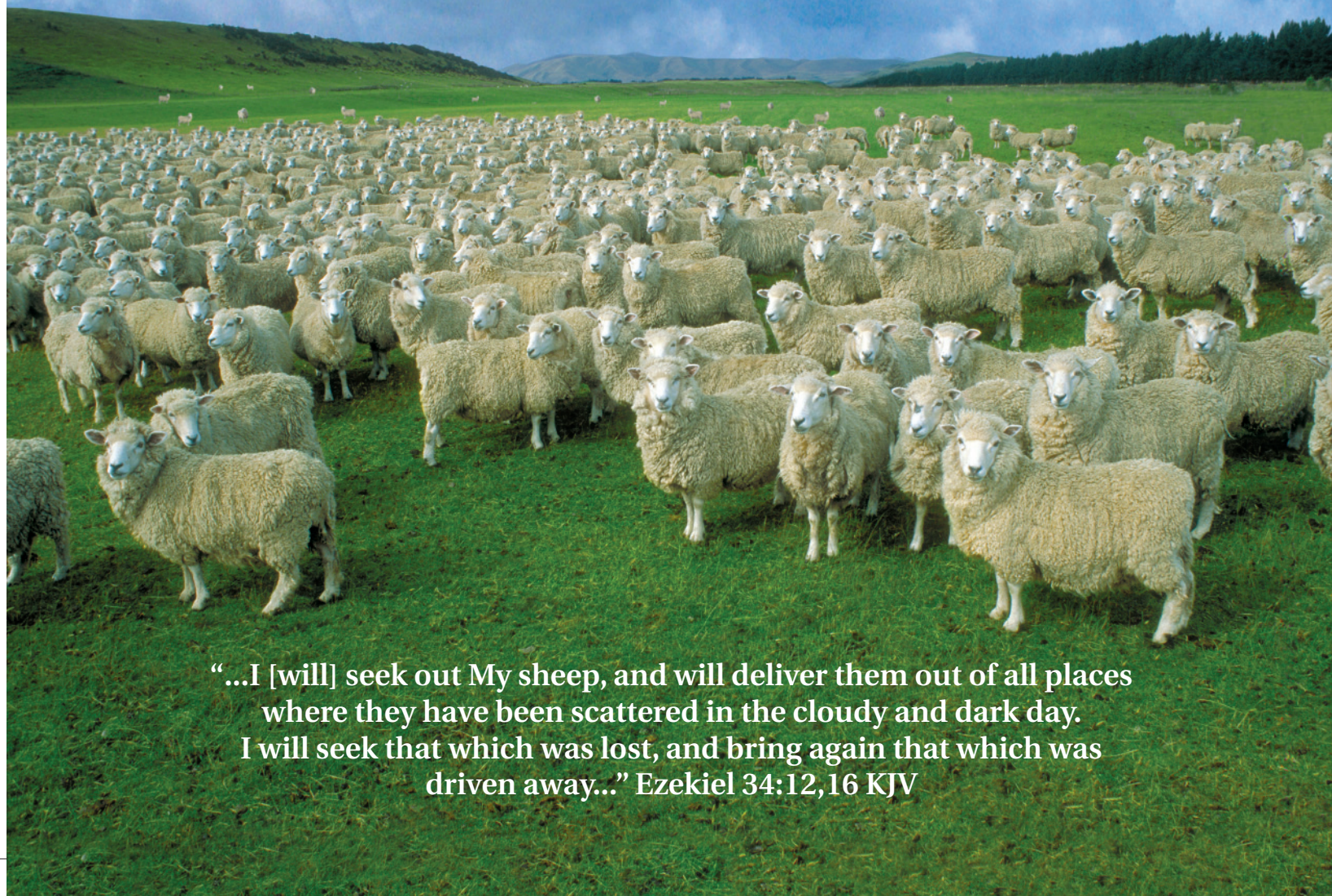


# The Philadelphia Remnant

Jan/Feb 2007



Dedicated to the memory of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and to the FAITHFUL Philadelphia Remnant of The TRUE CHURCH OF GOD Scattered Worldwide



“...I [will] seek out My sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day. I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away...” Ezekiel 34:12,16 KJV



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JAN / FEB 2007

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Cover: The flock of sheep pictured on the cover of this first, inaugural issue of the *Philadelphia Remnant* magazine are representative of the scattered brethren of God's true Church. The Church of God Faithful Flock, with headquarters in Modesto, California, humbly present this new magazine, *The Philadelphia Remnant*. The *Philadelphia Remnant* magazine continues to provide a conduit for the work Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong spearheaded, the work of reaching out to people worldwide with the message of the soon coming Kingdom of God through the preserved writings, recorded telecasts and sermons, and Bible Study messages that Jesus Christ used him to do in his human ministry! (Photo courtesy <http://phillip.greenspun.com>)

*The Philadelphia Remnant* has no subscription price. This magazine is provided free of charge. It is made possible by the tithes and offerings of the membership of the Church of God Faithful Flock and others. Contributions however are welcomed and are tax deductible in the United States. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as coworkers in this effort.

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# *The END-TIME Elijah: His Final Letter*

*[Please note the following Final Letter from Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, who was God's true apostle and the promised Elijah to come at this endtime. \*It was written on January 10, 1986, before his death took place on January 16, 1986.]*

Dear Brethren and Co-workers,

This is my first letter to you in 1986, and could very well be my last. Now in my ninety-fourth year I am in a very physically weakened state enduring severe pain and with virtually no strength whatsoever. I briefly described my condition in last month's Co-Worker letter to you, and now it has worsened. It may be that the Work God has given me to do is complete, but not the Work of God's Church, which will be faithfully doing God's Work till Christ, the True Head of this Church returns. . . .

Remember, brethren, this is not the work of Herbert W. Armstrong, nor will it be the work of Mr. Tkach, or any man. It is the Work of the Living Creator, God. You are supporting this Work of God, and it is the Great God who will pour out His blessings on you for your generosity. Continue to sacrifice through 1986 to finish the commission God has given His Church. **THE GREATEST WORK LIES AHEAD** [my emphasis]. Christ confirmed that in John 4:35, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Never before in the history of the Church has it been possible to reap so great a harvest. It has only been made possible through modern technology, beginning with the printing press, radio, television, and rapid mass transit and mass communication. I personally

have seen nearly all of these technological advances in my lifetime, starting in the last century through the horse and buggy age to the current space age.

It was prophesied in Daniel 12 that in the last days knowledge would be increased. This has been fulfilled, yet, with this awesome progress we are experiencing even more appalling and continuous evils, which will culminate in the Great Tribulation ahead of us now. Then, just before humanity blasts human life off this planet, God will once again send His Son Jesus Christ. This time in power and glory as King of kings and Lord of lords to rule with all the power of the Great God and usher in utopian peace, happiness, and prosperity. Thank God, Satan will then be gone.

Are you ready for the return of Jesus Christ? Will you escape the Great Tribulation soon to occur? Christ said to watch and pray always, that you will be accounted worthy to escape (Luke 21:36). Now is the time of the end.

Each of you must commit yourself to support God's Work, to fast and pray. God's Work must push ahead this coming year as never before. God is opening new doors in television and in the *Plain Truth* distribution. Help us walk through them. Praise and thank God, and pray for His Work. Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart for your prayers for me personally" (*Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong*, Vol. 2, pages 643-645).



MR. HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
1892 -- 1986

*[\*There was no signature by Mr. Armstrong to this letter for he was too weak to sign it. In actual fact, he did not write the letter. It was written for him by his personal aide. His personal aide has since written that the letter was read to Mr. Armstrong and he did approve of it, saying, 'it was appropriate and in context.']*

*[Were those words, "**THE GREATEST WORK LIES AHEAD**," prophetic? It is my personal belief, based on recent subsequent events that they were prophetic, even though they were written by his personal aide. Yet, Mr. Armstrong did approve of the contents of the letter, so said his personal aide. If those words were prophetic, WHO would Jesus Christ use to do this GREAT WORK? For the full and true answer to this question, please read the article in this premier issue, entitled, **The Philadelphia Remnant.**]*

# *What Doctrinal Teachings did God Restore in His Church?*

*By Alton B. (Don) Billingsley*

*From a sermon titled **Mission of the Philadelphia Church Era**, given on December 17, 1983, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong spoke about many of the doctrinal teachings God used him to restore within His Church. In his own words he speaks of them in that sermon, and others that are listed here have been taken from his own writings and teachings.*

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong wrote, "One original Church, much persecuted and opposed, but still in existence, has these evidences [proper name and true gospel] proving it to be the original true Church. And even this Church, until after the year of 1933, had lost many of these vital truths. At least 18 basic and essential truths have been restored to the true Church since that year." (*Mystery of the Ages*, page 251, hard cover edition).



## **Sermon Begins**

"Greetings, everybody! This afternoon I want to speak on the mission of the Philadelphia Era of the Church, this Church today in comparison to the first era of the Church, the Ephesus Era of the Church. It's been seeming more and more to me, as the years go by, that the Bible was written primarily for the Philadelphia Era of the Church ... Today's mission of the Church you will find in Matthew 24:14. And this gospel of the kingdom ... that is the same gospel that Jesus preached ...

shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

## **Why Restored Truths in Modern Times?**

"Verse 19, the third chapter of Acts. Peter said, 'Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, ...' Now He's ascended up to heaven and the heavens would receive Him UNTIL a certain time; until the times of restitution of all things, which God had spoken to

them out of the mouth of His Holy prophets since the world began. Now 'restitution.' Look that word up in the dictionary. Restitution means restoring to a former condition, a former state or condition. Restoring what had been taken away, **RESTORING WHAT HAD BEEN TAKEN AWAY!** So now I ask you, what is Christ coming to restore that had been taken away? What had been taken away was the government of God, **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD!"**

## Restored Truths

The truths Mr. Herbert Armstrong stated God used him to restore to the Philadelphia era of the Church of God are listed below in the order he spoke of them as restored in that sermon.

### 1. True Gospel

“Now in Romans 5 and about verse 5, you will read that by the blood of Christ we are reconciled to God. Now the gospel was suppressed and, as I say, they turned to a gospel ABOUT Christ, but they have not talked of His message. And His message talked about God as being the supreme ruler, and His message had to do with the government of God and God is the lawgiver, and when you sin, the sin is the transgression of the law, and that has cut you off from God, the Father. And what was restored? The world had lost the gospel, they didn't know what the gospel was. I came among the true Church of God of the Sardis Era. They didn't know what the gospel was, they thought it was what they called the third angel's message. They didn't know what the gospel really was. They called it a third angel's message. God revealed it to me and through me, to the Church. That the gospel is the Kingdom of God, that is the gospel Jesus preached, that's the gospel Paul preached to the Gentiles, that's the gospel that Peter and John preached. You'll find when Jesus sent them out and sent out 70, He said preach the Kingdom of God. That is the only

gospel, is the gospel OF Jesus Christ. The world preached and has a gospel ABOUT Christ. Now the first thing to be restored to the Church is the true gospel. The world has lost the purpose of God. They have lost all knowledge of the gospel of Christ, which is the Kingdom of God. They have lost all of these things.”

### 2. Purpose of God

“And the second thing to be restored is the PURPOSE of God. And the gospel has to do with that. That God IS reproducing us and that MAN CAN BECOME God! No other Church on earth believes that, brethren. And now let me tell you, I'm going to reveal to you, now, things that have been restored in this Church. Let me tell you, ... God's purpose is that He's reproducing Himself and that we, ultimately, become God.”

### 3. God's Plan Through the Holy Days

“Now another thing that has been restored is, through the Holy Days, God's plan, His Master Plan for accomplishing that purpose, and the annual Holy Days. And no other Church has had those Holy Days, and understands them.”

“The fact of the annual festivals, that they represent God's plan.”

### 4. Government

“But to go on with the things that have been restored ... The

government of God has been restored to the Church, and the government of God has been placed in the Church. You read that in Ephesians 4 and I Corinthians 12. Christ is the head of the Church and under Christ in the administration of the government are an apostle or apostles, then evangelists, then pastors, then all are called elders, all ministers all the way up clear down to the lowest. So then there are teachers and elders both speaking elders and preaching elders, deacons and deaconesses. And the Church is restored in that form of government. The Sardis Church even didn't have the right form of government.” He also wrote, “The government of God is of necessity government from the top down. It cannot be ‘government by the consent of the governed’ ” (*Mystery of the Ages*, p. 49)

### 5. Who and What God Is

“Who and what God IS. NO RELIGION ON EARTH KNOWS WHO AND WHAT GOD IS! NO RELIGION ON EARTH! GOD IS NOT A TRINITY! GOD IS NOT A SINGLE PERSON! God is a family of persons, and the family began with God and the Word. You read of that in John 1:1-5. And you read of it in Genesis 1 beginning with verse 1. You should learn about God first, and it begins first both in the New Testament and the Old, because many experts feel that, so-called experts, that the book of John should be placed first in the New



Testament, although it was not written first. That God is a family and it began with the two, and we can be born into that family."

## 6. What and Why is Man?

"Now the next thing that's restored to the Church — what and why man is! WHAT IS MAN? WHY DID WE COME TO BE ON EARTH? The Sardis Church didn't know, they didn't know in the Middle Ages. Man was made from the dust of the ground. Man was made with one spirit and he needs another spirit, the Spirit of God which unites him with God, and is the impregnation of God-life in him, and he will be born of God. ... The knowledge that he that is born of the flesh IS flesh, mortal, that's what we are."

## 7. Spirit in Man

"Next the human spirit IN man. No other Church knows about that. That has been revealed to the Church. That is knowledge that has been **RESTORED** to the Church of God, and this Church has that knowledge."

The Bible teaches that "...there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding" (Job 32:8) which God did not give to the animals. (See Job 39:17.) "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? ..." (I Corinthians 2:11) Mr. Armstrong wrote, "This 'human' spirit imparts the power of intellect to the human physical

brain." (*Mystery of the Ages*, page 105) This spirit is not the same as the spirit of God which humans need to understand the things of God, but this spirit is needed to understand the things of humankind. (See Job 32:8 and I Corinthians 2:11.)

## 8. First-Fruits

"Another, the next piece of knowledge that has been restored to this Church, that the rest don't know and no other Church knows it, that this Church is the first-fruits, that God is not trying to save the whole world now. He's calling us out now and He'll use us as teachers to help save the others in THEIR turn, and they'll turn, from the Millennium, will help save all the rest in the great White Throne of Judgment. And ultimately, God's going to go after the saving of everybody who ever lived. But no Church understands that, that we are the first-fruits, we are the embryo of the kingdom of God. The fact that we have to be called by God, and salvation is not open to just anyone, whosoever will. The whosoever will may come is found in the last chapter of the Bible, and does not pertain to this time at all. And no other Church seems to know that. That knowledge has been restored to this Church." And it is only the called who can come. (See John 6:44.)

## 9. Knowledge of What the Millennium Is

"The knowledge of the

Millennium and what it is. Now the Sardis people knew that Christ would rule a thousand years. They knew it would be a Millennium. They had NO IDEA IN THE WORLD about what would happen in the Millennium. They HAD NO IDEA WHAT IS THE PURPOSE of the Millennium. We know when we assemble at the Feast of Tabernacles, that's what we're celebrating, and we know what's going to happen in the Millennium and that salvation will be open, then, to all that are still alive. But it is not open to all now. No other Church knows that. These are things that YOU, brethren, are privileged to know. YOU, God has blessed you with this knowledge, has restored this knowledge to you."

## 10. Truth About the Holy Spirit

"Now truth regarding the Holy Spirit, ... GOD IS NOT A TRINITY!"

He said very little more about the Holy Spirit in the sermon. Therefore a direct quote is taken from his writings that further explains the understanding of the Holy Spirit:

"No one can have the Holy Spirit, which alone can open the human mind to understanding of this Word of God, without a complete repentance ..." (*Mystery of the Ages*, pg. 5). "There was a time, therefore, when those two Personages coexisted and NOTHING ELSE did. No third Person is mentioned--no

'Ghost'..." (*Mystery of the Ages*, Pgs. 44-45). "The Holy Spirit came from heaven, audibly, sounding like a mighty wind, 'and it [the Holy Spirit] filled all the house where they were sitting.' Next, the Holy Spirit appeared-- WAS VISIBLY SEEN-- manifested-- 'And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it [the Holy Spirit in the form of divided tongues] sat upon each of them' (Acts 2:2-3). In verse 18, Peter is quoting from the prophet Joel: '...I will pour out ... of my Spirit; ...' The Holy Spirit, like water or a fluid, can be 'POURED OUT.' Can you pour out a person from one into another--as from God into those assembled there? John 7:37-39: 'In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy [Spirit] was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)' Again in Acts 10:45, '... on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy [Spirit].' "

## 11. Begotten Now

"And the fact that we are begotten now. You're not born yet, only begotten."

Because he mentioned very little else about this, another quote is taken from his writings: "Now, as the physical male sperm finds its

way to, and unites with the nucleus in the ovum, so God's Spirit enters and combines with the human spirit and MIND! There is, as explained before, a spirit IN man. This human spirit has combined with the brain to form human MIND. God's Spirit unites with, and witnesses with our spirit that we are, now, the children of GOD (Romans 8:16). And God's Holy Spirit, now combined with our human spirit in our MIND, imparts to our mind power to comprehend SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE (I Corinthians 2:11) – which the carnal mind cannot grasp.

"Now we have the presence of ETERNAL LIFE--God-life--through God's Spirit. In like manner the human embryo was an actual human life as yet undeveloped. But we are not yet immortal spirit beings – not yet BORN of GOD – just as the human ovum was not yet born of its human parents--not yet inheritors, and possessors, but physical HEIRS (Romans 8:17). But IF God's Holy Spirit dwells in us, God will, at the resurrection, "quicken" to immortality our mortal bodies BY his Spirit that "dwelleth in us" (Romans 8:11; I Corinthians 15:49-53)" (*Mystery of the Ages* pp.260-261).

## 12. Born-Again at Resurrection

"You're not born yet, only begotten, that we will become born at the time of the second coming of Christ, when this mortal puts on immortality, when

we won't be human any longer, we'll be divine. The knowledge that he that is born of the flesh IS flesh, mortal, that's what we are. That is when you're born in the Spirit you will BE Spirit."

## 13. Identity of Israel

"Another thing restored to us is our own roots, our identity, who we are. We are the tribe of Manasseh of the lost ten tribes of Israel, and no other Church on earth knows it. That knowledge has been restored into this Church, and God restored that to me 53 years ago."

## 14. Identity Opens Up Understanding of Bible Prophecy

"Our identity. And that opens all the doors...and the understanding of prophecy has been opened to this Church. That has been restored to this Church."

## 15. Second and Third Tithe

"The second and third tithe, what other Church knows about that? And that was restored by this Church, that knowledge restored by this Church."

[Second and third tithes are discussed in Deuteronomy 14:22-29. God specifically calls third tithe a "holy tithe" (26:13)].

## 16. Identity of Babylon and Her Daughters

"Then the great deception, the

counterfeit of Revelation 17:5, Babylon, the Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth, her daughter churches and who they are...Those people in the Catholic Church and the Protestant churches have been deceived."

## **17. Satan is the Guilty Party**

"And the fact that Satan, the devil, has deceived the whole world. Brethren, Satan is the one who is guilty. Those people in the Catholic Church and the Protestant churches have been deceived. And I think they really believe. God just hasn't opened any more truth to them. We don't sit in judgment of them. We're not judging them YET. We're going to do it and when WE judge them, then all truth will be opened and God will take away the blindness from their eyes so they can understand if they're willing. Today they couldn't understand it, even if they're willing. I don't think they're willing, either, as far as that goes."

## **18. We Are to Be Separate**

"And how in Revelation 18:4 that God has called us out from among them, to be separate."

## **Conclusion of the Sermon**

"Well, brethren, all those things have been restored and there is a mission for this Church that never applied, and has never been done by any other Church. This gospel of the kingdom has been restored and shall be preached in all the

world for a witness to all nations."

# **Inserts of other Restored Doctrinal Teachings by God's late Apostle**

## **19. The Holy Sabbath**

Friday sunset to Saturday sunset is the 7th day of the week and is the holy Sabbath of the Lord our God. The 4th Commandment commands God's people to rest from physical labor and pursuits and be spiritually rejuvenated by assembling together with other members to worship God wherever possible as also commanded by God through the apostle Paul.

## **20. Divine Healing**

God is our Divine Healer and promises to heal all who come to Him in faith having been anointed and prayed for by the elders of God's true Church while accepting the sacrifice of the broken body of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of any physical sins involved in the illness or health problems which then makes possible physical healing. Mr. Armstrong emphasizes on page twelve of the booklet, *The Plain Truth About Healing*, that the true Church of God is

restoring the doctrine of healing the sick. "And Christ's doctrine of healing the sick is also being restored". See *Mystery of the Ages*, pages 211-212.

## **21. Dietary Laws**

Scripture teaches that all creatures that are named as unclean are forbidden to be eaten by God as they are harmful to the health of the human body which is called the temple of God's Holy Spirit.

## **22. Military Service**

The 6th Commandment forbids the murder or killing of anyone directly or indirectly, to purposely take another human life. The bearing of arms or serving in any capacity in the military is in violation of God's laws.

## **23. The Infallibility of the Bible**

It is the belief and teaching of God's Church that the Scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments are God's revelation and complete expressed will to mankind, inspired in thought and word, and infallible in the original writings; that they are of supreme and final authority in faith and in life. It is believed that the Word of God is the foundation of all knowledge and the source of truth. It is also believed that all teachings contrary to the Holy Bible are false. The Holy Bible is accepted alone, and not something else.



## **24. The Commandments of God**

The law of God is spiritual, perfect, holy, just and good and is summed up in the word LOVE. The law of God involves the two great principles of love to God, and love to neighbor, and that the Ten Commandments compose the ten supreme points of the law, and that violating of only one of them makes one guilty of sin. Scripture defines sin as the transgression of God's laws.

## **25. Saved by Grace**

Though commandment keeping is essential for Christians, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong also believed and taught that true Christians are saved by God's grace, not according to their works (Ephesians 2:8-9), but that their reward is dependent on their good works (Matthew 16:27; Revelation 22:12). It is law and grace, not one or the other alone (Titus 2:11-15).

## **26. The Authority of the Sacred Calendar**

Mr. Armstrong wrote that the Church of God was confused in the 1930's as to when the year should begin. People are still confused today. He saw the importance of the Jew's preservation of the weekly and yearly calendar and that is the one accepted by this Church.

## **27. The Change in Pentecost and Divorce and Remarriage**

This Church supports and teaches the change made and announced regarding the observance of Pentecost from Monday to Sunday on February 11, 1974; and also the changes made and announced to an assembly of the full ministry regarding Divorce and Remarriage by Mr. Armstrong on May 6, 1974. The change made on Divorce and Remarriage was made three years before his second marriage.

## **28. The Makeup Ruling**

It is also the belief and teaching of this Church that God led Mr. Armstrong to rule against the use of cosmetics within the Church of God. This Church supports that ruling. This ruling was made almost six months before his divorce from his second wife.

## **29. Interracial Dating and Marriage Forbidden**

Mr. Armstrong also taught against interracial marriages in articles and sermons to the membership (See *Mystery of the Ages*, pages 166-170). This Church supports that teaching.

COMMENT: At the same time the Church has always accepted mixed marriages that are already in place when one or the other, or both, becomes a member, and still does without discrimination.

## **30. Dating and Marriage to Non-Members**

Though the Church has always

accepted marriages that are already in place when one of the two becomes a member, and still does without any discrimination, it does support and teach what the apostle Paul taught the members of the Church at Corinth that members are only to marry members within the Church of God (I Corinthians 7:39).

## **31. The Elijah to Come**

Based on the prophetic teachings of Jesus Christ that are found in Malachi 4:5; Matthew 17:11, and in view of these restored doctrinal teachings within God's Church in this end-time by God through him, it is the conviction, belief, and teaching, that God used Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to fulfill these prophecies. The man God said He would send to RESTORE the doctrinal teachings in the time of the end that has been mostly lost by the Church through the centuries.

The Philadelphia Era of the Church was used by God to support him.

Though Mr. Armstrong vigorously denied he was that man in the early years, just as did John the baptizer, he finally had to come to the inevitable conclusion that he was that man. This is clearly stated in the *Mystery of the Ages* as well as in some of his other writings in the closing years of his life.

# *The Philadelphia Remnant*

Undoubtedly the question will surface in the minds of those who will be reading this magazine, while noting its title name, and will then ask, "What is the purpose of it; and what is it they will hope to accomplish with it?" The answers to those questions are given within this writing.

By Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

**T**hough Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong was blinded to what he approved [see note below] in his very last letter to the Church, dated January 10, 1986, six days before he died, the very words written in it is, in my personal belief, a prophetic statement coming into fulfillment at this time.

Please note those prophetic words:

**IT MAY BE THAT THE WORK GOD HAS GIVEN ME TO DO IS COMPLETE, BUT NOT THE WORK OF GOD'S CHURCH, WHICH WILL BE FAITHFULLY DOING GOD'S WORK TILL CHRIST, THE TRUE HEAD OF THIS CHURCH RETURNS**  
*(Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong, Vol. 2, pg. 644, my emphasis).*

Please note the significant excerpts taken from that letter:

**Remember, brethren, this is not the work of Herbert W. Armstrong, nor will it be the work of Mr. Tkach, or any man. It is the Work of the Living Creator, God. You are supporting this Work of God, and it is the Great God who will pour out His blessings on**

**you for your generosity. Continue to sacrifice through 1986 to finish the commission God has given His Church. The greatest work lies yet ahead. Christ confirmed that in John 4:35, 'Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto**

**you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.' Never before in the history of the Church has it been possible to reap so great a harvest. It has only been made possible through modern technology, beginning with the printing press, radio, television, and rapid mass transit and mass communication. I personally have seen nearly all of these technological advances in my lifetime, starting in the last century through the horse and buggy age to the current space age.**



*Alton B. (Don) Billingsley*



[NOTE: It should be noted that due to his extreme weakness Mr. Armstrong was unable to write this letter himself. His personal aide wrote the letter for him and then asked Mr. Armstrong to squeeze his hand if he agreed with it. It was said by his personal aide that Mr. Armstrong did indeed squeeze his hand, thereby making known he did approve of what was written in it.

Recently his personal aide wrote the following about that particular time: “Lest any be confused, I did explain this to him, before reading it to him. He was weak, and it was a struggle. If he did not understand and approve it, I would not have let it go out. I wasn't sure he was understanding it, then toward the end he added these words...‘**appropriate and in context**’, so I knew. Afterward, although very weak, he did have some interesting comments asking why I wrote some of what I did. I explained why, and he said ‘**ok**’. ...”]

### “The Greatest Work Lies Ahead”

Though the letter was written by his personal aide, the very words, “*The Greatest Work Lies Ahead*” is in my view *a prophetic statement*! Happenings in very recent times, combined with Scripture, *validate* that statement by Mr. Armstrong as being *prophetic*.

With this in mind, please consider the following in the context of what was written to the Philadelphia Church era:

**And to the angel [margin: messenger] of the church in Philadelphia write, “These things says He who is holy, He who is true, ‘He who has THE KEY OF DAVID, HE WHO OPENS and no one shuts, and SHUTS and no one opens.”** (Revelation 3:7, all Scriptural quotes throughout is from the NKJV, unless otherwise noted.)

*The DOOR WAS OPENED* on the first Sunday on January 7, 1934 and continued until January 16, 1986. During that period of time, Jesus Christ used His late apostle and the Elijah to come to take His gospel to the world as a witness and to sound the Ezekiel WARNING to Israel and the world, while *PREPARING* the way before the coming of Jesus Christ back to this earth.

This *FINAL WARNING MESSAGE* to mankind was prophesied long ago by Jesus Christ Himself and also through His holy prophets, as can be noted in the following Scripture:

**“Behold, I send My messenger, And he will PREPARE THE WAY BEFORE ME. And the LORD, whom you seek, Will SUDDENLY come to His temple, [His Church, Ephesians 2:19-22], Even the Messenger [Jesus Christ] of the covenant, In whom you delight. BEHOLD, HE IS COMING,” Says the LORD of hosts (Malachi 3:1).**

Isaiah the prophet also was used to make known the very same mission that was to be fulfilled by this special messenger:

**The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God. O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, you who bring good tidings, LIFT UP YOUR VOICE WITH STRENGTH, LIFT IT UP, BE NOT AFRAID; Say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!” Behold, the LORD God shall come with a strong hand, And His arm shall RULE for Him; Behold, His reward is with Him, And HIS WORK before Him” (Isaiah 40:3, 9-10).**

Both of these prophecies have dual applications:

1) John the Baptist, in the Spirit and Power of the ancient Elijah, prepared the way before the coming of the Messiah’s human-life ministry.

2) But, as a prototype, or forerunner, these prophecies also foretold ANOTHER human messenger, who would also be in the Spirit and Power of the ancient Elijah, who would *RESTORE ALL THINGS WHILE PREPARING THE WAY BEFORE THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST*, as KING of kings and LORD of lords to RULE over all nations.

Malachi’s prophecy, like Isaiah’s, refers to A HUMAN MESSENGER who would PREPARE the way before Christ’s imminent SECOND COMING IN AWESOME SUPREME POWER AND GLORY to

RULE over all nations.

## The Special Messenger of the Endtime

There should be no question by anyone in God's true Church as to whom these prophetic Scriptures refer to for the endtime! Look all around and think about the time from then to now and ask yourself as to whether anyone else has RESTORED ANYTHING or that Jesus Christ has elevated anyone else in those offices? There is no other apostle, no other Elijah, nor will there be between here and the coming of Jesus Christ! There is no Scripture that would indicate otherwise!

No one else has been used by Jesus Christ to *restore all things* within the true Church, but God's late apostle, and the Elijah to come, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong.

But Mr. Armstrong died in January 1986; almost 21 years ago! Was his life-time ministry to be the final warning and preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ?

Since his death took place that many years ago, there are those who say he could not have fulfilled those two roles for here we are almost 21 years later after his death and all things are still as they were at the time of

his death! Some feel the Elijah is yet to come.

## Moses and Mr. Armstrong

That *GAP IN TIME* from his death in 1986, to where we now are in 2007, is a *TEST* in itself on the people of God just as it was with the nation of Israel when Moses was up in the mountain with God for 40 days.

Due to his lengthy absence, the people of Israel *failed the TEST* just as many of the people of God are doing today (Exodus 32).

In this context, consider the remarkable resemblance between Moses and the Elijah of the endtime: When Moses came down from being with God on the mountain he found Israel had rejected him as leader and forced Aaron to make a golden calf for them to worship while rising up to play in a very licentious manner (Exodus 32:1-6).

Though Mr. Armstrong will not come back from the grave in human life, he is now coming back again in a much greater way through his WORKS by which he is once again giving the final witness and warning while preparing the way for the coming of Jesus Christ.



An artist's illustration of Moses throwing down the Tables of Stone with the 10 Commandments



The parallel is that Israel was forced back into a degree of obedience by God through Moses, but in contrast very few members today pay any real attention to God anymore for He does not force anyone. He only points out that each one must make a choice, life or death (See Deuteronomy 30:11-20).

## How Does Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong Yet Live Today?

It is well understood that the remains of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong are still where he was placed in his grave in Altadena, California. How does he then yet live?

First, one should understand what took place after his death; and why it was necessary he die at the time that he did.

There had to be the falling away, the scattering of the true people of God, and a time of testing to come on the Church to prove each one of us (See II Thessalonians 2:1-3; Daniel 12:7, 10). This would have never happened under his strong leadership; so he had to die for these prophecies to be fulfilled.

How does he yet live? The answer is that though he is sleeping in his grave, what Jesus Christ used him to do in human life is being *revived* and is being used once again by our Savior. His human voice and many writings can now be heard and seen in a much greater way and to a much larger audience than he was able to reach in human life.

## The Door Closed on the Work

After his death in January 1986, **THE DOOR BEGAN CLOSING** on the Work by the one who succeeded him. In actuality, and truth, it was closed by Jesus Christ who used this man to begin shutting down the work for the very one He had raised up to do this endtime Work was dead.

With this in mind, it is also needful to understand Scripture makes known Christ would NOT replace His chief human shepherd before His return to this earth by anyone else (Ezekiel 34:5, 8; Daniel 12:7, 10).

Since Christ would NOT replace him with anyone else, the question comes to mind as to whether his death

would mark the end of the use of the Elijah to come by Jesus Christ? At the same time there are those who believe since he did the Work of Jesus Christ in his lifetime ministry no further work is needed or will be done. They believe he finished it.

On the other hand, there are those who believe Mr. Armstrong will yet be resurrected and complete the Work and also restore the Church from its scattered condition.

In a way this is a true belief, but not in the way that is believed by these people.

## The Works of the Elijah

There is indeed another way a final witness and warning is even now beginning to be done! It is being done in such a way that it appears most have never really considered.

This new way makes known there is *NO NEED* of Jesus Christ to actually resurrect the aged body of Mr. Armstrong whose life ended at 94 years. The new and different way has to do with the *WORKS* of his preserved writings, taped radio broadcasts, telecasts, sermons and Bible Study messages that Jesus Christ used him to do in his human life ministry.

All of these are now of major importance in completing the Work Jesus Christ used this special man to do during his lifetime ministry before the real beginning of the Great Tribulation! For then will be the demise of Israel as nations and also the martyrdom of the saints.

And from what can now be evidenced, it appears the intent and purpose of Jesus Christ is to give *A FINAL WARNING* to the Church and Israel *BEFORE* all this takes place.

For the most part, those Works of Mr. Armstrong have basically been in the archives since his death. Admittedly, there are a few who have made some of those works available in the past few years, and some are still doing so, but none in the way they are now beginning to go forth to the Church, Israel, and the world!

## The Church of God Faithful Flock

In view of very recent and subsequent events there is no question but that Jesus Christ has begun using the true and faithful remnant of His Church *as a conduit or instrument* to make those *WORKS* available and accessible to everyone.

How can this be done by a small handful of people such as we are? The answer is by the use of the highly advanced technology in media now available to virtually anyone with a computer.

It should be realized this age has made phenomenal technological progress since the death of Mr. Armstrong. One can now reach the world with a computer, through the extensive and global Internet network, consisting of miles of cable, wireless relays and numerous satellites placed in outer space by different countries.

And it is by the use of this highly advanced technology from which Jesus Christ is now reactivating those *WORKS* of the very man He used during his lifetime so a final witness and warning is even now reaching out to the Church, Israel and the world before the real beginning of the Great Tribulation.

It would appear time has almost run out before the extremely tragic events begin to take place on a very large and massive scale! And with the very little time yet remaining, Christ is reaching out with love and compassion to all of those who will hear and obey Him before they come to pass.

This is HOW Jesus Christ is still using this special man, His apostle, and the Elijah to come; to complete the Work Jesus Christ raised him up to do in this endtime! Completing it just before the fullness of the Great Tribulation comes down hard on the House of Joseph and the other nations of Israel.

## The Latter Works

There is a very important duality found in the Thyatira Church era that has a direct application with the Philadelphia era. This application enables us to realize what took place in that Church era is now actually taking place in the Philadelphia era.

It is also important to realize Jesus Christ makes known that each Church era learns from the other eras as can be read toward the conclusion of each one. **“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches”** (Revelation 2:29).

In each of these letters, Christ speaks of their *WORKS* whether good or bad as well as the overlapping of rewards, such as the reward promised to the Thyatira era:

**“And he who overcomes, and keeps My Works until the end, to him I will give POWER over the nations”** (Revelation 2:26).

Scripture makes known this reward will not be given to that era alone, but will also be given to all of God’s true and faithful people who endure to the end regardless of whatever era of the Church of God (See Revelation 5:10; 20:4; Daniel 7:22, 27).

## The Last Works Greater Than the First Works

Let us now note what is said by Jesus to this particular era that equally applies to the Philadelphia era regarding the Work that was and is to be done:

**“I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; AND AS FOR YOUR WORKS, THE LAST ARE MORE THAN THE FIRST”** (Revelation 2:19).

In view of what is now taking place, this Scripture fits perfectly with *THE REMNANT* of the Philadelphia era of God’s Church, who are being used *as a conduit and an instrument* by Christ in making his *WORKS* available and accessible to everyone.

And since we are very close to the end Jesus Christ has *ONCE AGAIN OPENED THE DOOR* for an even greater WORK to be done by the preserved writings and recordings of the same man (Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong) than he was able to accomplish during his lifetime ministry.

It should be repeated that those Works are now being made available through the modern advances in technology! And because of this accelerated



advancement, Jesus Christ is now using him to do an even greater Work than he did in his lifetime ministry; the WORK being revived and being again set in motion by the very man that Jesus Christ made known to His disciples that He would raise up in this end time to fulfill this very special mission:

**And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Elijah truly is coming FIRST and will RESTORE ALL THINGS” (Matthew 17:10-11) (Also see Mark 9:11-12).**

This question was being asked of Christ by His disciples because of their knowledge of the prophecy that makes known there would be an Elijah to come at the endtime:

**Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet BEFORE the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD (Malachi 4:5).**

In actual fact, the more religious Jewish people are still looking for the endtime Elijah to come and even leave a door open and set aside a special place for him in their homes during the Seder dinner. (Their Passover, but observing it on the Night to be Much Remembered.)

Putting all of these Scriptures together there is no Scriptural indication anywhere that even implies that Christ would use anyone else other than the endtime Elijah He raised up and began His Work through him in 1934!

The **“LATTER WORKS TO BE GREATER THAN THE FIRST,”** are now being done by the availability of Mr. Armstrong’s RECORDED WORKS ON ALL OF THE WEBSITES Christ has recently given to us without our asking for any of them – just since the Last Day of Unleavened Bread of this past year.

In addition, Christ made available to us the near perfect-quality recorded *WORKS* of Mr. Armstrong of recent date that can be read and also listened to with superior audio quality.

The stats from those websites have shown continued phenomenal hits and visits over each and every past

month from their beginning including visits from many countries around this world.

It is by these means JESUS CHRIST has once again *OPENED THE DOOR* to fulfill the very sign He gave to His disciples with the answer to their question as to *THE SIGN* which should be looked for making known the end of this age:

**“And THIS GOSPEL of the Kingdom WILL BE PREACHED in all the world as a witness to all the nations, AND THEN the end will come” (Matthew 24:14).**

In addition to the websites with all of his *WORKS* posted on them for educational use to the Church, to Israel, and to the world at large, Mr. Armstrong pointed out many years ago the Book of Mark also makes known the gospel is to be published.

And this is the major PURPOSE of this new magazine.

### **Another Major Purpose**

Before he died, Mr. Armstrong also gave the commission to the ministry to **PREPARE the Church** for the coming of Jesus Christ back to this planet earth.

And that PURPOSE is made known by Jesus Christ on the cover of this premier issue of this magazine.

It seems necessary to repeat that this tiny little Church is being used by Jesus Christ **as a conduit, an instrument**, to make all of His works accessible to everyone. Of ourselves we are well described by the apostle Paul. (See I Corinthians 1:26-31.) And we do not mean we are of the wise, noble, nor of the mighty, for we are not, rather we are described in the following two verses:

**But God has chosen the foolish things [people] of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things [people] of the world to put to shame the things [people] which are mighty; and the base things [people] of the world and the things [people] which are despised God has chosen, and the things [people] which are not, to bring to nothing the things [people] that are (I Corinthians 1:27-28).**

## Being Honest and Faithful with God's Teachings

Mr. Armstrong has said the reason God used him was because he *BELIEVED* Him and was with His Word. Though I am in no way up to his level, nor pretend to be, I can say the same thing about myself.

I have left other groups and others have left us because I chose to be faithful to the true doctrinal teachings as restored within the Church by Christ's use of Mr. Armstrong *without* compromise. This does not elevate me anymore than it does any true minister, regardless of rank, or any faithful and true member.

We feel honored with a feeling of humility that Jesus Christ would see fit to use such a tiny flock as we are, to send forth the final warning to God's Church and the world through the WORKS of God's late apostle.

This is not to say we are the only ones being used by Jesus Christ to do this Work but at this time I am not acquainted with any other minister who is doing it while having all of the other necessary things in place; the true doctrinal teachings as restored by Jesus Christ through Mr. Armstrong, which includes God's government and obedience to it, His true gospel, and the ruling on makeup.

## Large Corporate Churches Not Needed

With all of the foregoing in mind, please realize Jesus Christ does NOT need a large corporate Church to fulfill His will at this time for this Work to go forth to the world. It would be great if there was one who had everything in place and faithfully continuing in doing the Work by using all of the Works of Mr. Armstrong on their websites.

It would seem a real lesson could be learned by reading the Book of Joshua. He followed in the footsteps of Moses without trying to seek his own recognition.

To my sorrow, I do not know at this present time of any large corporate Church who has the full unedited Works of Mr. Armstrong on their websites as made known in his last original book, *The Mystery of the Ages*.

Because we do have the full unedited WORKS of Mr. Armstrong on our websites, and no large corporate Church is willing to do the same, this alone makes known a major reason as to why Jesus Christ is using this tiny little flock to make possible His Work to go out as a final warning as can be seen by the following Scripture:

**Look among the nations and watch — Be utterly astounded! For I *will* work a work in your days *Which* you would NOT believe, though it were told *you*** (Habakkuk 1:5).

Believe it or not, this is *A PART* of the true Philadelphia era of the Church of God in which Jesus Christ is now using us to *REACH OUT* to the scattered remnant of the Philadelphia era of God's Church, and to Israel through *the WORKS of Mr. Armstrong* that have been *revived* from the archives!

## Moses and the Elijah

Consider the continued analogy of Moses and the Elijah: Moses came down from the mountain after 40 days with God and resumed the leadership that He had given him and to no one else!

Mr. Armstrong has come back from the grave *through his Works* that Jesus Christ used him to do and in this manner has *resumed* the office of Elijah to do the final work; the office and Work, Christ has *not* given to any other man or group of men to do at this endtime.

This tiny group of people is trying hard to be so yielding to Christ that He will continue to use us in reaching the REMNANT of the Philadelphia era of the true Church of God. It is our desired and prayerful effort of trying to *PREPARE* His elect for the very hard and difficult times just ahead of us and then be graced to be able to stand before Jesus Christ in all of His magnificence, with awesome power and great glory, as He returns to this earth.

# *There Will Always Be A Loyal Remnant Of GOD's True Church*

By Garfield Gregoire

**"But what saith the answer of God unto him [Elijah]? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to *the image of Baal*. Even so then at this present time also there is A REMNANT according to the election of grace" (Romans 11:4-5).**

**T**he thirty-fourth chapter of the book of Ezekiel paints a GRIM and SHOCKING picture of a condition that would prevail in God's Church – just before Jesus Christ returns. This picture is one of abandonment, the misuse of power, and the WILLFUL NEGLECT of God's people by those ministers who were ordained to FEED and PROTECT the FLOCK!



But despite this SHOCKING reality, few may realize that this passage of the Bible also prophesied that God would use a TRUE and FAITHFUL REMNANT to speak out against the willful NEGLECT of these apostate ministers or SHEPHERDS.

## **Apostate Ministers Like Vultures**

Shortly before Mr. Armstrong died in his ninety-fourth year, he said,

**For some years now, there have been some, like vultures, waiting for me to die. They would like to come back and take over the leadership of the church in my stead...**

Mr. Armstrong was speaking in the

context of those apostate ministers or leaders that were no longer in the Church. During the 1970s, Mr. Armstrong had to battle those liberals who sought to inject false teachings into the very Church of God. He had said at the time the Church was being, **"systematically liberalized" and was "bearing virtually no fruit."**

In an article titled, **"Recent History of the Philadelphia Era of the Worldwide Church of God"** Mr. Armstrong states:

**The "fruits" of the rebel leaders and "liberals" of the 1970s should now be clear to all. After some 35 years of steady growth in all facets of the Work of God's church, the rate of growth began to slow, then ceased entirely in some areas, and, finally, even decreases began to be experienced in the number of radio and television stations, *Plain Truth* circulation, number of prospective members, number of co-workers, amount of income for the Work, etc. – all under the "leadership" of the liberal elements.**



In that same article, Mr. Armstrong



made this *CHILLING* and *SOMBER* statement:

**I want you, brethren, to think about and understand what happened to God's church in the 1970s "lest history repeat itself!" I want you to see the "fruits" of rebelling against God's way and God's government.**

### **A Learning Lesson That Was Not Learned**

Certainly the events of the 1970s should serve as a lesson to all of God's people, but that *DID NOT HAPPEN* – because *the very one* who succeeded Mr. Armstrong also continued in the path of those liberal elements of the 1970s.

Mr. Armstrong had no conception that his successor was also *LIKE a VULTURE* – waiting for him to die. Jesus Christ had purposely blinded him as to how Satan would use this apostate pastor-general to systemically destroy the Church as we knew it. Had Mr. Armstrong known, he would have never chosen this man to be his successor.

However, there were the prophecies that had to be fulfilled that could not have been had he remained alive (II Thessalonians 2:1-3,7; Daniel 12:7; Ezekiel 34).

Over that eight-year period of time, the Church was subtly subjected to the gradual changes that came into the full and open acceptance of Protestantism in 1994.

In an OPEN LETTER, our Pastor, Mr. Billingsley wrote:

**After the death of Mr. Armstrong, all that we believed and held dear was thrown out on the very first day of our ministerial conference in Santa Barbara [California] in 1994 by the one who had replaced Mr. Armstrong as Pastor-General! Many of us were left stunned and in total shock!**



**That night left me sleepless and literally crying. Knowing the changes had already been made from 1986 until the time of that conference should have prepared me for what this man would do, but it did not.**

The doctrinal changes of this apostate pastor-general severely wounded God's people – causing a breakup of the Church – with many ministers leaving to form their own groups. Sadly, those ministers, in some form or fashion, have from that time been continuing to *compromise* with some of those doctrines that Jesus Christ used Mr. Armstrong to restore within the Church of God.

Here again is a quote from Mr. Billingsley:

**These men did not really believe that God used Mr. Armstrong to restore His doctrinal teachings within His Church.**

**To further their own goals and achieve their purposes, they pretended to believe Mr. Armstrong was chosen and flattered him (Mr. Armstrong) in his presence.**

Mr. Billingsley continues:

**... Most of the ministers today do NOT believe ALL of those doctrinal teachings either!**

**They say they do, but many speak disrespectfully of Mr. Armstrong, and at the same time have made changes in many of those restored doctrinal teachings.**

**Since they could not accept ALL of the erroneous changes, as made known by that leader from 1986 to 1994, they were not content to stay within that organization, but carried over the erroneous doctrines they did accept into the newly forming Churches.**

The false pretenses of those ministers – who claim to believe what Mr. Armstrong taught – was

prophesied to take place:

**And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee *as my people*, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, *but their heart goeth after their covetousness* (Ezekiel 33:31).**

The doctrinal changes by Mr. Armstrong's successor and the splintering off of those many ministers from the Church of God has led to the prophesied scattering of God's people. But out of this SCATTERING, God, as we shall see, presents us with a wonderful picture of hope and the PRESERVATION of his truth by his FAITHFUL and LOYAL REMNANT.

### **A Description of the Scattering**

In time past, Mr. Armstrong applied Ezekiel 34 to the work of the false ministers of the churches of this world, but he also admonished us to be careful **"LEST ANY OF THIS APPLY TO THE MINISTRY OF GOD'S CHURCH."**

In light of what happened to the Church after Mr. Armstrong's death, we now find that Ezekiel 34 has profound spiritual application to the Church of God. Most of God's people are aware of the meaning behind this passage of the Bible, but it would appear that fewer of them have understood that *THE WORK* of God's true Church is also prophesied to be *ACTIVELY REVIVED* within this terrible time of scattering.

**... Thus saith the Lord God unto the shepherds; Woe *be* to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! should not the shepherds feed the flocks?**  
(Ezekiel 34:2).

Speaking spiritually, this is God's way of saying that the Ministers do not have the interest of God's people, but are simply using them for personal gain. Micah 3:11 reads:

**THE HEADS THEREOF JUDGE FOR REWARD, AND THE PRIESTS THEREOF TEACH FOR HIRE, AND THE PROPHETS THEREOF DIVINE FOR MONEY: ...**(my emphasis)

Notice how verse 4 of Ezekiel 34 goes right to the heart of *THE SCATTERING* that has occurred within God's Church:

**The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up *that which was broken*, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.**

Notice God says that His people are right there among the ministers who are ruling them with *CRUELTY and FORCE*. This word FORCE is connected to a Hebrew word that speaks of MILITARY PROWESS. This means that ministers have used their office and their false teachings to gain the upper hand over God's Flock.

One minister even teaches that if you support his work, you will have ensured yourself a "TICKET" to the PLACE OF SAFETY.

In this scathing rebuke, God declares that the leaders of these splinter groups are not working to bring back the scattered people of God.

In other words, the notion of seeking or desiring to unify God's people as the Church was unified under Mr. Armstrong is not in their thoughts. They would only want to bring God's people together if it serves to enlarge or magnify their authority over the people.

In speaking of the ministers who rebelled against God's GOVERNMENT, Mr. Armstrong said:

**... Some wanted "The Chief Seat." They wanted the HIGHEST, most prestigious office. Not so much coveting money as**

**coveting IMPORTANCE in the eyes of their brethren and other ministers** (*Pastor General's Report*, Feb. 19, 1982).

**And they were scattered, because there is no shepherd ... My sheep wandered through all the mountains ...** (mountains being symbolic of great nations) Ezekiel 34:5-6.

God's people are now scattered throughout the nations.

**... My flock was scattered upon all the face of the earth, and none did search or seek after them** (Ezekiel 34:6).

This prophecy has led many to assume or conclude that there will be no ONE TRUE BODY used by God – until Jesus Christ returns, but a closer look at Ezekiel 34 will prove the very opposite of such belief – even as we shall see.

The first thing we should understand is that God's reference to **"NO SHEPHERD"** is in the context of those ministers that are failing to feed the flock; it is in this context, because God is directly addressing these ministers. If you go back to verse 4, **God plainly says: "... neither have ye sought that which was lost ..."**

Can we GRASP the SIGNIFICANCE of what God is saying here? Among the many splinter groups out there, God says there is NO MAN among them that is genuinely representing and serving the people of God!

This is STRONG and PROFOUNDLY SAD commentary on those ministers who knew and served in the CHURCH OF GOD under Mr. Armstrong. These ministers are not seeking out God's people because they are not genuinely concerned about the welfare of God's flock. In the outward show of piety and SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS, they are deceiving and harming the people of God.



This is a SOBERING indictment of those men who were entrusted with the solemn duty of feeding the very Church of God.

Malachi 2:7 reads, **"... the priest's lips should keep knowledge ..."** Through deceit and *compromising* with God's truth, the ministers have garnered God's strong rebuke and displeasure. God does not view any of those ministers who *compromise* with doctrine as His representatives; and that is why the CONDEMNING statement, **"THERE IS NO SHEPHERD."**

There are probably about three hundred splinter groups out there, and this condemnation applies to ALL those who are DOCTRINALLY COMPROMISING.

**Please notice an even more CHILLING statement directed at the ministers in Ezekiel 34:10:**

**Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my flock at their hand ...**

This scripture should invoke a certain kind of FEAR in EVERY minister of GOD, for He says that He is going to require the flock of His people at the hand of these ministers!

This expression is in the context of Ezekiel 33:6 – where God makes it known that He would REQUIRE the blood of the one who had not been warned – at the hand of the WATCHMAN – who had failed to warn that individual.

Mr. Armstrong has said the blood of our people would be on him if he failed to deliver God's warning message. We can be sure Mr. Armstrong must have had a certain kind of fear about that. He had to have this kind of fear, because he knew that if he failed to deliver the Ezekiel WATCHMAN message that failure would result in the loss of his



eternal life.

Those ministers who are now *compromising* with doctrines are running this same risk. THIS IS VERY SERIOUS for it should be remembered what Jesus Christ said about those who cause His little ones to fall away:

**But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and *that* he were drowned in the depth of the sea (Matthew 18:6).**

The word “OFFEND” means to trip up, stumble, to entice someone to sin; and this is exactly what these ministers are doing. May God help them to WAKE UP and repent!

Through His prophet Jeremiah, God has the same indictment of the ministers:

**... Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD (Jeremiah 23:2).**

The Bible reads, “***It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God***” (Heb. 10:31). Those ministers who are now using God’s people and *compromising* with doctrines need to take stock of what God is saying.

### **There Must Be A Renewed True Work**

Ask yourself this question: Is God going to work with all the splinter groups that are now out there? The prophecy of Ezekiel 34 dismisses any notion that God would ever do any such thing.

Mr. Armstrong said that Jesus Christ...

**Is going to marry the one and only true church - not a number of scattered groups or scattered individuals.**

The splinter groups are divided and are not ALL speaking the same things as the Church is commanded to do.



Please notice something else in Ezekiel 34:1,2:

**And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them ...**

Mr. Armstrong fulfilled this prophecy by speaking out against *the false religious system* that exists within the nations of Israel. He showed that the false churches of this world did not represent the true Church of God and that their religion was diametrically the opposite of what Christ taught.

But now that we understand the spiritual application of these prophecies, it comes to the understanding that even though verse 2 of Ezekiel 34 is about what Mr. Armstrong did, it is also an indication or evidence that Mr. Armstrong’s *WORDS* and *WORK* must now be used to speak out *against* those ministers or shepherds that are now leading God’s people astray.

Take note that God says, “**PROPHECY, AND SAY UNTO THEM ...**” This means that God is addressing someone (His Faithful Flock or Church) to speak out against these rebel ministers.

God says a message must be delivered to these shepherds; God says we are to tell them that they are failing to seek out the flock; that there is “NO” true “SHEPHERD” among them and that God is going to “REQUIRE” HIS FLOCK “AT THEIR

HAND.”

This evidence alone is an indication that God is calling for *A LOYAL REMNANT* to do a job; and if so, then it implies that there must be *one main body of believers or remnant* that God is using to deliver this STRONG MESSAGE. This means that God’s people must be *BOLD* in delivering this message. **“Therefore, ye shepherds, hear the word of the LORD”** (Ezekiel 34:7).

Notice that this admonition also implies that someone is being commissioned to deliver a message. God says they are to *HEAR* his words. With the understanding that there is NO GOD APPROVED SHEPHERD among the many splinter groups, it is clear that someone has to take God’s message to those rebel ministers.

In virtually every instance when God says, **“Hear the words of the Lord,”** it has to do with a human instrument receiving and delivering that message to the person or people to whom God is addressing.

Notice a few examples:

**Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me”** (Ezekiel 3:17); **“Stand in the gate of the LORD’S house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD ...”** (Jeremiah.7:2); **“Hear ye the word which the Lord speaketh unto you, O house of Israel:”** (Jeremiah.10:1); **“Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah, Hear the word of the LORD of hosts: (Isaiah 39:5).**

Of course, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel were prophets who received direct communication from God; and even as Mr. Armstrong taught, there are no such prophets today – because the Bible is COMPLETE for our time.

But as you consider that Ezekiel 34 is a prophecy about the spiritual condition of God’s Church – and knowing that God always sends a message in time

of *spiritual depravity*, it becomes clear that Ezekiel 34:7 is about a message being taken to those ministers that are *compromising* with God’s truth.

Notice Romans 10:14,15:

**... and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? ...**

This Scripture has to do with the preaching of the Gospel, but please note that the matter of HEARING is by way of one being used by God to deliver that message.

This same principle applies to Ezekiel 34:7. Those ministers who are *compromising* with God’s truth are *deceived* – *and don’t believe* they are doing that which is wrong in the sight of God; and so, God has to declare to them that they are going to be punished for such action.

This writer knows of one group that appears to be holding to what Mr. Armstrong taught, and even admits that Mr. Armstrong was the end time Elijah, yet this same group admits that they take issue with – and disagree with Mr. Armstrong on the MAKEUP issue. As far as it is known all their women are allowed to wear MAKEUP.

### A Surviving Loyal Remnant

Jesus said that the gates of hell would *never* prevail against the Church (Matthew 16:18)! This means that even in the midst of the *GREAT APOSTASY or FALLING AWAY* (II Thessalonians 2:3) – along with *the scattering of the Church*, there would always be *A LOYAL REMNANT* who would uncompromisingly cling to the truth (Romans 11:5).

### Zerubbabel a Type of Mr. Armstrong

In speaking of this group, Zechariah 4:10 reads, **“ ... for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel ...”**

Anciently, Zerubbabel built the physical temple,

and Mr. Armstrong taught he was the spiritual type of Zerubbabel for it was he who was used by Jesus Christ to build the Spiritual Temple (the Church) in this end time preparing the bride for the Bridegroom (Revelation 19:7-8).

The LOYAL REMNANT now rejoices because out of this religious confusion that now exists among God's people, they see and hold to the standard set by Mr. Armstrong. They are not confused because they passionately cling to what Mr. Armstrong taught.

Notice that they see the PLUMMET in Mr. Armstrong's hand. A plummet is a device used for accurate measuring. This means that God is judging His people on the basis of all those DOCTRINES HE used Mr. Armstrong to *RESTORE* within the CHURCH OF GOD. God is determining how much we love those *RESTORED TRUTHS*. Those *DOCTRINES* are not to be changed or tampered with in any way, shape, or form. God's FAITHFUL FLOCK knows these things and are HOLDING FAST – even as Christ commands them to do (Revelation 3:11).

**... neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; for I will deliver my flock from their mouth, that they may not be meat for them (Ezekiel 34:10).**

### **Jesus Christ our True Deliverer**

In the overall scheme of things, it is the LIVING Christ that is going to DELIVER His people from the DECEITFUL and OPPRESSIVE hands of those *apostate* ministers. Of course, each individual has a responsibility to examine their leaders by PROVING ALL THINGS – even as the Scriptures command us to do (Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:1; Revelation 2:2); we should not allow men to deceive us.

BUT NOTICE what God says:

**As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep *that are***

**scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day (Ezekiel 34:12).**

Christ has promised to deliver His Flock. This means that the time will come when false leaders or ministers will *no longer* oppress and deceive God's people.

Thanks be to God that day is now at hand. As God's



faithful elect, we must be about our Father's business of bringing this wonderful message of God's plan to recover His people – delivering them from the hand of those who are administering rule over them through *deceit*.

May God help the rest of His elect who are scattered around this world to take HEED before it comes to be too late to be counted among those who will escape the extremely hard and trying times just ahead of us and then be able to stand glorified before the awesome and majestic presence of our glorious and wonderful Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Praise be to Him and our Father forever and ever.



## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS - IN EFFECT TODAY?

Prepared by Gary Liebold

## Ten Commandments

*The Philadelphia Remnant* magazine presents brief Bible studies, exploring topics relevant for increased understanding and the character development of future members of God's Family. Bible study is one of the important ways by which Christians are strengthened daily. (II Timothy 2:15; Acts 17:11)

**Instructions:** The format for these Bible studies is to encourage us to look up scriptures in our own Bibles and read them in answer to the questions given. Comments following the questions expound the scriptures just read. These studies are based on the King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

Many people in today's society think that the Ten Commandments are insignificant and no longer apply. They believe the Ten Commandments were abolished, done away with, and/or "nailed to the cross." Some would say that the Ten Commandments are "Old Covenant" and that "Christ fulfilled the law," meaning, in essence, "Christ did it all for you...there's nothing left to do on your part but just believe in Him." Some say that the Ten Commandments are not the laws of God, but the "Laws of Moses."

Is this type of thinking true? Did Jesus Christ "fulfill" the law... the Ten Commandments? Are the Ten Commandments in effect today, or are they just a set of "rules" or "suggestions" that most people consider "passé"? No one can afford to be in ignorance of the knowledge of the Ten Commandments, with their true scope of meaning and application in our daily lives. This Bible Study is meant to be a review of the Ten Commandments for all of us.

1. Where do we find God's Great Law - the Ten Commandments listed? Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-21.

2. How can we be sure there are exactly **Ten Commandments** that were given? Exodus 34:27-28; Deuteronomy 4:13.

3. Were the laws given on Mount Sinai the Eternal's commandments or commandments established by Moses? Exodus 20:1,22; 24:12; 31:18; 32:15-16.

These commandments, these laws, are the laws of God. They are not the "laws of Moses," but commandments from the Eternal, given to Moses. God was revealing His laws anew at Mount Sinai... laws which were already in force, prior to Sinai.

4. What is the Bible's own definition of sin? I John 3:4. Sin then, is the transgression or violation of law.

5. Were there laws in existence even before Moses received the Commandments at Mount Sinai ...laws in fact, in existence even before man was created upon this Earth? II Peter 2:4; Isaiah 14:12-15.

Since there can be no sin without law, it is clear that the angels, including Lucifer himself, were aware of God's laws. Lucifer sinned against God's laws in many ways, including coveting what did not belong to him, putting himself before God, and trying to steal God's throne. Lucifer (Satan the Devil) is also called a murderer and a liar. John 8:44. This all took place before God created mankind. Laws from God were in existence even before man existed.

6. What does the Apostle Paul say about God's law? Romans 7:7. And what is the penalty, or wages, of violating God's laws? Romans 6:23.

We need to comprehend that sin is the transgression, or violation, of the immutable laws of God. (I John 3:4). The Ten Commandments are God's laws, given anew in written form by God's own hand (Exodus 31:18), to Moses. Sin has been present all throughout history, from the time of Adam to our present age. (Romans 3:23). In fact sin, for mankind, entered the world through Adam from the very beginning. Genesis 3:6, 22-24; Romans 5:12.

7. What are some other examples of God's Spiritual law (The Ten Commandments), existing before Moses? Genesis 2:3; 26:5; 39:7-9; Matthew 19:8.

Abraham obeyed God's Commandments. We also see by the example of Joseph, that he knew adultery was **sin against God** (Genesis 39:9). all before Moses at Mount Sinai. Christ Himself taught that ADULTERY was SIN right from the very BEGINNING! (Matthew 19:8).

8. Were the Ten Commandments included in the Old Covenant between God and Israel? Deuteronomy 9:9-11. And what, exactly, is a covenant? *Webster's Dictionary* defines a covenant as ***"an agreement that is... formal, solemn and intended as binding. An undertaking or promise of legal validity."*** A covenant, then, is a binding agreement between parties. The Old Covenant was a mutual agreement between God and Israel.

The Ten Commandments were a part of the terms of the covenant to which Israel agreed.

God had Moses declare the conditions of His covenant with the people of Israel. They were the "tables of stone," or the "tables of the covenant" Deuteronomy 9:9, (God's Ten basic spiritual laws) and there was also a part of the covenant containing civil laws which were all based upon the broader ten laws (Commandments) of Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 (Exodus 21-23; 24:3-4).

9. Was the Old Covenant considered as a "marriage agreement" between Israel and the Eternal, and did Israel agree? Ezekiel 16:8; Jeremiah 31:32; Exodus 24:7.

This covenant, containing the Ten Commandments, was actually a "marriage agreement" between God and Israel. (Remember, Israel at this time was organized as both church and state.) The Eternal was a husband to the nation of Israel. The people of Israel accepted the terms given to them and bound themselves by this first covenant to refrain from any adulterous relationships with the "gods" of other nations, as explained in Exodus 34:12-17. In turn, the Eternal promised to remain faithful to Israel; provide for and bless them even "...to a thousand generations" (Deuteronomy 7:9).

After God gave the Ten Commandments to the people, Moses then received the civil, physical laws that would govern aspects of life for Israel, based upon the principles of the ten great spiritual precepts that are the Ten Commandments. The spiritual laws of the Old Covenant define sin, and the civil laws amplify them and state penalties for disobedience of those laws. The spiritual laws were not newly instituted by the Old Covenant. They were already in existence and were included in the covenant agreement. Thus, the Old Covenant contained both

spiritual laws and physical laws. Then after all had been revealed to the people of Israel, they agreed to it. The first covenant was sealed by blood and became binding. Exodus 24:6-8; Hebrews 9:18-20.

Later, “ceremonial” or “ritualistic” laws were added, after the covenant was already sealed, because of transgressions and as a reminder of sin. These “ceremonial” laws were not a part of the covenant because the “marriage agreement” had already been completed. Jeremiah 7:22-23.

**10.** Was the Old Covenant later broken by Israel? Jeremiah 11:10. What did God do when Israel broke the covenant they had made with Him? Jeremiah 3:8. Why did the people break this covenant with God? Romans 8:3.

Note that the people of Israel broke the first, or Old Covenant, because they did not have the strength of character in order to be faithful to their vow to God. Deuteronomy 5:29. The righteousness of the first covenant was to be accomplished through human effort, as there was no spiritual promise given to the people of Israel for receiving the Holy Spirit. They were weak in the flesh. Romans 8:3. Thus, Israel did not remain faithful to their covenant, or “marriage agreement,” and were divorced by God. Jeremiah 3:8.

**11.** Since the Old Covenant was broken, or abolished (Hebrews 8:7-8), were the Ten Commandments (in existence in the very beginning, with Adam), **also** dissolved at that time, as well? Psalm 111:3, 7-8; John 15:10; Romans 7:12.

The “fault” spoken of in Hebrews 8:8 was with the people (“...fault with them”). This

“fault” was not with God’s Laws. Since we know that the Ten Commandments are the laws of God, written by the very “finger of God,” and we also know that God does not change (Malachi 3:6); we know that the Ten Commandments were **not abolished** at the time the Old Covenant was broken by ancient Israel. **The commandments have been God’s spiritual laws from the very beginning of time!**

**12.** What can actually be defined as “Laws of Moses”? The “Laws of Moses” are expressed in two parts. The “civil laws” are based upon the principles of The Ten Commandments and are binding. Malachi 4:4; Psalm 119:7-8). However, the “ritualistic” or “ceremonial” laws (Luke 2:22-24; Hebrews 10:4), instituted after the sealing of the Old Covenant (Jeremiah 7:22) are no longer applicable, because of the sacrifice and shed blood of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Hebrews 10:10,14; Galatians 3:19.

**13.** What, then, is the New Covenant? Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:10; I Peter 2:9. Does it, too, contain the Ten Commandments? Jeremiah 31:33.

All that the Scripture says concerning the New Covenant pertains to the Church, begotten with God’s Holy Spirit and soon to be born as spirit. The New Covenant will be made with the Spirit-born spiritual Israelites who have been forgiven of their sins and have God’s laws (the Ten Commandments) written in their hearts and minds so they cannot sin and break the covenant. Jesus Christ is the mediator of the New Covenant, and as He has not yet completed His work of confirming the covenant, the New Covenant must be completed in the future. Galatians 3:29; II



Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:7.

**14.** What was the teaching of Jesus Christ concerning the law? Matthew 5:17-19; Isaiah 42:21; Matthew 19:16-19.

Jesus Christ came to **magnify**, or **fulfill**, **expand**, the law of God with their full spiritual intent. Christ said to keep the commandments, even down to the “least” of them. John 15:10.

**15.** Where did the statement “nailed to the cross” come from? And what, exactly, was “nailed to the cross”? Colossians 2:14. Note, also, that “cross” should more properly be translated as “stake.”

When we read verse 14 in the context of the entire chapter of Colossians 2, we see that God has an entirely different message from the spin the world tries to put on this one verse. Starting the beginning of the actual verse, or scripture, in question, we can reference to “Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us.” The “handwriting of ordinances” is simply the penalty, or wages of sin - DEATH. So by understanding this one section of scripture, we can see that it was the death sentence, or ordinance of death, incurred by breaking God’s laws, (Ten Commandments), that was “nailed to the stake” through Christ’s sacrifice.

**16.** We know that the Ten Commandments were in effect during the Old Testament times, and that Jesus Christ both kept God’s laws and advocated His disciples and followers to keep them as well. But how do we know that we are also meant to obey these laws today, at a time and type of society so far distant and different from that of Jesus Christ? Leviticus

22:31; Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8.

As always, we have to remember that the Bible is like a jigsaw puzzle. We have to rely on the scriptures in proper context and combination to find the answers to questions we might have (Isaiah 28:9-13). In Leviticus 22:31, we see that God has commanded us to keep His commandments. When we read Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8, we know that God does not change, and that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. **God is not dead** and neither are His Commandments. His laws, like He, Himself, abide FOREVER. They are, by their very nature, eternal, and could never become obsolete.

**17.** Why should we keep the Ten Commandments? 1 John 5:2-3; Hebrews 8:10.

It really is a simple equation. If we love God, we are happy to keep His commandments. We need to view God’s Ten Commandments as He meant them to be, an expression of love. The Ten Commandments, simply put, are an expression of love towards God and love towards our fellow man. Matthew 22:37-40.

The Ten Commandments have been God’s basic spiritual law from the very beginning. God’s commandments have always been in effect, and will always continue to be!

# *An Era of Doctrinal Compromise*

**“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to *CONTEND EARNESTLY FOR THE FAITH ONCE DELIVERED* to the saints” (Jude 1:3).**

**By Alton B. (Don) Billingsley**

**T**here is no question in this present time, but that doctrinal compromise is now being witnessed among the Churches of God on a scale that has not been in evidence since the death of Mr. Armstrong in 1986.

**“The faith once delivered to the saints”** had to do with the doctrinal teachings of Jesus Christ that He used the early apostles to instill within His Church (Ephesians 2:19-22).

In the early part of this past century the Church of God was found to have lost most of those teachings. Jesus Christ well knew this would happen and that is *WHY* He said the following about the promised Elijah:

**Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet BEFORE the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the LORD. ... (Malachi 4:5).**

The timing of his appearance is made well known in this Scripture. Further, Jesus Christ Himself confirmed what this man would be commissioned

to do in answer to a question by His apostles about the coming Elijah: **“Elijah truly is coming first and will RESTORE ALL THINGS”** (Matthew 17:11; Mark 9:12).

Through a very special calling, Jesus Christ raised up Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to be both an apostle to His Church and the Elijah to come in the early part of this past century. He was to fulfill the prophecy of Jesus Christ to *RESTORE* all things within His Church.

**(Thirty-one of those restored teachings are made known in an article in this publication from a sermon given by Mr. Armstrong on December 17, 1983, entitled: “What Doctrinal Teachings Did God Restore in His Church?”, and from other sources)**

Almost immediately after his death on January 16, 1986, compromise began to be witnessed with those restored teachings within the Church. The changes that were made were found to be very favorable to most of the Church regarding healing, changing the ruling on makeup, and birthdays. This was only the beginning, for the changes continued to be made until all of them were removed and replaced with

Protestant teachings.

Most of those changes were not acceptable to almost 50,000 members. As a result, ministerial leaders began forming new Churches of God. Tragically, some of those apostate doctrinal teachings were carried over with them and are now being taught.

Because of the lack of real love for the TRUTH of God, they accepted doctrinal compromise in numerous areas, such as a change in government, healing, “born again,” the makeup ruling, etc. (II Thessalonians 2:10-12). The desire for recognition and favor of the many, brought about the doctrinal compromise that can be witnessed in all of those churches of God. Human reason prevailed and is clearly evident to the discerning mind.

Mr. Armstrong addressed the danger of doctrinal compromise due to not only what he was witnessing, but also the pressure for him to compromise over the years.

In *The Good News* magazine, December 1976, “Personal from Herbert W. Armstrong”:

**Forty-three years ago, the living Christ committed to me His GREAT COMMISSION. ...But during these forty-three years, I have frequently been pressured to compromise – ‘just a little’ – with God’s TRUTH. God entrusted me with this precious truth. ...If we begin to compromise with God’s TRUTH, even in the smallest, slightest manner, we have ALLOWED Satan to get a foot into the door of the Church, and soon he will PUSH open the door (he is stronger than we) and take over the whole Church. ...I won’t compromise – not even ‘just a little’.**

In His prayer to His Father, Jesus asked, “**Sanctify [set apart] them [His true people] by Your TRUTH, Your word is TRUTH**” (John 17:17).

In Clarke’s Commentary... (A comment worth noting): **“It is not enough to [just] believe the truth, one must love the truth, believe, love and obey. Not one can subsist without the other.”**

The question needs to be addressed and answered by you, the reader: Have you compromised just a little or more by being where you now are? How can you know?

It is easy to know by studying chapter 6, pages 198-292, “The Mystery of the Church” in the book, *Mystery of the Ages*, by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. Then couple it with the last two of the three letters Mr. Armstrong wrote in his autobiography, Vol. 2, pages 639-643. In so doing, it becomes easy to see the lie of those who tell you he changed before he died in his doctrinal teachings! Teachings they do not like, nor will they accept.

What Jesus said in His letters to the Philadelphia and Laodicean eras of His Church should help one to realize all the more, that always we must be earnestly contending for the faith once delivered to the saints and cling to it with real godly love. The alternative is to experience the fires of the Great Tribulation.

You and I alone will determine our own future by the decisions we now make while there is still some time. Please do not place your trust in the leaders who are *guilty* of doctrinal compromise. They cannot save you or me; this can only be done by Jesus Christ!





# WEB SITES

*Below are the Web sites that are made available by the Church of God Faithful Flock as resource study tools for a better understanding of the Word of God.*

<b>Church of God Faithful Flock</b> <a href="http://www.cog-ff.com">www.cog-ff.com</a>	Church of God Faithful Flock is a body of believers who follow the teachings of Herbert W. Armstrong, the end time Elijah and Apostle of God's Church.
<b>World News Bulletin</b> <a href="http://www.worldnewsbulletin.com">www.worldnewsbulletin.com</a>	A Weekly Bulletin of World News from a Biblical Perspective based on bible prophecy. Showing the why behind today's news.
<b>The Ten Commandments</b> <a href="http://www.10commandments.ws">www.10commandments.ws</a>	Explains the nature of the Ten Commandments, their spiritual intent, and how they are valid for Christians today. Everything you want to know about the Ten Commandments but were told not to ask.
<b>Just What do you Mean...Born Again?</b> <a href="http://www.begotten.net">www.begotten.net</a>	Many professing Christians sincerely believe they have been "born again" - but do not understand what Jesus meant by those words. The true answer is not only surprising - it is startling! - THE MOST IMPORTANT truth you can know, here made SO PLAIN you will UNDERSTAND!
<b>A Watchman for the House of Israel</b> <a href="http://www.ezekielwatchman.org">www.ezekielwatchman.org</a>	Revelation chapters two and three are prophecies about the one true Church Jesus Christ founded in 31 A.D. In the sixth era of Church prophecy (which is Philadelphia) God sent a modern day EZEKIEL WATCHMAN. Let it be firmly stated, that the modern day EZEKIEL WATCHMAN was Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. It was through him, for over 50 years, God did the EZEKIEL WATCHMAN work.
<b>Herbert W. Armstrong - Apostle of God</b> <a href="http://www.herbertarmstrong.net">www.herbertarmstrong.net</a>	Teachings of Herbert W. Armstrong and proofs of his Apostleship of the Philadelphia Era of God's Church.
<b>Herbert W. Armstrong - His Life and Work</b> <a href="http://www.herbertwarmstrong.info">www.herbertwarmstrong.info</a>	FROM BEGINNINGS humble and small without parallel, to the magnitude of today's enterprises and worldwide impact is the story of GROWTH unbelievable! It is the incredible story of something never done before -- never done this way -- a seemingly impossible achievement utterly unique in the world!
<b>Pagan Holidays or God's Holy Days Which?</b> <a href="http://www.holy-days.org">www.holy-days.org</a>	Does it make any difference which days we observe or whether we keep them? Does the Bible establish whether we are to keep certain days holy to God?
<b>The Lost Ten Tribes of Israel</b> <a href="http://www.losttribes.org">www.losttribes.org</a>	Millennia ago, this same national greatness, wealth and power was promised by Almighty to Abraham. Yet few have ever noticed this astonishing fact in Scripture. We must realize, if we would understand, a peculiar fact. The Holy Bible is the particular Book of a definite nationality - the children of Israel.
<b>Prophetic Events</b> <a href="http://www.propheticevents.us">www.propheticevents.us</a>	It's time to wake up! These are not normal times! After nearly 6,000 years of comparative quiet, the whole world suddenly erupted in world-shaking VIOLENCE beginning in 1914. But we have seen NOTHING yet, compared to what is soon coming!
<b>The Restored Truths of God</b> <a href="http://www.restoredtruths.net">www.restoredtruths.net</a>	Matthew 17:11, "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things." [John the Baptist didn't restore anything. And he was already dead when Jesus said this!] Matthew 17:12, "But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them."

## Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?

[www.sabbathcentral.com](http://www.sabbathcentral.com)

Does it make any difference WHICH day we observe -- or whether we keep it? Does the Bible establish SUNDAY as the LORD'S DAY? Was the Sabbath given for the Jewish people only -- while Christians are commanded to keep SUNDAY as the LORD'S DAY? What about the other Holy Days God established are they for us today?

## Church of God Faithful Flock - Home School Association

[www.coghomeschool.org](http://www.coghomeschool.org)

An archive site of material that Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong produced during his lifetime as our Apostle and the forecasted End Time Elijah who was to restore all things.

## Three World Views

- Only One is Going to Happen!

[www.newworldahead.org](http://www.newworldahead.org)

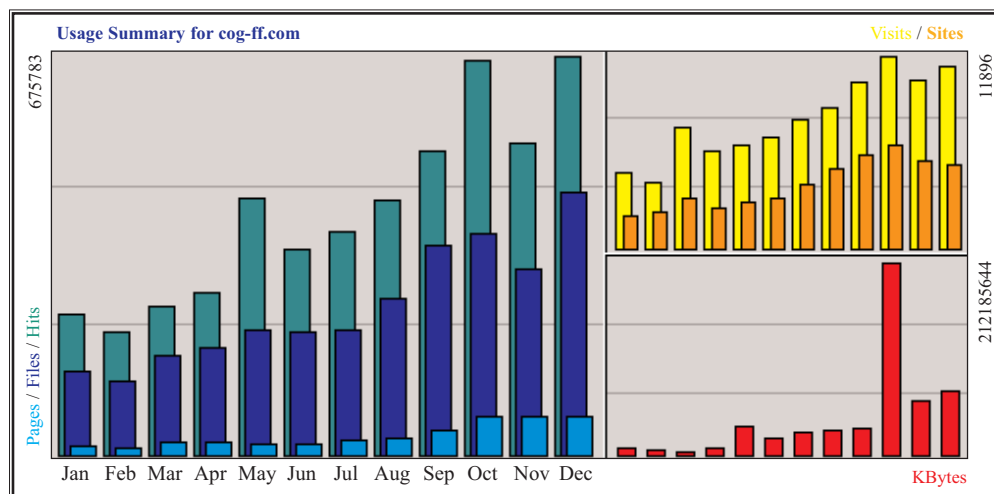
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE IT! It will happen, regardless. It is sure -- the world's only sure hope. This advance good news of tomorrow is as certain as the rising of tomorrow's sun.

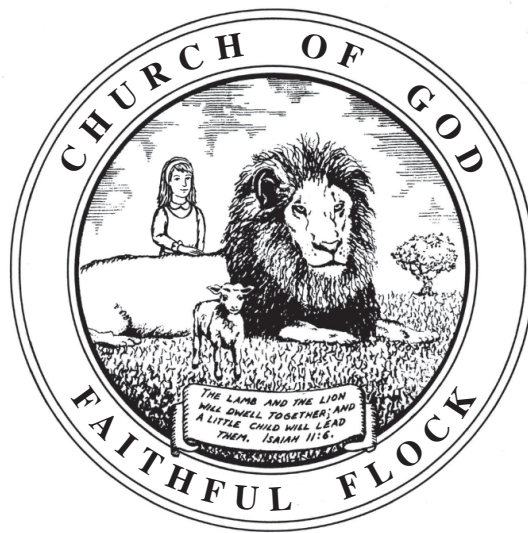
# Web Statistics for [www.cog-ff.com](http://www.cog-ff.com)

(\* December 2006 data as of 12/28/06)

*This is our primary tool for the Internet and the statistics below show the remarkable and steady growth of the site as indicated by visitors and information downloaded. One of the primary statistics you might want to see is the number of unique visitors that come by the site as shown in the columns with the yellow background.*

Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
DEC-06 *	24,135	15,813	2,371	399	5,199	70,830,371	11,179	66,399	442,772	675,783
NOV-06	17,583	10,472	2,140	347	5,457	58,716,021	10,411	64,213	314,177	527,495
OCT-06	21,512	12,115	2,129	383	6,395	212,185,644	11,896	66,005	375,586	666,880
SEP-06	17,104	11,833	1,357	339	5,787	28,923,547	10,199	40,710	355,005	513,143
AUG-06	13,956	8,555	864	279	4,870	26,732,290	8,675	26,796	265,221	432,636
JUL-06	12,230	6,789	785	256	3,986	25,886,806	7,964	24,361	210,465	379,156
JUN-06	11,627	6,983	622	229	3,113	17,433,342	6,884	18,661	209,500	348,833
MAY-06	14,047	6,871	641	206	2,820	30,973,544	6,397	19,894	213,005	435,484
APR-06	9,108	5,992	665	200	2,544	8,047,048	6,014	19,976	179,778	273,258
MAR-06	8,077	5,429	684	242	3,099	4,297,809	7,519	21,212	168,321	250,402
FEB-06	7,395	4,453	463	143	2,197	5,664,156	4,013	12,966	124,689	207,077
JAN-06	7,721	4,529	471	149	1,975	7,616,406	4,619	14,606	140,415	239,360
Totals						497,306,984	95,770	395,799	2,998,934	4,949,507





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