

## **The Penny Finally Drops or Has It!**

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**The “New” Church of God Messenger**  
**A Newsletter for the People of God**  
**May 20, 2023 --- Issue No. 120**

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**Contributors:** BibleStudy.org, Curtis Dahlgren, Dwight Fleming, William P. Goff, John Jewell, David Kupelian, Zac Poonen, David Rives

**Websites:**

<https://darwin-laura.com/>

<https://www.church-of-god-bismarck.org>

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## Articles

### **The Penny Finally Drops or Has It!** (Copyright 2010) by John Jewell (London, England)

My wife and I must confess we did stay up late on Thursday night last week. The date was the 31<sup>st</sup> December – so, yes, it was New Year’s Eve. We were not celebrating the New Year, but we did want to look in on the celebrations taking place in London and other parts of the world. We thought the fireworks displays in Sydney, Paris and in London that exploded on to our screen at midnight were excellent. But we felt that the people were somewhat subdued. There didn’t seem to be quite the same cheerfulness and carefree attitude of previous years. And who can wonder why! From the experiences of the United Kingdom and indeed the entire world over the past 12 months there was little to celebrate, apart from the fact that we were no longer in 2009! The outlook for 2010, as we mentioned last week in these pages, is little short of catastrophic. The one positive thing is that we are one year closer to the return of Jesus Christ. And he IS going to return! That event is the only thing that this world has to hold on to! In today’s world however there are those who just don’t believe in God, or in Jesus Christ and many who will actually mock and make fun of the persons of God and Christ. Then there are so many who, quite unknowingly, worship a false God and a false Christ. But we have now reached a point when we know there is no other hope for mankind.

You may not like to face it! You may not want to read this Letter any further! You may not want to take and read the Newsletter any more, that though would be to be like the ostrich! Burying one’s head in the sand and hope that the bad news would go away. It isn’t going to go away! But neither is the good news! The prophet Isaiah and, by extension, God’s ministers down through the ages, are told to cry aloud, to lift up their voices like trumpets and show His people their sins. God tells us that it is our sins, our iniquities that have created a separation between us in general and God the Father. No wonder that in the churches, chapels, cathedrals up and down Britain and America there is no real contact with Him. We have not obeyed Him, we persist in keeping holy days which are not biblical! All based on pagan days! None of them honouring the one, true God. Isaiah speaks of the evil to come! In context we are looking the evil to come right in the face. We are now in the days of which Isaiah and Jesus Christ and the apostles spoke and wrote.

As I write this letter my desk and my office in general, is piled high with cuttings of newspapers for just the last week or so. Far more than would have been the case even just two or three years ago. Into which nation’s hands do you think the world’s power is rapidly passing? Of today’s world the book of Revelation speaks of a nation that can organise an army of two hundred million. At no time in history could it have been possible to have considered an army, or force, of that number and strength, until now. You probably only need one guess as to which nation. The same one that is taking over the world’s productive capacity.

You may not have heard of the rare earth elements; they form a group of 17 exotic metals which are indispensable to western technologies and have a value to those technologies of trillions of pounds. The Independent shows how China, the nation of which we speak, possesses about 50% of the world’s deposits of them and produces 97% of the global

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supplies. These rare earth elements, referred to as REEs, are essential in practically every industrial process or product in the western world. Products such as fibre-optic cables, advanced X-ray machines, flat TV screens, movable fins on guided missiles; filters for viruses and navigation systems. They are essential to the technologies being developed to try to avert the worst effects of global warming. They are needed in the production of wind turbines, catalytic converters, car batteries and they are an irreplaceable component of low energy light bulbs. They are used in the nuclear industry and oil refining – the list is endless.

Here is a quote from The Independent of 2<sup>nd</sup> January: “In response to Chinese reductions in exports, global manufacturers are forced to move factories making rare-earth rich components to China to ensure continued production.” The report continues to say China has been reducing its export of these REEs and over the last 7 years it has reduced by 40% the amount of REEs available for export. To develop those sources outside of China would of necessity take between 5 and 10 years. Western industry no longer has the luxury of time. The Independent quoted Jack Lifton, an independent consultant, and a world expert on REEs who said: “A real crunch is coming. In America, Britain and elsewhere we have not yet woken up to the fact that there is an urgent need to secure the supply of rare earths from sources outside China....”

It's interesting to see how the newspaper refers specifically to America and Britain. We have mentioned a number of times in past issues of the Newsletter how the bible refers to the “time of Jacob's trouble...” In biblical prophecy this is referring to the descendants of the two grandsons of Jacob who together comprise the birth right nations. Those descendants are, today, these two nations. Two nations which are rapidly running into the worst time of trouble in history. Another newspaper report says this: “Worryingly, .... We enter an era in which America's power seems set to wane while that of China's rises....” Another report is of the establishment on 1<sup>st</sup> January, of 7 nations in the east coming together to inaugurate the biggest free trade area in the world. This covers nearly 2 billion people in Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand along with, guess who, yes, you're right! China. Forming the Association of southeast Asian nations. In short, the ASEAN! To quote the report “China, by far the biggest member, holds the whip hand in the bloc, with some voicing concerns that the country's manufacturers, who have become the engine behind the world's economy for a number of years, will force overseas competitors out of business.”

At the same time as it is driving the new south eastern Asian bloc China is not neglecting other and useful nations such as Brazil, Russia and India. Together, with China, known as the BRICS! The power, financially, industrially, and militarily is considerable. China has also not neglected Europe in the shape of Germany from whom China buys a lot of machine tools. Trade which was noticeably instrumental in bringing Germany and consequently the rest of continental Europe out of recession. We have been saying for a number of years now that a major weakness of Britain's economy is that we don't make things of any real importance anymore. Why is it that British governments seem to be unable to understand that true profit is when you take something, work with it thereby adding genuine value to it, it is then worth more. One can then sell it and so gain a profit. The British wanted the easy life and saw it in financial services, at which we were told the City of London was the world's best and most capable. If that was the case, why was so many billions of pounds needed to rescue the British banks and finance houses. Money that had to be borrowed from other nations. Money that had also to be printed. So much so that it is very doubtful if Britain will escape serious inflation.

If the citizen did some of the thing's governments do they would be put into prison!

So, as we no longer make things to any extent, we have to buy them from where? China! The British have developed a new game! When shopping see if you can buy something not made in China. The Americans have been playing much the same games. By the way, China now has so much money invested in America that it could wreck the American economy overnight.

The year of 2009 which just gave way to 2010 saw further opening shots in the new war. The International Herald Tribune for the 1<sup>st</sup> January reported that America put tariffs on Chinese tyres, and then China did the same on American and Russian steel. The same newspaper also reported that “.... the U.S. government is now imposing new duties on imports of steel pipes from China, the latest sign of trade tensions between the two countries. The case is the largest steel trade dispute in U.S. history....” In the meantime, while America and Britain are heavily engaged in fighting battles in Iraq and Afghanistan, China is spending more money in extracting Iraqi oil than America is. It has also made long term arrangements to buy natural gas from Iraq. In Afghanistan while America and Britain are fighting useless and costly battles, what China is doing is little short of spectacular. It is building a new power station and a new coal mine to feed the power station. It is also building a smelting plant to refine copper and it is building a new railway to take coal to the

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power plant and copper back to China.

The Sunday Telegraph for 3<sup>rd</sup> January showed that Beijing, China's seat of government, is putting a huge effort into developing the technology that would render the West's superior military firepower useless. This is an electronic technology which is already attacking American installations. It's reported that in any one year there will be 100,000 attacks by the Chinese upon U.S. government computers -- they have already successfully penetrated American military computer systems. The newspaper shows how the Chinese government teams of “hackers” can render useless the computers controlling power stations, water companies, air traffic control systems and government and financial systems. Both in the U.S. and in Britain.

In a war, what happens! The strongest nation bombs the infra-structure, it destroys the power stations, communications of all kinds, water supply systems and government offices. In the new wars it is only necessary to destroy trade and then the infrastructure by using electronic warfare. The financial systems are inevitably destroyed. From any definition, from any viewpoint, we are looking at the first stages of a new world war. In the bible, in the book of Revelation in chapter 9 it refers to an army of two hundred million from the direction of the river Euphrates. The Euphrates runs through Iraq and Syria and is close to Iran. We then think of an army of soldiers with guns, rockets, bombs including nuclear. But what about a different kind of army which weakens a nation by first of all trade war, then electronic war and then finally attack with military force. A veteran economist, Roger Bootle, said that China is sitting on a time bomb. And it is ticking!

## **The Armenian Genocide and my grandmother's secret** **(Copyright 2023) by David Kupelian (WND)**

*'A distant signal was given – it sounded something like a trumpet...'*



**Children victims of the Armenian Genocide**

**EDITOR'S NOTE: April 24 is Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day, marked annually to commemorate the genocide of 1.5 million Armenians a century ago, a mega-crime the nation of Turkey has never acknowledged.**

*"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." – Ephesians 6:12*

Decades ago when I was very young, my grandmother, Mary Kupelian, told me a haunting story I've wondered about ever since.

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As I sat in the kitchen of her cozy little home in Bethesda, Maryland, eating her delicious homemade bread and talking about a frequent topic – the Armenian Genocide, which she and my dad (as a little boy) had barely survived – she shared with me the following enigma.

"The Turkish people are very hospitable people," she said with surprising warmth, seeing as they had murdered her husband and dozens of other members of her extended family, just a few of the 1.5 million Christian Armenians killed by the Turks during the first genocide of the 20th century. Grandmom knew the Turkish people well, not just from having grown up in southern Turkey, but from having returned several times to the "old country" later in life, during more quiescent times.

However, continuing her story, she intimated to me that the Muslim Turks lived under the spell of strange forces.

"They were very hospitable and would invite you in," she said. "But if a distant signal was given – it sounded something like a trumpet – then they would instantly change and would attempt to harm you. Yet if the signal sounded again, they would immediately switch back to normal."

"Even," she added by way of illustration, "if they had injured you after the first signal, as soon as the second signal sounded, they would bind up the very wounds they had inflicted on you."

As I said – a very, very strange tale, with overtones of "The Manchurian Candidate" and its post-hypnotic suggestions (remember the Queen of Diamonds?) triggering murderous, pre-programmed behavior.



**An Armenian woman forced to march in the desert carrying her child**

That story, so pregnant with hidden significance, has remained gestating in my mind for all these decades since my grandmother matter-of-factly shared it with me over her kitchen table. It has piqued my interest especially in recent years, as I have endeavored in my writing to sort out and make some sense of a world so powerfully controlled by dark forces.

Since today, April 24, is Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day, let's delve into my grandmother's mystery story and see where it leads.

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First, it's necessary that I briefly summarize my family's personal experience during this terrible period.

**'If you embrace the Islamic religion, you will be saved'**

It was 100 years ago, and my dad, just a toddler then, along with his mother and baby sister were among thousands of Armenian Christians being herded into the Syrian Der Zor desert east of Aleppo to die. That's right, to die. Forced into such a miserable and dangerous trek, the plan was that exposure, hunger, thirst, bandits or marauding soldiers would get the job done, one way or the other. As for my father's father, a physician, he had already been forced into the Turkish army against his will to head a medical regiment to tend to the Turkish soldiers' injuries.

"One of my earliest recollections, I was not quite three years old at the time," my dad told me shortly before he died in 1988, was that "the wagon we were in had tipped over, my hand was broken and bloody, and mother was looking for my infant sister who had rolled away. The next thing I remember after that, mother was on a horse, holding my baby sister, and had me sitting behind her, saying, '*Hold on tight, or the Turks will get you!*'"

The three of them rode off on horseback, ending up in Aleppo, one of the gateways to the desert deportation and certain death. Once there, my always-resourceful grandmother Mary bluffed her way into getting an audience with Aleppo's governor-general. Seeing as her Armenian doctor husband was in the service of the Turkish army – albeit by force – she played her one and only card, brazenly telling the governor general, "I demand my rights as the wife of a Turkish army officer!"

"What are those rights?"

"I want commissary privileges and two orderlies," she answered.

"Granted."

By thus boldly deceiving the not-too-bright Turkish politician, Mary avoided the unthinkable, saving not only her own life and those of her son and daughter, but also the lives of her husband's two brothers, whom she immediately deputized as orderlies. The group then succeeded in sneaking several other family members out of harm's way, and my grandmother kept them all from starving by obtaining food from the commissary. Thus was my family spared, although my father's infant sister was unable to survive the harshness of those times and died shortly thereafter. And my grandfather, Simeon Kupelian, was executed along with other Armenian doctors by a squadron of Turkish gunmen.

On finally returning to their beautiful home in Marash in southern Turkey a couple of years later, Mary and son Vahey, who was then about six, found it had been ransacked. Their fine tapestries had been pulled off the walls, ripped, and urinated on. Everything that could be carried out had been stolen, and everything else had been deliberately broken – even every last pane of glass in the French doors was broken, and the drawer handles all destroyed.

Eventually, they escaped – and made their way to America.

That was my father's side of the family. But on my mother's side, things were just as bad.

In 1909, my great-grandfather, a Protestant minister named Steelianos Leondiades, was traveling to the major Turkish city of Adana to attend a pastors' conference. Today, Incirlik Air Base, used by the U.S. Air Force, is five miles east of Adana. But then, under the Ottoman caliph, Abdul-Hamid II, ethnic cleansing was the order of the day. Here's how my maternal grandmother, Anna Paulson, daughter of Steelianos, told the story:

"Some of the Turkish officers came to the conference room and told all these ministers – there were 70 of them, ministers and laymen and a few wives: 'If you embrace the Islamic religion, you will all be saved. If you don't, you will all be killed.'"

My great-grandfather, acting as a spokesman for the ministers' group, asked the Turks for 15 minutes so they could make their decision, according to my grandmother's account. During that time the ministers and their companions talked, read the Bible to each other, and prayed. In the end, none of them would renounce their Christian faith and convert to Islam.

"And then," Anna recalled, "they were all killed."

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"They were not even buried. They were all thrown down the ravine."



**Ottoman Armenians are marched to a prison in Kharpert, Armenia, by armed Turkish soldiers in April 1915. Up to 1.5 million Armenians were killed in what is now recognized as the 20th century's first genocide.**

The only reason we know any details of this particular massacre, she said, is that one victim survived the ordeal.

"One man woke up; he wasn't dead," my grandmother said. "He woke up and got up and said, 'Brethren, brethren, is there anybody alive here? I'm alive, come on, let's go out together.' "

Ultimately, by the grace of God, both sides of my family made it to the Promised Land – America – and eventually my father met and married my mother, and that's how my brother, sister and I were blessed to come on the scene.

Now, back to my grandmother Mary's strange story ...

**Marauding hordes of 'Manchurian candidates'**

Any thoughtful person, even without any particular knowledge of mind control, hypnosis or brainwashing, could offer a reasonable hypothesis as to what is being described by my grandmother: The actors are clearly people who have somehow been deeply programmed, and the "trumpet-like" signal is a trigger, a post-hypnotic suggestion initiating the pre-programmed behavior.

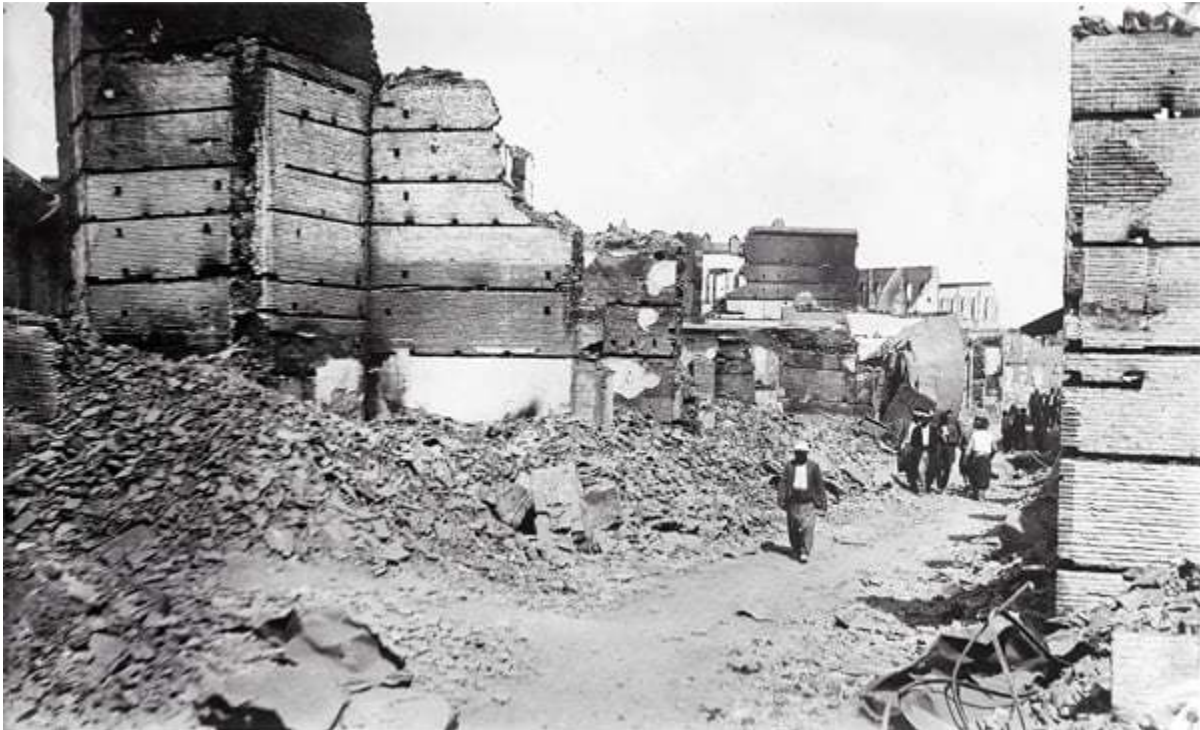
Interestingly, I mentioned this story to a close colleague of mine who lived in a country once part of the Ottoman Turkish Empire. His response to my grandmother's scenario – where on signal, Turks turned on innocent people to kill them, but stopped midstream at the second signal and even resumed their hospitality to the point of patching up any injuries they had caused – was to recall his own time living among a Muslim population whose ancestors had lived for five centuries under Turkish rule.

"The people were extremely hospitable," he recalled, "but after living in the country for some time, I learned there was another dimension to how they generally perceived foreigners. I had the feeling that some of the most outwardly welcoming people could stab me in the back."

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Encouraged that I might be on to something, I reached out to noted Islam scholar Andrew Bostom for help.

After doing a little research, Andrew called me back and said, enthusiastically, "Your grandmother is right!" The mysterious "trumpet-like signal" was a bugle, he informed me, leading me to a series of books and other contemporaneous genocide reports with additional details. A quick sampling:



**A street in the Armenian quarter of Adana left pillaged and destroyed after massacres in 1909**

**There was this New York Times story from Sept. 25, 1915, quoting Dr. M. Simbad Gabriel, head of a U.S.-based Armenian organization:**

*The doctor said that greed, religion, and politics all combined to induce the Turks to massacre the Armenians. The Government was always behind every massacre, and the people were acting under orders.*

*"When the bugle blows in the morning," he said, "Turks rush fiercely to the work of killing the Christians and plundering them of their wealth. When it stops in the evening, or in two or three days, the shooting and stabbing stop just as suddenly then as it began. The people obey their orders like soldiers."*

**And there was Simon Payaslian, chair of Armenian Genocide Studies at Clark University:**

*At Friday prayers in the mosque, Muslims were encouraged to attack Armenians. After prayers let out, a bugle would sound from the minarets for the attack to begin, and then a bugle would sound for the attack to end.*

**And then there was, contained in Bostom's own book, "The Legacy of Jihad," this chilling account by Scottish historian Lord Kinross:**

*Each operation, between the bugle calls, followed a similar pattern. First the Turkish troops came into a town for the purpose of massacre; then came the Kurdish irregulars and tribesmen for the purpose of plunder. Finally came the holocaust, by fire and destruction, which spread, with the pursuit of the fugitives and mopping-up operations, throughout the lands and villages of the surrounding province. ...*



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*Cruellest and most ruinous of all were the massacres of Urfa, where the Armenian Christians numbered a third of the total population ... When the bugle blast ended the day's operations, some three thousand refugees poured into the cathedral, hoping for sanctuary. But the next morning – a Sunday – a fanatic mob swarmed into the church in an orgy of slaughter, rifling its shrines with cries of "Call upon Christ to prove Himself a greater prophet than Mohammed." Then they amassed a large pile of straw matting, which they spread over the litter of corpses and set alight with thirty cans of petroleum. The woodwork of the gallery where a crowd of women and children crouched, wailing with terror, caught fire, and all perished in the flames.*

*Punctiliously at three-thirty in the afternoon the bugle blew once more, and the Moslem officials proceeded around the Armenian quarter to proclaim that the massacres were over ... the total casualties in the town, including those slaughtered in the cathedral, amounted to eight thousand dead.*

Superficially, one might conclude such narratives are depicting normal, albeit horribly brutal, military operations where soldiers are coordinated in their advances and retreats by bugle calls. But there's much more going on here.

"I've read accounts," Andrew Bostom assured me, "of a call to arms where Muslims would show up at residences – people who lived with neighbors for a decade or more – and engaged in indiscriminate slaughter."

Really? Living and sharing with your neighbors for years, borrowing hummus and olive oil when you ran short – and then suddenly turning on them in a frenzy of "indiscriminate slaughter"? Doesn't sound exactly normal to me.



**A Turkish official torments starving Armenian children by showing them a piece of bread during the Armenian Genocide**

Let's freeze-frame this whole bugle-massacre business for a minute and shift our focus to another bizarre but disturbingly common phenomenon in today's Arab-Muslim world: so-called "honor killings."

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A teenage girl – whose father, mother and brothers one would assume share a natural love, affection and protectiveness toward her – is observed walking down the street with a male non-relative, perhaps even holding hands with him.

In response, the girl is stabbed to death by her brother(s), or her mother or father, or all of them together – stabbed not just once, but often dozens of times in an orgy of slaughter, like the most deranged psychopath might commit. This fate is meted out to girls and young women for anything vaguely considered to have brought "shame" or "dishonor" upon a family. The poor girl's offense could be that she refused to enter into an arranged marriage or was in a relationship that wasn't approved of by the family, or had dressed in a way deemed inappropriate. Even flirting, even failing to serve a meal on time, even being a rape *victim*, all have been the occasions of "honor killings."

"Amnesty International has reported on one case in which a husband murdered his wife based on a dream that she had betrayed him," reports National Geographic. "In Turkey, a young woman's throat was slit in the town square because a love ballad had been dedicated to her over the radio."

Such monstrous, bizarre, and outrageously unjustified and unprovoked murders of innocent girls by their own family members occur at least 5,000 times annually according to the U.N., but that number is considered low due to underreporting. BBC reports that some victim-advocate organizations "suspect that more than 20,000 women are killed worldwide each year" via "honor killings."

Now, what do the bugle-signaled mass slaughters of the Armenian Genocide and today's Islamic "honor killings" – and, for that matter, the crucifixions, and beheadings and burying-alive of Christian believers by ISIS zombies – have in common?

All demonstrate an extreme level of pre-programmed, murderous conditioning, to be called forth by a post-hypnotic suggestion – a bugle sound, a sister crossing some pre-set behavioral line, an encounter with a Christian holding fast to his or her faith.

How could such "Manchurian Candidate"-like conditioning possibly be accomplished, you might ask? Did somebody send teams of Russian scientists schooled in Pavlovian conditioning over to the Middle East to hypnotize millions of people in giant laboratories?

Of course not. But Pavlov did not invent "Pavlovian conditioning." He just recognized the pre-existing principle and codified it into a psychological-physiological theory. Cruel, predatory, psychopathic (conscienceless) people have always seemed to understand how to program and control others in this way.

For example, African warlords have been notorious for recruiting and *creating* (*i.e.*, programming) child soldiers, often turning kidnapped children into the most brutal and unhesitating killers of all. One common conversion technique: Force a child to kill a family member or friend. ("Shoot your friend in the head, or I'll cut off your hand right now.") If the child shoots his friend, he's converted – usually for life, since the searing guilt of what he has done prevents him from ever going back to any other life.

We have all observed ISIS and other jihadist groups using virtually the same techniques to recruit and condition young children to become cold-blooded killers.

A similar technique is common in gang initiations all over America. To join, you must commit a crime (slash a stranger in the face with a knife, even commit murder) before you can become a member – which assures, both legally and psychologically, that there's almost no way out for you.

It's doubtful many gang leaders, African warlords or jihad recruiters have taken any courses on hypnosis, brainwashing or "Pavlovian conditioning," yet the dark knowledge of controlling and programming others is something human predators always figure out and exploit.

What about the ISIS conversions from the West we've seen over the last few years – all those young men and women from the U.S. and Europe, persuaded by cool jihad recruitment websites to leave the freest nations on earth and head to the Middle East to become cannon fodder or sex slaves? Such recruiting is not difficult to accomplish.

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Enraged young people who have been abandoned, betrayed or exploited (or who *believe* they have been), full of fury and desire for vengeance, who have lost everything and feel they have nothing more to lose – such as these are easy prey for recruitment pitches promising fulfillment, identity, "family," adventure, glory and revenge.

In the case of jihad groups, in addition to all the standard benefits of gang membership, recruits are also assured they are the chosen of God, superior to all other people in the world (except fellow Muslim brothers and sisters) and are going to help establish a glorious Islamic paradise here on earth – plus they get to slaughter all the vile infidels who get in their way. (And the males are promised lots of hot women, both now and in the next life.)

You see, whether it's ISIS, al-Qaida, Boko Haram, the Al Nusra Front or other modern-day jihadists, or their Turkish predecessors in the Ottoman Caliphate a century ago; whether, for that matter, it's the Christian-hating automatons of North Korea or in other communist nations throughout the world – when it comes to those who persecute Christians, we are looking at people firmly in the grip of exceedingly dark forces. And since darkness cannot stand the light – it burns – they feel compelled to attempt to put it out. Yet they cannot. For although the persecutors enslave, they are the true slaves; though they imprison, they are the real prisoners; though they kill, they are the ones spiritually dying.



**An Armenian woman kneels beside a dead child in a field outside Aleppo**

**Remembering**

So today the whole world commemorates the Turkish genocide of the Armenians.

Well, except for Turkey. After a century of denial, Turkey has never even acknowledged that this monstrous genocide of a million-and-a-half Christians ever occurred.

Unfortunately, there's a grave danger in failing to come clean – and that is, the great crime is likely to be repeated.

Consider what Adolf Hitler wrote in this Aug. 22, 1939, document, which was entered into evidence in the Nuremberg Trials. After you read his absolutely horrendous plans, pay special attention to the last sentence, in which Hitler reveals why he's so sure he can get away with committing genocide while pulling off what he calls the "redistribution of the world":

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*My decision to attack Poland was arrived at last spring. Originally, I feared that the political constellation would compel me to strike simultaneously at England, Russia, France, and Poland. Even this risk would have had to be taken.*

*Ever since the autumn of 1938, and because I realized that Japan would not join us unconditionally and that Mussolini is threatened by that nit-wit of a king and the treasonable scoundrel of a crown prince, I decided to go with Stalin.*



**Adolf Hitler**

*In the last analysis, there are only three great statesmen in the world, Stalin, I, and Mussolini. Mussolini is the weakest, for he has been unable to break the power of either the crown or the church. Stalin and I are the only ones who envisage the future and nothing but the future. Accordingly, I shall in a few weeks stretch out my hand to Stalin at the common German-Russian frontier and undertake the redistribution of the world with him.*

*Our strength consists in our speed and in our brutality. Genghis Khan led millions of women and children to slaughter – with premeditation and a happy heart. History sees in him solely the founder of a state. It's a matter of indifference to me what a weak western European civilization will say about me.*

*I have issued the command – and I'll have anybody who utters but one word of criticism executed by a firing squad – that our war aim does not consist in reaching certain lines, but in the physical destruction of the enemy. Accordingly, I have placed my death-head formations in readiness – for the present only in the East – with orders to them to send to death mercilessly and without compassion, men, women, and children of Polish derivation and language. Only thus shall we gain the living space (Lebensraum) which we need. Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?*

That was 1939. Just a few years earlier, in the early '30s, much of the world regarded Hitler and his gathering movement as a joke. Some journalists "burst out laughing at his shrill voice and jerky hand movements and refused to take him seriously," writes Andrew Nagorski in his 2012 book, "Hitlerland: American Eyewitnesses to the Nazi Rise to Power."

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In our time, we have had ISIS, which Barack Obama infamously sized up as the "jayvee team" a few months before it blitzkrieged its way across large parts of the Middle East. ISIS has been, in fact, frequently compared to the Hitler machine of the early 1930s, maniacal and growing, but not yet a massive world power with fearsome weapons.

And just to bring things full circle, consider the primary role model for caliphate-wannabes like ISIS. No, it's not Hitler, even though ISIS and Hitler share an infinite hatred for Jews. Rather, it's the world's previous Sunni Islamic caliphate – namely, the Turkish Ottoman Empire, whose martyrdom of 1.5 million Armenian Christians is being remembered today.



**Armenian looking at the human remains at Der el-Zor, 1916. Photo: Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute**

**'We had forgotten theology and the Bible'**

Just as there are little-understood mysteries of evil, such as that crystallized in my grandmother's story, so are there other mysteries – from God – secretly at work in people who are in His grip.

Richard Wurmbrand, the heroic Romanian evangelical pastor, spent 14-and-a-half years in a Romanian prison suffering starvation and torture for the crime of boldly preaching the Gospel of Christ in what was then a brutally repressive communist nation. When, two years after his final release from captivity, Wurmbrand testified in May 1966 before the U.S. Senate's Internal Security Subcommittee, he stripped to the waist to reveal 18 deep wounds covering his torso, the result of years of unspeakable abuse.

And yet, as Wurmbrand proclaims in his classic book, "Tortured for Christ," he and his fellow Christian prisoners well understood that the communists, especially those who imprisoned and tortured them, "knew not what they did." He recognized deeply that his persecutors were all programmed "Manchurian candidates" – brainwashed slaves of "principalities and powers," of "rulers of the darkness of this world" and "spiritual wickedness in high places."

Until he died at age 91 in 2001, Wurmbrand's message, one faithfully carried forward by the international ministry he founded, [Voice of the Martyrs](#), has always been: "Hate the evil systems, but love your persecutors. Love their souls and try to win them for Christ."

**With striking compassion for his jailers, in "Tortured for Christ" Wurmbrand writes:**

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*The enormous amount of drunkenness in Communist countries exposes the longing for a more meaningful life, which communism cannot give. The average Russian is a deep, big-hearted, generous person. Communism is shallow and superficial. He seeks the deep life and, finding it nowhere else, he seeks it in alcohol. He expresses in alcoholism his horror about the brutal and deceitful life he must live. For a few moments alcohol sets him free, as truth would set him free forever if he could know it.*

So genuine was Wurmbrand's concern for the souls of his tormentors that, over the years, quite a few of them were converted to the Christian faith, ending up in prison with him – and glad for it!

Contemplate, if you can, Wurmbrand's last act before leaving Romania after years of living 30 feet underground in a communist prison – no sunshine, no fresh air, always hungry, treated brutally and sadistically day after day, year after year.

**"In December 1965," writes Wurmbrand, "my family and I were allowed to leave Romania":**

*My last deed before leaving was to go to the grave of the colonel who had given the order for my arrest and who had ordered my years of torture. I placed a flower on his grave. By doing this I dedicated myself to bringing the joys of Christ that I have to the communists who are so empty spiritually.*

*I hate the communist system, but I love the men. I hate the sin, but I love the sinner. I love the communists with all of my heart. Communists can kill Christians, but they cannot kill their love toward even those who killed them. I have not the slightest bitterness or resentment against the communists or my torturers.*

**How is such an attitude possible? Says Wurmbrand:**

*I have seen Christians in communist prisons with fifty pounds of chains on their feet, tortured with red-hot iron pokers, in whose throats spoonful's of salt had been forced, being kept afterward without water, starving, whipped, suffering from cold – and praying with fervor for the communists. This is humanly inexplicable! It is the love of Christ, which was poured out in our hearts.*

**Finally, in words reminiscent of some of the early Christian martyrs of the First Century, Richard Wurmbrand shares with the reader the presence of God he experienced in his filthy prison cell:**

*God is "the Truth." The Bible is the "truth about the Truth." Theology is the "truth about the truth about the Truth." Christian people live in these many truths about the Truth, and, because of them, have not "the Truth." Hungry, beaten, and drugged, we had forgotten theology and the Bible. We had forgotten the "truths about the Truth," therefore we lived in "the Truth." It is written, "The Son of man is coming at an hour when you do not expect Him" (Matthew 24:44). We could not think anymore. In our darkest hours of torture, the Son of Man came to us, making the prison walls shine like diamonds and filling the cells with light. Somewhere, far away, were the torturers below us in the sphere of the body. But the spirit rejoiced in the Lord. We would not have given up this joy for that of gingly palaces.*

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<https://www.wnd.com/2023/04/armenian-genocide-grandmothers-secret/>

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## **Each Day of Your Life can be Wonderful**

**(Copyright 2021) by Zac Poonen (Bangalore, India)**

*Proverbs 4:12 (paraphrased) says that God will open up the way before you, step by step. You don't need to know what lies two steps ahead of you. Just take the step that you see, and then you will see the next step. That is how God will guide you. Doors may appear to be closed in front of you. But as you approach them, they will open automatically. But*

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they won't open until you come near them. That is how God will lead you on. So, don't be hesitant or afraid if you see a door closed in front of you. Take the step God shows you and move forward. "I have put before you an open door," says the Lord, "which no-one can shut" (Rev.3:8).

*"If we are to do God's will each day, we must develop the habit of listening to God every day."*

It is written in *Proverbs 4:18* that God will make your path shine brighter and brighter. The new birth is compared to the sunrise here and the coming of Christ to the noonday sun. God's perfect will for you is that you should become more and more like Christ every day of your life, from new birth until Christ's return. This is the path of the righteous - and along this path, you will get more and more revelation on God's Word, more and more light on the corruption of your self-life, and more and more wisdom for practical situations that you will face. If you walk along this path, you will never backslide, just as the sun never goes back in the sky.

God has called us first of all to be His worshippers - and that means to desire Him alone. You will then see God's glory just as Isaiah saw it. Immediately, Isaiah saw his own sinfulness too - and so will you (*Isaiah 6:1-5*). Be a worshipper then and cleanse away the areas of unChristlikeness that God reveals to you, in your life. God will then make you partake of His own nature more and more, every day. When we see the glory of Jesus in God's Word, the Holy Spirit changes us from one degree of glory to another so that His glory in us increases day by day (*2 Cor. 3:18*). In other words, if we are submitted totally to the Spirit, the anointing upon our life will be more today than it was a few years ago, and much more than it was 30 years ago.

If we are to do God's will each day, we must develop the habit of listening to God every day. As Jesus said about Mary (*Luke 10:42*), the one thing we need more than anything else is to listen to His Word. In the very first chapter of the Bible, we read that God spoke His Word every day - and as a result the earth was transformed little by little every day. If we want to be transformed into the likeness of Christ this year, the most important thing we need is to hear and obey God every day. The secret of understanding the Bible is to have an intimate relationship with the Lord first of all. The Holy Spirit can explain the meaning of what He inspired in God's Word. So, walk with Jesus, like the early disciples did and long to hear Him speak to you. Then your eyes will be opened like theirs and your hearts will be set aflame like theirs.

The part of our body that we use the most every day is our tongue. Jesus used His tongue to encourage others, thus making it an instrument of life in God's hands. He spoke soothing words to the weary that lifted their heavy spirits. And *Isaiah 50:4* tells us that it was because Jesus listened to His Father's voice daily that He had this right word for each weary soul who came across His path. We too can have such a blessed ministry to weary souls around us every day if we develop the habit of listening to God every day. If we reject all speaking of worthless words and choose to speak only precious words in our daily conversation, God will give us His words and make us His mouth - as He made Jeremiah (*Jeremiah 15:19*).

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# Have a Great Sabbath!

## The Church of Darwinism – A Religious Practice of Worshipping Man (Copyright) by David Rives (Lewisburg, Tennessee)



Visiting a Buddhist Temple, you get a sampling of religions that hold man in high esteem... They idolize the teachings of Gautama Buddha, study him, and attempt to attain his level of perfection. A lot of people look at the jolly Budai that adorns American curio shops as a god.

The thing is, I could point to similarities of this — how do I call it — “person-worshipping”? ...in MANY RELIGIONS.

Charles Darwin is no exception! This man, whose only credentialed degree was in theology! Is celebrated by the scientific community as a saint, an icon, set on a pedestal, almost worshipped. His reach WAS significant, and the ideas he published have had global circulation because universities peddle only one official religion... Darwinism.

A quick search will reveal that the number of works published each year on the topic of Christianity are almost matched by those on the topic of evolution.

Wait a minute, you might be saying! Christianity is religion, while evolution is simply studying science... so of COURSE you'll find a lot of people studying science!

The truth is, BOTH claim to have the keys to understanding life and death. And while they both give distinctly different answers about our origins, they both also claim things about our future as well.

The Bible claims that Life is the result of an eternal Being. In other words, all life on earth comes from Life everlasting. This is consistent with scientific study which shows that life doesn't come from non-living matter. The Bible claims that death comes from our disobedience to our Creator and our sinful nature. It claims that the Universe is Designed, and therefore laws, physics, nature, and life should operate consistently to those inherent design principles.

Darwinian evolution claims that life evolves from simple to complex and implies that the first life forms must have come from something that was non-living. This defies all observation, but Charles Darwin isn't to be questioned! You dare not mock this saint or risk the ridicule that it will bring.

Why would critical thought be condemned in an institution engaged in the unbiased study for truth? But telling a biologist that you aren't convinced, that Darwin's conclusions seem illogical, is akin to blasphemy within the sacred halls of our



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colleges and universities — the churches of Darwin!

The religion of naturalism is forced without alternative as one by one, people line up to pay homage and worship at the feet of this icon, Charles Darwin. Science? Or a religious practice of worshipping a racist, misogynistic, man and his antiquated 19th century ideas?

I'm David Rives, Truly the Heavens Declare the Glory of God.

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To learn more, visit: <https://davidrivesministries.org/>

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## What is Acacia Wood?

(Copyright) by BibleStudy.org (Farmington, Michigan)

What is Acacia wood? Was the Ark of the Covenant crafted from it? Which sacred items, used to worship God, were composed of it? How is it related to shittim?

Acacia wood, which was a highly prized resource, is mentioned 29 times in 29 verses in the Holy Bible Faithful Version. It is also recorded in the NKJV, NASB, NIV and other translations. Acacia is derived from the Hebrew word *shittim* (Strong's #7848) which is used in the King James Bible (Exodus 25:5, 10, 13, 23, etc.).

Acacia trees were common in the Sinai and surrounding regions. The writings of fourth century theologian Jerome reveals why they were so desirable.

"The wood is hard, tough, smooth, and without knots, and extremely beautiful . . ." (Dictionary of the Holy Bible).

The 1906 Jewish Encyclopedia also states the following about the lumber produced by this tree.

"A hard and durable but light wood; at first yellowish, but gradually turning very dark, like ebony . . . It is a large, spreading, thorny tree with many branches, found in Africa and Arabia".



Vachellia (or Acacia) tree used to  
create Israel's wilderness tabernacle.

### Ark of the Covenant

God commanded Moses, after freeing the Israelites from Egyptian bondage, to make a portable sanctuary "so that I may dwell among them" (Exodus 25:8). This structure was called the "tabernacle of the congregation" (Numbers 1:1, KJV) or the tabernacle in the wilderness. Patterned after a pre-existing heavenly sanctuary (Hebrews 8:5), much of it was crafted from Acacia.

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The Ark of the Covenant was made from Acacia (*shittim*, Deuteronomy 10:3) donated by the children of Israel.

And they shall make an ark of acacia wood. Two and a half cubits long and a cubit and a half wide and a cubit and a half high. And you shall overlay it with pure gold. You shall overlay it inside and out and shall make on it a crown molding of gold all around the top edge (Exodus 25:10 - 11, see also 35:5 - 7).

If we assume a cubit was, conservatively, 18 inches (.46 meters) long, then the Ark of the Covenant was 3.75 feet (1.14 meters) long and 2.25 feet (.69 meters) high and wide. If we assume 20 inches per cubit, then the Ark was roughly 4.2 feet (1.27 meters) long by 2.5 feet (.76 meters) high and wide.

#### **Furniture and fixtures**

The Lord commanded several other of the tabernacle's sacred objects, as well as the structure itself, be made from Acacia wood. Staves used to transport various tabernacle objects, such as the Ark of the Covenant, were made from this natural resource.

The veil of the tabernacle, which separated the Holy of Holies (which contained the Ark of the Covenant) from the Holy Place, was hung on four posts made of Acacia wood covered in gold (Exodus 26:31 - 37). The altar of burnt incense, found in front of the curtain (veil) that led to the Holy of Holies, was also formed from Acacia overlaid with gold (Exodus 30:1 - 10). The altar of burnt offering (or brazen altar), where animal sacrifices were offered, was additionally composed of this material (Exodus 27:1 - 8).

The shewbread table, placed in the tabernacle's Holy Place, was constructed using this wood. The shewbread (showbread or the "bread of presence") were twelve loaves, replaced every Sabbath (Exodus 25:23 - 31, 26:35, 40:22), which symbolized each of the twelve tribes.

The boards that were utilized for the walls of the tabernacle were hewn from Acacia wood (Exodus 26:15 - 30). They were coupled together using gold rings and kept firm utilizing bars made from this hardwood (Exodus 26:26).

#### **Prophetic future**

God promises to soon console Israel, in part, by restoring the Acacia (*shittim*) tree to the wilderness (Isaiah 41:19).

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## **Letters**

**Letter from Curtis Dahlgren (May 6, 2023)**  
Thanks for publishing.

## **Prayer Requests**

#### **Prayer Request for M. Srikanth (May 7, 2023)**

Sabbath greetings to all. Thanks for your wonderful newsletter. During weekly Sabbath worship service, we deeply prayed for all of you to have peace and healthy of life I hope you are fine there. Once again please forward my request to your Sabbath friends. Due to Corona lockdown the prices of commodities are hiking day by day and we are unable to meet soaring prices. Frankly speaking we are eating half day. I hope you understand our sad plight. Your reward will be great in heaven, stay blessed.

Prayerfully expecting your kind mail.  
Yours in Him Elder M. Srikanth INDIA.

## Announcements

### Announcement from William P. Goff (May 10, 2023)

Greetings Brethren,  
Hope all of you are well!

All the orphans at Sengera House are now back in school. Thanks to you donors we were able to pay the school fees for the second term. But this has depleted our funds. If you could possibly help at this time, it would be highly appreciated.

Thank You  
Bill Goff

### Announcement from Zac Poonen (May 10, 2023)

#### MESSAGES

The Holy Spirit Guides Us From Within

<https://www.cfcindia.com/sermon/the-holy-spirit-guides-us-from-within>

CFC Bangalore

<https://cfcindia.com>

## Prophecy

### Coronation Symbolism

(Copyright 2023) by Dwight Fleming (Oroville, California)

The coronation of King Charles III took place on May 6, 2023. Perhaps you took time to watch the ceremony live or later on recorded video. The words and actions performed during a coronation ceremony are highly symbolic and may also forecast expectations of the monarch's reign.

Unlike previous British coronations, there were representatives of other faiths present and not just those of the Church of England. One news article, linked below, reported that Charles was anointed with oil from the Mount of Olives. I found this to be a strong indication of Charles III future relationship with Israel. Charles' grandmother, his father's mother, is buried on the Mount of Olives.

As everyone knows, Prince Charles and now King Charles III has strong aspirations toward saving the planet from climate change. In the past, he has played a major role in the WEF (World Economic Forum) agenda. What role he will play in the future as king remains to be seen. It would be wise to stay aware of his statements and actions as king.

Eric Metaxas had an interesting interview with Naomi Wolf on the oddities of Charles' coronation that she found disturbing or problematic. You may find the interview revealing whether you watched the coronation or not. Skip to minute nine on the video for the interview. It is also linked below:

[Anointed with oil from Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, King Charles III crowned head of British monarchy | All Israel News](#)

[Naomi Wolf | Coronation of King Charles Oddities \(rumble.com\)](#)

### Holy Days 2023

Passover – April 6, 2023 (Observed at Sunset the Evening Before)

Passover/Unleavened Bread – April 6-12, 2023

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Pentecost – May 26, 2023  
Trumpets - September 16, 2023  
Atonement – September 25, 2023  
Tabernacles –September 30, 2023 to October 6, 2023  
Last Great Day – October 7, 2023

## Notes