

Loose in the Foothills

by Bob Ring

Just a Little History Project

I have long wondered what was happening in various parts of the world, in different civilizations, at the **same** time. For example, what was going on in China in the fourth century BC, when Alexander the Great was conquering the entire eastern Mediterranean and Asia all the way to India? (Answer: China's regional warlords were fighting each other for control – prior to China's being unified for the first time under the brutal emperor, Shi Haung-ti.)

So, believe it or not, I decided to research the history of the world – and man's civilizations – from the start of the universe through today. I know what you're thinking – he's got to be kidding, right? Even my family and friends "raised their eyebrows" and smirked when they heard what I was doing.

I started this very ambitious project simply to learn more about the subject, wanting to understand the relationship of important events of world history.

The inspiration for my approach – and a primary resource – was the "World History Chart," a time map covering the last 3,000 years of world history, compiled by Andreas Nothiger. You can view this fantastic resource at <http://www.hyperhistory.com>.

Over several months, I did the research and put a world history summary together, in ten parts. The result was a 77-page electronic "book."

I titled my book, "What in the World Happened? Perspectives on the History of Man."

Part 1 addresses the start of our Universe through the formation of the earth, development and early migrations of humans, and important events to the year 3500 BC. Parts 2-9 then discuss man's civilizations in several-hundred-year increments from 3500 BC to AD 2010. The write-up on each period includes a summary of world-wide civilization activity, major events, culture and religion, major inventions, and influential people.

The concluding Part 10 is my speculation about the future of man. This includes a discussion of problems that carryover from today, technology advances that open up almost unimaginable opportunities for betterment of life and human growth, and serious risks to man's future.

So I had a complete draft, with **me** as the primary customer.

My secondary goal was to share the book with interested parties. Before making the material available, however, I thought that I should have at least a couple of people with

world history background read the thing and give me some feedback on whether or not there might be potential interest by anyone else.

So I asked my friend Jim Turner, a prominent local historian, to read the history. Jim had a lot of very positive things to say about the manuscript, had some suggestions for important additions, and corrected a few errors.

I also contacted University High School to find someone willing to review the project. Advanced Placement World History teacher Rhiannon Patrick volunteered. Rhiannon was also very positive, came up with her own set of corrections and suggestions, and strongly recommended making the story available to students on my Web site.

You can find the updated document under “Bob’s Projects” at <http://ringbrothershistory.com/Updates.htm>. Please review it and let me know what **you** think.