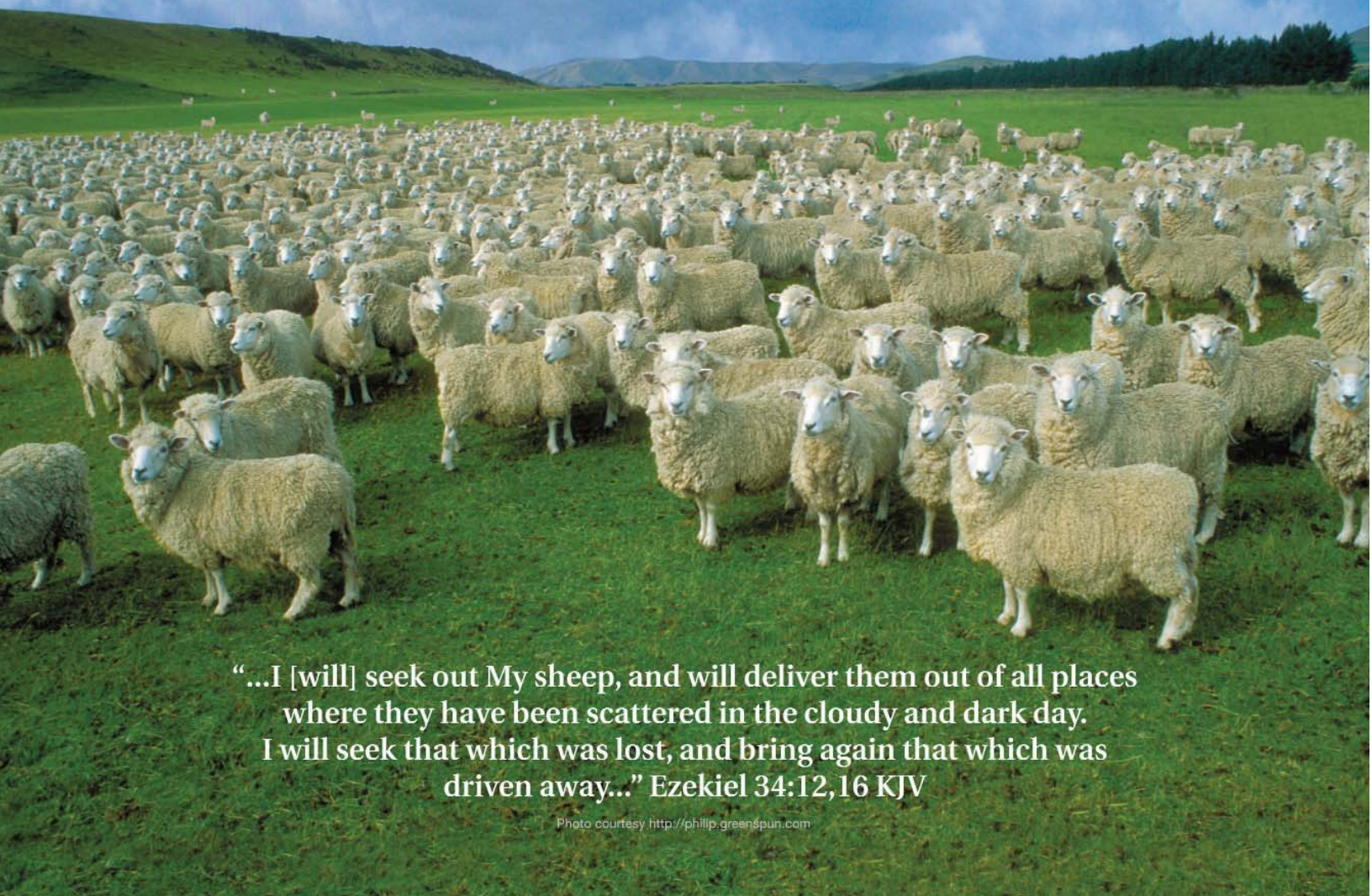


The _____ Philadelphia Remnant

July/August 2008



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

Photo courtesy <http://philip.greenspun.com>

The Philadelphia Remnant

JULY/AUGUST 2008

VOL. 2, NO. 4

CONTENTS

The Value of Human Life	Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong	1
Personal from the Editor		5
Elijah's End-Time Warnings!!!		9
A Need for Warning!		16
Never Surrender		22
Will You Be Alive Tomorrow?		28
Faith in Difficult Times		32
The Trait of Meekness		36

Cover: The flock of sheep pictured on the cover of this magazine represent the scattered brethren of God's True Church. (*Photo courtesy <http://phillip.greenspun.com>*)

The Church of God Faithful Flock, with headquarters in Modesto, California, humbly presents this new magazine – The Philadelphia Remnant, which 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, sermons and Bible study messages that Jesus Christ used him to do in his human ministry!

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 tax-deductible in the United States. Those who wish to voluntarily aid and support this worldwide work of God are gladly welcomed as co-workers in this effort.

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The Value of Human Life

By Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong
(Sermon, October 29, 1983)

Greetings once again, brethren! What is the only real value of a human life; the only real value? I want to speak on that subject this afternoon because there is no subject more important. Why is a human life of more value than an animal life, a horse, a cow, a dog, an elephant? Jesus even spoke about that and of how much more value is a human, and God takes care of even little sparrows, but of how much more value are we?



Magnus Rosendahl-freephotos.se

It sounds strange to the world, the real truth. Now human life is infinitesimally less valuable of itself, just of itself, and at the same time is incredibly of greater value than the most highly

educated people in this world have any conception or understanding. They know nothing about spirit, and they deny that there is any such thing. The most important truth has been restored with this Church, and God has used me to restore a great deal of it to you. God has brought light through me, and, of course, it was God who did it if it was light.

THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

The most important thing that God has brought to me is what I am going to explain to you this afternoon. Now there is a spirit in man. But is that more important than the fact that the true gospel has been restored? Jesus Christ came with a gospel. What does gospel mean? It means **GOOD NEWS**, and Jesus Christ came as a newscaster.

He brought news. It was an announcement for the future: The Kingdom of God. It hasn't come yet, but it is on the way. And we, brethren, are part of that Kingdom of God in embryo.

God is reproducing Himself. Restoring the gospel is one thing; the fact that God is reproducing Himself and that the government of God has been restored. A government that



MR. HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

will rule the whole world and bring us peace at last and there will be world peace and in our time.

THE REAL VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE

Well, now the answer to the question: What is the one sole real value of a human life? Why is it more valuable than a sparrow, for example, or a horse or a cow or an elephant? *The sole value of a human life lies in the human spirit combined with the human brain.* Genesis 1:1: "**In the beginning, God created the heavens,**" the word for "God" that Moses wrote was not "God." That is an English word; it has been translated into English.

Moses wrote it in the Hebrew, "**Elohim.**" And "**Elohim**" means more than one. The "**im**" pluralizes it, "Gods," more than one. And it is more than one because in verse 26 God says, "**Let Us make man in Our image after Our likeness.**" He didn't say let "Me," but rather let "**Us.**" Now, the second chapter of Genesis and verse 7, it says, "**God formed man.**" Now, He designed man, planned him first, and then He had to form him of the dust of the ground.

Then the dust of the ground is *a soul*, and a soul came from the dust of the ground and a soul is not spirit. Now the

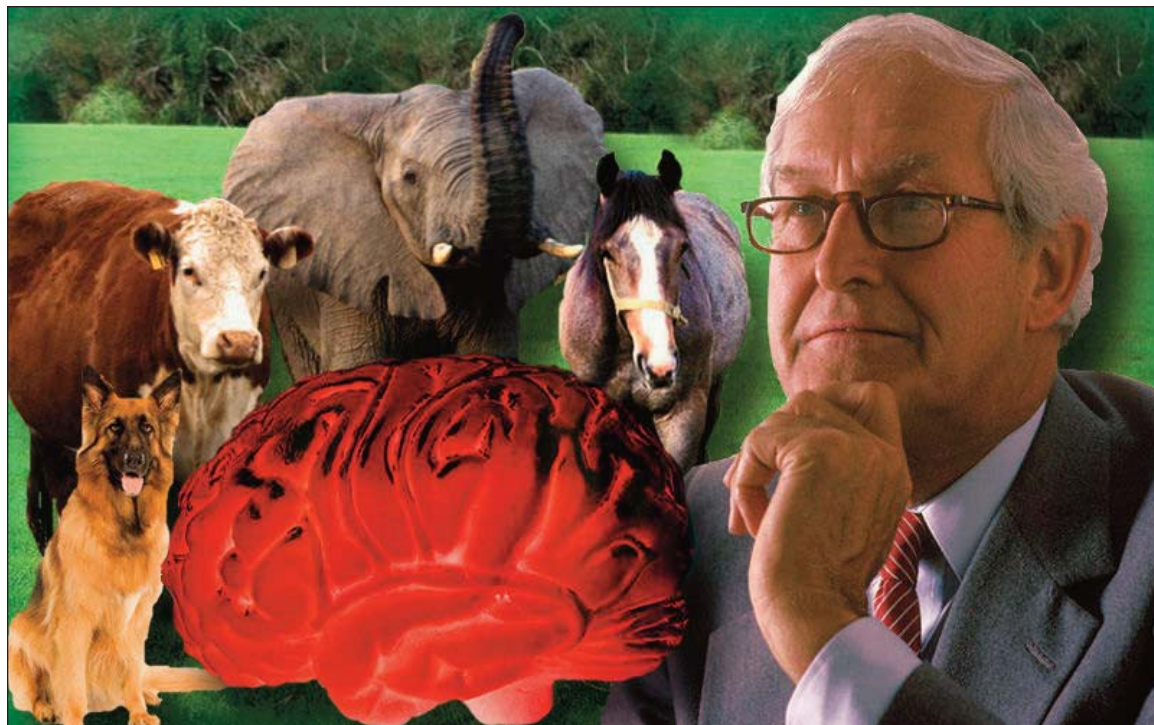
Bible reveals in Job for example, the 32 chapter and verse 8: “**There is a spirit in man.**” And verse 18 in the same chapter, “**The spirit in me constrains me.**” Impels me, moves me.

A SPIRIT IN THE SOUL

There is *a spirit then in the soul*, and the soul is made of matter, material. Spirit is not material. Now, let me explain something right here. Now, spirit can be present in two different states. I don’t think I’ve explained this before *so listen carefully*. Spirit can be present like an essence, like water or like air. Now spirit can be like that. God spoke about *pouring out* His Spirit. Jesus talked of the Spirit of God as *living waters* that are living, *waters flowing*. That is essence. That’s not something solid. Now spirit can also be present in the form of an actual personal being. God made spirits or angels, and angels are composed of spirit, and each angel is an individual personality, an individual being and not just some essence.

The spirit in man is more of an essence. The spirit in you does not have a mind of its own at all. *The spirit in you cannot think*. It’s your brain that does the thinking. The spirit merely **empowers** it to do the thinking, but *it is the brain that does the thinking*. The spirit can’t know anything. The brain does the knowing. The spirit can’t see. It’s your brain that sees through the eye. It is the brain that hears through the ear. The spirit can’t hear. It can’t see. It can’t think. It can’t know because *it’s essence like air or like water*. The word for spirit in Hebrew is the same word that is the same word for air, “*ruach*.” It’s the same word for air or for spirit, and it is the same in the Greek. The same Greek word for spirit is the same word for air.

Now an angel though has a separate mind of his own, is a separate being and personality. And spirits can be present in those two forms. *The spirit in man is just spirit that uses*



THE SPIRIT IN MAN EMPOWERS THE BRAIN WITH INTELLECT

the human brain. No, it doesn’t use the human brain really. Maybe the human brain uses it, I don’t know, but the spirit *constrains* the brain. It **empowers** the brain with that faculty we call *intellect* to think, to reason and the many things that a human brain has that an animal brain doesn’t have an appreciation of music, arts and literature. The different moods and different attitudes of resentment and bitterness, hatred or of love and affection, of cooperation and outflowing love for the good of others. Or, on the other hand, of contention, of hatred, of competition, of strife and wanting to harm or hurt and *that is all from the human brain* that the spirit gives you and that type of attitude. It’s in the spirit that is connected with the human brain.

Now *the human spirit then does not supply us with the life we have*, and the life we have is only an existence; and what gives us this life that we call human life, which is only existence; well, it’s the **blood** of life and Moses wrote: “**The blood thereof is the life thereof.**” And Moses also wrote, “**God breathed into us the breath of life.**” Now notice God breathed it into man. I’m going to come to that later, too.

THE SPIRIT EMPOWERS THE BRAIN

Now the spirit **empowers** the brain with *intellect* and also something else. The spirit **empowers** the brain to have a contact with and a relationship with God or a union with



THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL!

God. No, you can't see it because you can't see spirit, but it is the spirit in man that makes all that difference.

It's the spirit in man that can be united with God who is a spirit, and God's spirit can come like essence into us and unite with our spirit. And you read in the eighth chapter of Romans that His spirit witnesses with our spirit, once His spirit comes to us, witnesses with our spirit that we are the sons of God. We are to be begotten first and then later born as sons of God.

Now if I say that my son was born of me and is my son, he is human like I am. A lot of people can't believe that, huh? Oh yes, they can believe that alright. But when you say you're a son of God, they think well you're just something God made. No, he means literally we become sons of God. But we are not yet at this time.

The Bible reveals we are only begotten, not yet born. A fetus in the mother's womb is not a born human yet. It is only a begotten human. It is not yet born. So, the spirit of

man can unite us with God, and we were made to have a contact with, a union with God. *But the world has cut itself off from God.*

WHO IS GOD?

Now, who and what is God? Do you know why we can be a light to the world? Do you know why light has come and gives you light? If I'm a light to the world: why? **BECAUSE I BELIEVED GOD!** This is God speaking in the Bible, and I believe it!

Now God is supreme mind, and God is supreme perfect character. Now we find in Genesis 1:1, God is called "Elohim." "EL," in Hebrew is God. But Elohim, the "im," "Eloh" is God, but "Elohim" means more than one. And that is described in the New Testament in John 1:1-4.

So, the Word was the one who later was made into a human baby who grew up and became Jesus Christ. And the Word was with God. Now the Word was a personage, and God is a personage. Now you've got two personages there. And then it says, "***All things were made by the Word and without Him was not anything made that was made.***"



GOD DESIGNED THE FAMILY STRUCTURE

And the next verse says, *“In Him was life and in God was life.”*

They lived. And if there was life in Them, They had to live and if They lived, They had to be thinking, doing something because They had supreme minds. How did They live? What did They do in living? So, go back to Genesis. *“In the beginning, Elohim”*, more than one, said, *“Let Us make man in Our image.”* Why, the “Us” was God and the Word. *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.”* And they said to Jesus Christ while He was on Earth, they said well show us God the Father. What is God the Father like? Jesus said, *“Well, have you seen Me? If you’ve seen Me, you’ve seen the Father.”* God is composed of spirit.

But God is the kind of spirit that is a person, not essence. Now, remember I said spirit can be in the form of essence or in the form of a person.

Now, God is the Creator. In Ephesians 3:9, it says *“God created all things by Jesus Christ”* or by the Word. But God creates in a system of duality. Now, first there was the one being, and he wasn’t complete, and he couldn’t reproduce so God had to make another, a female, and he joined the male and the female together, and they joined together and became one family.

Not one person, but two persons made one family and God and the Word were two persons, but they were one God family! ***AND GOD IS A FAMILY!*** And God is not a person. God is a Family!

God is a Family, and God is REPRODUCING HIM-SELF ! Now, how is He going to reproduce Himself?

That is what I’m coming to. Adam was physical. He was physically incomplete so God created a woman and joined them together, and they become one human family. ... Man is incomplete of himself. God created man with a spirit in him. But that spirit in man is all alone by itself, and it needs another Spirit to go with it just like the male man needed a female woman to go with him. And a man needs a wife. Yes, a man needs a wife, and a young woman needs a husband. And our spirit needs the Spirit of God in the same way.

Now, God made man and offered him life through the Tree of Life in the Garden of Eden. Man didn’t take it. If he had

Continued on Page 38

Personal from the Editor

By Alton B. 'Don' Billingsley

'Are you prepared for what is coming next? Some will survive, some will not. Guess who?'

This was the heading of a recent article that pointed to the many troubling problems facing this country and the world with no life-saving answers on the horizon (Associated Press, April 15, 2008).

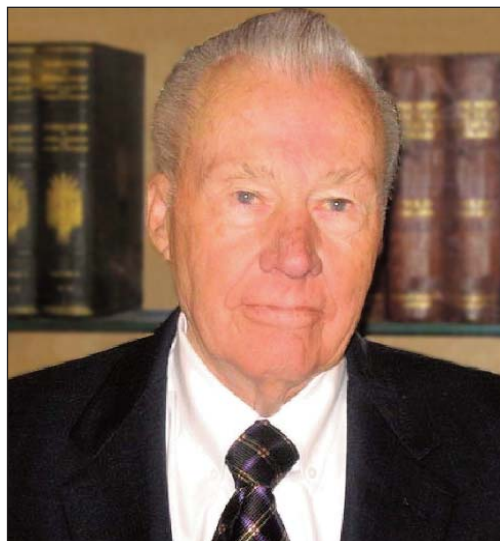
And realizing the truth of what the news media are reporting, as well as what we hear and read from important, responsible people in high places, we can well understand the life-threatening dangers of the near future for all of us are going to be affected in major ways – and soon!

Warnings are to be found in many places from prominent, respected professionals of this nation and the world of terrible times ahead of mankind!

Even U.S. President Ronald Reagan wondered if we were not living in the time of Armageddon (from the Internet): When asked during the presidential debates if he believed in **Armageddon**, President Reagan said: **"Yes, Armageddon could come the day after tomorrow."** During the 1980s U.S. presidential campaign, Reagan told fundamentalist Christian groups that he believed in the Biblical prophecy of Armageddon and that this could be the generation that sees Armageddon. – President Reagan, October 1984.



World Food Programme
GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY SUMMIT IN ROME



Alton B. (Don) Billingsley
than January 2009 – and could be as soon as the fall Holy Days of this year!

THE AILING ECONOMY

There are experts who foresee the expected fall of the economy of this country to take place in just a few months. It is even now *teetering* and *could possibly crash no later*

The news media have been reporting that the *shortage of food supplies* in this country and worldwide has reached a critical level! There are several reasons for this shortage. One is that much of the corn and wheat that is grown is being taken out of the food chain and converted into ethanol due to the high cost of oil that is refined into gasoline and diesel fuel.

The global shortage of food has become so desperate that **"... the U.N. Chief is asking the international community to take urgent and concerted action in order to avoid the larger political and security implications of this growing crisis."** – AP article, April 15, 2008.

Do we grasp what this important man has said? **"... to avoid the larger political and security implications ..."** The implication is that the driving need to satisfy *gnawing hunger pangs* can and will lead to *conflict* between nations and *anarchy* within some of them before much longer unless those needs are met!

The need for additional food supplies is becoming so desperate that a recent three-day emergency food summit of more than 40 world leaders gathered in Rome sought action for food rather than fuel for engines. From that meeting, the



IGNORED WARNINGS ...

U.N. officials made the following blunt statement:

**“U.N. warns of worldwide hunger epidemic
ROME – World powers must act quickly and boldly to
control soaring food prices that threaten nearly 1 billion
people with hunger and could trigger global social un-
rest, the United Nations said today.”** *Los Angeles Times*,
June 4, 2008

In this country, farmers are unable to grow enough of the needed food supplies to fill storage bins due to *turbulent weather conditions* that have brought too much rain in many places and a lack of it in others. Serious drought is now being experienced. In actual fact, it is being reported this nation’s cupboard is virtually *bare*! We are on the very edge of the prophesied *famine* by Joel! These and other major surging problems are pointing to a national and an *international crisis* that is even now evidence that *the end of this age* is virtually in sight!

WARNING SIGNS PAST AND PRESENT

There were the **WARNING SIGNS** that occurred in Jerusalem for all to see before its fall in 70 A.D. And, if we have the eyes to see, what is being reported by the news media and professionals in their fields are the **WARNING SIGNS** in our time of critical, trying times just ahead of us! They are the signposts making known that beyond the fall of the economy, the prophesied famine and disease epi-

demics will lead to **the crashing fall and demise** of this once great country and Britain, along with the other nations of Israel. And soon thereafter the Gentile nations of this world will experience the horrors of **Armageddon**! (Matthew 24:8.) This will be the time of Jesus Christ returning to this earth.

In view of these **WARNING SIGNS** facing us before the extremely hard realities come to pass when hundreds of millions of people here and around the world will begin dying – the headline needs to be repeated:

**“Are you prepared for what is coming next?
Some will survive, some will not. Guess who?”**

Who will survive? Though many members will survive the *famine and disease epidemics* that will follow in the wake of the above problems, it appears most of them will *perish* in the **Great Tribulation**! (Matthew 25:1-13, Revelation 3:14-22, 6:11)

It will only be the **ELECT** who will be counted worthy to **survive** and then go to the place God will have *provided* for His true and faithful people because of their faithfulness to the true teachings that have been taught by Jesus Christ through His late apostle Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong (Luke 21:36, Revelation 3:8, 10, 12:14-16).



National Archives, Vad Yashem

... THE END RESULT

Though it is wise to begin making *physical preparation* in regard to emergency supplies, they will *not* be enough to take care of prolonged needs! Over and above what any of us can do in this area, the real need is to try hard to **draw nigh** to our wonderful caring God and His beloved Son Jesus Christ (James 4:8).

We must begin reaching out now for ***the warm loving hand of God*** as never before while there is yet a little time. This kind of relationship will make possible all of our needs to be provided, both physical and spiritual, until the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

With these things in mind – *please do not choose to ignore these **warnings signs*** in view of what Christ reveals through His end-time prophecies. Once again, a warning lesson from the past: History makes known the **warning signs** were ignored by the millions of Jewish people for one

reason or another just before World War II. They just did not want to believe what they were seeing would lead to the loss of their lives!

Because of their disbelief and failure to take action, millions of them paid the price by being loaded on trains and were taken to various death camps where they were murdered and cremated.

A REAL EXAMPLE OF THAT TIME

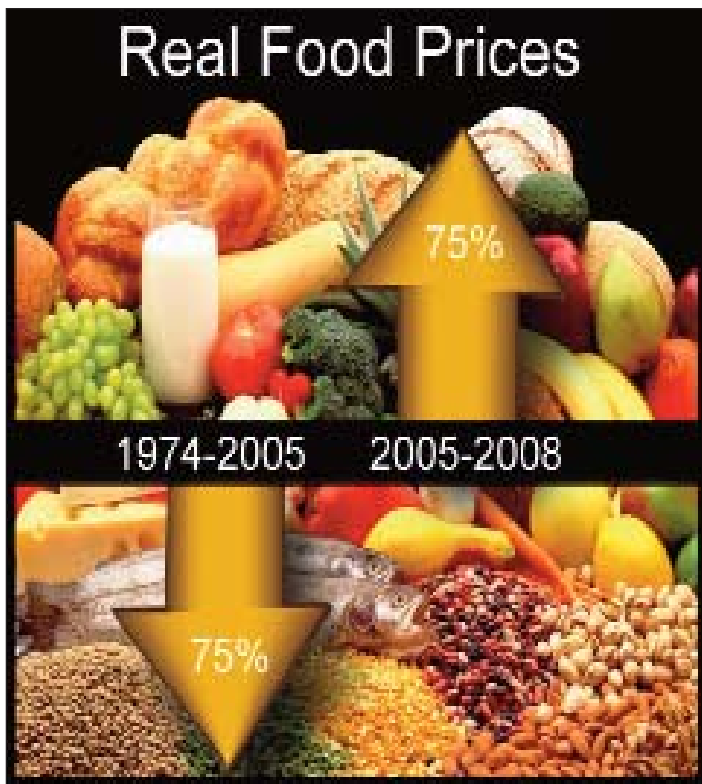
“God, where are Thou?”

This was an *anguished cry* from a prominent Jewish woman after having her head shorn and being beaten with a whip by a Nazi officer in a death camp in Poland (*Hitler's Ovens* by Olga Lengyel, page 24).

This *pleading cry* was undoubtedly echoed millions of times during those horrifying years in the death camps by the six million Jewish people who experienced horrible deaths at the hands of the German S.S. and the Gestapo during World War II. Sadly, God was not to be found for their deliverance.

Numerous books have been written of those terrible years by a few survivors from those death camps who wrote *heart-breaking* personal experiences of all they saw as well as what they had to undergo themselves.

Tragically, these men, women and little children, of all ages, *perished* in those death camps in one way or another by merciless German soldiers. One little girl being carried in the arms of her mother to a large ditch where they were to be shot with many others, asked, “Mother, where are we going?” The mother replied, “To heaven.”



Before much longer, thousands of members who will have **ignored the warning signs** and **not** made the right choices will be voicing the same **heartfelt cry** as did millions of Jewish people before they **perished** in the ovens – “**God, where are Thou?**”

THE WAY OF ESCAPE

Jesus Christ said to His disciples: “**I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE**” (John 14:6). What He said was intended to be **WORDS** on which to **base** our very lives and live them. Sorrowfully, they are just words to thousands of members.

Scripture makes well known there is coming **a martyrdom of saints**, when many thousands of members who believe they are in **HIS WAY OF LIFE**, who believe they are embracing fully **THE TRUTH**, who expect to receive **ETERNAL LIFE**, will end up facing **heart-rending disappointment** upon finding they will have to make their **bridal clothing** white by experiencing **horrible deaths** in the **Great Tribulation** due to their **sleeping and complacency** (Revelation 3:14-22, 6:9-11).

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong was an apostle of God. Apostle has the meaning of **one who is sent**, sent by God and Jesus Christ to **fulfill** a mission. If this is really believed, then one

must also believe that Christ used him to **RESTORE** all of the doctrinal teachings within His Church with the **obligation** to believe and stand up for all of those unedited teachings.

THE MYSTERY OF THE AGES

To be sure you are in the right Church of God and also to know what those true teachings really are, there is the need of seriously studying the last **unedited** book Jesus Christ led that man to write that **embodies** all of those true teachings – **The Mystery of the Ages**. Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong also was the promised Elijah to come at the end time. This is a proven Biblical fact to the **unbiased** mind. To read of those **proofs**, please read in serial writings from this unpublished book, **The Three Elijahs** (www.cog-ff.com). There are 12 chapters posted so far on our web site.

Jesus Christ sent this special man to prepare the way for His coming as well as to preach the gospel and sound the Ezekiel warning message in this end-time – **lest He**, Christ, should come and **strike** the earth with **utter destruction** (Malachi 4:4-6, Matthew 17:10-11). No one else has come since, nor will one come in the future. He was the man; and he still is **via** his **Recorded Works** that can be found on our web sites giving **a final witness** to the Church and to the nations of Israel.

HOW TO SURVIVE THE COMING HORRORS

To **survive**, we must **know, love and live** the true teachings of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **Failing** this, we will **perish** (Matthew 4:4, 23:37, II Thessalonians 1:7-8).

While there is yet a little time left, it would be well for each of us to be carefully watching for the continued **warning signs** while taking **the needed action** in drawing nigh to God and Jesus Christ along with the action **needed** in other areas.

Learn the lessons from the millions of Jewish people who perished for **ignoring** the **warning signs**; and if we do, we will spare ourselves from the like horrors they experienced that are soon to befall the house of Israel in our time (Luke 21:36). And by so doing, there will not be the need of crying out with anguish, “**God, where are Thou?**” Rather, He will say, “**Here I am,**” and make it known by responding to our prayers while safely being protected by Him.





U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marines, Department of Defense, FEMA , NOAA

Warnings from Jesus Christ through His Elijah of the Approaching *End Time*!!!

‘Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the LORD’ (Malachi 4:5)

By Alton ‘Don’ Billingsley

Fifty-two years ago, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong wrote the following in his booklet, *1975 in Prophecy* (revised edition 1956):

“Today this world is changing – fast! Unprecedented events are shaking the world already. Yet what we have seen is mild compared to the catastrophic happenings that will rock the world (Page 1).

“IT’S LATER THAN YOU THINK! Yes, time is running out on us, fast, and we’re too sound asleep in deception to realize it! Our peoples will continue only a few more years in comparative prosperity. ... Before we realize it, we’ll find ourselves in the throes of FAMINE, and uncontrollable epidemics of DISEASE ... Along with the coming famine and disease epidemics will come an invasion of billions of crop-destroying

bugs, insects and locusts (grasshoppers) on a scale never before to devastate a land. You’ll read of this in the first chapter of Joel (page 18).”

THE PROMISED ELIJAH

This and other earlier writings by Mr. Armstrong with *advanced warnings that can now be seen taking place* in America, Britain and the world *establishes* the fact that he was the promised man Jesus Christ was to send in this end time (Malachi 4:5).



Jesus Christ confirmed the writing of the prophet Malachi regarding the promised Elijah to His disciples, when He said: “**Elijah truly is coming first and will restore all things**” (Matthew 17:10-11, Mark 9:12).

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong was the man Jesus Christ sent to Israel in this end time with both the office of an apostle

and the Elijah of the end time with *the advanced warning* that unless repentance would take place for *rejecting* God and His laws there would be *terrible calamities* taking place in our time (Malachi 4:6, Ezekiel 33:11).

Beginning his mission to Israel and the world in 1934, Mr. Armstrong cried aloud on a daily basis for over the 50 years of his life-time ministry! There was *warning after warning* given in radio broadcasts, telecasts and writings, along with public appearances of what is clearly being seen in evidence today! Proof positive!

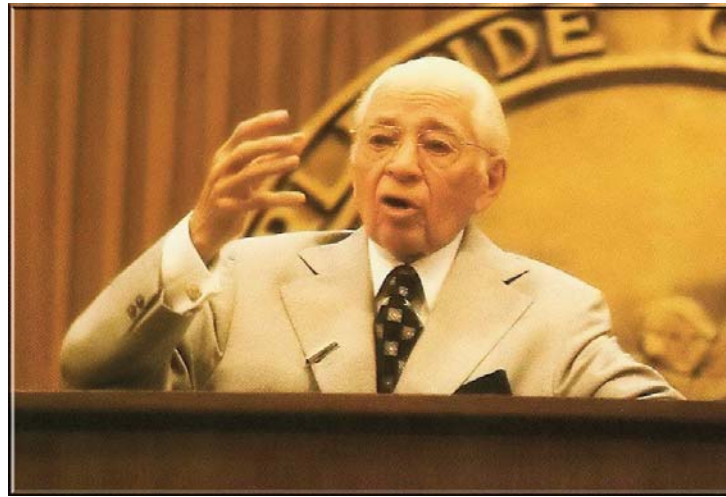
THE ELIJAH TO RESTORE THE LAW AND DOCTRINAL TEACHINGS

As further proof, and why the end-time Elijah would have the same name as the ancient Elijah, can be understood by what Elijah was used by the LORD to do in ancient Israel and the same was done by the Elijah of our time.

Elijah was to restore the true identity of God “... that this people may know that *You are the LORD God* (not the Baals) ... (I Kings 18:37). *The Elijah of our time also was to make known the true identity of God the Father and Jesus Christ to Israel and the Church of God in this age of spiritual blindness. Each one also was to restore God’s law and statutes* (Malachi 4:4). *They did!*

Included in those statutes the promised Elijah was to restore are the Holy Days. He also came to understand the meaning of what each one pictures in God’s Master Plan and taught them to God’s people, along with tithing, etc. NO ONE ELSE DID IT!

Jesus Christ used him to restore at least 19 of the true doctrinal teachings within God’s true Church from the approximate three he found within the Church of God at that time. Within those doctrines restored is that of God’s government.



MR. ARMSTRONG’S WARNINGS SPANNED 52 YEARS

THEN AND NOW – THE SAME MAN

Viewing in retrospect what Mr. Armstrong was used to do in restoring those doctrinal teachings within the Church of God and also preach and write during those years and now seeing their beginning fulfillment in evidence should

leave no doubt but that he was the promised Elijah for the end time. ***THERE HAS BEEN NO ONE ELSE!!!***

Think! In view of what is now being witnessed on the national and world scene, there is NO TIME LEFT for anyone else to do what he did! ***IN ADDITION – WHAT WOULD ANOTHER MAN RESTORE THAT HE DID NOT RESTORE DURING HIS LIFE TIME MISSION?***

THE WORK OF GOD NOW GOING FORTH ONCE AGAIN

The prophet Isaiah makes known the Work of God is ***ONCE AGAIN*** going forth to Israel and the world, and at the same time indicting the Christian world, along with the hundreds of corporate Churches of God, for their failure to honor God with their whole hearts and actions:

“Inasmuch as these people draw near to Me with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but have removed their hearts far from Me, and their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men, therefore, behold, I will AGAIN do a marvelous Work among this people [via web sites], a marvelous Work and a wonder [*unbelievable*, Habakkuk 1:5]; for the wisdom of their wise men (leadership) shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent (discerning) men shall be hidden” (Isaiah 29:13-14).

Mr. Armstrong was the promised Elijah for the end time in life, 1934-1986, and though he is now sleeping, he is being used ***once again*** as the Elijah at the close of this age – *via* his Recorded Works – having been activated in fullness since the Passover season in 2006!

KICKING AGAINST THE GOADS

As far as is known now there is only one other corporate Church of God that accepts the truth that Mr. Armstrong was the Elijah! The others ignore or struggle against it. Nevertheless, it is truth that is proven by the fruits of his use by Jesus Christ (Matthew 7:15-20). And time will prove their refusal to be clearly in error.

Saul struggled violently against the truth, even persecuting and giving consent to the murder of God's people before Jesus Christ struck him down. He was then asked, "**Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? ... It is hard for you to kick against the goads**" (Acts 9:4-5, I Samuel 13:21).

In principle, the same is true with those who are struggling to keep their members from recognizing the office of that man. As to why: If they were to accept him as the Elijah, they also would have no justifiable excuse not to begin showing recognition and respect to the full teachings that Christ used him to restore and teach through the years of his ministry.

THE TRUTH IS IRREFUTABLE

It is being said that Mr. Armstrong denied he was the Elijah. Two points to disprove their kicking at the goads:

1) Even *if* he had denied he was the Elijah, as some claim that he did, this would not change the fact that he was because of his use by Jesus Christ in this age clearly proves that he was that man, *and no one else* (Matthew 7:16-20).

2) Their error also can be disproved because of his admittance that he was the Elijah in his final sermons, and also in

his last book, *MYSTERY OF THE AGES*, pages 9-17. In an excerpt from a Bible study he gave on March 7, 1981, Ephesians 1 and 2, Mr. Armstrong stated: "**Jesus Christ built the Temple, but He used me as His chief human instrument to do it, and you can't get away from it**" (Ephesians 2:21, Malachi 3:1-2, Zechariah 4:9-10). **He then added, "There is coming a time of wailing and gnashing of teeth"** (Matthew 25:30).

DEPARTING FROM THE FAITH IN LATTER TIMES

With their denials and struggles against this plain truth, what the apostle Paul wrote to Timothy concerning the end time comes to life:

"For the time will come when they will not endure **SOUND DOCTRINE** ... and they will **TURN** their ears away from the truth, and be **TURNED** aside to fables (lies). ... Now as Jannes and

Jambres **RESISTED** Moses, so do these also **RESIST** the **TRUTH: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith**" (II Timothy 4:3-4, 3:8, Isaiah 29:13, Romans 11:7-9).

It is very sad to realize that virtually all of the hundreds of the corporate Churches of God have rejected one or more of those doctrinal teachings Jesus Christ used that one man to restore within the Church of God! Instead, they have *resorted* to human reason (Proverbs 14:12, 16:25).

Yet, Jesus Christ continues to knock at the doors of their minds and hearts wanting to be invited back into their lives



BEGINNING OF SORROWS

while there is a bit of daylight left *before the door closes* and they are trapped in **the horrors of the Great Tribulation** (Revelation 3:18-20, Luke 21:36).

PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE UNITED NATIONS OF EUROPE

Mr. Armstrong made known over the many years that though Germany, *modern-day Assyria*, failed to win either of the two wars with Britain and the United States in this past century, prophecy reveals it will be different in the soon-coming war with the 10 nations that will constitute the revived Holy Roman Empire with Germany as very probably the leading nation of that group (Revelation 17:12-13, Isaiah 10:5-6, Amos 9:8).

In addition, Jesus Christ used that one man to **warn** mankind of not only what we are now seeing taking place, but also to **warn** of the complete demise of Israel as nations and **slavery** for the survivors by the revived **Holy Roman Empire** just as was done in 721 B.C. (II Kings 17:5-18, Jeremiah 30:3-8).

The United States and Britain in Prophecy, chapter

14, page 212 (1980 publication): “**God will use a Nazi-Fascist Europe to punish Britain-America. Then He will use the Communist hordes to wipe out the Roman Empire** [***Battle of Armageddon***]!”

A COMPLACENT SOCIETY

Glenn Beck, a well-known radio and television host of programs in this country, recently compared what is taking place in the complacent society of today with the example of the frog that was placed in a pan of lukewarm water. The **heat** was turned up so gradually that the frog never realized what was happening to it until it was too late! It died! *So it is with this complacent society!!!* And even sadder is the fact that the Churches of God who are knowledgeable of

the teachings and warnings of the Elijah are complacent as well.

THE FORCES OF NATURE PREPARING THE WAY

The Elijah made known from prophecy that **curses** would be on the House of Joseph and the other Tribes of Israel due to their **rejection** of God and His holy and righteous laws (Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, Chapter 13).

The **curses** mentioned in those prophecies are in evidence today as can be witnessed by **the fury of nature** striking all over this nation in one way or another: Tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, too much rain, flooding, not enough rain, drought, etc.

Remember Katrina and New Orleans?

There also is the threat continuing to hang over us of terrorists

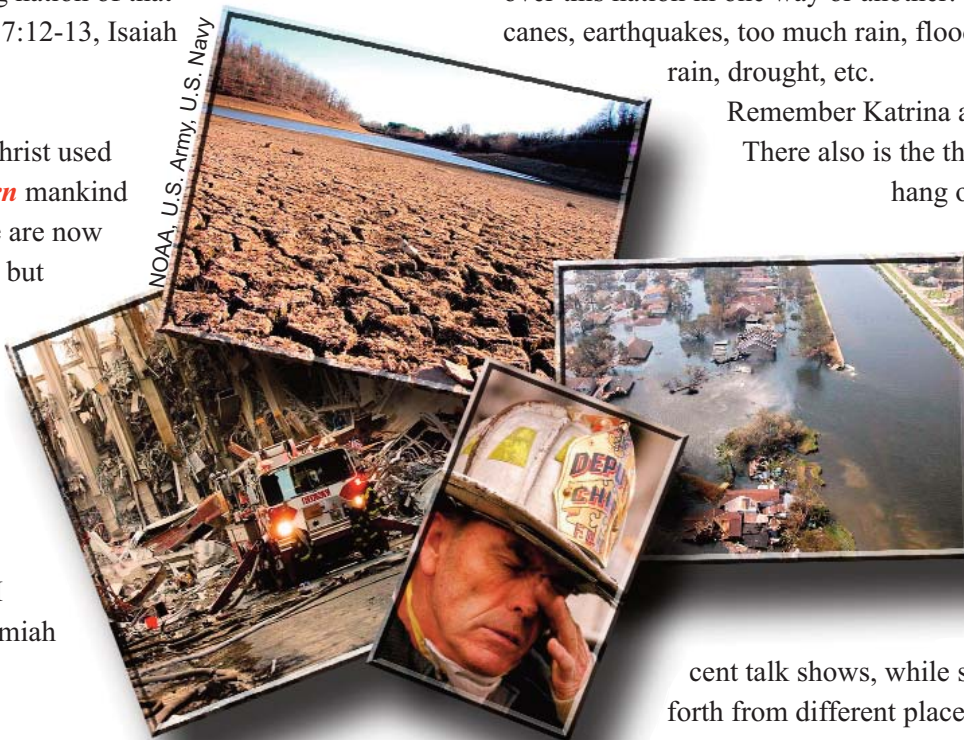
striking with even deadlier force than they did on September 11, 2001.

And people wonder why? Larry King on one of his re-

cent talk shows, while switching back and forth from different places in this country where tornadoes and flooding were taking place, repeatedly asked each person reporting to him, “*What’s going on?*”

People are in wonderment as to why these terrible things are taking place and the frequency of them. The forces of nature are striking time after time in virtually every state in this country in one way or another, just as was prophesied by one of God’s ancient prophets:

“Disaster will come upon disaster, and rumor will be upon rumor [in wonderment]. **Then they will seek a vision** [understanding] **from a prophet; but the law** [the strength of it] **will perish from the priest** [today’s churches], **and counsel from the elders** [men of renown, psychologists, etc.] **... I will do to them according to**



DROUGHT, HURRICANES, TERROR

their way, and according to what they deserve I will judge them; then they shall [come to] know that I am the LORD" (Ezekiel 7:26-27).

America and Britain are being brought down to their knees due to these disasters continuing to strike this country; and these disasters are being compounded by the rapidly increasing cost of fuel and food! They are so far removed from any true knowledge of God – *they know not why* (Hosea 4:6).

There is no question but that we are beginning to enter the time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:4-7). To highlight these disasters, please note excerpts from recent news sources:

• **NaturalNews.com**

June 5 2008, by David Gutierrez

The number of natural disasters around the world has increased by more than four times in the last 20 years, according to a report released by the British charity Oxfam.

Oxfam analyzed data from the Red Cross, United Nations and researchers at Louvain University in Belgium. It found that the earth is currently experiencing approximately 500 natural disasters per year, compared with 120 per year in the early 1980s.

The number of weather-related disasters in 2006 was 240, compared with 60 in 1980. ...

"This is no freak year," said Oxfam director Barbara Stocking. "It follows a pattern of more frequent, more erratic, more unpredictable and more extreme weather events that are affecting more people."

• **Worries mount as world's farmers push for big harvest**

International Herald Tribune, June 10, 2008,
by David Streitfeld, Keith Bradsher

GRIFFIN, Indiana – In a year when global harvests need to be excellent to ease the threat of pervasive food shortages, evidence is mounting that they will be average at best. Some farmers are starting to fear disaster. American corn and soybean farmers are suffering from too much rain, while Australian wheat farmers have been plagued by drought. ...

In the American corn belt, the issue has also been getting the rain to stop.

After heavy rains and flooding last weekend, the price of corn on the commodity markets rose Monday to a record \$6.57 a bushel. ...

"We can't snap our fingers and make high yields," said Emerson Nafziger, a professor of agro-

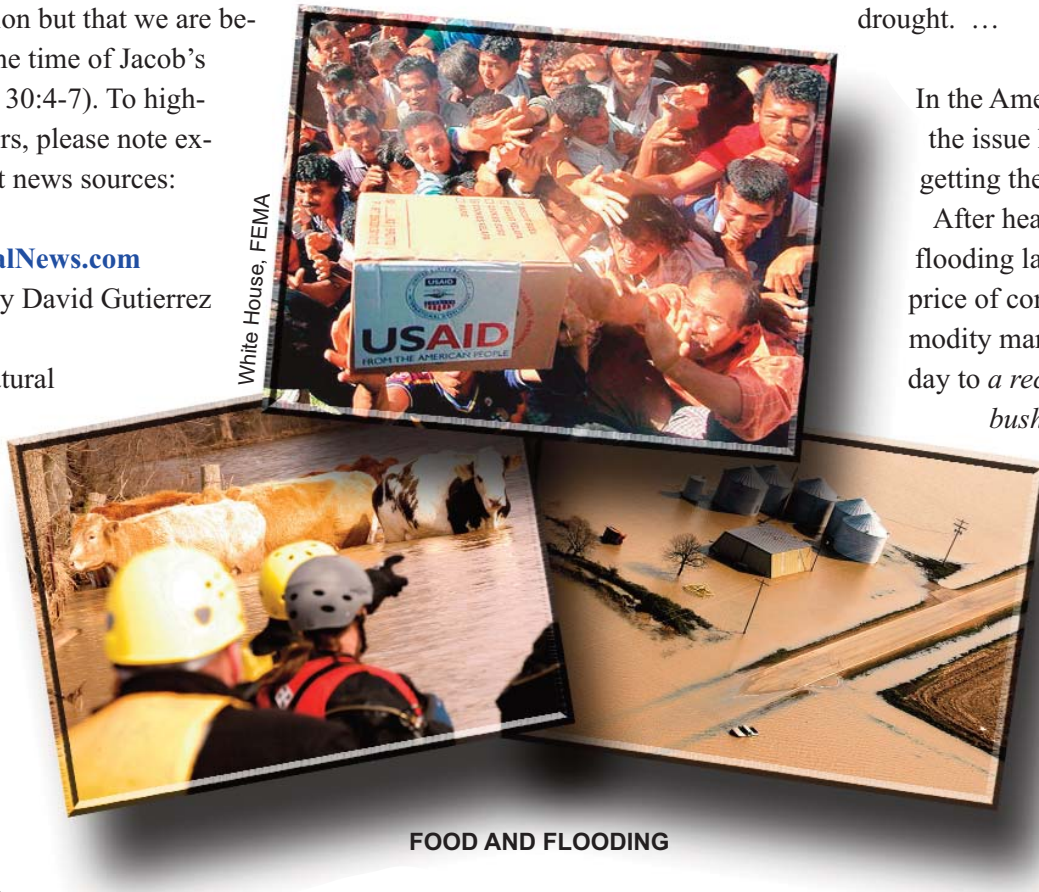
economic extension at the University of Illinois. "We still depend on the weather."

THE PANTRY IS BARE!!!

Alarmingly, there are the news reports that make known the pantry of America and Britain is for all practical purposes bare:

• **The U.S. Has No Remaining Grain Reserves**
National News, June 6, 2008

WASHINGTON – **Larry Matlack, President of the American Agriculture Movement (AAM), has raised**

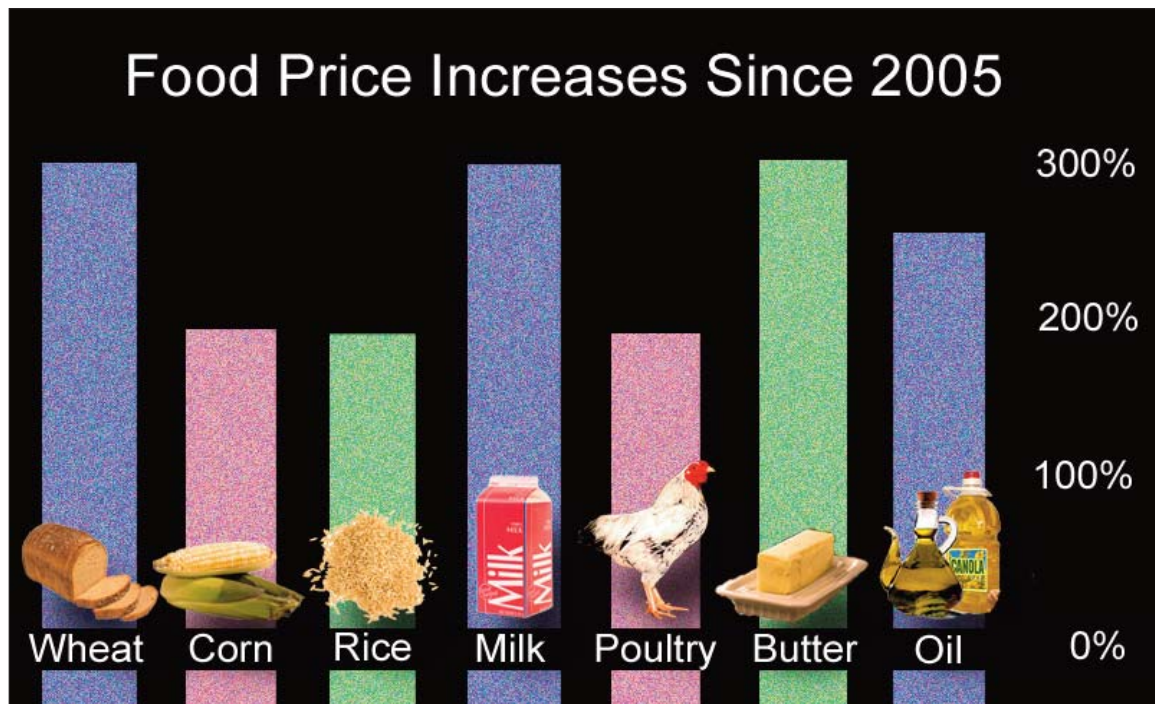


FOOD AND FLOODING

concerns over the issue of U.S. grain reserves after it was announced that the sale of 18.37 million bushels of wheat from USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust.

"According to the May 1, 2008 CCC inventory report there are only 24.1 million bushels of wheat in inventory, so after this sale

there will be only 2.7 million bushels of wheat left of the entire CCC inventory," warned Matlack. **"Our concern is not that we are using the remainder of our strategic grain reserves for humanitarian relief. AAM fully supports the action and all humanitarian food relief. Our concern is that the U.S. has nothing else in our emergency food pantry. There is no cheese, no butter, no dry milk powder, no grains or anything else left in reserve. The only thing left in the entire CCC inventory will be 2.7 million bushels of wheat which is about enough wheat to make half of a loaf of bread for each of the 300 million people in America."**



IFPRI, FAO, USDA, The Economist, Der Spiegel

The CCC is a federal government-owned and operated entity that was created to stabilize, support and protect farm income and prices. CCC also is supposed to maintain balanced and adequate supplies of agricultural commodities and aids in their orderly distribution. ..."

• Mail Online News

Nine Meals from Anarchy – Britain Facing Very Real Food Crisis

By Rosie Boycott, June 9, 2008

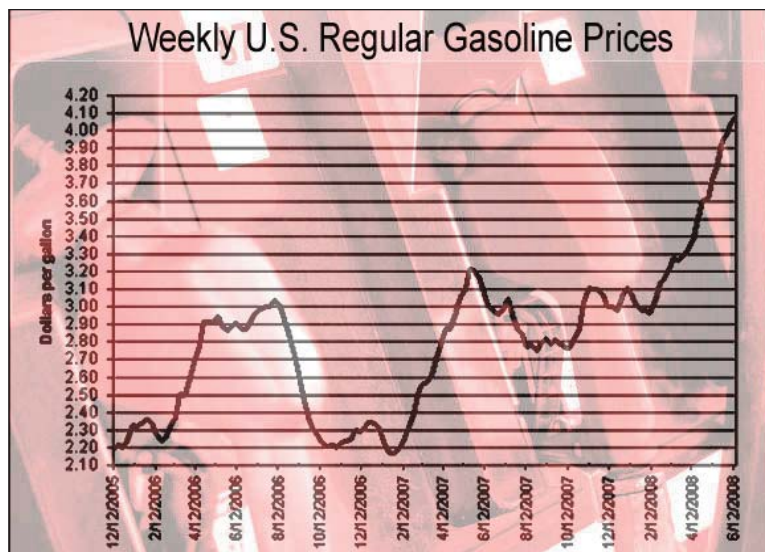
"... Today, we stand on the brink of a longer-term problem. In the words of Tim Lang, Professor of Food Policy at City University, London: 'We are sleep-walking into a crisis.' ..."

NEW BUCHANAN BOOK DECLARES 'END OF AMERICA'

November 25, 2007

"America is coming apart, decomposing, and ... the likelihood of her survival as one nation ... is improbable – and impossible if America continues on her current course," declares Pat Buchanan. "For we are on a path to national suicide."

The best-selling author and former presidential candidate is on the eve of launching his new epic book:



Energy Information Administration



*1975 in Prophecy, page 30, Mr. Armstrong: “And now, finally, a last word to you who read this **warning message** – this summary of the prophecies: **YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED!**”*

“Your immediate future is of your own choosing. You can take this lightly; let it slip from your mind, allow yourself once again to be absorbed in the mechanics of today’s complex society that you put this out of your mind. If

*you do, you have read **YOUR FATE** – and I say to you on authority of God Almighty that it is absolutely **SURE!**”*

DAY OF RECKONING: HOW HUBRIS, IDEOLOGY AND GREED ARE TEARING AMERICA APART.

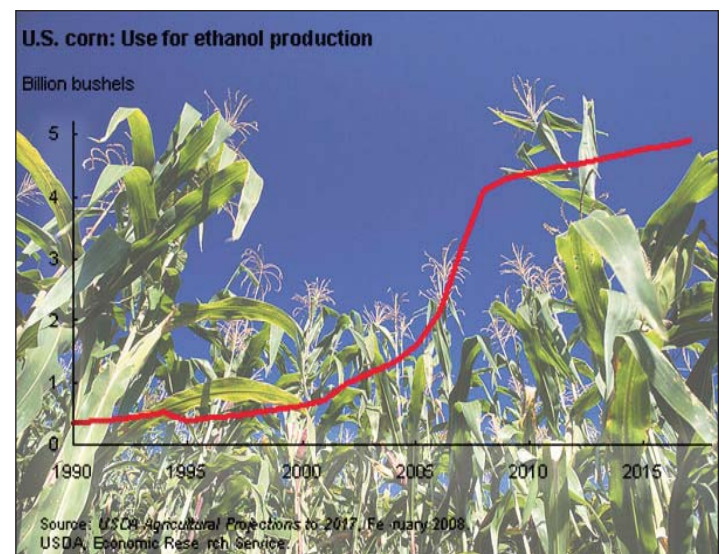
THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY, page 38, Mr. Armstrong: “God warns us through prophecy that our sins are fast increasing [consider what the Bible terms as sodomy and their legalized marriages in addition to legalized **abortions**, the **MURDER** of the unborn]. And now the *day of reckoning* is here! The foreign sword always has attacked us. In this fearful awesome atomic age, World War III will start with nuclear devastation unleashed on London, Birmingham, Liverpool, New York, Washington, Philadelphia, Detroit, Chicago, Pittsburgh, without warning! God help these nations to wake up before its too late!”

THE PROMISED ELIJAH’S WARNINGS

When we view where we are in time and now see what was made known during those years of his life-time mission, there’s no question but that Mr. Armstrong was the promised Elijah of the end time **sent to warn** Israel and the Church of God of what we are now seeing taking place before the plagues and warfare are to come down hard on us with deadly force!

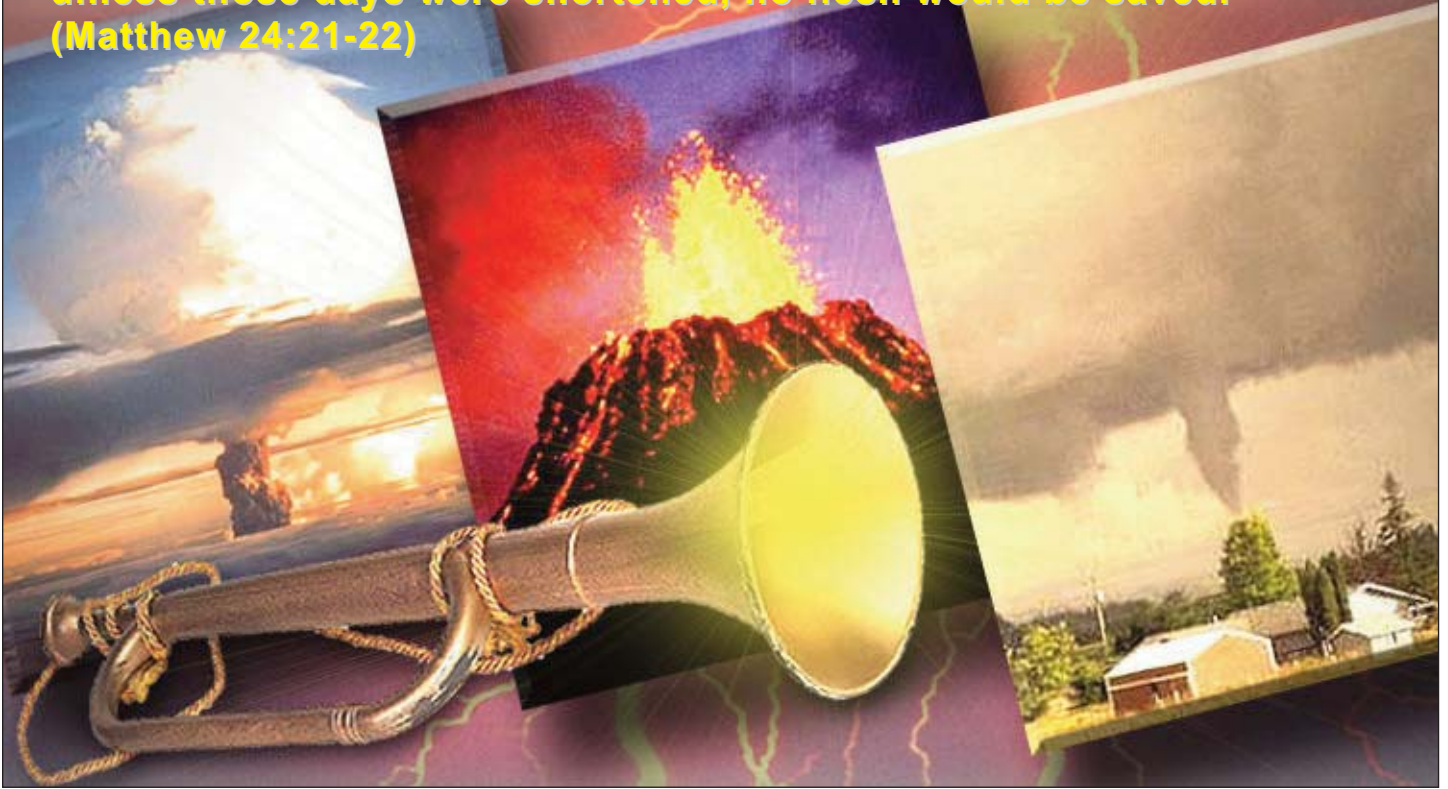
In view of Jesus Christ’s use of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong during this end time, one should easily see that His promise to send the Elijah at the end time has been fulfilled:

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



A Need for Warning!

'For then there will be Great Tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved.'
(Matthew 24:21-22)



DOE, FEMA, NOAA, Jupiter Images

By Mark Mendiola

In *The Gathering Storm*, the first of six volumes in his Nobel Prize-winning chronicle of the Second World War, Sir Winston Churchill compared the rise of Adolph Hitler and Nazi Germany to *ominous, dark storm clouds* that threatened to unleash death and destruction on unsuspecting people living on the European continent and throughout the world.

Churchill lamented the indifference of leaders of democratic countries to those developing clouds as they ignored key events between World Wars I and II that indicated *terrible trouble was brewing in Central Europe*.

They simply hoped it would go away without dealing with it. Churchill was *a lone voice in the wilderness relentlessly crying out* against Hitler and his aggressive remilitarization

of Germany that ultimately would plunge the world into an unimaginable nightmare!

Churchill was *extremely unpopular* in Great Britain for his *persistent warnings* about Nazi Germany yet he would not capitulate to the insults and criticism that resulted. He saw the dangers that British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's policies of appeasement were bringing on the nation and **doggedly refused to soften his words or be silenced despite intense opposition**. He would not back down.

"Still, if you will not *fight for the right* when you can easily win without bloodshed, if you will not *fight when your victory will be sure* and not so costly, you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance for survival. There may be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no chance of victory, because **it is better to perish**



than to live as slaves,” Churchill wrote in *The Gathering Storm*.

When Chamberlain returned to London in September 1938 from Munich, Germany, where he signed a pact with Hitler allowing Germany to seize part of Czechoslovakia, the prime minister declared, *“I believe it is peace for our time.”* He later described Hitler as “a man who could be relied upon when he had given his word” and claimed the German dictator had no further territorial ambitions in Europe.

Following Chamberlain’s return from Munich, Churchill rose in Parliament and told the British prime minister, *“You had a choice between war and dishonor. You chose dishonor, and you shall have war.”* Churchill’s words proved prophetic. Exactly a year later, in September 1939, Germany invaded Poland. Britain and France then declared war on Germany, igniting World War II, which left as many as 72 million people dead in six years!

THE WORST STORM TO COME

Jesus Christ also compared watching world events to *monitoring dangerous weather conditions* as He warned about an unprecedented period of devastation and carnage that would precede His Second

Coming. This horrendous gathering storm will pale into insignificance the suffering and anguish that occurred during World War II! And it’s looming on the horizon. Believe it or not!

“Then He also said to the multitudes, ‘When you see *a cloud rising out of the west*, immediately you say, “A shower is coming”; and so it is. And when you see the south wind blow, you say, ‘There will be hot weather’; and there is. **Hyprocrites!** You can discern the face of the sky and of the earth, but *how is it you do not discern this time?*’ (Luke 12:54-56)”

“He answered and said to them, ‘When it is evening you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for **the sky is red**’; and in the morning, ‘It will be foul

weather today, for **the sky is red and threatening.**’ **Hypocrites!** You know how to discern the face of the sky, but *you cannot discern the signs of the times*’ (Matthew 16:2-3).”

Thousands of lives have been needlessly snuffed out because people have *ignored warnings* about powerful volcanoes about to erupt or the approach of terribly destructive tornadoes, hurricanes or cyclones. Failure to warn about impending calamities also has led to the deaths of countless victims.



In describing conditions that would prevail before His Second Coming, Christ warned they would be worse than all the wars, famines, pestilences and natural disasters experienced in the past 6,000 years of history, **underscoring that hundreds of millions and even billions of people will die during this terrible time yet ahead of us!**

“For in those days there will be **tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of creation** which God created until this time, **nor ever shall be**. And unless the Lord had shortened those days, *no flesh would be saved*; but for the elect’s sake, whom He chose, He shortened the days,” Christ said (Mark 13:19-20).

Old Testament prophets also described this **Great Tribulation** (Matthew 24:21) preceding the Messiah’s return as **the worst period ever in mankind’s history!** They show that *it will strike the modern descendants of Jacob or Israel – the English-speaking peoples, primarily the Americans and British – first and hardest, and then engulf the entire world* (Revelation 3:10)!

“‘Alas! For **that day is great, so that none is like it**; and **it is the time of Jacob’s trouble**, but he shall be saved out of it. For it shall come to pass in that day,’ says the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from your neck, and will burst your bonds; **Foreigners shall no more enslave them**’ (Jeremiah 30:7-8).”

“Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: ... ‘And **I will do among you what I have never done, and the like of which I will never do again, because of all your abominations.**’ (Ezekiel 5:9).”

“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and **there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time**. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book (Daniel 12:1).”

“Hear this, you elders, and give ear, all you inhabitants of the land! **Has anything like this happened in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?** (Joel 1:2)”



U.S. Air Force

HURRICANE KATRINA: UNPRECEDENTED U.S. DISASTER

UNHEEDED WARNINGS

History is strewn with accounts of *unheeded warnings of impending disasters* and the *tragic consequences*. Often those who trumpet such alarms are ridiculed and even punished for daring to raise their voices. Many of the more than 350,000 people killed by the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami triggered by a 9.3 magnitude earthquake near Indonesia had no warning of the *sudden destruction* that struck their 11 countries. *It was one of the deadliest natural disasters in history caused by the second largest quake ever recorded on a seismograph.*

Even recently, the world was astounded by the magnitude of devastation caused by a cyclone in Burma and an earthquake in China that struck within about a week of each other in May. The death toll in Burma was feared to surpass 120,000 with at least 2.5 million left homeless. In China, the quake’s death toll was expected to approach 70,000 with nearly five million homeless. Newspapers have described the devastation in both countries as “apocalyptic” or of “Biblical proportions.”

Hurricane Katrina was the third most powerful hurricane to hit the United States when it struck the Gulf Coast in August 2005. It’s estimated it caused \$81.2 billion in damage, making it the most costly natural disaster in U.S. history. It was one of the fifth deadliest U.S. hurricanes ever, killing about 1,840 people and leaving tens of thousands homeless. In a report titled “Hurricane Katrina: A Nation Still Unprepared,” the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security

& Government Affairs concluded long-term warnings about Katrina went unheeded and government officials neglected their duties to prepare for the forewarned catastrophe despite obvious signs the hurricane was intensifying.

In an article titled, "Let Katrina Be a Warning," *Business Week* reported on Sept. 1, 2005, "It is a natural disaster of unprecedented proportions for America. But the irony and the tragedy of the killer storm called Katrina is that the hurricane's devastating effects were entirely predictable – and largely preventable. ... The major lesson policymakers should draw from the catastrophe is just **how vulnerable the U.S. is becoming to natural disasters and energy disruptions.**"



A STRUCTURE BURNS TO THE GROUND

WARNING SHOWS COMPASSION

For a neighbor to fail to sound an alarm when he knows a family is asleep in a house that has caught fire and is about to burn to the ground is inexcusable! When one sees a funnel cloud touching down and heading for a town yet does nothing to warn that community of impending destruction, his inaction also is unconscionable and arguably criminal if the tornado were to kill residents oblivious to the imminent threat.

While not popular or warmly welcomed, warnings must be loudly sounded to prevent needless suffering! It often takes courage and a great deal of compassion to cry aloud and prevent death and injury when one sees calamity looming. Unsuspecting victims, however, often resent those willing to risk everything to jolt them out of their deep sleep.

Proverbs 24:11-12 states: "Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter." If you say, 'Surely we did not know this,' does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?" Jude 22-23 also says: "And on some **have compassion**, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh."

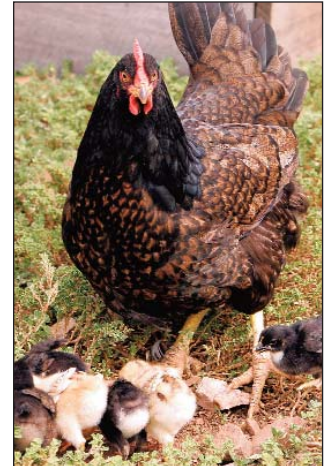
Jesus Christ dearly loved Jerusalem and its inhabitants despite the fact He was about to be crucified there just as

God's prophets were repeatedly martyred for powerfully warning about divine punishment.

Jerusalem symbolized the entire

House of Israel (Ezekiel 4:1, 3).

Shortly before His crucifixion, a *compassionate Christ lamented*: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! *How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!* See! Your house is left to you desolate" (Matthew 23:37-38).



Soon after that, He delivered His most powerful warning about the death and destruction that would befall Jerusalem and the signs that would indicate His Second Coming was near, including *worsening wars, food shortages, starvation, disease epidemics and earthquakes throughout the world* that ultimately would climax in the **Great Tribulation** (Matthew 24:1-8, 21-22). His warnings underscored His deep compassion for all of mankind!

Our loving Creator God always has given strong warnings because of His mercy and compassion, hoping people would *repent of their sins and avoid needless death and suffering* (Amos 3:7). "And the LORD God of their fathers sent **warnings** to them by His messengers, *rising up early and sending them, because He had compassion on His*

people and His dwelling place. *But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets,* until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, till there was no remedy (II Chronicles 36:15-16).”

THE EZEKIEL WARNING

Like Sir Winston Churchill, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong powerfully warned about *ominous developments in Germany and Europe that now threaten the United States and United Kingdom* just as surely as Hitler’s Nazi Germany would unleash a Blitzkrieg or “lightning war” against weak democracies who preferred to remain in denial. *Even darker storm clouds once again are forming over the European continent – this time threatening World War III !*

“A staggering turn in world events is due to erupt in the next few years. It will involve violently the United States, Britain, Western Europe, the Middle East. It’s already rather late for the free world to come awake to the real meaning behind current world events!” Mr. Armstrong wrote in the introduction of his book,



A UNITED EUROPE THREATENS THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN

The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy. “Why do not the world’s leaders see what is coming? Why are the world’s best minds unseeing – the heads of state, scientists, educators, editors, news analysts, bankers, industrialists, leaders in business and commerce? They are totally unaware!”

In Chapter 14, Mr. Armstrong warned: “**That YOKE of SLAVERY without mercy is to be laid on the U.S. and Britain by the coming united nations of Europe!** It has started already, through the economic Common Market and the recently implemented EMS (European Monetary System). Its leaders talk continually of POLITICAL union – which means, also, military. So far they have been unable to bring about full political union. This will be made possible by the ‘good offices’ of the Vatican, who alone can be the symbol of unity to which they can look. ... In all probability, by present indications, the head of this new WORLD POWER will be in central Europe. **And it will precipitate World War III. And this time it will be allowed to succeed!**”



THE STRONG EURO

Many today scoff at Mr. Armstrong’s warnings, which are preserved on the web sites of the Church of God – Faithful Flock listed on the back of this magazine. Just as Churchill



(I Thessalonians 5:3). Where are the courageous, unflinching Churchills who are not afraid nor dismayed to shout out or trumpet direly needed warnings?

*“But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not **blow the trumpet**, and the people are not **warned**, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but **his blood I will require at the watchman’s***

was mocked, Mr. Armstrong’s words are despised and his character assassinated, *yet his words ring more true now than even decades ago as we approach the **Great Tribulation!** Those warnings were thundered out of love, compassion and concern in hopes our people will repent and avoid definite disaster.*

Yet, today’s timid political and religious leaders are like Neville Chamberlains who try to appease their constituents by declaring “Peace, peace! When there is no peace” (Jeremiah 6:14, 8:11, 23:17). They assure people of “peace and safety” before sudden destruction strikes!

hand. So you son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and **warn them for Me.** ... Say to them: ‘As I

live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘*I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. **Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?***’ (Ezekiel 33:6-7, 11.)”

The winds are intensifying. The gathering clouds are getting darker. **The sky is turning a deeper red.**

God help all of us to

heed His compassionate warnings, change course and be accounted worthy to escape the unprecedented death, suffering and catastrophe certain to come!

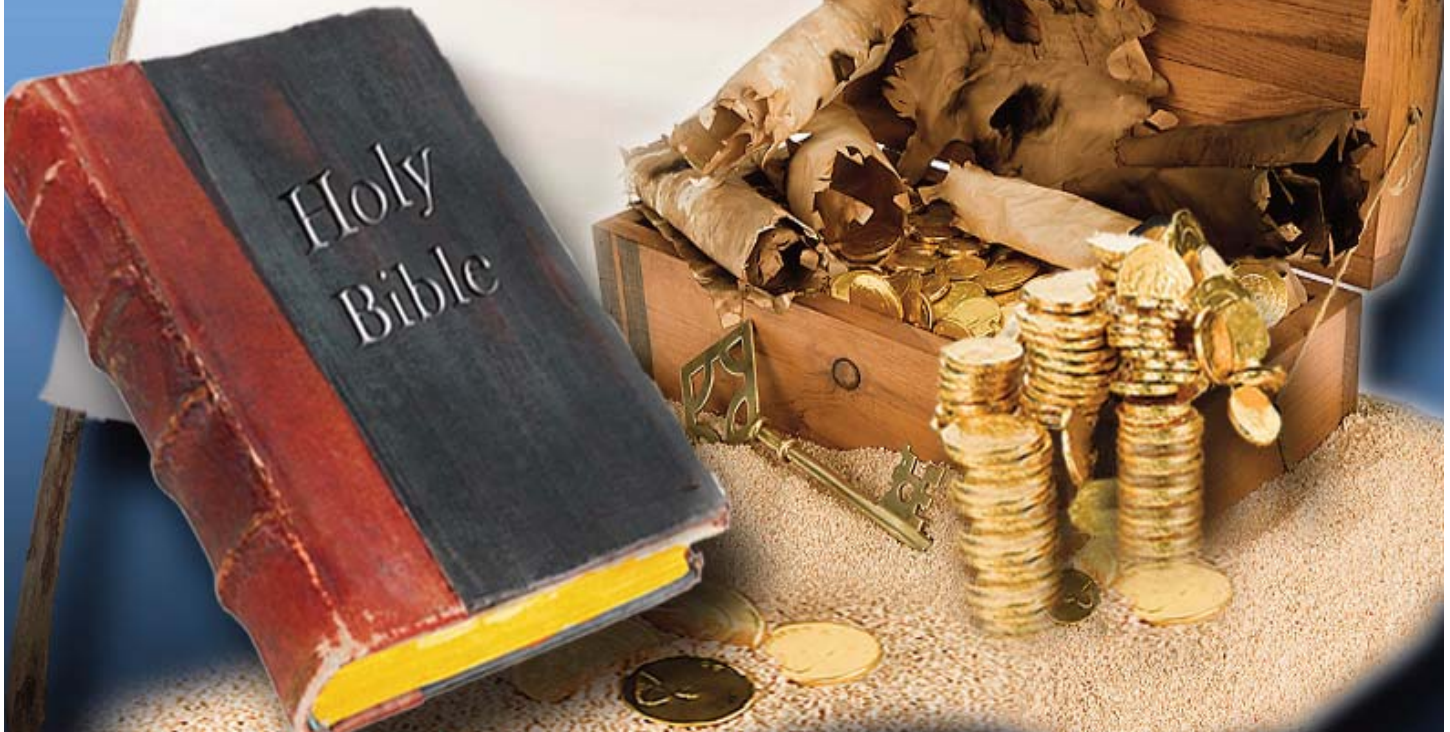


U.S. Department of Defense

Never Surrender the Truth

'We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end. We shall fight ... We shall never surrender!'

Winston Churchill



By Gary Liebold

'We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end. We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air. We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be. We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills. We shall never surrender!'

Winston Churchill

It was on June 4, 1940, that Winston Churchill delivered this famous quote during a speech given at the House of Commons, following the evacuation of British and French armies from Dunkirk in the face of Hitler's advancing German armies throughout France. These words determined the course that the British people would take during the next four years of perhaps the most terrifying and trying times of British history.



THE MIRACLE AT DUNKIRK



U.S. GENERAL ANTHONY CLEMENT McAULIFFE, MAP OF BASTOGNE

Four years later, in December 1944, the Germans launched their largest offensive of World War II on the Western Front – “The Battle of the Bulge.” The failure of this massive attack largely rested on the resistance of the American forces holding the town of Bastogne on the southern shoulder of the Bulge.

The town of Bastogne was strategically located at the center of the road network of the Ardennes, which made it vitally important to the outcome of the offensive. General Dwight Eisenhower instructed the 101st Airborne Division to hold the town at ALL costs. An interview with Lt. General Harry Kinnard revealed a particularly riveting encounter between the acting commander of the 101st Airborne Division, Anthony Clement McAuliffe, and the German forces which surrounded the town of Bastogne. According to Kinnard, McAuliffe’s forces entered Bastogne on the night of December 18, with lack of equipment, winter clothing and footwear. By December 21, they were completely surrounded and the field hospital was overrun by a German attack.

In addition, they were not able to receive air re-supply due to horribly bad weather ... extreme cold and snow. On the morning of December 22, a German surrender party, consisting of two officers and two non-commissioned officers, approached the division perimeter carrying *a white flag*. The two officers and NCOs were taken to a nearby platoon command post, and while the enlisted men were detained, the officers were blindfolded and taken to the main command post where they presented the following ultimatum (a “**surrender or die**” statement):

To the U.S.A. Commander of the encircled town of Bastogne.

The fortune of war is changing. This time the U.S.A. forces in and near Bastogne have been encircled by strong German armored units. More German armored units have crossed the river Our [pronounced ‘oor’], near Ortheuville, have taken Marche and reached St. Hubert by passing through Hompre-Sibret-Tillet. Libra



U.S. SOLDIERS ENDURED BITTER COLD IN THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

mont is in German hands.

There is only one possibility to save the encircled U.S.A. troops from total annihilation: that is the honorable surrender of the encircled town. In order to think it over, a term of two hours will be granted beginning with the presentation of this note.

If this proposal should be rejected, one German Artillery Corps and six heavy A.A. Battalions are ready to annihilate the U.S.A. troops in and near Bastogne. The order for firing will be given immediately after this two hours' term.

All the serious civilian losses caused by this artillery fire would not correspond with [be equal to], the well known American humanity.

The German Commander

McAuliffe was faced with a crucial decision. His men were poorly equipped with no supplies; tired and weary from coming off recent heavy combat in Holland, and burdened by horribly cold, snowy weather. His choices seemed overwhelming – **surrender or die!** He nevertheless sent his message back to the Germans. His aide, Col. Harper, took

the typed message back to the company command post where the two German officers were detained, for delivery to their commander. This is what Commander McAuliffe wrote:

**To the German Commander,
NUTS!**

The American Commander

McAuliffe held his ground, allowing **no room for compromise**. He was of the same mindset as British Prime Minister Winston Churchill who said, “**We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end ... we shall never surrender!**”

Churchill also said in an October 29, 1941 speech:

“This is the lesson: Never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never – in nothing, great or small, large or petty – never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy.”

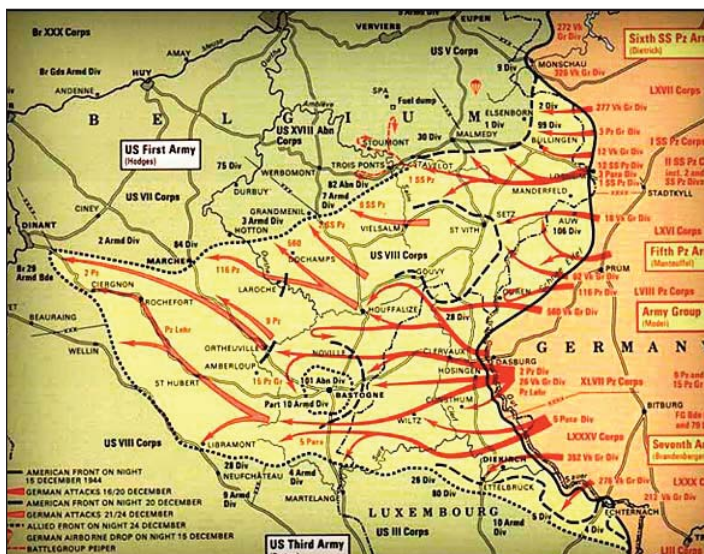
Evidenced by many, many miracles, we can see God’s hand in the outcome of World War II. The allies won the war. That’s a matter of history!

In like respect, we, too, must apply these same principles as spiritual warriors and soldiers of Jesus Christ. We, too, are “soldiers” involved in a war – soldiers for a heavenly Kingdom!

As II Timothy 2:3 reads, **“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”**

REFUSE TO COMPROMISE

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong was like the apostles of old. He was consistently well-grounded in his tenacity and resolve.



BATTLE OF THE BULGE IN BELGIUM

As a spiritual soldier of Jesus Christ, he refused to compromise. He refused to surrender to any opposition to the TRUTH of God. In the “Personal” article of the December 1976 *Good News*, Mr. Armstrong wrote:

“... during these 43 years, I have frequently been pressured to compromise – ‘just a little’ – with God’s TRUTH. You see, God had called me to this tremendous responsibility in no ordinary manner.

As Moses and others had been prepared *before* being called to

God’s Commission for them, so was I. In no ordinary or usual manner, God revealed to me His TRUTH. When He committed His Great Commission to me, He 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. A little leaven leavens the WHOLE

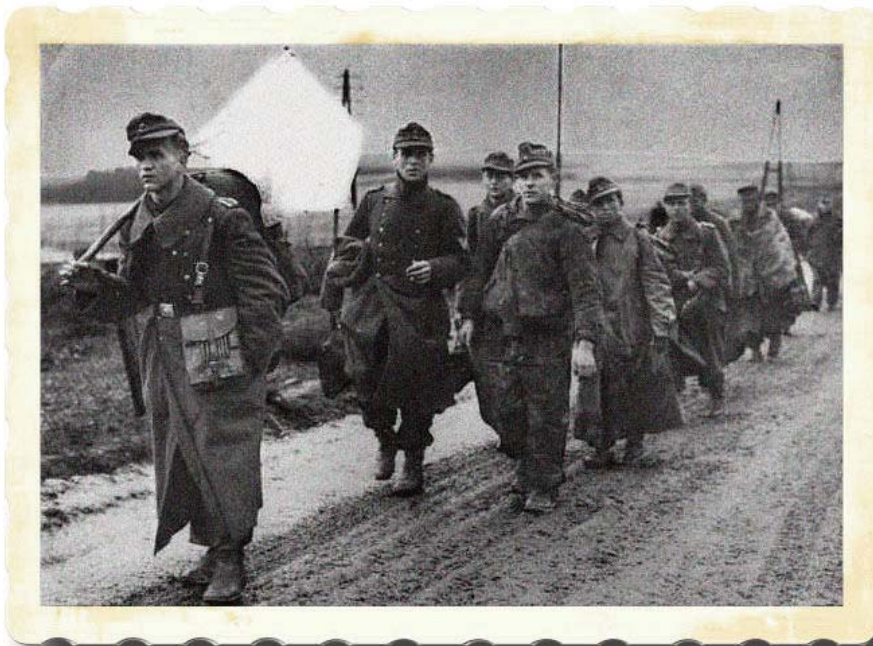
LUMP! In my position, as chosen by the living CHRIST to be first under Him in AUTHORITY over the Church and the Work, I have been charged with the commission of KEEPING GOD’S WORD. Keeping it inviolate – NO COMPROMISE! I have NEVER compromised with God’s TRUTH – regardless of the cost or the circumstances. I never shall!”

And true to his word, Mr. Armstrong never did compromise with the truth Christ had opened his mind to understand while going forward with the commission to this world:

Mark 13:10-13 tells us: “**And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by all men for My name’s sake. But he who endures to the end** [even loving the TRUTH of God – to the very last breath] **shall be saved.**”



GENERAL DWIGHT EISENHOWER RALLIES 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION BEFORE D-DAY



GERMAN TROOPS SURRENDER DURING WORLD WAR II

Again, in the words of Winston Churchill:

“We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end ... We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be ... We shall NEVER surrender!”

To any “commanders,” or false apostles, under Satan’s sway, we too say, **“NUTS!”** We will **NOT** surrender the TRUTH of God!

THE TRUTH OF GOD DEEP WITHIN YOU

Why do we have the truth we have? It’s not about *intellectualism*, as many might think. In *Mystery of the Ages*, written by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, we read on page 350 (original hardbound edition):

“One thing there will not be in the millennial Headquarters Church is a doctrinal committee of intellectual ‘scholars’ to decide whether Christ’s teachings are true doctrines.

“There was no such doctrinal committee in the first century Headquarters Church at Jerusalem. All teaching came from Christ through the apostles – and a few times Christ communicated to apostles via the prophets (of which there are none in God’s Church today since the Bible for our time is com-

plete). God’s Church today, as in the first century, receives its teachings from the living Christ, through an apostle, just as in A.D. 31.”

Just how much value is God’s Truth – **the doctrines of His True Church** – to us? Do we hold them in high esteem? How closely do we keep them in our hearts and minds?

In no specific order, here are some of the basic doctrines of God’s TRUE Church – doctrines the TRUE Church will **NEVER SURRENDER!**

- 1) God’s Government 2) Church of God Name 3) The True Gospel
- 4) Who and What God is 5) Why Man Exists 6) The Spirit in Man
- 7) The “Firstfruits” 8) The Kingdom of God 9) Understanding God’s Holy Spirit 10) The Seventh Day Sabbath 11) God’s Holy Days 12) What it Means to be “Born Again” 13) Identity of Israel 14) Tithing
- 15) The Purpose for Second and Third Tithe 16) What Sin is 17) TRUE Repentance 18) Baptism 19) Laying on of Hands 20) What a TRUE Christian is 21) The Unpardonable Sin 22) Grace and the Law 23) The Three Resurrections 24) Understanding of Heaven and Hell 25) The Healing Doctrine 26) What Real Faith is 27) Why Marriage? 28) The Missing Dimension in Sex 29) Dietary Laws 30) The Ruling on “Make-up”

These doctrinal teachings are likened to precious treasures to the true people of God – so precious and valuable the true members of the Church of God will never give them up!

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it” (Matthew 13:44-46).

We must treat the TRUTH of God like a **precious** gem!

WINNING THE SPIRITUAL WAR

In a brethren and co-worker letter dated October 25, 1985, Mr. Armstrong wrote:

“WE are in a spiritual WAR – on the firing line with CHRIST as our general – firing spiritual bombs of GOD’S TRUTH – the message of Christ’s own GOSPEL – to make this whole world CONSCIOUS of the GOOD NEWS of Christ’s soon coming and His KINGDOM, to rule the happy, peaceful WORLD TOMORROW! There can be no letting down – no slacking – no quitting in this war! What would happen in a war if an army, by a sudden burst of effort, surged forward to win a single battle, then laid down their arms and decided to take it easy or go on furlough? They would then LOSE THE WAR! Christ said it is only he who endures to the end who shall be saved! LET US CARRY ON, more determined than ever – more dedicated and devoted to Christ’s great mission than ever! We must not win a partial battle, and then lose our war. LET US NOW PLUNGE ON HARDER THAN EVER TO FINAL VICTORY!”

Brethren, we must realize that we are in an intense spiritual war, against an insidious enemy who will stoop as low as possible to defeat us, both individually and collectively. Sometimes when standing up for the TRUTH, we might think we are “all alone.” But each of us is facing a spiritual



CHURCHILL FLASHES ‘V’ FOR VICTORY SIGN

battle at one point or another, and we can be assured that we are all in this war **TOGETHER!** (Ephesians 6:10-18.)

Remember, Winston Churchill said, “**We shall not flag or fail. We shall go on to the end ... We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be ... We shall NEVER surrender!**”

Mr. Armstrong set the standard for us to follow when he said, “**NO COMPROMISE! I have NEVER compromised with God’s TRUTH – regardless of the cost or the circumstances. I never shall!**”

Again, as Mr. Armstrong told us, “**Christ said it is only he who endures to the end who shall be saved! Let us carry on, more determined than ever – more dedicated and devoted to Christ’s great mission than ever! We must not win a partial battle, but then lose our war. LET US NOW PLUNGE ON HARDER THAN EVER TO FINAL VICTORY!**”

Finally, Mr. Armstrong wrote in a Brethren and Co-Worker letter written April 18, 1984:

“I have looked into God’s Book to see how it all comes out at the end – and I find that **WE (in God) WIN!**”

Brethren, let us **NEVER SURRENDER** the TRUTH of God!



Will You Be Alive Tomorrow?



In your daily living, how much thought have you given to the fact the breath of life could **SUDDENLY, UNEXPECTEDLY** be taken from YOU?

By Garfield Gregoire

Some reading this article may be healthy and free from sickness, abounding in good health with the thought of dying far removed from their minds. Many think, or believe, they could live for another 20, 30 or even more years! And while it is not wrong to desire a long life, we do need to consider our length of days from the perspective of the Bible – and understand that life is fleeting, with no assurance that ANY of us will live to see another day.

For whatever reason, we humans – especially those of younger age – have the tendency to believe DEATH could not possibly be in our immediate future, and that dying is always for the other person. But do you REALIZE that God wants us to live our lives with both the understanding and FAITHFUL ACCEPTANCE of the fact that we could leave this life SUDDENLY and UNEXPECTEDLY?

Throughout the history of God's Church, sudden or unexpected death has been known to occur within the Body of Christ. For example, take the case of Mr. Richard D. Armstrong. Who would have thought that this young, vibrant minister of Jesus Christ and son of God's end-time apostle would encounter such a terrible accident and die from it?

THINK of it: Mr. Richard Armstrong was out there – in the

field – doing the Work of God on a baptizing tour. But despite this, God allowed his life to be taken from him. In speaking of Richard's death, Mr. Armstrong said: **"But then I realized that some of the students had erroneously assumed that ministers were under such divine protection that no such tragedy could occur to one of them"** (*Autobiography of Herbert W. Armstrong*, Vol. 2, Pg. 425).

Do we realize that even though we have been called out of this world, and are of the BODY of Christ, that none of us are EXEMPT from being suddenly, UNEXPECTEDLY taken from this life? Notice James 4:14: **"Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away."**

Our life is like a vapor or mist that disappears as quickly as it comes; it is like a puff of smoke taken away by the wind. When you contrast this with the fact that God has been alive forever, we need to understand that our physical existence is nothing more than a brief passing moment to God. The Bible shows us that a thousand years is like one day to God (II Peter 3:8).

During the Feast of Tabernacles in Tucson, Arizona, this writer visited the Boot Hill cemetery in the old western town of Tombstone and came across a rather interesting epitaph at one of the gravesites. It read something like this: **“As you look down on me, remember I was once like you.”** Those words impacted me, and made it all the more real to my understanding that we are APPOINTED to DIE. This grave contained the remains of another human being who had lived and walked this earth, just as you and I do today, but the time had come when that individual departed this life – even as we must do at the appointed time.

“To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die ...” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2)

In working out His purpose (a purpose to which some answers may not be readily given or understood in this life), God may allow any one of us to be instantly taken from this life. Death is an inescapable part of life, and God wants us to come to terms with it. No assurance is given to us that we will be alive to see the return of Jesus Christ, although most of us tend to act and think we will.

HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE?

As we do not know what a day will bring, HOW, then, do we suppose God expects or requires us to conduct our Christian life? Notice James 4:13-14: **“Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.’ Yet you do not know what your**

life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away” (New American Standard Bible).

This is a picture of those who live and plan their activities without considering that life is FLEETING. There is NO assurance that our expectation or humanly devised plan and wishes will come to pass – because the fact is, *our life is like a VAPOR that can suddenly pass away!*

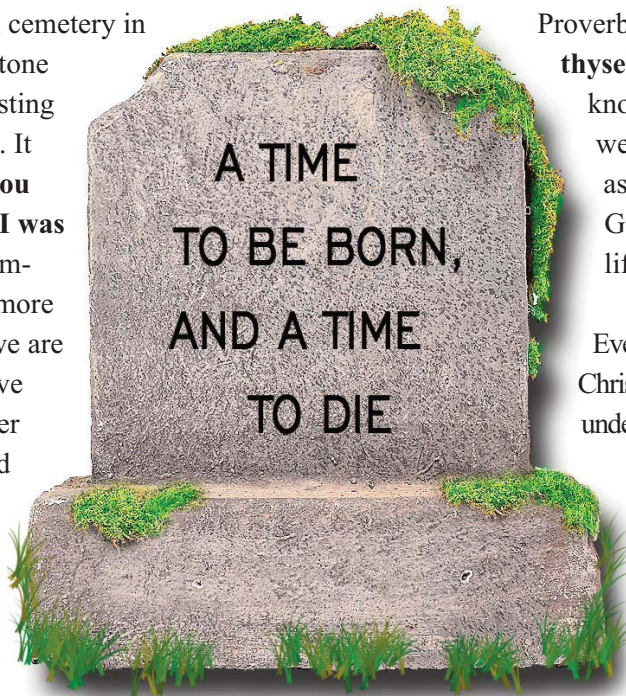
Proverbs 27:1 admonishes us to **“Boast not thyself of tomorrow ...”** (KJV). We do not know what a day will bring. I suppose we are all guilty of acting and thinking as if tomorrow is guaranteed to us. But God does not expect us to conduct our life with such an attitude.

Every true and faithful member of the body of Christ should strive to face each day with the understanding that God is SUPREME in charge of our lives, and that our life is HIS to do as HE pleases. We see in I Corinthians 6:12–20, the attitude we should have as we go about our daily lives. **“... you are not your own ... you were bought at a price”** (verses 19-20)

When we repented, were baptized and received God’s Holy Spirit, we agreed to give our lives to God; recognizing that He would be in charge and have all say over our lives. Our baptism is a covenant entered into with God. We give our lives over to Him to do with as He pleases.

Now, if we are sick and ask God to heal us, but feel the answer doesn’t come immediately, do we become angry, upset, moan and complain? If so, then we have not really learned that our lives are not our own and though we are to continue to look to Him in faith for our healing or deliverance from a trial, we need the attitude of Christ in His ultimate trial when He said, **“... nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will”** (Matthew 26:39). Such behavior means that we have not learned to *trust* God implicitly.

There are those who feel that God no longer listens to their cries unless they see immediate answers to their prayers. If we ever find ourselves thinking this way, we should remember the account of Lazarus in John 11. Lazarus was so





BEYOND THE GRAVE

sick that his sister feared for his life. Martha had the faith that Christ could have saved Lazarus, but Christ allowed him to die (verse 21). We see in verse 6, that Christ did not IMMEDIATELY respond to the plea to attend to Lazarus.

“So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was.” Christ did not answer their prayers right away because God had a purpose in mind. Sometimes the answer to our prayers may not come right away because God is working out a purpose, and it is our RESPONSIBILITY to continue TRUSTING HIM – NO MATTER WHAT!

Because it is APPOINTED unto us to die, God wants us to face this life with the understanding that it is not in His plan for His people to live forever in this physical life. In Psalm 39:4-5 (KJV), David wrote: **“LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is: that I may know how frail I am. Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee ...”**

David understood that life was fleeting and accepted death as part of the plan of God. The apostle Peter wrote in

II Peter 1:14, **“Knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.”** Christ actually made it known to Peter that he didn’t have much more time remaining on this earth; that his physical life was about to come to an end. Did Peter panic, mumble, complain or question God? NO, he did not.

Also take note of the attitude Paul exhibited in facing death: **“For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my**

departure is at hand” (II Timothy 4:6, KJV). Paul said he was “READY” to be offered. It wasn’t that Paul had a death wish; it meant he viewed his life as being a sacrifice to the cause of God and was willing to face death at the APPOINTED time. Similarly, God expects us to live this life with the attitude of Paul. We must understand that this temporal life can be taken at any time – and right up until that time it must be lived as a daily sacrifice to God.

DYING IN THE FAITH IS PRECIOUS TO GOD
“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints” (Psalm 116:15). The death of God’s saints is precious to Him because such death ensures that we are sealed and ready to be made an immortal member of His divine Family at the time of the resurrection. God is MUCH MORE interested in our attaining life as SPIRIT BORN members of His Family, than having us live on in this earthly life. God expects us to look beyond the trappings of this world and focus on the reality of the KINGDOM OF GOD.

II Timothy 1:7 shows us that **“God has not given us a spirit of fear ...”** because **“... fear involves torment”**

(1 John 4:18). God does not want us to be tormented at the prospect of death, but to CONQUER such fear. This is what OVERCOMING means: to CONQUER. We must remember that Christ has promised to never leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). This means that He is here with us in all our struggles and trials, and will be with us even at our APPOINTED TIME of death –

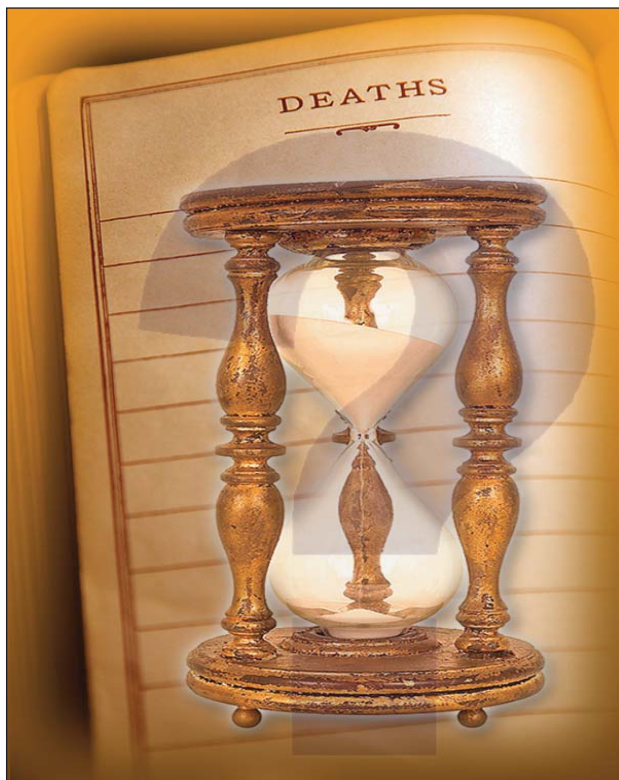
because our death will be PRECIOUS to Him.

PLAN FOR YOUR FAMILY

In Luke 12:16-21, Christ showed the end result of a man who gave no thought to the issue of life and death. Obviously, this man gave no thought to God or the needs of others; he was totally absorbed with “SELF.” Our life, on the other hand, is a life of service to others; *it's the way of GIVE*. Therefore, if we are wise stewards who understand that our life is like a vapor, we will want to plan for our own families as best we can.

Notice what God says about the man who refuses to take care of his family: **“But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever”** (I Timothy 5:8). This is a scathing indictment of those who refuse to provide for their families. Such individuals are not even considered to be true Christians.

As wise stewards, there are vital things we can do to protect our families. Single parents may want to make it clear as to who will have the responsibility in taking care of their children in the event of the parent's death. The head of the household should have an insurance policy in place for the family – so as to have some form of financial protection.



THE SANDS OF TIME

Some may think it is wrong to take out such insurance, fearing it reflects a lack of faith. This is simply not true. The Bible says we should consider the ways of the ant and be wise. **“Which, having no captain, overseer or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest”** (Proverbs 6:7-8).

The ant gathers its food in the summer to prepare for the coming winter. God uses one of the tiniest of creatures to teach us the vital lesson of diligently planning for the future. In considering the future, one should be able to readily see the importance of planning ahead for our families. Also, making sure that a “WILL” has been written (with advance planning), shows we are looking out for the welfare and happiness of others and reflective of the GIVING attitude!

IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE

“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind” (II Timothy 1:7).

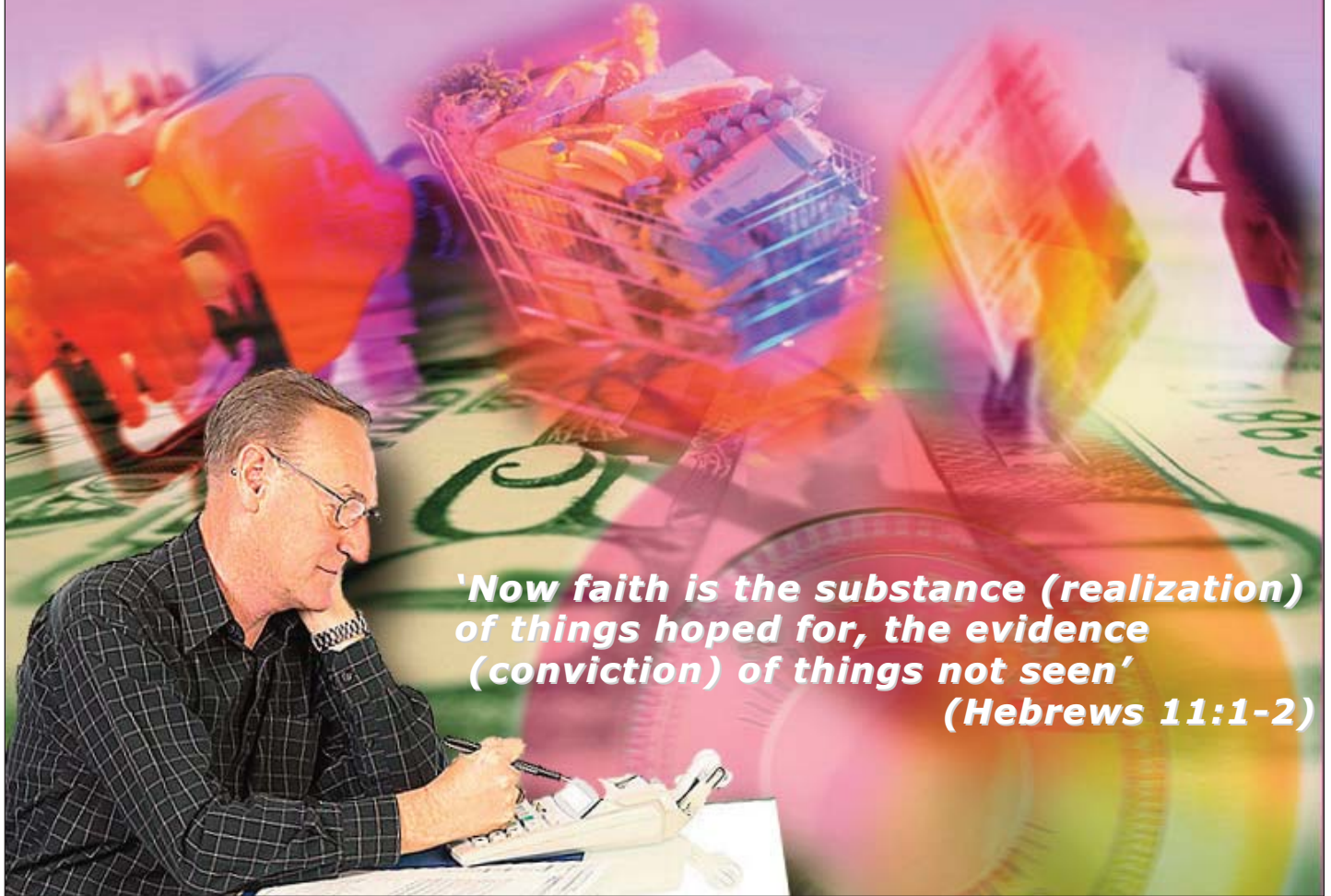
As unpleasant as the prospect of dying may be, God wants us to look beyond the shadow of the grave and see the GLORIOUS, BREATHTAKING, and WONDERFUL resurrection that is to come. The Apostle Paul was inspired to write: **“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him”** (I Thessalonians 4:13-14).

Very soon, those who have died in the faith will be awakened to immortal life in the Kingdom. Never again will God's people be subject to death and decay for as it is written, **“... this mortal must put on immortality”** (I Corinthians 15:53-56). We shall have immortal, everlasting life.

As we read in Romans 14:8: **“For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, WE ARE THE LORD'S.”**



Faith in Difficult Times



'Now faith is the substance (realization) of things hoped for, the evidence (conviction) of things not seen' (Hebrews 11:1-2)

By Tom Cooper

Faith. Of all aspects of a Christian's life, faith, or the lack of it, is the focal point in the development of the desired form the Master Potter would have us become. Our future depends on developing faith in our Creator and believing every word He imparts to us.

This aspect is under our control. Each of us is responsible for growing in faith! No human being has the level of faith Jesus Christ exhibited while He lived on earth. Yet, by His example we are to exercise this character trait to the best of our ability.

Further, the Master Potter molds us by permitting trials and tests to come upon us, and He teaches us through these lessons so we might become a person of great trusting faith. To that end, there is the need to ask ourselves, how much of this kind of faith do we have? How do we exercise or in-

crease this vital element that God says we need in order to please Him?

Through the apostle Paul, Christ tells us: "***But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him***" (Hebrews 11:6). Have we ever asked ourselves, "What is faith?" This Scripture explains it very well. First, we must believe God exists. Second, we must believe that God rewards (literally pays) those who "diligently seek Him."

For those in God's Church, this truth seems self-evident. However, during this period we live in now, Christ had this to say: "***... Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?***" (Luke 18:8.)

It is evident that false religion has played a part in this tragic loss of faith. Satan also has muddied the water with



MOLDED AND FASHIONED LIKE CLAY

the pseudo science of evolution. Carbon 14 dating is not reliable. The foisting of these false ideas through mass “education” has a great deal to do with our world’s *lack of faith* in God. How about us? Consider what we believe now as opposed to what we believed before we were called and added to God’s Church.

CREATION IN TIME ORDER

The book of Job reveals Job was a great builder. Job is believed to be the architect of the Great Pyramid in Egypt. The accuracy of the construction techniques and precise fitting together of giant blocks of stone were so perfect that the Great Pyramid is the only remaining member of the seven wonders of the ancient world (*Wikipedia Encyclopedia*).

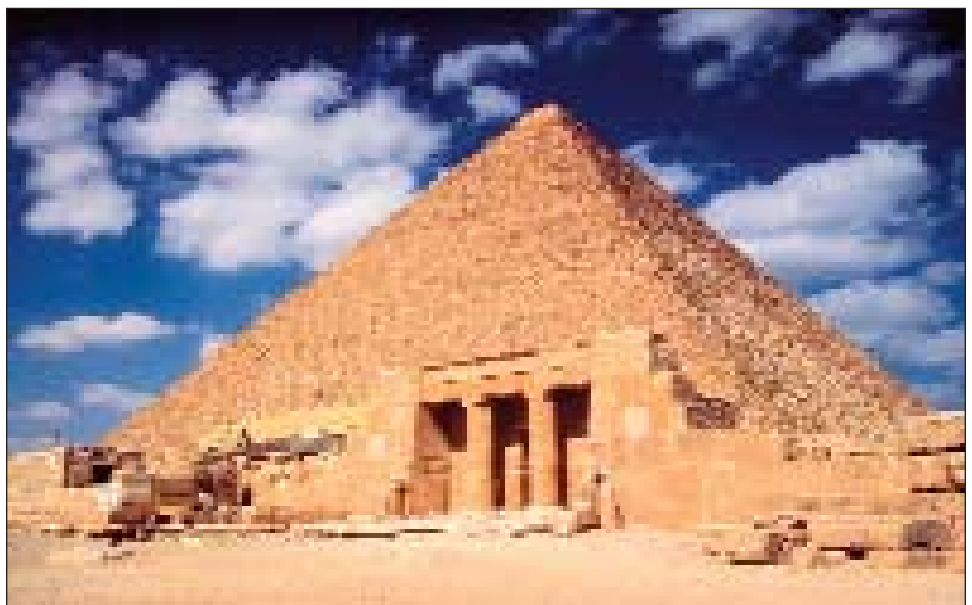
Due to his self-righteousness at being perfect in every aspect (Job 1:8), and creating such a marvel and masterpiece of construction that yet stands as

a witness to his workmanship, it became necessary for the LORD God to humble Job by piling the Great Pyramid in comparison to God’s awesome creation. “*Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? ... When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?*” (Job 38:4-7.)

Jude adds an important writing to what is found here in Job: “*And the angels who did not keep their proper domain ...*” (Jude 6) That period when the angels first lived on the earth is separate from the time of Adam and Eve. Satan, remember, came to Eve as a serpent, a reptile, as were the dinosaurs of that prior age!

In that earlier age, Satan and the angels with him attempted to take over God’s throne (Revelation 12:7-9), but were cast down to the earth. The result produced what Genesis 1:2 calls “*without form and void*” or in Hebrew “*tohu*” and “*bohu*,” which means “*a desolate ruin.*” Thus ended the age of dinosaurs.

In the past decade, a book was written by Dr. Jack Cuozzo, titled “Buried Alive.” He is an orthodontist who had an opportunity to study what were supposed to be the teeth, jawbones and skulls of Neanderthals. Orthodontists specialize in treating young people with dental problems and must allow for growth in young jaws and skulls. Hence, he was perplexed when he examined actual skulls and jaws of ancient men with teeth intact that were of “teen-age” specimens that had wear indicating 30 to 50 years. The stretch



THE GREAT PYRAMID



A WALL OF DEFENSE IS NEEDED

marks on the skulls indicated adults lived at least 200 years of age.

Before the flood, men lived very long lives (Genesis 5:1-32). Real science matches what God shows us. This is proof that is not taught in schools. However, this increases our faith so we can believe in what God tells us versus what Satan would foist upon us.

ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD

The apostle Paul wrote of Abraham and his faith (Romans 4). He wrote how important God viewed Abraham's faith, and the reward that came with Abraham's actions that is a key for each of us: *"He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He*

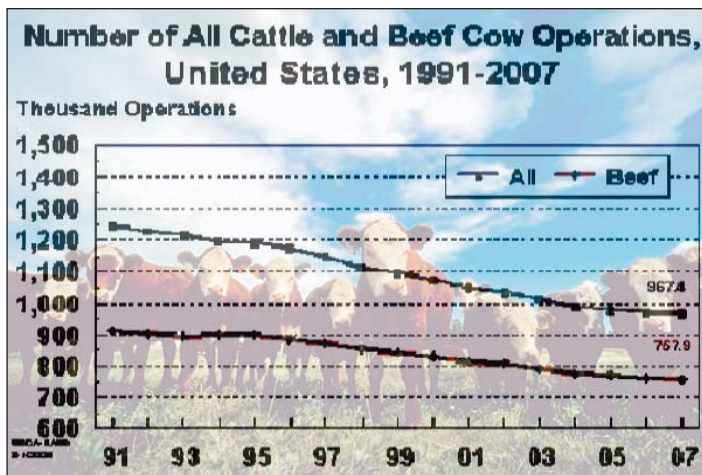
had promised He was also able to perform" (Romans 4:20, 21).

One of our most cherished memories should be our baptism, when God gave each of us His Holy Spirit! Without faith, we would not have received God's Holy Spirit. In recent decades, many of our brethren have lost faith because of the anarchy (a synonym to match "*lawlessness*" found in the margin of Matthew 24:12, meaning iniquity) within God's Church.

We must believe that God is at the heart of faith! *Tested* in this area, many thousands of members left the

Church due to *insufficient faith* in what we had been taught through the true ministry who were fully on track with the true teachings of Jesus Christ. If clay is to be molded, it must not be dried out! Why is this important? In addition to our recent past (a lesson in itself), our soon-coming future will *test* every Christian's faith almost to *the breaking point* ! (Matthew 24:21-24, Revelation 6:9-11)

In order to survive, we must believe that God hears and answers prayers. This belief will build *a wall of defense* around us. Knowing that God hears and answers our prayers, builds *a wall of defense* around us in order for us to survive the terrible times coming. Remember. The Israelites experienced the first three of the 10 plagues of Egypt and were there to see the results of all the plagues.



A STORMY ECONOMY IS BUFFETING VIRTUALLY EVERYONE AS FOOD SUPPLIES DECLINE AND PRICES SOAR





AN OIL-DRIVEN ECONOMY

A parallel to that time is a probability for our future. As events unfold in the next few years, where will our faith be? Will we be able to “afford” fuel, heating bills and food? What about negative television or newspaper coverage of God’s people and His Church?

Satan will be on the prowl for those who are weak in the faith – AGAIN – and he is like **a roaring lion** (I Peter 5:8). Will we, like Peter when he walked on water, be a bit doubting and begin to sink (Matthew 14:22-32)? *Think about it!* The world is headed toward **famine** – NOW! The western economy is oil-driven! We were taught about these two problems long ago by God’s Church as the beginning of **Jacob’s time of trouble**. Do we remember? The snare spoken of by Christ in Luke 21:35 is about to be sprung!

“And the apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith.’” (Luke 17:5) Now, here is the answer we all really need in light of all of the trials, tests and harassment Satan can possibly throw at us.

But notice, the apostles asked this! That means this is the most inside informa-

tion anyone could possibly get from our Creator and Savior. And His answer is very strange. Verses 7-10, give an answer that seems disconnected from the question. Christ then says, **“So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do’”** (verse 10).

And this is all that Christ gave on this subject! So by studying His answer, we find He is telling us about an attitude we are to have – to **“push the envelope”** and be diligent in more than just trying, but actually doing more than is expected of us (Luke 17:5-10).

Along this train of thinking comes to mind many positive statements Mr. Armstrong made a number of times about those whose hearts were in **“the Work.”** Are our hearts in God’s Work? If so, it will be very evident because our thinking will be centered on God, His Church, and the fate of brethren. All the physical will be in secondary positions in our thinking.

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). So there is a very real connection between faith, being with, and behind God’s Work.

The true ministry that follows God faithfully has access to God’s Spirit. They alone will be inspired to preach and teach what we need in the way of spiritual food!

We must each ask ourselves: **“Where am I now?”** Will Christ find faith in me when He returns? Faith is about actions that allow God to mold us to become part of Christ’s bride! As the end time events *ensnare* the world, our personal connection to Jesus Christ and God the Father will be **tested**. Those with **faith** will be doing God’s Work. Will we be found doing it? (Matthew 24:45-47.)



The Trait of Meekness

And the LORD said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them.' (Exodus 32:9-10)

By Ed Tidwell

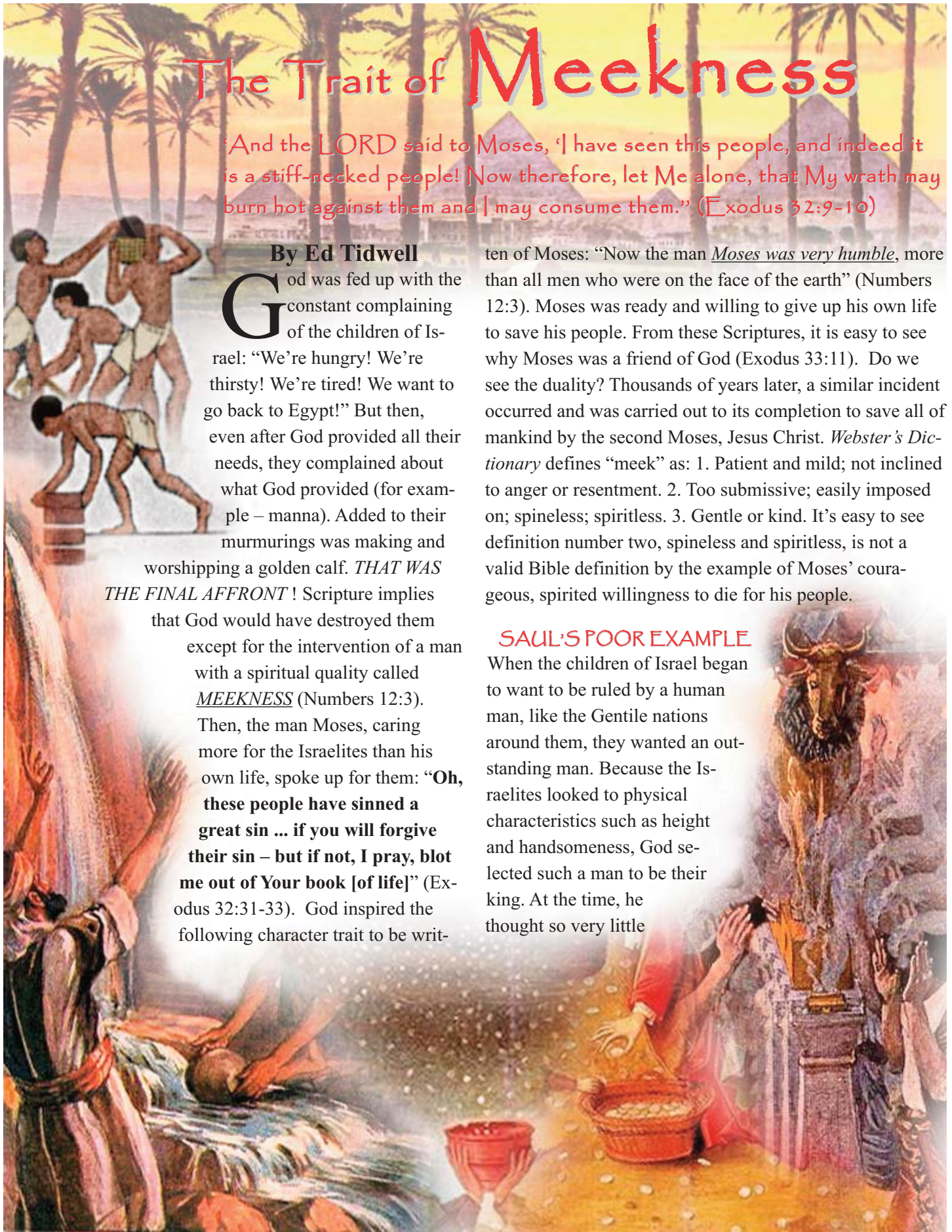
God was fed up with the constant complaining of the children of Israel: "We're hungry! We're thirsty! We're tired! We want to go back to Egypt!" But then, even after God provided all their needs, they complained about what God provided (for example – manna). Added to their murmurings was making and

worshipping a golden calf. **THAT WAS THE FINAL AFFRONT!** Scripture implies that God would have destroyed them except for the intervention of a man with a spiritual quality called MEEKNESS (Numbers 12:3). Then, the man Moses, caring more for the Israelites than his own life, spoke up for them: "**Oh, these people have sinned a great sin ... if you will forgive their sin – but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book [of life]**" (Exodus 32:31-33). God inspired the following character trait to be writ-

ten of Moses: "Now the man *Moses was very humble*, more than all men who were on the face of the earth" (Numbers 12:3). Moses was ready and willing to give up his own life to save his people. From these Scriptures, it is easy to see why Moses was a friend of God (Exodus 33:11). Do we see the duality? Thousands of years later, a similar incident occurred and was carried out to its completion to save all of mankind by the second Moses, Jesus Christ. *Webster's Dictionary* defines "meek" as: 1. Patient and mild; not inclined to anger or resentment. 2. Too submissive; easily imposed on; spineless; spiritless. 3. Gentle or kind. It's easy to see definition number two, spineless and spiritless, is not a valid Bible definition by the example of Moses' courageous, spirited willingness to die for his people.

SAUL'S POOR EXAMPLE

When the children of Israel began to want to be ruled by a human man, like the Gentile nations around them, they wanted an outstanding man. Because the Israelites looked to physical characteristics such as height and handsomeness, God selected such a man to be their king. At the time, he thought so very little



of himself that he hid from the coronation ceremony even though he knew God had chosen him to be the king of Israel (I Samuel 10:21-24).

But, as so often happens with leaders, Saul eventually lost his quality of *meekness* and began to think more of himself than he did of God. His own self-importance drove him to take matters in his own hands rather than follow God's instructions (I Samuel 13:1-14). Because of his continued disobedience, God removed him from his office by death (I Samuel 31:1-6).

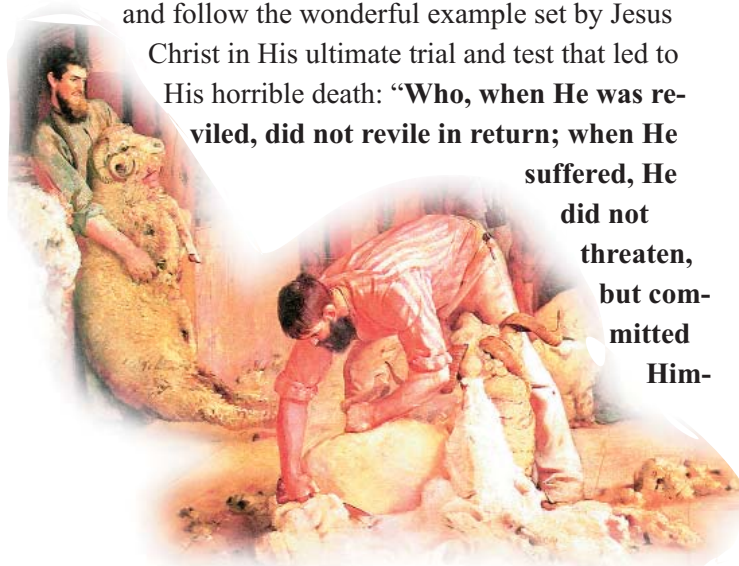
Saul's demise was brought about by his loss of humility and by thinking more highly of himself than of God. That led to his disobedience and subsequent rejection by God as king: **"So Samuel said, 'When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel? ... Why then did you NOT OBEY the voice of the LORD? ... Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from being king'"** (I Samuel 15:17, 19, 23). This is a lesson for all of us to keep in our minds and hearts lest we be rejected by our wonderful, caring God.

A QUALIFYING CHARACTER TRAIT

Sometimes when we face problems, like whenever we find ourselves stuck in traffic or we have a misunderstanding with someone, or if we must face magistrates, or we find ourselves in a financial bind, or any number of other predicaments, we would do well to remember and obey the words of the apostle Paul to Titus: **"to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men"** (Titus 3:2). We should always try hard to remember

and follow the wonderful example set by Jesus Christ in His ultimate trial and test that led to His horrible death: **"Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He**

did not threaten, but committed Himself-

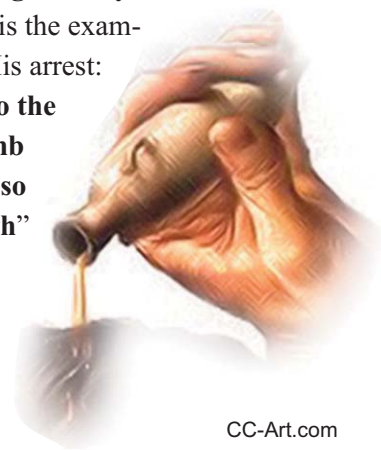


self to Him who judges righteously"

(I Peter 2:23). There also is the example of Jesus Christ after His arrest:

"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so He opened not His mouth"

(Acts 8:32). Notice that a meek person does not argue religion or try to force religion on others, but only defends the hope that lies within us (I Peter 3:15).



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MEEKNESS: A FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In stark contrast to the works of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21), the apostle Paul wrote of the fruits of the Holy Spirit of God: **"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law"** (Galatians 5:22-23). God's perfect laws of liberty (James 1:25), intertwine and are interdependent, perfectly meshing with one another while building and lifting us up. Having this quality of *meekness* automatically invokes and lifts up the wonderful blessing of love within us.

This love is so powerful that a spirit of calmness or peace settles within us (John 14:27) and leads us to become more patient and gentle with others while building faith and trust in God. Being *meek* means we no longer think more of ourselves than we should. It also means we should cheerfully submit to the rulership of God's government and to those Jesus Christ has put in leadership positions over us (Hebrews 13:7, 17). It also means we hold others in higher esteem, putting their interests above our own (Philippians 2:3). It has the true meaning of really becoming a family, the very **purpose** as to why we were born.

In the end, God will not only bless us, but also give us a bonus! **"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth"** (Matthew 5:5). God will grant us rulership on earth if we demonstrate the precious trait of meekness like Moses and not think highly of ourselves like King Saul. When we develop the spiritual quality of mild patience in our dealings with others, God will then be able to use us as empathetic, caring kings and teachers in His wonderful Kingdom and divine family!



The Value of Human Life

Continued from Page 4

taken it, he would have received the Spirit of God to go with his spirit. Man was only half there spiritually. He was only half there mentally. The spirit is what gave him mind power with his brain, but he couldn't understand spiritual knowledge, only material knowledge so he was only half there. He needed the Holy Spirit. Adam had to make a choice. Adam made the wrong choice as you know. There's a whole lot about how Satan tempted Eve. Now, the only human superiority over an animal then resides in the spirit in man and the form and shape. Man has two things that make him more important than an animal.

He is in the form and shape of God, and he has a spirit that can be united with the Spirit of God, and he can become one with God. So the spirit in man united with the human brain is the only thing that makes human life of real value, and you probably never thought of that before.

GOD IS REPRODUCING HIMSELF

Now the first stage in spiritual reproduction: God is reproducing Himself, now that's spiritual reproduction. God has created matter out of spirit and then of the matter He has said He will take and make a human being, and He will turn that human being into a God being.

Now, He turned spirit into matter (Hebrews 11:3), and He is going to turn that matter that is a human being back into a God being.

So God had to have mind in man to develop character. He can't be reproduced as God until he has the character of God. And that character has to be built into us and started in this human life. ***And that means we have to receive the***



MODEL OF A BABY DEVELOPING IN A WOMB

Spirit of God with our spirit to begin to develop that character. That's where conversion comes in.

The human dies, and his body reverts back to dust just the same as the animal, but the spirit returns to the God who gave it. You read that in Ecclesiastes 12:7 in the Bible. But the human body returns to dust the same as an animal. They die the same death.

MAN IS A SPECIAL CREATION

But, man is special, made to have a special relationship with God and to be joined to and with God until he becomes begotten of God and becomes finally born as a son of God, and then he will be a member of the God Family and not a human family any longer. Then he won't be human any longer. *He will be God.* And God is going to have billions of children some day that will all be God; God children, not human children. Oh, brethren, nobody knows



ILLUSTRATION OF SPERM FERTILIZING AN OVUM

that but this Church. In all this world, little as we are, God has entrusted us with that tremendous knowledge.

So, we are in the same form as God, and we have the spirit of God and that's what differentiates us from animals, and that's all. *And contact with God comes only through the human spirit that is in us, that is with God's Spirit added to it.* But man's creation was not complete in Adam, neither physically nor was it mentally and spiritually because the one spirit in him needed another Spirit just like the male needed the female. So there is the duality.

A SPIRIT CREATED IN ADAM

Now there was a spirit created in Adam. And the only reason that there was a spirit also in Cain and Abel and Seth and then in their children, and a spirit in you today, is because it was in Adam. And the only reason there is a spirit in us, now get this, this is something new again! *It had to be transmitted from Adam!*

Did you hear what I said? The spirit in you, the spirit in Cain and Abel and Seth, was transmitted from their father Adam. When you become a God being – the spirit in you will have been transmitted – would have been put into you from God the Father.

ABORTION IS MURDER!

I have wondered time and again, when does the spirit enter the human being? Does it enter at the first breath? I have never said it does. And I have often wondered, but now I see something more that has been revealed just during this trip. The spirit had to be somehow or other conveyed *through the human male sperm cell* from Adam.

Now, whether it was actual spirit and that spirit was present in the embryo and in the fetus prior to birth, God doesn't say; and I don't know. It may be something that just caused spirit to enter with the first breath; but if so, it was something

that came from Adam and came from conception.

Now that means some other thing: If it came from conception then *abortion is murder!* Now you can put that down as absolutely definite!

The only reason the spirit was in Cain and Abel and Seth is because it was transmitted from Adam, *and that spirit had to be transmitted from Adam right on through all humanity*, also to the daughters and the women because they have a spirit the same as men.

Now, in Genesis 2:7, **God formed man of the dust of the ground and He breathed into his nostrils the breath.**

Now there it just says breath, but that's *the same Hebrew word that means "spirit."* Now, I've always taken it to mean breath; but also *it could mean spirit came with that same breath.*

Also, though, if it does it is because there was something that came from *the sperm cell of the male at conception.* *And the sperm cell was in that ovum.* Small as it was, somehow it transmitted either that which drew the spirit or that which was the spirit, and God doesn't reveal which. I don't know. But it had to come from Adam.



A BABE IN ARMS

SPIRIT TRANSMITTED FROM ADAM THROUGH HUMAN SPERM CELL

If it's transmitted from Adam, the only way it could be transmitted was *through the human sperm cell*. Now, if the spirit enters at the first breath, if it does, then something was transmitted from the human sperm cell that caused the first breath to draw.

Otherwise the first breath of a cow would bring the spirit into it, and it doesn't. Why does the spirit enter man, if it does enter at the first breath, why does it enter a human and doesn't enter a cow or a dog or an elephant or any other kind of an animal?

They draw a first breath, too, when they are born. It came somehow or other through the sperm cell of the father, and it all came from the human Adam.

Now, take a parallel: Man himself becomes an ovum. God is reproducing Himself; each one of you is an ovum. You have a nucleus, and that's your brain, your mind, with a spirit in it.

The human ovum, small as a pinpoint, has inside of it a nucleus, and the human sperm is only 1/50th as large as the ovum, and it's so tiny you can just barely see it.

And the sperm cell is so small you can't see it with the naked eye. It takes a microscope to see it.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SPERM CELL FROM GOD THE FATHER

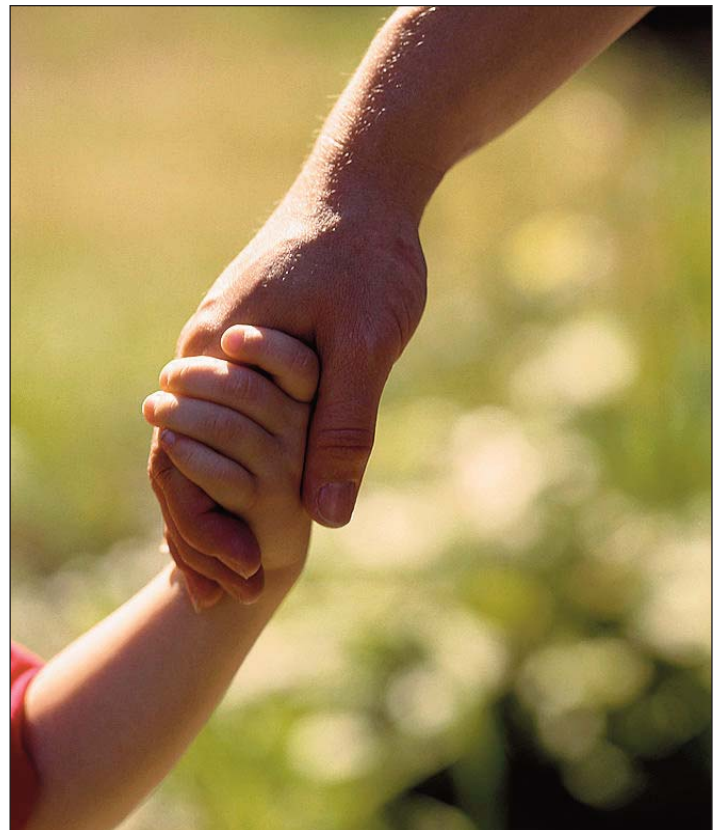
The Holy Spirit is the sperm cell from the divine God. So, when the Holy Spirit enters you, it transmits God life into you and God mind into you, and you can begin to understand the things of God, which our minds couldn't understand before.

Still, you are not God. You are still human. And the young fetus that is already impregnated is not a human. It's a fetus. It's not born yet, and we don't call it human until it's born.

Still, you are not God, and you don't have God life until the time of the resurrection or the birth when you are changed from mortal to immortal. Then you will become God.

THE THINGS GOD HAS PREPARED FOR US

Now then I want to explain a few things. In I Corinthians the 2nd chapter, verse 9: Paul says, "*As it is written, eye*



HAND IN HAND

hath not seen, ear has not heard neither have entered into the mind of man the things which God has prepared for them that love Him.” Now, God has prepared things for us, and people don’t know what that is and what God has prepared.

Why they can’t see it? Now the next verse explains why. *“But God has revealed them unto us.”* Who’s the “us”? “Us” – are the Christians who have received the Spirit of God with Their Spirit to uncode the Bible and open it up to your understanding.

God has revealed them unto us by His Spirit. That’s the Spirit of God coming in with our spirit. It opens your mind to understand spiritual knowledge, which you couldn’t understand until you have the Holy Spirit.

“For the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knows even the things of man save the spirit of man which is in him.”

You couldn’t have human knowledge except for the spirit that is in you. In the same way, the things of God knoweth no man. No man can know the things of God save by the Spirit of God in him.

You have to receive the Spirit of God. God gives His Spirit to them that obey him (Acts 5:32).


“Now we have received not the Spirit of the world but the Spirit which is of God,” and spirit sometimes means attitude, too, and intention of mind, *“that we might know,”* that is come to the knowledge *“of the things that are freely given to us by God.”*

That is the knowledge of these things I’ve been giving you today that the world does not have and doesn’t know. Now to verses 13 and 14: *“Which things also we speak.”* I want verse 14. *“But the natural man”* just the ordinary man without the Spirit of God, *“re-*



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

ceives not the things of the Spirit of God for they are foolishness to him” and he can’t understand them.

So, brethren, I hope I have contributed a little more to the light, the knowledge that God is disseminating in a world of darkness, and I hope your minds have been open to receive it, and, if you obey God, I think they have and if you don’t quite understand what I’ve said maybe you haven’t obeyed God as much as you should, and you might think that over, too. Thank you. 

Editor’s Comment: To have made possible this sermon to be in our magazine, it was necessary to edit out a large portion of it while retaining the continuity of the subject. Because of the great value of the complete sermon, I urge members to request a copy of it from us.

Don Billingsley



Our web sites

Below are web sites made available by the Church of God – Faithful Flock as Bible resource tools.

Church of God Faithful Flock
www.cog-ff.com

Watchman for the House of Israel
www.ezekielwatchman.org

World News Bulletin
www.worldnewsbulletin.com

Lost 10 Tribes of Israel
www.losttribes.org

The Ten Commandments
www.10commandments.ws

Prophetic Events
www.propheticevents.us

What Do You Mean Born Again?
www.begotten.net

Restored Truths of God
www.restoredtruths.net

Pagan Holidays or God's Holy Days?
www.holy-days.org

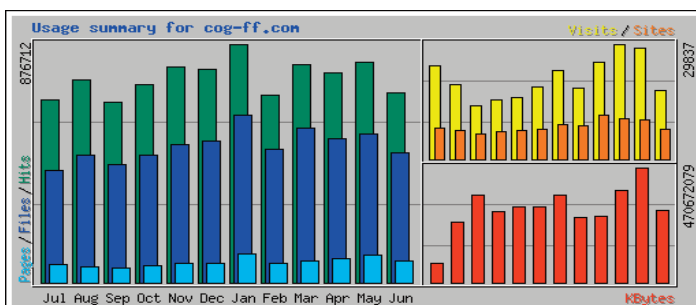
Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?
www.sabbathcentral.com

Herbert W. Armstrong – Apostle of God
www.herbertarmstrong.net

COGFF – Home School Association
www.coghomeschool.org

Herbert W. Armstrong – His Life & Work
www.herbertwarmstrong.info

3 World Views – Only One Will Happen!
www.newworldahead.org



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