Centered Overview of Revelation

**T**he Bible's last book is God's final word to mankind—and the breathtaking revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Though this letter describes depravity, devils, and destruction, it also provides an incredible portrait of our almighty God, delivering profound insights into who He really is.

*God's Grand Finale* examines the 13 characteristics of God that Revelation uniquely and vividly illustrates through its foretelling of earth's last days. As you read, you will

- develop a clear overview of end times events
- experience how God uses the apocalyptic realities of Revelation to reveal Himself to you
- grow in faith as these transformational truths about God deepen your reverence for Him

When the dust of Revelation settles, we behold the Lamb standing and ruling in triumphant, sovereign, and indescribable glory. As *God's Grand Finale* illuminates how the end times will unfold, you'll understand how the narrative arc of Bible prophecy reveals the awe-inspiring attributes of God.

**GOD'S GRAND FINALE** ITEM #2408

240 pgs. • Paperback

**\$16.99 New** Author: Jeff Kinley

