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NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITIES

"Belshazzar had been given many opportunities for knowing and doing the will of God. He had seen his grandfather Nebuchadnezzar banished from the society of men. He had seen the intellect in which the proud monarch gloried taken away by the One who gave it. He had seen the king driven from his kingdom, and made the companion of the beasts of the field. But Belshazzar's love of amusement and self-glorification effaced the lessons he should never have forgotten; and he committed sins similar to those that brought signal judgments on Nebuchadnezzar. He wasted the opportunities graciously granted him, neglecting to use the opportunities within his reach for becoming acquainted with truth. 'What must I do to be saved?' was a question that the great but foolish king passed by indifferently.

"This is the danger of heedless, reckless youth today. The hand of God will awaken the sinner as it did Belshazzar, but with many it will be too late to repent.

"The ruler of Babylon had riches and honour, and in his haughty self-indulgence he had lifted himself up against the God of heaven and earth. He had trusted in his own arm, not supposing that any would dare to say, 'Why doest thou this?' But as the mysterious hand traced letters on the wall of his palace, Belshazzar was awed and silenced. In a moment he was completely shorn of his strength and humbled as a child. He realized that he was at the mercy of One greater than Belshazzar. He had been making sport of sacred things. Now his conscience was awakened. He realized that he had had the privilege of knowing and doing the will of God. The history of his grandfather stood out as vividly before him as the writing on the wall." *The Bible Echo*, April 25, 1898.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The ministry of Future for America is to proclaim the final warning message of Revelation 14 as identified within the prophecies of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The end-time fulfillment of Bible prophecy is no longer future—for it is taking place before our eyes. The historic, prophetic understanding of Seventh-day Adventism is now present truth. We are the final generation. Our emphasis on the prophetic word includes all the counsel of God's Word. To know what lies ahead is useless if we do not possess the experience to stand during these solemn times. Through obedience to God's law, and faith in the promises of God's Word, we are to receive that experience.

Coupled with the prophetic message, Future for America emphasizes all aspects of the medical missionary work. The "entering wedge"—medical missionary work—must be practiced by those who are to finish God's work in these final hours.

During this time period, country living becomes more essential with each passing moment. Future for America upholds and promotes this end-time truth. God's people must prepare for the coming storm, and that preparation includes the experience of learning how to survive in a simple fashion, away from the great centers of population.

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The Protestant world—And the Absence of Persecution

"The Word of God plainly declares that His law is to be scorned, trampled upon, by the world; there will be an extraordinary prevalence of iniquity. The professed Protestant world will form a confederacy with the man of sin, and the church and the world will be in corrupt harmony.

"Here the great crisis is coming upon the world. The Scriptures teach that popery is to regain its lost supremacy, and that the fires of persecution will be rekindled through the time-serving concessions of the so-called Protestant world. In this time of peril we can stand only as we have the truth and the power of God. Men can know the truth only by being themselves partakers of the divine nature. We have need now for more than human wisdom in reading and searching the Scriptures; and if we come to God's Word with humble hearts, He will raise up a standard for us against the law-less element.

"It is difficult to hold fast the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end; and the difficulty increases when there are hidden influences constantly at work to bring in another spirit, a counterworking element, on Satan's side of the question. In the absence of persecution, there have drifted into our ranks some who appear sound, and their Christianity unquestionable, but who, if persecution should arise, would go out from us. In the crisis, they would see force in specious reasoning that has had an influence on their minds. Satan has prepared various snares to meet varied minds. When the law of God is made void the church will be sifted by fiery trials, and a larger proportion than we now anticipate, will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. Instead of being strengthened when brought into strait places, many prove that they are not living branches of the True Vine; they bore no fruit, and the husbandman taketh them away." *Selected Messages*, book 2, 367–368.

Pagan Graves in Vatican Basement!

Just inside the Vatican's fortified walls, directly below the street connecting its private pharmacy and its members-only supermarket, lies a 2,000-year-old graveyard littered with bizarre, often disturbing displays of pagan worship. Under one metallic walkway, the headless skeleton of a young boy rests in an open grave. At his side, a marble replica of a hen's egg, which to pagans represented the rebirth of the body through reincarnation. Nearby, countless skeletons lie scattered among the remnants of terra cotta vases used in pagan ceremonies. The underground air is damp with the smell of wet dirt, and the clay tubes used by the pagans to feed their dead with honey and syrup still protrude, fingerlike, from the ground.

Walking among the exposed bones of any ancient graveyard would be chilling enough. But when it's a pagan necropolis directly beneath Vatican City, arguably Christianity's holiest shrine, then the situation redlines right into completely unnerving. Or it would be if it weren't so enthralling, especially for anyone who has ever pondered Roman Catholicism's pagan roots. The Necropoli dell'Autoparco (literally Necropolis of the Parking Garage), a 2,000year-old burial ground, which opens to the public October 20, offers a rarely seen glimpse of the close ties between pagans and Christians during the Augustan era (23 BC-14 AD). "You see a mix of social class and even religious beliefs here," says Francesco Buranelli, director of the Vatican Museums, who believes that including the pagan graveyard as part of the Vatican's museums will foster awareness of the roots of Catholicism and the importance of its Roman history. The site "brings together the rich and the poor, the plebes and the nobles," he says. "We have not opened an exhibit as historically significant in recent history."

The necropolis was discovered by accident in 2003 when construction workers broke ground for a new parking garage for Vatican employees. After local residents complained that dump trucks leaving the site were carrying

tombstones and other seemingly important archaeological debris, the Vatican admitted uncovering what was believed to be an ancient Roman burial ground. Little further explanation was offered. But in the waning days of John Paul II's papacy, plans were made to open the graveyard to the public. John Paul himself was a student of Rome's pagan roots. But when he was succeeded by the more conservative Pope Benedict XVI, the plan was nearly derailed—until the Vatican's official archeologists insisted that the Holy See carry through the plans to honor the former pope. Indeed, when it opens next week as part of the Vatican Museums' 500th anniversary, the very fact that it exists so publicly is a testament to the Holy See's curious new willingness to promote that which it does not necessarily believe. "Everyone always thinks that if it's not about pure Christianity, the Vatican isn't interested," says Cristina Gennaccari, an archaeologist with the Vatican Museums. "But there are many pagan aspects of all things modern, and when it comes to archeology, especially religious archeology, there is really no room for distinction."

Besides, the Vatican is quick to point out, some of the bones in the necropolis belonged to people who were, as Gennaccari puts it, "on the verge of conversion to Christianity." She points to a carving on the sarcophagus of a young third-century soldier that shows a young woman kneeling next to a tree upon which a bird roosts. These symbols, she says, represent the soldier's potential belief in Christianity: "It brings him into the Christian realm," she asserts. Another carving shows a man praying in a way that early Christians did, she says, which could show that he was also an early convert, or at least had the inclination. Never mind that nearby, the tombs of others are decorated with obviously pagan mosaics elaborately depicting, among other things, a drunken Dionysus, the god of wine and fertility, being held aloft by a satyr. Many of the tombs are still equipped with the oil lamps used by mourners for illumination when they read to their dead to keep them occupied until the next life.

At first, Gennaccari explains, it wasn't clear just what had been discovered—whether it was

a continuation of St. Peter's necropolis under the basilica or simply a small family mausoleum. But when excavators found that the site was much more expansive than a family tomb, they called in the Vatican's sacred archeologists, who confirmed that this was, as one says, the "a mini Pompeii" in terms of historical significance, second only in importance to the necropolis under the dome of St. Peter's Basilica, where the bones of St. Peter himself are believed to be buried. Cardinal Francesco Marchisano, head of the Pontifical Commission for Sacred Archeology, admits that while they did have to reduce the original plan for the parking lot, it was worth it. "It's just not easy to dig with all those wonderful things underground."

Luckily, the graves were largely undamaged due to what archeologists believe was a second-century mudslide that sealed the site, much like Mount Vesuvius's volcanic explosion that "froze" Pompeii. The site now encompasses four separate digs that run along the ancient thoroughfares of the Via Triumphalis. In all, the Necropoli dell'Autoparco holds more than 250 excavated tombs, including 40 elaborate mausoleums. Initially, only two sections of the dig will be open to the public, including the grave of the pagan boy with the egg and the family grave of Alcimus, one of Emperor Nero's slaves who, according to the inscription, also made decorations for the Teatro di Pompeo, a favorite haunt of Nero himself.

Even though the dig is Roman and not religious in nature, the archaeologists have had no interaction beyond official courtesy visits by Italy's Cultural Ministry, who keep a close watch on excavations in Rome. The Vatican remains steadfastly independent. "We are an individual state," says Gennaccari. "It's no different than if the necropolis had been discovered in France or any other sovereign nation. It's ours."

The graveyard will be open to the public only on Friday and Saturday mornings, by appointment, for €5 (\$6.25). It will also remain an active archaeological dig until the sacred archaeologists feel they have cataloged and uncovered as much as they can, or need to. While Gennaccari admits that there are probably more treasures under the buildings that form

the core of Vatican City's infrastructure—mainly under the pharmacy and grocery store—"It'll be hard," she says with a shrug, "to convince anyone that we have to dislocate some of our modern conveniences to see what else is there." For now, the Necropolis of the Parking Garage is probably as deep as the Vatican wants to dig into its pagan roots. *Newsweek*, October 14, 2006.

Protestant world led by Catholic doctrines—Fulfilled

"If ever there was a time when the members of our churches should see if they have oil in their vessels with their lamps, it is now, just now, without a moment's hesitancy or delay. This is an individual work. We are to look earnestly to our own standing and accountability. While the Protestant world is being led by the wily sophistry of Catholic doctrines, while the mystery of iniquity is gathering to itself the world of professed Christians, what are we about? Are those who know the truth for this time anchored in Bible doctrine? Are our weapons, 'Thus sayeth the Lord: It is written?' Is our anchor cast within the vail? Are we individually rooted and grounded in gospel truth, so that we may be established, strengthened, and settled in the faith? Are we, as those who have the knowledge of the mysteries of God, those to whom God has committed the living oracles, loyal and true to our stewardship? Those who are truly converted will reveal, as missionaries for God. what the truth means to them in its transforming efficiency and sanctifying power. If we are weighted with the treasures of eternal truth, we shall proclaim to a world perishing in sin what it signifies to have the sanctifying, redeeming love of Christ in the soul. . . .

"The world would not be what it now is if professed believers in Christ were receivers of his divine nature. It is the example of men who claim to believe the truth, but who do not practice the truth, that detracts from the influence of Christianity. They hold the truth as a theory, but unrighteousness surely characterizes their course of action. Many reveal that they are far away from Christ, because they are destitute of Christianity. Please read the ninth and tenth chapters of Ezekiel. Should we not seek to understand the work which God requires us to do? Its results are sacred and awful. If one thread of selfishness is woven into God's service, He is greatly dishonored. Unless those who have knowledge of the truth are sanctified through the truth, their profession counts for nothing, and their condemnation will be proportionate to the light granted them, which they have not honored by walking in the light as Christ is in the light. Truth as it is in Jesus is the creating power of Christ. Those who claim to have advanced light must reveal the influence of that light in their words, their deportment, their voice, their actions, at all times and in all places.

"The first work of teachers, physicians, directors, is to submit themselves to the yoke of Christ. They must obey the words, 'Take my yoke upon you, and learn of Me.' This is the result of keeping self under the sanctification of the truth. Our first business, and that which should always be made the highest, is to expel from the soultemple everything that will not harmonize with Christ. His Spirit must abide in us by faith. We are to keep the heart with all diligence, 'for out of it are the issues of life.' Then pleasant words will be spoken, notwithstanding that temptations are pressing in to occupy the soul-temple. The devil is not dead." The Gospel Herald, January 1, 1900.

Methodists Join Roman Catholics, Lutherans in Ecumenical Leap

Methodist churches took a key step toward mending relations with the Vatican—adding their approval to an interfaith accord that aims to repair divisions dating back to the 16th century Protestant Reformation.

On Sunday (July 23)—the World Council of Methodists—a body representing more than 65 million faithful, met in Seoul, South Korea, and signed the. *Joint Declaration on Justification*. That document, signed by the *Vatican and the Lutheran World Federation* in 1999, aimed to settle disagreements over. "justification"—the issue of whether salvation is God-given or earned through good works.

That question was at the center of a 16th-century debate that eventually sparked the Protestant Reformation. The joint declaration attempted to heal the rift by stating that salvation was a gift from God that (reflected good works.) A statement from World Methodist Council on Sunday said the group welcomed the agreement with "great joy."

"It is our deep hope that in the near future, we shall also be able to enter into closer relationships with Lutherans and the Roman Catholic Church," the statement said.

Cardinal Walter Kasper, the Vatican's head of ecumenical relations, said Sunday's agreement was "one of the most significant dates in the history of our churches." *Religion News Service*.

And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work. Romans 11:6.

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) {by: or, by whose grace} Ephesians 2:5.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Ephesians 2:8.

The professed Protestant world—A sign

"The Word of God plainly declares that His law is to be scorned, trampled upon, by the world; there will be an extraordinary prevalence of iniquity. The professed Protestant world will form a confederacy with the man of sin, and the church and the world will be in corrupt harmony." Seventh-day Adventists Bible Commentary, volume 7, 975.

Dear Jeff,

I wanted to ask you a couple of questions regarding the Purification of the Church. I have been listening to your materials, and I really enjoy them and I believe you got something nailed down and we need to circulate this material. But my question is concerning the Sunday Law. As I remember correctly, the Sunday Law we are talking about here is the two-fold law. When America will tell us to observe Sunday, and when they will persecute us for keeping Sabbath. And at this Sunday Law probation will close for Seventh Day Adventists. Many books I read from Seventh Day Adventist people who portray the end of the world put the Sunday law in this fashion. That when they will persecute us for keeping Sabbath, they will try to kill us and when they are about too, Jesus comes, or when the date is set for us to be killed, before that Jesus will come to save us.

Now during this period there is a lot going on. Also as I always viewed this law, is that when it first comes out, it will be only for keeping Sunday, and then it escalates into a Sunday law that will persecute us for keeping Sabbath. So there is a time period between the two laws, or one law that will escalate into the other. So when would the probation close? Or do I view this period wrong. I was wondering if you could clarify it for me. Thank you and God bless. L—MI email

Brother L:

The Sunday law that fulfills Revelation 13:11 is two-fold. Sister White emphasizes that fact more than once. The law that fulfills the speaking of the dragon will enforce Sunday and persecute those who uphold Sabbath. Before this time there is an escalation of Sunday laws, though they do not contain both elements. After this two-fold law is passed in the USA every country on the globe will follow the example of the USA. Therefore just prior to the Sunday law in the USA there is an escalation of Sunday legislation, (the final movements are rapid ones). At the Sunday law in the USA probation closes for SDA's in the USA, national apostasy is followed by national ruin, Satan appears to personate Christ, and the little time of trouble starts and escalate until the last soul has made their choice for against Christ and them Michael stands up and the 7 last plagues are poured out. We cover these events on our 38 hour prophecy school in a fairly detailed fashion. Jeff

Then Follows—National Ruin

"Roman Catholic principles will be taken under the care and protection of the state. This national apostasy will speedily be followed by national ruin." *Last Day Events*, 134.

A favored people—Almost over

"The people of the United States have been a favored people; but when they restrict religious liberty, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, the measure of their guilt will be full, and 'national apostasy'will be registered in the books of heaven. The result of this apostasy will be national ruin." Last Day Events, p. 133.

Top Cities Ill-Prepared for Evacuation

Los Angeles, Chicago and New York are among the least prepared cities in the United States to evacuate quickly in case of a catastrophe, a report by a transportation advocacy group showed Thursday.

The American Highway Users Alliance study of the 37 largest urban areas showed that 25 of the biggest cities were less prepared for a major evacuation than New Orleans, which struggled during Hurricane Katrina in 2005 to empty the city before and as it flooded.

The only city to score a top grade for evacuation capability and preparedness was Kansas City, Missouri. *Reuters*, October 15, 2006.

Time Now to Move From the Cities

"Take your families away from the cities is my message. The time has come when, as God opens the way, families should move out of the cities. The children should be taken into the country. The parents should get as suitable a place as their means will allow. Though the dwelling may be small, yet there should be land in connection with it that may be cultivated. Before the overflowing scourge shall come upon the dwellers of the earth, the Lord calls upon all who are Israelites indeed to prepare for that event. To parents He sends the warning cry: Gather your children into your own houses; gather them away from those who are disregarding the commandments of God, who are teaching and practicing evil. Get out of the large cities as fast as possible." Adventist Home, 139.

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2 Timothy 3:1.

The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. Daniel 9:25.

Disaster

A new report from the *Department of Homeland Security* indicates a dire situation at all levels of national disaster preparedness. Five years after the September 11, attacks, the vast majority of cities and states remain unprepared for a major natural disaster or terrorist attack, lacking fundamental emergency organizational strategies, warning systems, evacuation procedures and other essential plans for citizen safety and continuity of government.

"The current status of plans and planning gives grounds for significant national concern," warns the 174-page Nationwide Plan Review, commissioned by President Bush in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. "The threats and hazards we face are already sufficiently difficult. We should not have to fight our own plans and planning processes to prepare for or to perform our missions."

Of the 90 urban centers studied in the report, New York City and Washington, DC, fared better than most, with a mere 29 percent and 31 percent of disaster preparedness plans rated sufficient, respectively. In all, three-fourths of states' and 90 percent of urban centers' emergency plans were found inadequate, including a 90-percent failure rating for evacuation plans. Only ten states received satisfactory marks on disaster preparedness: Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Vermont. *PatriotPost*, June 23, 2006.

"Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows. When he was suffered to afflict Job, how quickly flocks and herds, servants, houses, children, were swept away, one trouble succeeding another as in a moment. It is God that shields His creatures and hedges them in from the power of the destroyer. But the Christian world have shown contempt for the law of Jehovah; and the Lord will do

just what He has declared that He would—He will withdraw His blessings from the earth and remove His protecting care from those who are rebelling against His law and teaching and forcing others to do the same. Satan has control of all whom God does not especially guard. He will favor and prosper some in order to further his own designs, and he will bring trouble upon others and lead men to believe that it is God who is afflicting them.

"While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. Destruction will be upon both man and beast. 'The earth mourneth and fadeth away, 'the haughty people . . . do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.' Isaiah 24:4.5.

"And then the great deceiver will persuade men that those who serve God are causing these evils. The class that have provoked the displeasure of Heaven will charge all their troubles upon those whose obedience to God's commandments is a perpetual reproof to transgressors. It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday sabbath; that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who

present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity." *The Great Controversy*, 589–590.

Monkey-see, Monkey-do Nukes

From the monkey-see, monkey-do department: You can bet that no one is watching the North Korean issue as closely as Mahmud Ahmadi-Nejad and his cronies in Iran. Having seen their Axis of Evil partner test a nuclear weapon in defiance of the entire rest of the world, Iran will now study the rest of the world's reaction very closely indeed. With none of Iran's geographical or economic leverage, North Korea has nonetheless thumbed its nose at the UN and the U.S. for over a decade, with no substantive punishment at all.

If this latest provocation brings no serious punishment, look for Iran to redouble its efforts to thwart the IAEA and the UNSC in its pursuit of nuclear weapons. If ever the credibility of the United Nations were on the line, it is today with North Korea. If North Korea's recent test is verified by scientific means, and if no punishment ensues, the world will have told Iran and other would-be nuclear powers that going nuclear carries no meaningful penalty. That would signal the beginning of a new Nuclear Age, with Saudi Arabia, Libya, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea and many others deciding to go nuclear as well. *PatriotPost*, November 13, 2006.

Wars Will Rage—Under Way

"In the last scenes of this earth's history war will rage. There will be pestilence, plague and famine. The waters of the deep will overflow their boundaries. Property and life will be destroyed by fire and flood. We should be preparing for the mansions that Christ has gone to prepare for them that love Him." *Maranatha*, 174.

The Final Jihad, Triumph, and Victory

The response to 9/11 came as a nasty surprise. They were expecting more of the same—bleating and apologies—instead of which they got a vigorous reaction, first in Afghanistan and then in Iraq. But if one follows the discourse, one can see that the debate in this country since then has caused many of the perpetrators and sponsors to return to their previous diagnosis. Because remember, they have no experience, and therefore no understanding, of the free debate of an open society. What we see as free debate, they see as weakness, fear and division. Thus they prepare for the final victory, the final triumph and the final Jihad. On their side, they are firm and convinced and resolute. Whereas on our side we are weak and undecided and irresolute. And in such a combat, it is not difficult to see which side will prevail. Imprimis, September, 2006.

"My heart is often burdened because so many who might work are doing nothing. They are the sport of Satan's temptations. Every church member who has a knowledge of the truth is expected to work while the day lasts; for the night cometh, wherein no man can work. Erelong we shall understand what that night means. The Spirit of God is being grieved away from the earth. The nations are angry with one another. Widespread preparations are being made for war. The night is at hand. Let the church arouse and go forth to do her appointed work. Every believer, educated or uneducated, can bear the message. Eternity stretches before us. The curtain is about to be lifted. What are we thinking of, that we cling to our selfish love of ease, while all around us souls are perishing? Have our hearts become utterly callous? Can we not see and understand that we have a work to do in behalf of others? My brethren and sisters, are you among those who, having eyes, see not, and having ears, hear not? Is it in vain that God has given you a knowledge of His will? Is it in vain that He has sent you warning after warning of the nearness of the end? Do you believe the declarations of His word concerning what is coming upon the world? Do you believe that God's judgments are hanging over the inhabitants of the earth? How, then, can you sit at ease, careless and indifferent?" *Testimonies*, volume 9, 26–27.

Al-Qaida Warns Muslims: Time To Get Out Of US

Afghan terror commander hints at big attack on N.Y., Washington The new al-Qaida field commander in Afghanistan is calling for Muslims to leave the US—particularly Washington and New York—in anticipation of a major terror attack to rival September 11, according to an interview by a Pakistani journalist.

Following 9/11, el-Shukrijumah was reportedly singled out by bin Laden and al-Zawahiri to spearhead the next great attack on America. One plan was for a nuclear attack that would take place simultaneously in seven US cities, leaving millions dead and the richest and most powerful nation on earth in ashes.

"Muslims should leave America," said Dawood. "We cannot stop our attack just because of the American Muslims; they must realize that American forces are killing innocent Muslims in Afghanistan and Iraq; we have the right to respond back, in the same manner, in the enemy's homeland. The American Muslims are like a human shield for our enemy; they must leave New York and Washington."

"I am saying that Muslims must leave America, but we can attack America anytime," he said. "Our cycle of warnings has been completed, now we have fresh edicts from some prominent Muslim scholars to destroy our enemy, this is our defending of Jihad; the enemy has entered in our homes and we have the right to enter in their homes, they are killing us, we will kill them." September 17, 2006, WorldNetDaily.com.

"The time is near when large cities will be swept away, and all should be warned of these coming judgments. Oh, that God's people had a sense of the impending destruction of thousands of cities now almost given to idolatry!" *Adventist Home*, 136.

Al-Qaida's US Nuclear Targets

Captured documents, terrorists reveal bin Laden's preferred dates, places for 'American Hiroshima' The cities chosen as optimal targets are New York, Miami, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Boston and Washington, D.C. New York and Washington top the preferred target list for al-Qaida leadership. July 18, 2005, WorldNetDaily.com

"Take your families away from the cities is my message. The time has come when, as God opens the way, families should move out of the cities. . . .Get out of the large cities as fast as possible." *Adventist Home*, 139.

Hi Jeff,

I am taking an Islamic history class this summer. In my studies I came across much material that confirms our general position on the woes, giving more details to timing. Some of this may be new to some of your readers. If you decide to use this, it would be better to refer to me as a "Missionary to Rahab" due to my continued work in K. Our e-mails are being read over there.

In May, I purposely went to 5 mosques in Kyrgyzstan, to speak to Imams. I spoke openly about end time events for an hour to an hour and a half. Overall, I was well received in them, as we would expect from the story in Genesis about "wild men" and "God hears"... and Rahab. I was not thrown out of any, but I specifically invited back to visit two in particular. In these, the Imams were spiritual men, and I was received as a spiritual brother, like Esau received Jacob. Speaking about end time events gave me power. We can go in and bring out Rahab, if we use Daniel and Revelation. At one place, they had a tv on and I saw George W. flash by, so I

spoke about Bush too. I took the local pastor once [he had never been there] and a local lady with me one day. My translator told me that one of the Imams would have been receptive to the full message after three weeks, if I were to stay there.

The following is some historical proof to show that coming out of the bottomless pit for the third woe begins in the 1970's.

We believe that **events of the first two woes**, are repeated in the third woe of Revelation 11:14. In the first woe, Islam—the religion, comes out of the bottomless pit.

And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. Revelation 9:2.

[Note: The Missionary to Rahab understands that "the bottomless pit" represents the geographical area of Arabia.]

In the third woe, I propose that Islam—the religion, comes out of Arabia in a similar manner. Here are *some of the notes* that support this view

The rise of Wahhabism. Wahhabism is an attempt to return to the "pure", pristine original state of Islam, and is the irrational idealistic dream of many radicals / terrorists. It places the texts of the Qur'an above human dignity, love and life. Logic tells us that this dream of the past is not possible. To arrive at this dream, radical Muslims try to force their interpretation of the Qur'an on society. It is repressive of individual rights and freedom of expression.

"However, the 1970s became truly transformative for Saudi Arabia and the Muslim world... The 1970s became a turning point in that the Saudi government decided to undertake a systematic campaign of aggressively exporting the Wahhabi creed to the rest of the Muslim world" *The Great Theft –Wrestling Islam from the Extremists*, Khaled Abou El Fadl, *Harper*, San Francisco, page 70, 2005.

"By controlling Mecca and Medina, Saudi Arabia became naturally positioned to exercise a considerable influence on Muslim culture and thinking. The holy cities of Mecca and Medina are symbolic heart of Islam, and are the sites where millions of Muslim perform pilgrimage each year. By regulation what might be considered orthodox belief and practice while at pilgrimage, Saudi Arabia became uniquely positioned to greatly influence the belief systems of Islam itself. For instance for purely symbolic purposes, the king of Saudi Arabia adopted the lowly title of the custodian and servant of the two holy sites to emphasize that he was the servant of all Muslims. In reality the title only underscored the moral position of authority the Saudi King claimed to himself in relation to the Muslim world." Ibid, 72.

"The Wahhabis either had to alter their own system of belief to make it more consistent with the convictions of other Muslims, or they had to aggressively spread their convictions to the rest of the Muslim world. The first would have required the Saudi regime to reinvent itself, but in many ways it was easier to attempt to reinvent the Muslim world, and that is the opinion they chose. Consequently, the Saudi Arabian government launched upon an aggressive campaign aimed at reinventing the Muslim world by disseminating Wahhabi ideology across the globe as the only legitimate form of Islam. Initially, this process of dissemination consisted of lending financial support to fundamentalist organizations, but by the 1980s, this process became far more sophisticated and comprehensive. So, for instance Saudi Arabia created a number of proxy organizations, such as the Muslim World League, that widely distributed Wahhabi literature in all the major languages of the world, gave out awards and grants and provided funding for a massive network of publishers, schools, mosques, organizations, and individuals.*" Ibid, 74.

*The individuals included a number of writers whose books were bought in large quantities by the government of Saudi Arabia, giving large profits to the writers, thus training the publishers to print fundamentalist literature, which was guaranteed to be profitable, while moderate literature was reduced or eliminated as unprofitable.

Opening the bottomless pit, again...We see that as oil revenue has increased, part of it has been used to support, propagate, and export fundamentalism to Afghanistan, Egypt and the Middle East. Fundamentalist / radical Islam is rejecting the expansion of colonialism in Islamic territories.

In this weeks news, in regard of the war between Israel and the radicals in Lebanon, the Saudi government has decided to support Lebanon's government with almost 2 billion dollars, to prop up their banks. This is really a push to spread their brand of fundamentalism or puritan Islam—Wahhabism. Missionary to Rahab

Islam's Long War

The prophecies in Daniel and Revelation, regarding the doings of Catholicism, Protestantism and Islam overlap each other like overhead projector transparencies, and by putting them all together, overlaying one on top of the other, we can get a pretty good picture of prophetic history, right up to the end.

The best explanation about the doings of Islam for about the last thousand years tells us that radical Islam constitutes the "Three Woes" of Revelation 8:13.

By about 500 AD apostate Christian Catholicism (the King of the North of Daniel 11:30 and onward) was heavily into worshiping idols "icons," and looking back over the long history of Islam, it is clear that God used Islam to chastise Catholicism for that very practice.....idolatrous image-worship. Mohammad (the "star that fell" in Revelation 9:1) really just wanted to clean up Catholic Christianity and present it in its purity to the Arab tribes of the East, but unfortunately, after Mohammad's death, they fell into thinking that Church reform at the point of a sword was the best way to go.

Generally speaking, for a thousand years Islam's attacks on Catholicism (the first two "woes") kept the Popes' Crusades from completely wiping out the Sabbath-keepers scattered around Europe and North Africa, and later, also kept the Popes from wiping out the Protestant Reformation in the 1500's, and pretty much just held the power of the Popes

in check, until 1798 (at the end of the 1260 year prophecies) when organized atheism (the King of the South, manifesting itself as Napoleon's France in Daniel 11:40) finally deposed the then reigning pope from his throne, the "push at him" in Daniel11:40 (which is also the "deadly wound" of Revelation 13:3) which spelled the end of Catholicism as a political power, forever....or so he thought.

The first 670 years of Islam was the First Woe, from about 627 AD to July 27, 1299 AD. Islam was the religion of the disorganized (but no less deadly) Arab Saracen tribes that were like noxious "smoke" (Rev. 9:2) in the eyes and noses of the apostate Holy Roman Empire, both Eastern and Western. Sabbath-keeping Christians (having "the seal of God in their foreheads") had far more religious freedom under the Islamic Arab Caliphs than they did under the sun-worshiping Popes (...but, unfortunately, not so for the Jews).

For the last 150 years of the First Woe, from July 27, 1299 AD to early in the year 1449 AD, Islam, now under the newly organized tribes of the Ottoman Turks, fulfilled their prophetic commission to "hurt" and "torment" (Revelation 9:5) the kingdom of the Popes for "five months" (150 years).

The Second Woe began in 1449 AD when the new "Christian" emperor of the Eastern Holy Roman Empire voluntarily (a key point) gave up his kingdom by asking the permission of the Turkish Sultan first before assuming his throne. Soon afterward, the Ottoman Turks invaded, using explosives (muskets and cannons) for the first time against "Christendom" to "slay" (Revelation 9:15) the apostate "Christian" nations of Europe in order to expand their Islamic Empire. Thus, as noted before, Islam continued to keep the armies of the Popes busy, which prevented them from

being used to squash the growing Protestant Reformation.

Prophecy declares that this "radical" Islam was to assault apostate Catholic Christianity for an "hour, day, month, and year" (Revelation 9:15), or (applying the day-for-a-year principle) 391 years, 15 days. This time period, the Second Woe, was completed when the then reigning Turkish Sultan surrendered (also voluntarily) the enfeebled "Sick Man of the East" Ottoman Empire into the control of the four great Christian nations on August 11, 1840, on the very day specified in the prophecy (taking the 150 years, and the 391 years, 15 days together).

After the results of atheism were seen in Napoleon's bloody French Revolution and Reign of Terror, it was quickly abandoned and tolerance of the Bible reinstated, but about 120 years later organized atheism sprouted up again in the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. Then atheistic Communism took over the job of holding the Popes in check (making the USSR the new King of the South), until 1989, when the USA helped Pope John Paul II defeat Communist atheism (the "whirlwind" of Daniel 11:40) for the last time. So, from then on there has been no check on the spread of Catholic papal power (the last King of the South has been dead since 1989), and the Popes have "overflowed" into the "countries" of Eastern Europe once again.

America sent its first Ambassador to the Vatican in 1984. At that time it ceased to be a "Protestant" country (it is logically inconsistent to station a diplomat at the Vatican and still "protest" popery), and since that time the USA has been helping the pope regain his power in Europe, as well as allowing the pope to increase his power and prestige in "Protestant" America (the "glorious land" of Daniel 11:41). America is also represented as the second beast of Revelation 13; the one that

is now in the process of changing from having the lamb's horns of religious and economic freedom to the dragon's voice of military compulsion and economic oppression. (Changing from opposing to supporting Catholicism is another prophetic marker.) The culmination of this trend will be when the USA enacts and enforces the pope's Sunday Law.

Right now the Popes are on the march again, with the aid of the USA, to gain control of the entire world (the Egypt of Daniel 11:42–43), and to eventually attempt to exterminate all Sabbath-keeping "heretics" worldwide. Therefore, God has allowed radical Islam to rise back up again also (the third "woe") in order to chastise not only worldwide Catholicism, but apostate North American "Protestantism" as well.

Islam seems to have slumbered for a hundred years, but there can be no doubt that we are within the time period of the "Third Woe" since September 11, 2001, for "Radical Islam" has re-awakened and is on the loose again, with an emphasis on explosively violent surprise attacks, as before. In order to be historically and prophetically consistent their wrath must be directed at an apostate "Christian" power that is endangering God's true worshipers.

"The forms of religion will be continued by a people from whom the Spirit of God has been finally withdrawn; and the satanic zeal with which the prince of evil will inspire them for the accomplishment of his malignant designs, will bear the semblance of zeal for God. As the Sabbath has become the special point of controversy throughout Christendom, and religious and secular authorities have combined to enforce the observance of the Sunday, the persistent refusal of a small minority to yield to the popular demand will make them objects of universal execration. It will be urged that the few who stand in

opposition to an institution of the church and a law of the state ought not to be tolerated; that it is better for them to suffer than for whole nations to be thrown into confusion and lawlessness. The same argument eighteen hundred years ago was brought against Christ by the 'rulers of the people.' 'It is expedient for us,' said the wily Caiaphas, 'that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.' John 11:50. This argument will appear conclusive; and a decree will finally be issued against those who hallow the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, denouncing them as deserving of the severest punishment and giving the people liberty, after a certain time, to put them to death. Romanism in the Old World and apostate Protestantism in the New will pursue a similar course toward those who honor all the divine precepts." The Great Controversy, 615.

Therefore, the closer America follows the pope's ways and restricts personal and religious liberty (which the Popes hate), the more America will be troubled with the incurable plague of those explosive radical Islamic terrorists. Genesis 16:11 says of Ishmael (the father of the Arab tribes, and therefore the spiritual father of Islam), that he would be a "wild man" (and by extension his descendants also), and that "his hand would be against every man, and every man's hand against him," fitly describing radical Islam's attitude toward the world, and the world's attitude toward radical Islam.

But with the help of the USA, the pope finally will get control of the world ("Egypt" in Daniel 11:43), through the United Nations (the "10 kings" of Revelation 17:12), but the "tidings" of the noisy Sabbath-keepers in Daniel 11:44 (the "loud voice" of Revelation 14:9, 18:4) begin to call away the pope's support-base of followers (the "waters" Rev.17:15, of the Euphrates in Revelation 16:12).

Then, whoever the pope is at that time, he 'shall plant' himself (Daniel 11:45) 'between the seas'—or waters, or his people/support-base (Revelation 17:15), and the 'glorious holy mountain,' which is God's purified Sabbath-keeping church, who are calling his people, his support-base, away from him, but 'he shall come to his end' when the '10 kings' of Revelation 17 turn on him (and Jesus comes to save His loyal Sabbath keepers!), 'and none shall help him.' Patrick.Rampy@Juno.com

The Battle Over Jefferson's Metaphor

No metaphor in American letters has had a greater influence on law and policy than Thomas Jefferson's "wall of separation between church and state." For many Americans, this metaphor has supplanted the actual text of the First Amendment to the US Constitution, and it has become the locus classicus of the notion that the First Amendment separated religion and the civil state, thereby mandating a strictly secular polity.

More important, the judiciary has embraced this figurative language as a virtual rule of constitutional law and as the organizing theme of church-state jurisprudence. The metaphor emerged as the defining motif for church-state jurisprudence, thereby elevating a strict separationist construction of the First Amendment to accepted dogma among jurists and commentators.

What are the policy and legal consequences of the ascendancy of separationist rhetoric and of the transformation of "separation of church and state" from a much-debated political idea to a doctrine of constitutional law embraced by the nation's highest court?

The judiciary's reliance on an extraconstitutional metaphor as a substitute for the text of the First Amendment almost inevitably distorts constitutional principles governing church-state relationships. Although the "wall of separation" may felicitously express some aspects of First Amendment law, it seriously misrepresents or obscures others, and has become a source of much mischief in modern church-state jurisprudence. It has

reconceptualized—indeed, misconceptualized—First Amendment principles.

Jefferson's trope emphasizes *separation* between church and state, unlike the First Amendment, which speaks in terms of the non-establishment and free exercise of religion.

Jefferson's Danbury **Baptist** correspondents, who agitated disestablishment but not for separation, were apparently discomfited by the figurative phrase and, perhaps, even sought to suppress the president's letter. They, like many Americans, feared that the erection of such a wall would separate religious influences from public life and policy. Few evangelical dissenters (including the Baptists) challenged the widespread assumption of the age that republican government and civic virtue were dependent on a moral people and that religion supported and nurtured morality.

A wall is a bilateral barrier that inhibits the activities of both the civil government and religion, unlike the First Amendment, which imposes restrictions on civil government only. In short, a wall not only prevents the civil state from intruding on the religious domain but also prohibits religion from influencing the conduct of civil government.

The religion provisions were added to the Constitution to protect religion and religious institutions from corrupting interference by the national government, not to protect the civil state from the influence of religion. As a bilateral barrier, however, the wall unavoidably restricts religion's ability to influence public life, thereby exceeding the limitations imposed by the First Amendment.

Herein lies the danger of this metaphor. The "high and impregnable" wall constructed by the modern Court has been used to inhibit religion's ability to inform the public ethic, to deprive religious citizens of the civil liberty to participate in politics armed with ideas informed by their faith, and to infringe the right of religious communities and institutions to extend their prophetic ministries into the public square. Today, the "wall of separation" is the sacred icon of a strict separationist dogma intolerant of religious influences in the public arena. It has been used to silence religious voices in the public marketplace of ideas and to segregate

faith communities behind a restrictive barrier. Federal and state courts have used the "wall of separation" concept to justify censoring private religious expression (such as Christmas crèches) in public.

This systematic and coercive removal of religion from public life not only is at war with our cultural traditions insofar as it evinces a callous indifference toward religion but also offends basic notions of freedom of religious exercise, expression, and association in a pluralistic society.

There was a consensus among the founders that religion was indispensable to a system of republican self-government. The challenge the founders confronted was how to nurture personal responsibility and social order in a system of self-government. Tyrants and dictators can use the whip and rod to force people to behave as they desire, but clearly this is incompatible with a self-governing people. In response to this challenge the founders looked to religion (and morality informed by religious faith) to provide the internal moral compass that would prompt citizens to behave in a disciplined manner and thereby promote social order and political stability.

[Looking to the stabilizing influence of religion] reflected awareness among the founders that the very survival of the civil state and a civil society was dependent on a vibrant religious culture, and religious liberty nurtured such a religious culture. In other words, the civil state's respect for religious liberty is an act of self-preservation. The unfortunate consequence of 20th-century jurisprudence is that the First Amendment, designed to protect and promote a vital role for religion in public life, has been replaced with a wall of separation that, in the hands of the modern judiciary, has restricted religion's place in the polity.

In the mid-20th century, the rhetoric of separation was revived and ultimately constitutionalized by anti-Catholic elites, such as Justice Hugo L. Black, and fellow travelers in the ACLU and "Protestants and Other Americans United for the Separation of Church and State," who [correctly] feared the influence and wealth of the Catholic Church and perceived [Catholic] parochial education as a threat to public schools and democratic values.

Black's admixture of progressive and strict separationist views is best understood in terms of anti-Catholicism and, more broadly, a deep hostility to assertions of ecclesiastical authority. Separation of church and state, Black believed, was an American ideal of freedom from oppressive ecclesiastical authority, especially that of the Roman Catholic Church. A regime of separation enabled Americans to assert their individual autonomy and practice democracy, which Black believed was Protestantism in its secular form.

In conclusion, Jefferson's figurative language has not produced the practical solutions to real world controversies that its apparent clarity and directness led its proponents to expect. Indeed, this wall has done what walls frequently do, it has obstructed the view, obfuscating our understanding of constitutional principles governing church-state relationships. The rhetoric of "separation of church and state" and "a wall of separation" has been instrumental in transforming judicial and popular constructions of the First Amendment from a provision protecting and encouraging religion in public life to one restricting religion's place and role in civic culture. This transformation has undermined "indispensable support" of religion in our system of republican self-government. This fact would have alarmed the framers of the Constitution, and we ignore it today at the peril of our political and prosperity. Imprimis, www.hillsdale.edu. October 2006.

[Editor's Note: This misunderstanding of the meaning of Jefferson's "wall of separation of Church and State" has led to the judiciary favoring the complaints of the ACLU and "Americans United," among others, in restricting the voice of religion in the public square, both Protestant and Catholic. This restriction has already begun to create a backlash movement, known as the "Christian Right," the modern counterparts of the "National Reformers" of Mrs. White's day, who have been working to place semi-Catholic

Evangelical Christians in Congress and the Presidency as puppets who will restore the voice of Christianity to the public square.

Unfortunately, whenever simultaneous explosive Muslim attacks occur in the USA, the evangelical "man in the street" will see that the Evangelical plants in Congress have moved too slowly in restoring the Christian voice in the popular culture of the US, and they will clamor to Congress for a very immediate restoration of "Christian" Catholic-Evangelical values, including national Sunday Laws, in order to accelerate the "re-Christianization" of America, and hopefully restore lost "divine favor and temporal prosperity."]

"When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result." *The Great Controversy*, 445.

"It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday sabbath; that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity." *The Great Controversy*, 590.

"The dignitaries of church and state will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday. The lack of divine authority will be supplied by oppressive enactments. Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance." *The Great Controversy*, 592.

The Constitution and Prosperity Connection

The Constitution was meant to bring order. If under it "anything goes," then order goes too, and chaos follows. If Congress can redistribute and regulate virtually at will, the rule of law is at risk. A cavalier attitude toward power can lead more directly to the same attitude toward rights: if powers can be expanded with impunity, so too can rights be contracted. Neither liberty nor prosperity is guaranteed by a mere parchment, especially by one that is ignored. The basic lesson of economics is that liberty, property, and contract are the fundamental preconditions of prosperity. *Cato's Letter*, Vol. 4, #1. Winter, 2006. www.cato.org

"When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near." *Testimonies*, volume 5, 451.

"The class that have provoked the displeasure of Heaven will charge all their troubles upon those whose obedience to God's commandments is a perpetual reproof to transgressors. It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday sabbath; that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity." The Great Controversy, 589-590.

House Majority Leader Launches American Values Agenda

House Majority Leader John Boehner (R-OH) has announced the launch of the American Values Agenda, a series of legislative proposals designed to defend traditional values.

According to Boehner, "The American Values Agenda is a collection of legislative initiatives that speak to the values many American citizens hold dear. Freedom to display the American flag ... freedom of religious expression ... the right to keep and bear arms ... respect for the sanctity of marriage, and the dignity of all human life. These are values that have defined the American character, protected our families, and shaped our society."

These legislative proposals include: Pledge Protection Act; Freedom to Display the American Flag Act; The Public Expression of Religion Act; Marriage Amendment; Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act; Human Cloning Prohibition Act; BATFE Reform; Internet Gambling Prohibition; Disaster Recovery Personal Protection Act; Permanent Tax Relief for Families. *Traditional Values Coalition News*, July 6, 2006.

Both Parties Court Jewish Support

Democratic and Republican congressional leaders are rushing to offer unalloyed support for Israel's offensive against Hezbollah fighters, reflecting a bipartisan desire to not only defend a key US ally but also solidify long-term backing of Jewish voters and political donors in the United States, according to officials and strategists in both parties. *Washington Post*, July 19, 2006.

"To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law." *Testimonies*, volume 5, 450.

ATTENTION

We now have a new facsimile 1843 pioneer Chart. It is thirty-six inches by fortyeight inches. It is vinyl cloth that allows you to roll it up and put it away without damage. It has metal rings that allows you to easily hang it up. It is very readable and designed for use and travel. I have been using the chart for the last four months, and every meeting where we bring it out there are those who purchase one for themselves. It is a very nice tool.

It costs eighty dollars plus shipping. You may order the chart from us here at *Future for America*, or from Duane Dewey or Bert Leverett in California. Bert's telephone number is 909 423 0468 and Duane's number is 909 688 3373.

"I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed." *Early Writings*, 74.

"We have, as had John, a message to bear of the things which we have seen and heard. God is not giving us a new message. We are to proclaim the message that in 1843 and 1844 brought us out of the other churches." *Review and Herald*, January 19, 1905.

"It was the united testimony of Second Advent lecturers and papers, when standing on 'the original faith,' that the publication of the chart was a fulfillment of Habakkuk 2:2, 3. If the chart was a subject of prophecy (and **those who deny it leave the original faith**)..." James White, *Second Advent Review and Sabbath Herald*, December, 1850, Volume 1, Number 2.

O' Those "Mischievous Moslems" What A Bunch of Merry Pranksters!

I should seriously write a book called, The Idiots Guide To Not Thinking Seriously About Islam.

It's hard to find a subject where mushy thinking is more in vogue — where political correctness conquers reality more thoroughly. People actually are afraid to think seriously on the subject, because the logical conclusions are too frightening for many to contemplate.

And so, there's no place where comfortable clichés are more readily deployed.

Probably the most glaring illustration of inanity here were recent comments by his Holiness, the Dalai Lama, the 14th earthly incarnation of Larry, Moe and Curly.

On leaving a meeting with Pope Benedict XVI, the leader of Tibetan Buddhists told reporters that we can't hold all Muslims responsible for the misdeeds of a few.

The Lama: "Nowadays, I often express that due to a few mischievous Muslims' acts we should not consider all Muslims as something bad. That is very unfair."

Expanding on this dazzling analysis, the Dalai Lama continued: "A few mischievous people you can find from all religions — among Muslims and Christians and Jews and Buddhists. To generalize is not correct."

O.K., now I know this will get me scratched from the invite list for Richard Gere's New Year's Eve party, but I just gotta ask: When was the last time a bald guy in a saffron robe threatened to kill someone he believed had insulted the Buddha?

While we're at it, when was the last time a gang of Talmudic scholars tried to blow up anything? Did the Vatican put out a fatwah on "DaVinci Code" author Dan Brown? The last holy war committed in the name of Christianity was over 800 years ago. If Hindus behead hostages, I've somehow managed to miss it.

"A few mischievous Muslims" makes kidnapping, torture, beheadings, bomb plots, mass murder and death threats sound like schoolboy pranks. It's September 11, 2001, and some high-spirited Muslim merrymakers just crashed two planes into the World Trade Center, slaughtering 3,000 innocents. What a lark!

Here are some recent examples of Muslim high-jinks:

- In Iraq, Father Paulis Iskander, a Syrian-Orthodox priest, was kidnapped by a few Muslim pranksters. After good-naturedly torturing him, they beheaded the priest. This was in retaliation for Pope Benedict XVI's quote of a 14th century Byzantine emperor. Jihadists apparently missed the Catholic-Orthodox schism (1054 AD) or maybe all Crusaders look the same to them.
- There are 1 million Assyrian Christians in Iraq but not for long. They've been targeted by every side in the civil war. On September 24th, two bombs exploded in St. Mary's Cathedral in Baghdad. Earlier, a church was bombed in Basra.
- Muslims celebrated their holy month of Ramadan by racking up an impressive body count more than 1,600 dead in 280 separate terror attacks in 17 countries. As I recall, for my bar mitzvah, I didn't kill anyone. But I did hurt someone's feelings on Passover, once.
- In a recent column, former New York Mayor Ed Koch reports on a meeting he had with Pope John Paul II in the early 1990s. Forthright fellow that he is, Koch asked the Pope why the Vatican didn't recognize Israel (it did a few years later), Koch says John Paul

- II replied: "It will happen someday, but it can't happen now. I have a responsibility to the Catholics who live in Koranic lands and who would be in danger if we recognized Israel." This wasn't paranoia. John Paul knew exactly what happens when Muslims get testy.
- . In Germany, the government is starting to crack down on an estimated 5,000 Islamist websites that are "spreading hatred" and "hawking terror." I see, those few mischievous Muslims must all be web-site designers and computer geeks.
- Then again, perhaps they're all involved in mass communications. The American-Muslim TV network, broadcasting in six states to a potential audience of two million, says its mission is "to improve the image of Muslims in the United States." Recent programming included the broadcast of an anti-Semitic/anti-Christian sermon, with the supplication: "May God destroy them."
- In Atlanta, Ethiopian immigrant Khalid Adem is on trial for circumcising his then-two-year-old daughter. Female genital mutilation is all the rage among African Muslims.
- Islamic funsters tend to be particularly hard on the ladies. There are as many as 300,000 runaway girls in happenin' Iran, some as young as 9. It's estimated that 86% of the runaways were rejected by their families after they were raped. In Prophet-land, rape is shameful for the victim.
- Islam's rhetorical war against the hated Zionist entity continues. In Karachi, Pakistan, a few mischievous Muslims well, 6,000 to be exact marched through the streets shouting "Death to Israel! Death America." That's how Muslim merrymakers celebrate Al-Qods Day (or Jerusalem Day).
- His Naziness Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (president of 68 million waggish Iranians) continues to assure us that Israel will be "wiped from the map," the Holocaust is a "myth," and any nation that sides with the Jewish state will face the "boiling wrath" of adherents to the religion of peace.
- On October 24, the Taliban announced it was planning attacks on civilian targets in Europe, in revenge for the invasion of Afghanistan that resulted in toppling its regime. A Taliban commander observed on Sky News

- television: "It's acceptable to kill ordinary people in Europe because these are the people who have voted in the government.... We will kill them and laugh over them." Like the Dalai Lama said, these guys have a sense of humor.
- As noted earlier, there is no freedom of conscience in Islam (or freedom of anything else). In Ethiopia, in July, a mischievous Muslim mob attacked a group of Christians in the city of Henno. The victims included two prominent Christians who had converted from Islam. The Muslim scamps used knives, stones and metal bars to reinforce the point that like the Syndicate there's only one way out of this organization.
- The Afghans who kidnapped Italian journalist Gabriele Torsello have offered to exchange him for Abdul Rahman, a Christian convert forced to flee the country. His own family wants Rahman dead. Bring back Rahman so we may instruct him in the finer points of Sharia, the abductors of Torsello plead.
- . In Britain, there are veiled threats over the suggestion by Tony Blair and others, that some Muslim chicks stop dressing like they just stepped off a camel caravan (full face veil).
- Perhaps the Brits are thinking that if their homegrown Sons and Daughters of Allah were more assimilated, they wouldn't be subjected to high-spirited pranks like the 2005 London transit bombings (52 commuters dead) or the foiled August plot to blow up 10 U.S.-bound jetliners (with a potential death toll exceeding 9/11)
- Across the Channel, Robert Redeker (a French high-school philosophy teacher) is a marked man, since the publication of his September 19 piece in Le Figaro, wherein he called the Koran "a book of extraordinary violence" (Hello, Dalai!) and observed that Mohammed was "a pitiless warlord, pillager, massacrer of Jews and polygamist" in other words, a 7th century Arabian rascal. E-mail death threats started pouring in the day the article ran. One naughty website published a map showing the exact location of his home, along with photos of Redeker and his workplace. (An e-mail amusingly informed the teacher: "You will never feel secure on this earth. One

billion, three hundred million Muslims are ready to kill you.")

All it took was one guy named Mohammed to murder Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh in 2004, for making a movie about the treatment of women in the wacky world of Islam. Van Gogh was shot, stabbed and had his throat slashed. A note by the killer, pinned to his body, read, "I did what I did purely out of my beliefs."

A spokesman for a French police union says Muslim youths are waging a "civil war" against the gendarmes. The Gallic intifada that started last November never really stopped. At one point last year, disaffected "youth," as the French press discretely calls them, were torching 1,300 cars a night, to cries of "Allahu Akbar." Rioting spread to 300 French cities and spilled over into Belgium and Germany. Now, whenever French cops go to housing projects they are assaulted with everything from stones to guns to Molotov cocktails. Nearly 2,500 officers have been injured this year.

To return to the Dalai Lama's daft observation, while it is undoubtedly true that most Muslims don't want to jihad us — there are enough who do. In a 2005 survey by The Daily Telegraph, one quarter of British Muslims said they had at least some sympathy with their coreligionists who murdered 52 random Brits in the July commuter bombings. Onequarter of a million is more than "a few."

Add to this number the minions of al-Qaeda, Hamas, Fatah, Hezbollah, the Muslim Brotherhood, the Jihad-this, and Army of Godthat, the mobs in Tehran, Karachi and Dar es Saalam etc., the ayatollahs, imams, sheiks, mullahs, their blind followers and rabid supporters — not to mention the Saudis funding radical mosques and madrassahs from Queens to Calcutta and beyond. It all adds up to a whole lot of Muslim mischief-making.

And let's not forget the millions (tens of millions? hundreds of millions?) of Muslims who aren't actually killing anyone, or condoning the killing of anyone (except Jews, of course), who nevertheless think it would be swell if the whole world lived under Islamic law — with honor-killings and genital-mutilation for all.

Now, here's the really scary part: As Mark Steyn points out in his book America Alone: The End of The World As We Know It, between 1970 and 2000, while the share of the world's population represented by industrialized nations fell from just under 30% to just over 20%, the mischievous nations (whose principal manufactured products are jihad and general theological nuttiness) went from 15% to around 20%.

What nations have the highest fertility rates? So sorry you asked. (and you will be too when you see the answer) — Niger (7.46 children per woman), Mali (7.42), Somalia (6.76), Afghanistan (6.69) and Yemen (6.58). Says Steyn: "Notice what they have in common? Starts with an I, ends with a slam."

For comparison, the fertility rate in the U.S. is 2.11, about replacement level. That's high next to Canada (1.5), Germany (1.3), Russia and Italy (1.2) and Spain (1.1). Of the 10 nations with the lowest birthrates, 9 are in Europe.

It gets worse. Consider the percentage of population currently under 15 years of age — a harbinger of future demographic growth — Spain and Germany (14%), the U.K. (18%), the U.S. (21%), Saudi Arabia (39%), Pakistan (40%) and Yemen (47%).

We're told that Muslims are 10% of the population of France. But of "Frenchmen" under 20, 30% are mischievous. In the U.K. there are more Moslems in mosque each week than Christians attending Church of England services.

Forget suicide bombs; they're detonating population bombs.

Should we "consider all Muslims as something bad"? Of course not. Should we consider Islam as something bad? That's an entirely different question — one which politicians, Lamas and the mainstream media studiously avoid — when they're not babbling about the "religion of peace."

And if Islam itself is "something bad" — if a faith embraced by 1.3 billion people contains within it the seeds of the evil we see all around us (requiring only the right conditions to germinate) — what does that say for the future of a world where Islam is the fastest growing religion?

Some of us live on comfortable estates in India, writing books about inner-peace and harmony, while contemplating the sound of one hand clapping. Others of us live in the real world. *grasstopsusa.com*, October 28, 2006.

Bush Signs Controversial New National Space Policy

Seeking to maintain U.S. control of the ultimate high ground, President Bush signed a new National Space Policy that asserts the country's right to deny access to space to any entity "hostile to U.S. interests," as well as rejecting future agreements that might hamstring U.S. flexibility in space. The new policy is the first revision of overall U.S. space policy in ten years, and its top goals are to "strengthen the nation's space leadership and ensure that space capabilities are available in time to further U.S. national security, homeland security, and foreign policy objectives." PatriotPost.US, October 20, 2006

And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, Revelation 13:13

The Number "4" in Bible Prophecy

God identifies either in prophecy or history the number four in connection with the conclusion of an empire of Bible prophecy.

When ancient Babylon ended there were four words, "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin" (Daniel 5:25-28). When the empire of the Medes and Persians ended there were four kings. (There were more than four Persian kings but the prophecy only mentions four, Daniel 11:2). When Alexander the Great's Greek kingdom ended we find four generals (four horns, Daniel 8:8) that were gradually absorbed into Pagan Rome. Pagan Rome ruled the then-known world for "a time" 360 years,

from 31 BC to 330 AD (Dan. 11:24). In the year 330 AD Constantine divided Pagan Rome into East and West.

Pagan Western Rome fell under the first four Trumpets (Revelation 8), which were the leaders of the invading barbarian tribes; Alaric the Goth in 395 AD, Genseric the Vandal from 428 to 468 AD, followed by the infamous Attila the Hun, and finally, Odoacer the Heruli who forced the last Roman Emperor to abdicate his throne. Theodoric the Ostrogoth also ruled as an independent monarch in Rome, ending in 526 AD. (Notice the names of the three tribes that were eliminated to make room for the papacy.) There are seven Trumpets but the last three are separated from the first four by the term "Woe." (The last three are "Woe" Trumpets, referring to the actions of Islam.) The pagan barbarian tribes were absorbed into Papal Rome by 538 AD, which continued to be divided into East and West.

Eastern Rome was "tormented" during the first "woe" (the 5th Trumpet) by the disorganized Arab Moslems for 150 years, from July 27, 1299 AD to July 27, 1449AD, (the "five months" of Revelation 9:5) when the Eastern Emperor in Constantinople voluntarily, in effect, gave his kingdom up to the then Turkish Moslems.

Eastern Rome was then actually brought down and conquered by "four angels," the four Turkish Moslem Ottoman Sultans, who began the second "Woe" (the 6th Trumpet) on July 27, 1449, and continued for 391-years-15-days, ending on August 11, 1840 (the "hour, day, month, and year" of Revelation 9:15). At that time the last Sultan of the then enfeebled Moslem Ottoman Empire (also voluntarily) gave control of his kingdom to the "four powers" of Christian Europe, among which was Russia. Then the third "Woe" (the 7th Trumpet) began with increasing strifes and world wars. During those wars Russia grew

into a great empire, the USSR, and when the Soviet Union fell in 1989, it paralleled the fall of the Ottomans, and signaled the arrival of the "fourth angel" of Revelation 18.

Now, Christianity, including America, is in the process of being absorbed (also voluntarily) into the final Modern Babylon, a three-fold, global confederation of Church and State, administered by the United Nations, enforced by the United States, and ruled over by the united "Universal Church," the papacy. When this global Modern Babylon is finally brought down, it will be accomplished by the "four winds" of global pestilence, famine, war and destruction...until Jesus finally returns to rescue His people (Revelation 7:1-3). Adapted from: www.Future-News.org, March 2006.

The Folly of Self-Pleasing.

"In these last days of the world's history, when self-indulgence and pleasure seem to be the objects for which men live, the followers of Christ must strive to become like him in character, that they may not be ashamed to meet their record in the books of heaven, when every man will be rewarded according to his deeds. 'To them who by patient continuance in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life: but unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile: for there is no respect of persons with God.'

"There are a large number of professed Christians who would feel surprised and deeply injured if they were shown the light in which God regards them. They are spiritually dead, while professing to live. They are false lights—signs that point in the wrong direction. To these I would lift my voice in warning. Study your Bibles, ana-

lyze your motives and principles, before it is too late. When you repent and become converted, you will see and appreciate the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. The half-hearted, pleasure-loving professor of religion is the very best agent Satan has to allure souls away from the straight gate and from the narrow path. Such have proved the ruin of souls they might have saved had they walked in the footprints of the Light of life.

"And yet these persons think that because they have a form of godliness, they are accepted of God. But God does not receive such as his sons and daughters. In that great day when he shall render to every man according as his works have been, they will realize the truth of the words, 'Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.'

"We are often solicited to give advice as to whether it is wrong for Christians to attend parties for amusement. I would remind all such inquirers of their privilege of seeking the Lord in prayer. 'If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, driven with the wind and tossed.'

"He who truly desires to know the will of the Lord will not run any risk by venturing on unknown ground. He will bring to his Heavenly Father a humble, contrite heart, not a determination to have his own way. Nor will he come in doubt whether to receive the heavenly wisdom, and walk in wisdom's ways, or follow his own inclinations and desires; for of such God says, 'Let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord.' God will not be mocked by his creatures. We are not to venture on an uncertain course for an hour's self-pleasing.

"To those who desire to know how far they can go in indulgence and amusements, I would say, Just so far as you can keep the companionship of Christ. Look to Calvary, and as you behold Christ offering up his precious life for you, that you may have an opportunity to form a character for eternal life, ask yourself the question, How shall I occupy the time given me of God at an infinite cost? He 'so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'

"Christ was a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. He was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon him, and by his stripes we are healed. Can you follow in his footsteps, and at the same time find your enjoyment in parties of pleasure? Those who have accepted Christ will need to watch and pray constantly, that they may not be deceived by any of Satan's devices. The person who is not cherishing in his heart the love of Jesus, will follow in the lead of those who are lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

"The gaiety, the foolish nonsense, the lack of sobriety, that are current in pleasure parties and picnic gatherings, lead to grave evils. The youth are pleased with exciting pleasures, as was Herod when the daughter of Herodias danced before him. Satan with his angels was present at that feast of long ago. It was he who instigated the king to make the promise which led to the death of one of the greatest prophets the world has ever seen. But there is also another witness at these gatherings. Angels of heaven are present, taking note of every word and action. How little those present realize, when they join in the mirth and jest, that for 'every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.'

"The prophet saw this event. He says, 'And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.'

"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.' 'As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.' These words mean more than many suppose. To believe on his name means to receive Christ as our personal Saviour. All who receive him may come to the Father in his name. And as a son, the Father will receive the repenting sinner to his favor and his heart, to partake of the riches of his grace. He may ask what he will, and it will be done unto him. Those who have decided to do nothing in any line that will displease God, will know, after they present their case before him, just what course to pursue. With an eye single to the glory of God, they will do his will, even if it does not accord with their inclinations." *The Review and Herald*, October 27, 1896.

"How many observe Christ's birthday! How few, his precepts! O! 'tis easier to keep Holidays than Commandments."

Benjamin Franklin