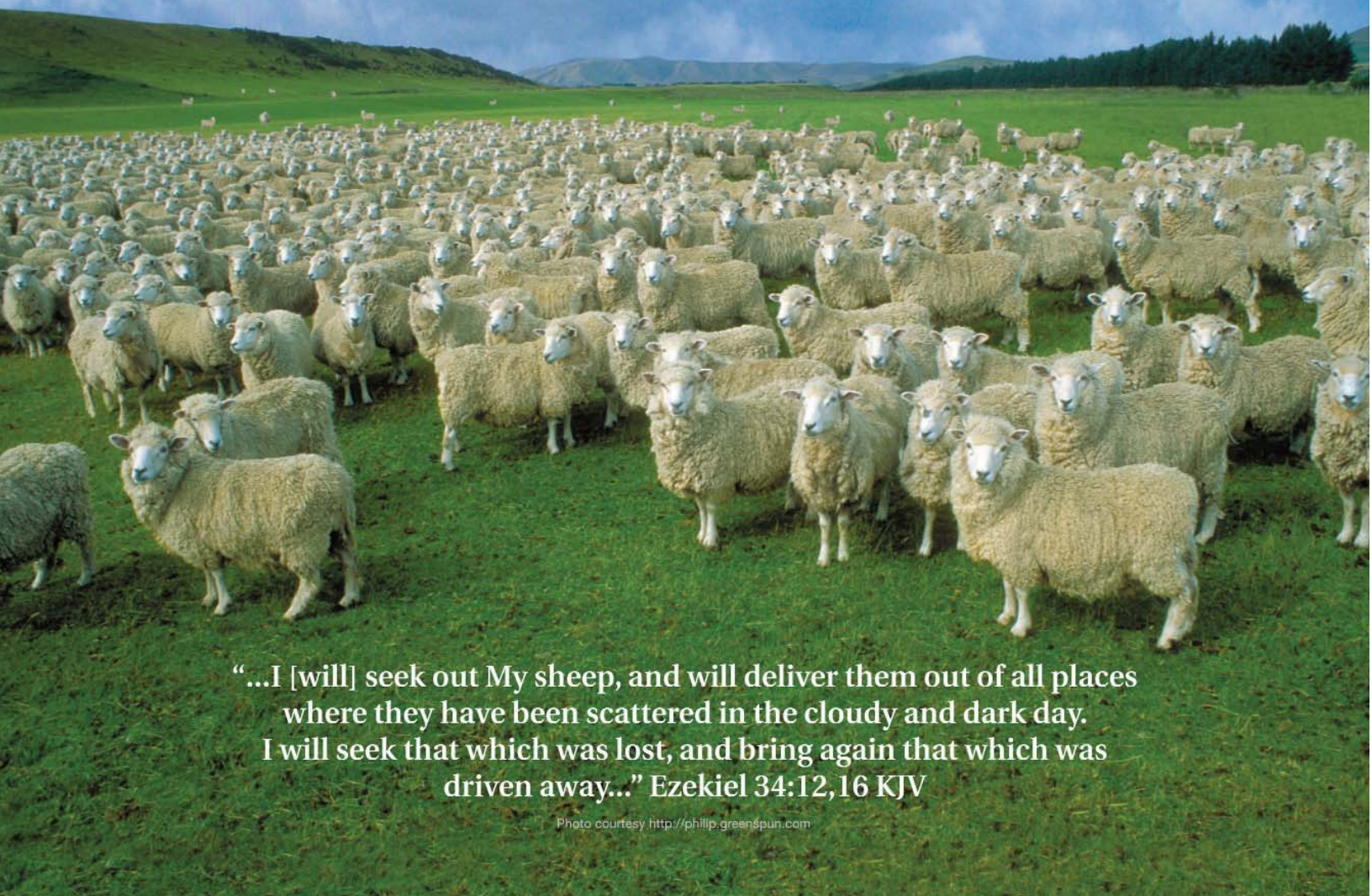


The _____ Philadelphia Remnant

July/August 2009



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 2009

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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 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!

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The Unthinkable Will Happen!

By Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong

June 19, 1982

Well, brethren, I guess it's still the same old thing – there is both good news and bad news. And there is some wonderfully good news, clear beyond human comprehension coming, but there is some bad news still completely beyond comprehension that is coming first. And God has told us to prepare for it and shown us how He is going to protect us, but the unthinkable is coming.

There is an article coming in the *Plain Truth*, which will probably be in the August number, maybe September, ***“Humanity Won’t End in a Nuclear Holocaust.”*** I want to read you just a little bit of it.

It’s pretty much built around the quotation from a former Harvard professor who gave this report to the *Plain Truth*. He is now president of the Physicians for Social Responsibility. And this is the quote: ***“Survival is the only issue that matters now! The other issues pale into total insignificance if we don’t do anything about it – that is the nuclear war threat – within 10 to 20 years we’ll all be killed anyhow.”***

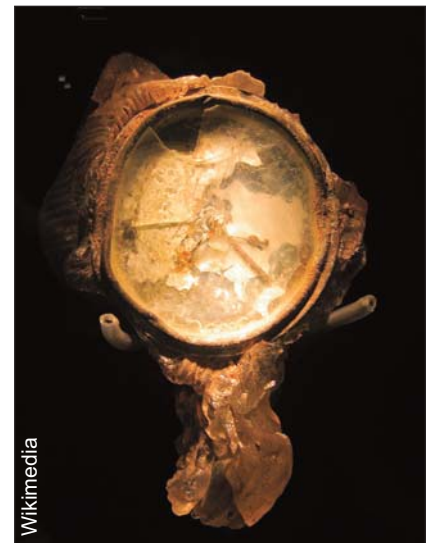
And most people don’t realize what the hydrogen bomb will do. There is a great deal of talk about it, but it seems that in television they are afraid to show you the reality of it and that it really will happen, and it is going to happen!



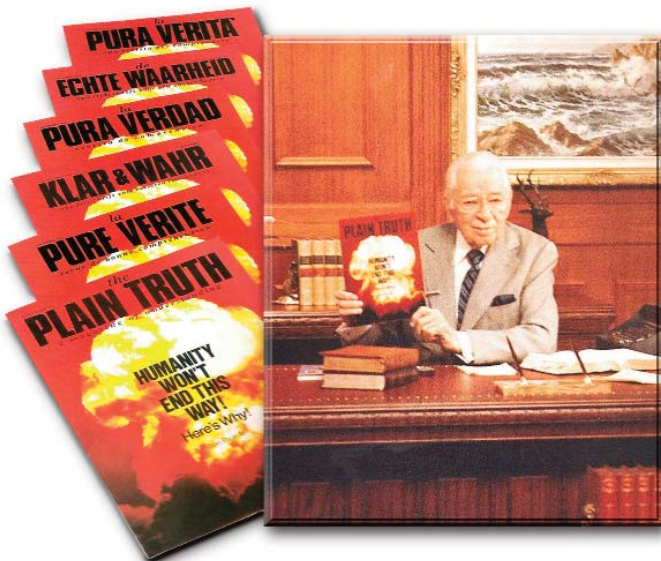
MR. HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

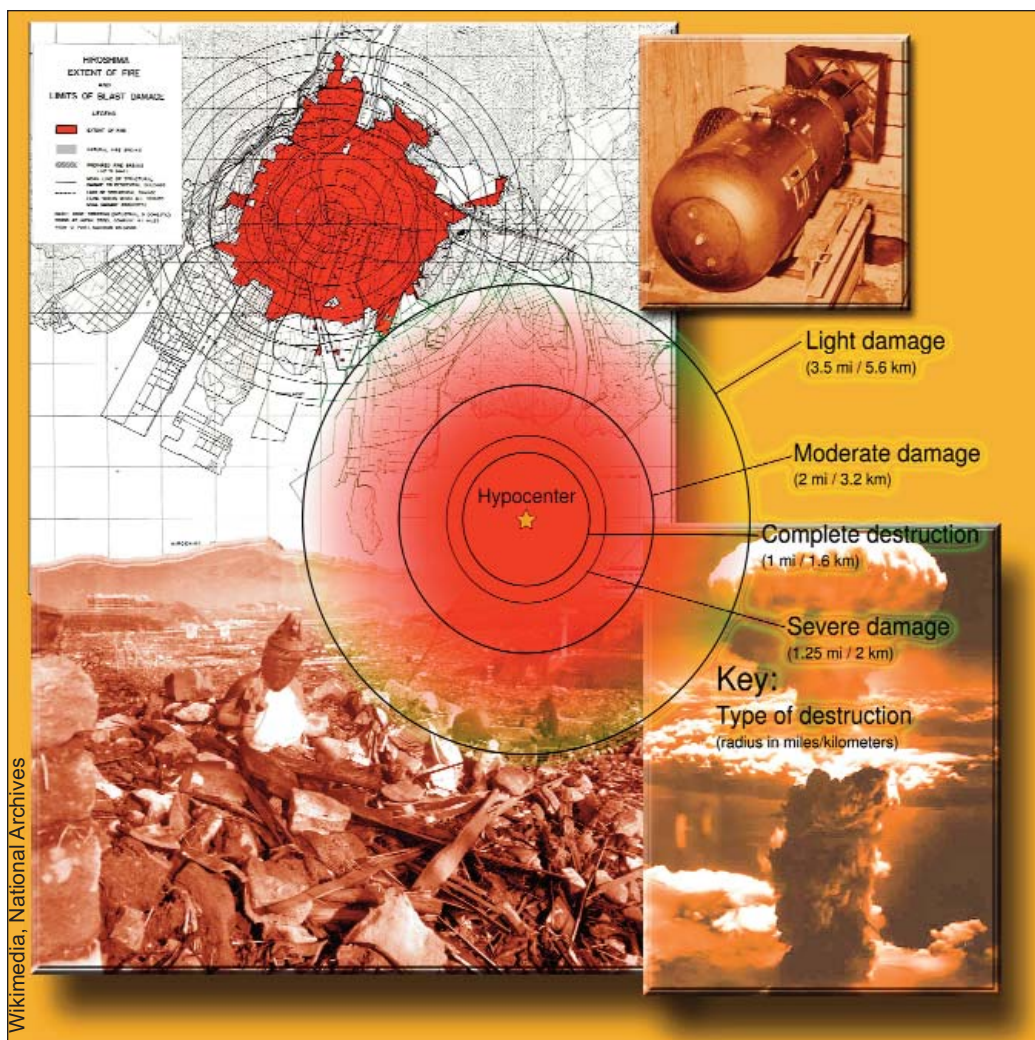
Well, I’ll come to that, but I want to read a description that is here:

“In the first millionth, milliseconds after detonation, gamma radiation would kill everything within six miles,” just in milliseconds. “An electromagnetic pulse created by the nuclear blast would fuse all unprotected circuitry within several hundred miles, knocking out communication. A fireball would consume everything within 280 square miles.” Now this is only one bomb, 280 square miles, “in 10 seconds, followed by a blast wave that would flatten remaining structures within 4½ miles and severely damage other buildings dozens of miles away. If the device exploded near the ground, hundreds of tons of debris, now highly radioactive, would be thrown into the air, returning and settling for days afterward as fine, deadly



MELTED JAPANESE CLOCK





HIROSHIMA, NAGASAKI NUCLEAR BLASTS DAMAGE

ash. And the long-term effects are as devastating as the initial blast, if the device exploded on the ground, the surrounding area would be uninhabitable for decades.”

Now, imagine if that was New York City. This is only talking about one bomb on one city. I'm going to read you something from the Bible just a little later.

“The high radiation would kill most, if not all, of the local bird population, allowing the exponential growth of radiation resistant insects. Radioactive particles would cause Beta burns and kill plant life. Radioactive fallout would be carried into water supplies and aquifers through streams and lakes rendering drinking water unfit in many areas and many areas outside of the area of the city in which the bomb fell.” And they know how to hit the target right on the nose today, too.

“Burn victims and the injured would find the hospitals obliterated in the blast and clogged with other victims. In short, society as we know it would be taxed to its limit by a single blast and unable to function in the event of a minor nuclear attack.”

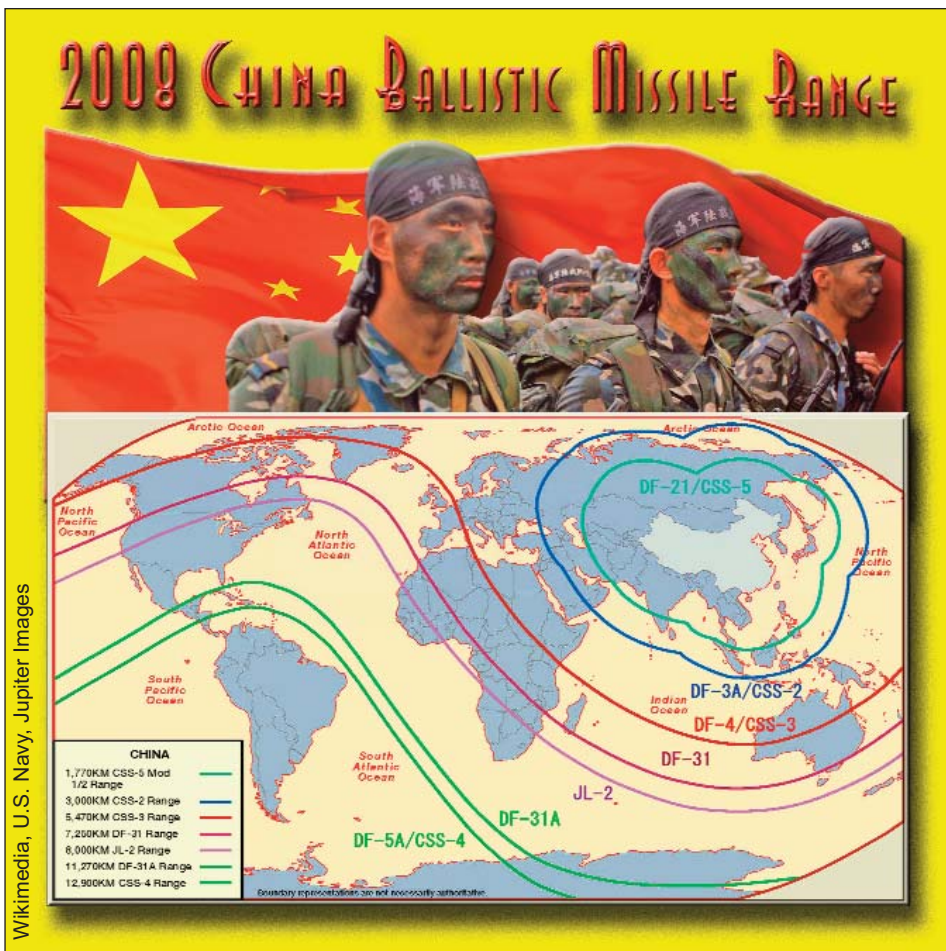
Now that is just one nuclear bomb! Just one nuclear bomb!

And now, we need to realize what's prophesied, and it's not going to be one city only, but many cities. And supposing that bombs like the description I just read, would hit *New York, also hit Boston and hit Washington in the East, and hit Chicago and hit Houston, Texas, and Kansas City and Denver and Los Angeles and San Francisco and possibly in the Pacific Northwest, well, just say Portland, because that would reach Seattle, too.*



What would be left of the United States of America?

The nation would be gone! And I'm going to show you what God says will happen. But not only the United States and the Soviet Union now have the hydrogen bomb and can do just that and could hit that many cities at once and hit everyone right on target, but also Britain, France, India, China, that is the People's Republic of China – Red China – all have the hydrogen bomb and many other nations



Wikimedia, U.S. Navy, Jupiter Images

are right on the heels of it and will have it within, if they don't already have it, and some think that for example Israel and a number of other nations already have it. And if they don't, they will have it within another two, three, five years. Now that includes Argentina, many, many other nations.

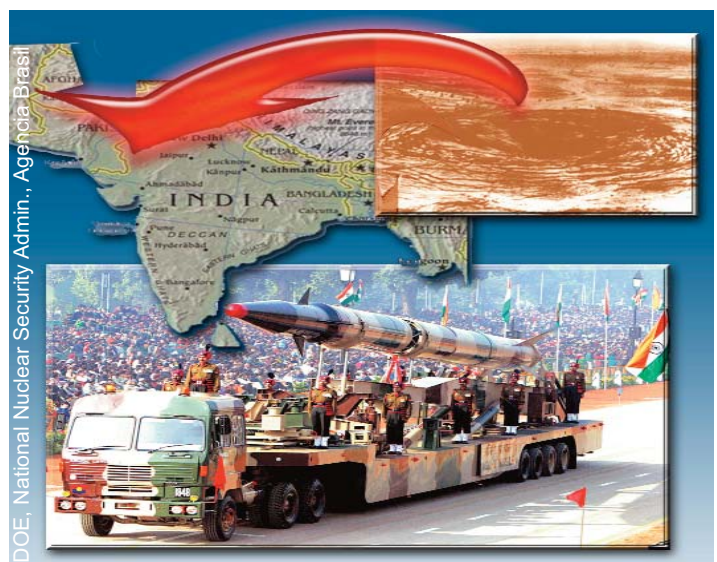
Look at the madmen we've had in small nations recently. Oh, what was that man's name down in Central Africa? The Israelis had a raid down there and took their captives away from him one night. Was that Idi Amin or something like that? And then the man in the country just to the west of Egypt and then a man that is sort of hiding all surrounded now by the Israeli army, the head of the PLO. He has already done things just as crazy as that. There are men that would start it, and there are many who believe that a hydrogen bomb war would not be started by either the United States or Russia.

And now the President of Russia, Brezhnev, has "pledged," so called, but you'd better put quotes around that word "pledged," however, that Russia will never fire the first

shot of nuclear weapons. But I have never known of a nation that has broken as many promises as Russia or the Soviet Union. They make agreements and promises just in order to have something to break. They don't keep them. And I hope you noticed the United States president's reply.

But many small nations are now arming. Let me read you from Joel, and then I'm going to read another prophecy a little later that ties in with it, but Joel the third chapter and beginning with verse nine. **"Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all of the men of war draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears: and let the weak say, I am strong."**

Little weak nations now are beginning to boast that they are strong. The strongest nation on the face of the earth, or at least it was, maybe Russia is now, but it's only just a very few short years ago that the United States undoubtedly was the most powerful nation on earth, but we have lost all the pride in our power. And we are too timid to use it even if we had to. And beside, God is no longer blessing this country in war, and this country has won its last war. I'm telling you.



But to these small nations that were weak, it says, God says to them in this prophecy, **“Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD.”**

Now that is a prayer to the Lord to cause His mighty ones, and all of the holy angels are going to follow Christ when He comes, so there are some mighty ones and mighty spirit beings on the heavenly throne.

“Let the heathen be wakened,” and that is the general nations and especially the smaller nations, the Third World nations and nations like that. **“Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.”**

Now, compared to Revelation 14, verse 15, when it’s talking of just before the Second Coming of Christ, after the Day of the Lord even, here is the same thing mentioned here: **“Put ye in the sickle for the harvest is ripe.”** Now you read that in Revelation, and you may not understand what the harvest is, but it is described right here. **“The harvest is ripe (for reaping).”** What harvest?



“Come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great.” It’s the harvest of the wickedness of mankind on this earth. It’s the harvest of Satan the devil and his wickedness, and God is going to reap that harvest, and Christ is going to come and start a new and different world altogether.

THE CHURCH OF GOD

Now, I said to you the last time I spoke here that the Church – and in one way very especially this Church now. Well, it includes the original apostolic Church in the first

century and those that have really been in the Church ever since. But they didn’t learn as much as we in the Middle Ages because the gospel was pretty well lost, and when I came among those of the true Church of God, and the Sardis people were the true Church of God, they had lost most of the vital knowledge. And yet the Church is simply the disciples or the students going to school to learn how to teach others when God’s time to reap His harvest will come in the Millennium, to teach others as we should be taught now.



Continued on Page 24

Personal from the Editor

By Alton B. 'Don' Billingsley

Where Is the True Church Today?

"Jesus Christ said, 'I will build My Church.' He did not say 'churches,' denominations, 'sects.' He said the gates of hell would not prevail against that Church. Somewhere that original true Church exists today. But WHERE? WHICH? ..."

WHERE Is the True Church? Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong

Dear Brethren,

Recently, I received a letter from a long time member and elder who wrote that of all the writings he reads from others, mine is the only one that is right – except for our use of the Sacred Calendar. He wanted me to read his writings showing that it is error.

I never bothered to answer him for I knew I could not help him even by sending Mr. Armstrong's research of this subject from early years in which Jesus Christ led him to see the Sacred Calendar is how he was to determine the Passover and the Holy Days.

My point in using this example is to make known that only the apostles were used by Jesus Christ to determine and place doctrine within the Church of God. I also have received other writings that are contrary to these doctrines. This is why I have written the following article concerning this very important subject. Hopefully it will be helpful to all who read it.

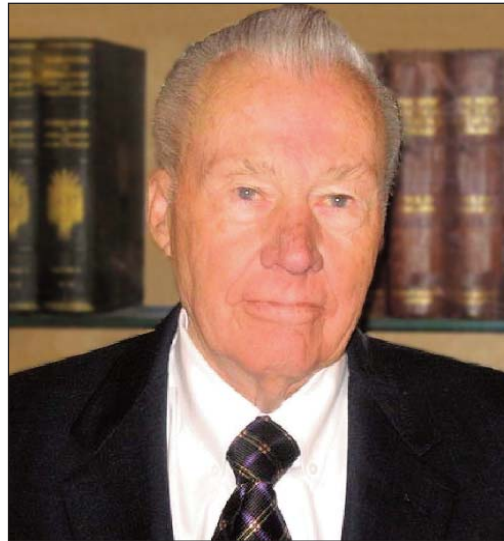
Your brother and servant in Christ,

Don Billingsley

Apostles and Doctrinal Teachings

Doctrinal Changes – are they of God – or Man's Reasoning?

Approximately six years ago, a count was made by a former faculty member of Ambassador College in Big Sandy, Texas, of the then existing corporate Churches of God, and they numbered 450 (*compare a possible parallel – I*



Alton B. 'Don' Billingsley

Kings 18:19). Each one has a different belief structure – even though the changes in belief are in opposition to Scripture and that which was taught to us by God's late apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong.

WHAT IS AN APOSTLE OF GOD?

New World Dictionary of American English Third College

**Edition: "1) A person SENT OUT on a special mission
2) Any of the 12 apostles SENT OUT by Christ to teach the gospel ..."** *Cruden's Concordance: "Literally one sent forth."*

Scriptural teachings attach very great meaning to the office of apostles for they are God's direct representatives SENT to fulfill special missions for Him to His Church while preaching the gospel to Israel and to mankind.

Numerous examples can be used from Scripture to verify this to be true, such as: **"And when He (Christ) had CALLED His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them POWER over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. ..."**





BUILT on the ‘FOUNDA-TION’ OF THE APOS-TLES AND PROPHETS, Jesus Christ Himself **BEING the Chief Corner-stone, in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord ... (Ephesians 2:19-22).”**

Writing of himself to the Gentile converts, the apostle Paul confirmed the doctrinal teachings entrusted to the apostles and prophets:

“... If indeed you have heard of the stewardship (margin) of the grace of God which WAS GIVEN

These twelve Jesus SENT OUT and commanded them, saying: ‘Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But GO rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel’ (Matthew 10:1, 5-6; also, Acts 10-11).”

THE APOSTLES’ DOCTRINE

There is only the one true Church with its body of doctrinal teachings placed within it by Jesus Christ through His early apostles, as made known by the apostle Peter:

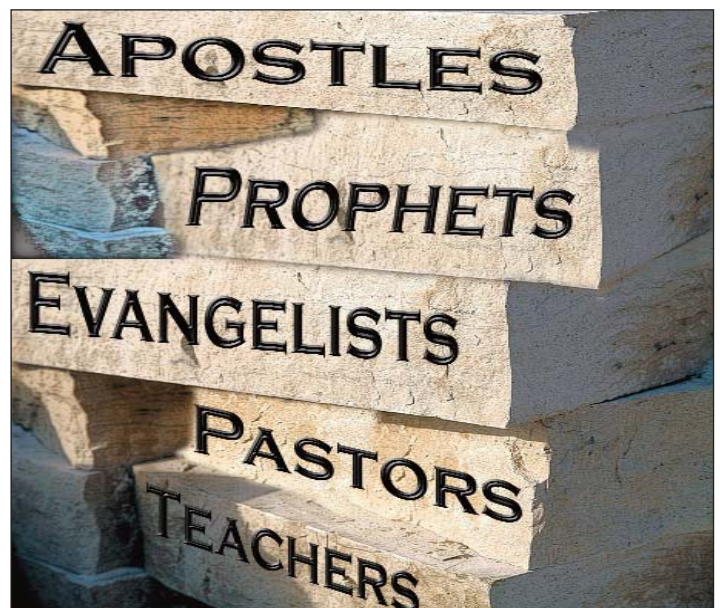
“Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly IN THE APOSTLES’ DOCTRINE and fellowship ... (Acts 2:41-42).”

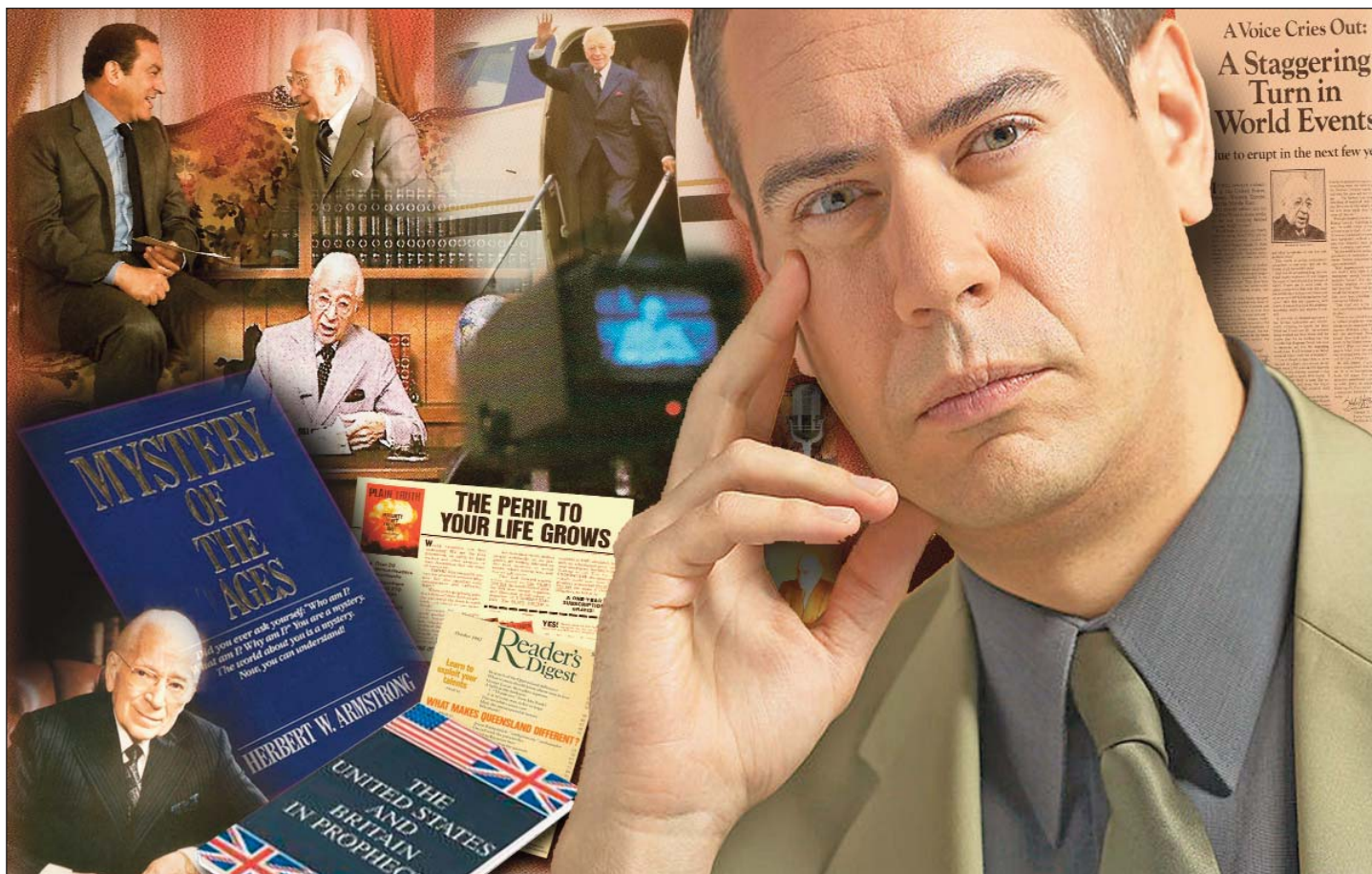
The apostles were used by Jesus Christ to write each book (epistle) in the New Testament; and in them are revealed the doctrines which formed the “**FOUNDATION**” of the Church of God that is **BUILT** upon the Rock, which is Jesus Christ our Lord (Matthew 16:18; I Corinthians 10:4).

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the HOUSEHOLD (Family) of God, having been

TO ME for you, how that by **REVELATION** He made known to me ... the Mystery of Christ (gospel) which in other ages was NOT made known to the sons of men, as it has NOW BEEN **REVEALED** BY THE SPIRIT TO HIS HOLY APOSTLES AND PROPHETS (Ephesians 3:1-5; I Corinthians 2:10).”

Further, the apostle Paul wrote that the gospel (*which includes the doctrinal teachings, II Thessalonians 1:7-8*) came to him directly from Christ: **“... But I make known**





to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is **NOT** according to man. For I *neither* received it from man, *nor* was I taught it, but it came **THROUGH THE REVELATION** of Jesus Christ ... (Galatians 11:1-12:15-16; 2:9)."

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong made known in the **MYSTERY OF THE AGES** that the truth of the gospel (*doctrinal teachings*) also came to him by revelation – through his study of God's Word, the Holy Bible (**MYSTERY OF THE AGES**, Pages 9-12, 15-17, 22-25, 30).

Excerpts from the sermon: **"The Unthinkable Will Happen"** by Mr. Armstrong.

"The Gospel of the Kingdom, when was it first proclaimed? In Galatians, the first chapter and verses six and seven, Paul says, **'I marvel that you are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel.'** *The true gospel of Christ was being sabotaged!*

"That was about 53 A.D. and the Gospel of the Kingdom was **NOT** proclaimed until 1953, when I went on Radio

Luxembourg. **Tell me who was preaching it before that time to the world?**

"Prior to that time, I was preaching it over the United States, and we had gone by radio, coast to coast over the United States. **Tell me who was preaching the gospel of the Kingdom between?**

*"The true gospel was suppressed and was not preached for 1,900 years The Church was supposed to have kept it, but they **lost** most of it during that 1,900 years, and God has had to raise up someone to **restore** it, and, brethren, it's a **TREMENDOUS** responsibility."*

Taped Sermon by Mr. Armstrong, October 23, 1982, Man and Angels

"I remember that when God revealed to me about the annual Sabbaths. And immediately, I began to preach about the Holy Days as new light and new knowledge to the people in the Sardis Church, up in the Willamette Valley in the State of Oregon. *They wouldn't hear of it.*



“Now, they believed in the Sabbath. They had the name Church of God. They didn’t know yet what the gospel is. The gospel had been lost. Seventh Day Adventists don’t know what it is. No church on earth knew what it was. It just had not been proclaimed for over 1,900 years. The thing that I found is that they had gone so far – and the people in the Sardis Church had accepted the Sabbath. They had accepted the name of God. They knew there would be a Millennium, but they had no idea what would happen. They didn’t know it meant ruling the whole earth and that we would be ruling under Christ. As a matter of fact, they didn’t have the gospel in any way really, but they would *not* accept any knowledge in addition to what they already had.

“Then, the Church was raised up. It was the beginning of this Philadelphia Era of the Church – in a country school-house out west of Eugene, Oregon. Now, those were my new converts that God gave to me. And so, I taught them, and among the new knowledge – it was all new to them,

they were newly converted – were the seven annual holy days. So, they accepted all of that.”

THE CHAIN OF AUTHORITY PLACED BY CHRIST IN HIS CHURCH

Jesus Christ came to BUILD His Church (Matthew 16:18), and in it He placed the chain of authority through its leadership beginning first with the office of Apostle: “**And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers ... That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting by which they lie in wait to deceive, BUT, SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE, may grow up in all things into Him who is THE HEAD – CHRIST ...** (Ephesians 4:11, 14-16; I Corinthians 12:28; Matthew 16:19; II Corinthians 11:3-4, 12-15).”

Warning after warning is given in Scripture by Christ and through His apostles of the grave **deceptive dangers** His people would be sub-jected to in the latter times: “Now the Spirit explicitly says that in latter times **SOME WILL DEPART FROM THE FAITH, giving heed to deceiving spirits and DOCTRINES OF DEMONS** (I Timothy 4:1-2; II Thessalonians 2:1-3, 10-12; Matthew 24:4-5, 23-24; II Peter 2:1-3; Jude 3-4, 11-12).”

The authority given by Christ to His ministry is to be exercised for the protection of God’s true people from the satanic teachings of false ministers: “Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause DIVISIONS and offenses, CONTRARY TO THE DOCTRINE which you learned (from whom? God’s apostles, Acts 2:41-42; Ephesians 3:3-5, 2:19-21), and avoid them. For those who are such DO NOT SERVE our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and BY SMOOTH WORDS AND FLATTERING SPEECH DECEIVE THE HEARTS OF THE SIMPLE (Romans 16:17; II John 9).”

THE MESSENGER (THE ELIJAH) AND APOSTLE OF THE END TIME

The man God chose for the end time had a dual commission. He was to be both a special Messenger of God (the Elijah) and Apostle of the end time.

“Behold, I SEND MY messenger (the Elijah), and he will PREPARE the way before Me. And the LORD, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His Temple (Malachi 3:1).”



In addition to preparing the way before the coming of Jesus Christ, there is the promise of a **Final Warning** to His people from the Promised Elijah: “Behold, I will SEND you Elijah the prophet BEFORE the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD (Malachi 4:5).”

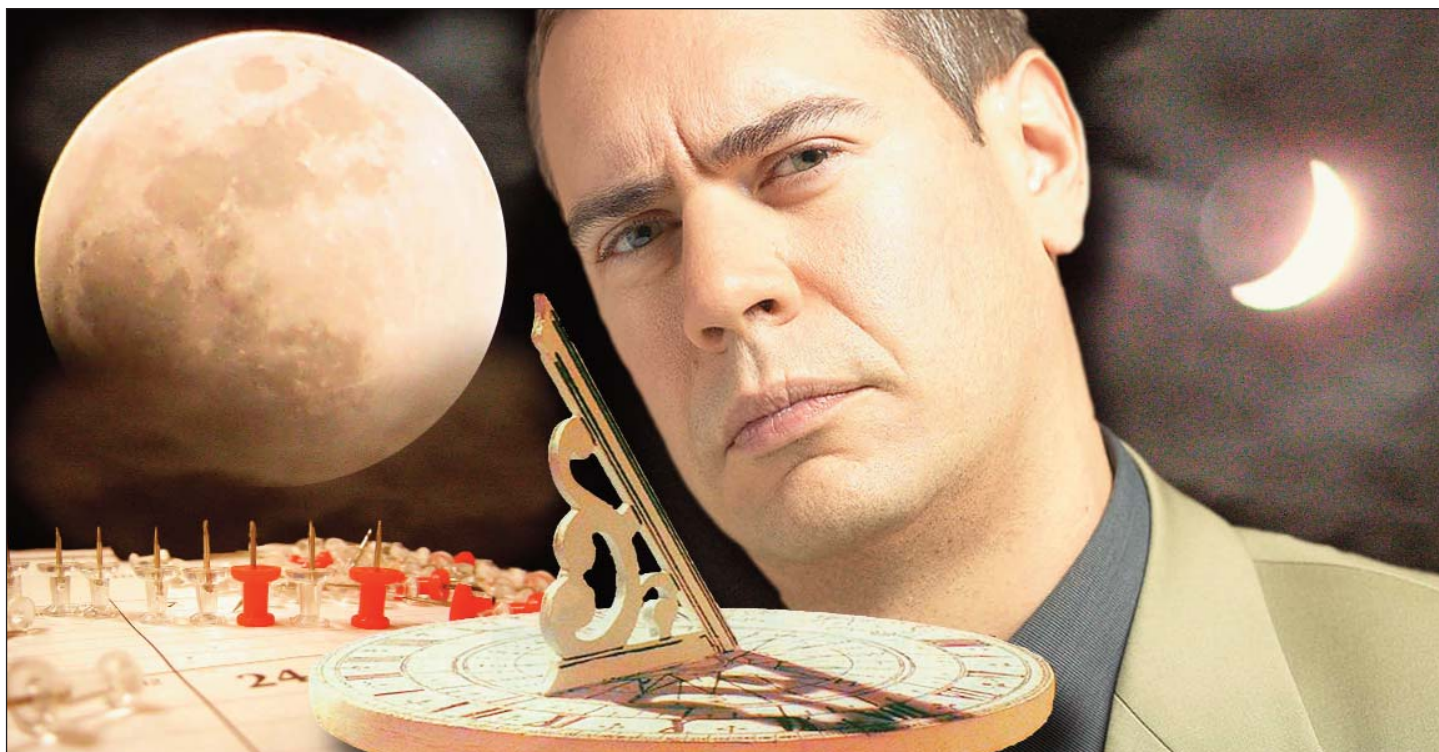
Jesus Christ confirmed His promise to send the Elijah of the end time: “And His disciples asked Him, saying, ‘Why then do the scribes say that Elijah MUST come first’ (before the coming of the Lord, Matthew 16:28, 17:1-3)? Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Indeed, Elijah is coming FIRST and WILL RESTORE ALL THINGS’ (Matthew 17:10-11).”

And true to His promise, Jesus Christ did RESTORE

the doctrinal teachings that were lost through the centuries in the Philadelphia Era of God’s Church through His late apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. *And this cannot be denied!*

Most of those doctrines were listed in the **August 25, 1986** edition of the *Worldwide News* published by the Worldwide Church of God, titled – “*God Restored These 18 Truths: How Thankful Are You for Them?*” – in brief, they are listed as follows (Mr. Armstrong also spoke of them in his last sermon during the Feast of Tabernacles, 1985):

- 1) The Government of God
- 2) The Gospel of the Kingdom of God
- 3) The Purpose of God (to be born of God and become God)
- 4) Who and What is God?
- 5) What is Man?
- 6) The Human Spirit in Man
- 7) The Church is



Only the Firstfruits 8) The Church is Not Yet the Kingdom of God 9) Only Those Whom God the Father Calls and Draws to Him Can Be Converted Now 10) The Resurrection to Judgment 11) The Millennium 12) The Holy Spirit Coming into Us Only Begets Us 13) We're Only Begotten Now, Not Born Again 14) The Identity of Modern Israel 15) Prophecy Can Be Understood Only if You Know We Are the Israelites 16) The Annual Festivals 17) The Authority of the Sacred Calendar 18) Second and Third Tithe.

The 19th and 20th doctrines were not listed: God's law (Malachi 4:4) **and Divine Healing** (*The Plain Truth about Healing*, page 6, 1979 publication).

All ministers and members of the WCG were taught the doctrinal teachings by God's apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. The ministers under him taught others only what they had learned from him until his death in 1986 (Colossians 1:24-29). *And with his death, doctrinal changes began to be made and are yet ongoing!*

The Scriptures concerning the God-given offices of the Special Messenger (*the Elijah*) and an Apostle of the end time in which Jesus Christ placed Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong are very clear and plain and can be understood by discerning and unbiased minds!

Mr. Armstrong was SENT by Jesus Christ to PREPARE His way before Him, as did John the baptizer the Messiah. Further, this messenger was to be IN THE SPIRIT AND POWER of the former Elijah, as was John the Baptizer, though not by the name of Elijah itself (Luke 1:17, 76-79).

Though Mr. Armstrong has been dead for nearly 24 years, he is still being used by Jesus Christ via his recorded teachings that are on our 14 web sites, using this tiny flock as a CONDUIT (Habakkuk 1:5, Isaiah 29:14). And they are more appropriate now than they were during his lifetime years and reaching far more people than then.

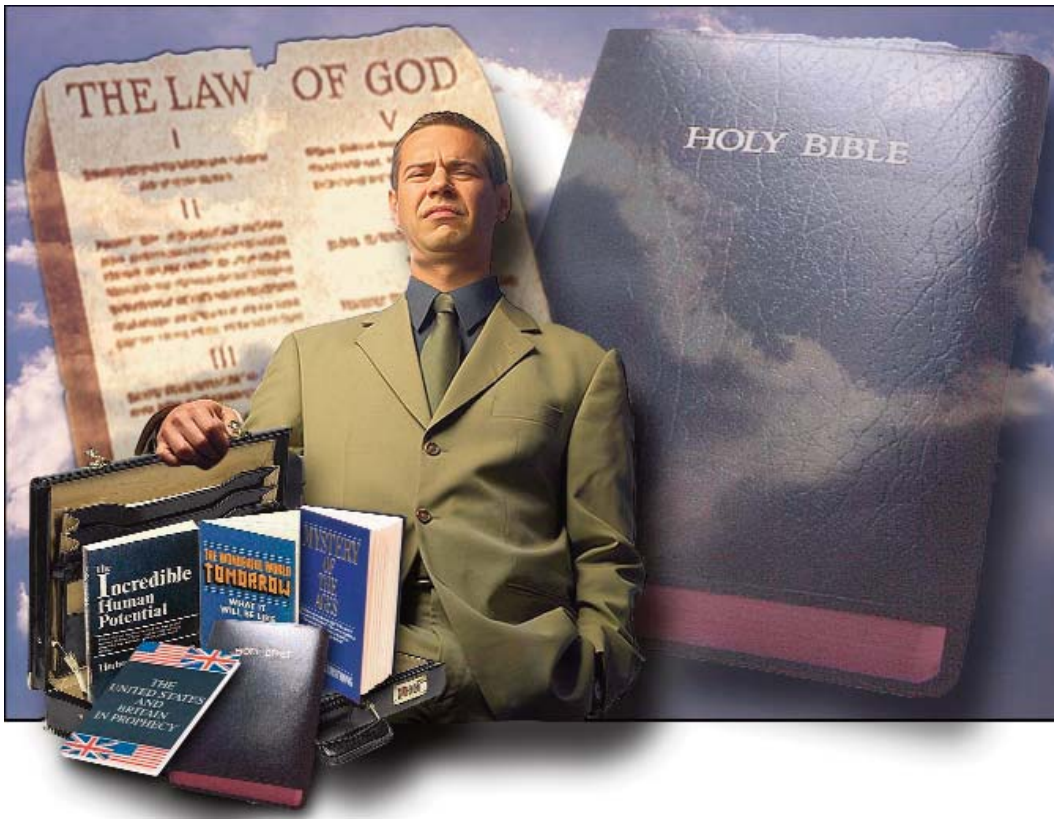
JUSTIFICATIONS USED FOR DOCTRINAL CHANGES

The following excuses are given to *justify* changes in doctrinal beliefs:

1) Mr. Armstrong was **wrong** concerning the count to determine Pentecost **and** also Divorce and Remarriage, so he could have been wrong in other areas.

2) Mr. Armstrong was **not** infallible.

1) He was not wrong regarding the observance of Pentecost – only the observance of the Right Day. The changes made regarding divorce and remarriage were simply the



upgrading of the understanding of it. Also, it should be remembered Mr. Armstrong, the apostle, was the one who made the corrective changes, not others.

2) True, he was not infallible! However, neither was Elijah the prophet (James 5:17-18), nor any of the Patriarchs, including David, and the early apostles, but Jesus Christ chose and used them because their hearts were right with Him (I Samuel 16:7).

Based on Scripture: The flimsy justifications used for the doctrinal changes of all of the corporate Churches are not acceptable by Jesus Christ! (Proverbs 14:12, 16:25)

For more than 50 years, 1934-1986, Mr. Armstrong bore the fruits of an apostle, sent by God to Israel and to a dying world, as was the apostle Paul in his time: **“Truly the SIGNS of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds (II Corinthians 12:12).”**

Joining the list of the apostles before him, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has been, and still is, vilified, persecuted, both inside and outside the Church by numerous unconverted ministers and members, as Scripture makes known, while few accept the fact that Jesus Christ did indeed SEND him

to us and mankind (Luke 11:49; I Corinthians 4:9).

A WARNING FOR ALL TRUE CHRISTIANS

“Take HEED to yourself and to THE DOCTRINE. Continue in them, for in doing this you will SAVE both yourself and those who HEAR you (I Timothy 4:16).”

“But evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you MUST continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, KNOWING from whom you have learned them (II Timothy 3:13-14).”

In his final letter and legacy before his death, the apostle Peter left parting words of encouragement and instruction to the people of God: **“Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I STIR UP your pure minds by way of REMINDER), that you may be MINDFUL of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Savior (II Peter 3:1-3, 17-18).”**

Jesus Christ also led His apostle, Mr. Armstrong, to write his legacy to the Church in the last year of his life, ***MYS-TERY OF THE AGES***, pages xi-xiii! This book along with the Holy Scriptures would enable His people to work their way through the ***strong deception*** that would come upon God’s Church before His return to earth.

It is sorrowful that only the few will see the truth of this writing as Scripture makes known: **“The wise shall understand (Daniel 12:10).”**

All others will reason around it; “... just as it is written: ‘God has given them a spirit of stupor, eyes that they should not see and ears that they should not hear, to this very day’ (Romans 11:8).”





'...Know That It Is Near'

Jesus Christ foretold major historic events would indicate the imminence of His Second Coming. Those significant developments now dominate today's headlines and newscasts as never before. Yet, most people are totally unprepared for what they portend for all of mankind.

Defense Nuclear Agency, Jupiter Images

By Mark Mendiola

When Jesus Christ's disciples asked Him what would be the sign of His Second Coming and end of the age, He outlined a list of profound developments to heed and observe, concluding, "So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near, at the very doors (Matthew 24:3, Mark 13:29)."

Conversely, Christ said the vast majority of people would be oblivious to the events – ignorant and indifferent about their meaning and how they would adversely impact everyone on earth. What were these conditions He forewarned would converge to jeopardize the lives of millions of people prior to His return to establish the Kingdom of God?

"But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately.' Then He said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven' (Luke 21:9-11)."

He continued: "Now *when these things begin to happen*, look up and *lift up your heads*, because your redemption draws near. ... So you, likewise, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near (v. 28, 31)."

Earlier in Luke, Christ described conditions that would prevail before global destruction and upheaval would strike prior to His Second Coming:

"And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: *They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage*, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: *They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built*; but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed (Luke 17:26-30)."

In Noah's days, "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth (Genesis 6:11-12)."



LOT FLEES FROM SODOM

In Lot's days, "the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah [was] great" and "their sin [was] very grievous (Genesis 18:20)." In addition to widespread sexual licentiousness, Sodom "had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; *neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy*. And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me (Ezekiel 16:49-50)."

In other words, Christ said corruption, violence, decadence, oppression and pride would prevail throughout the world as it was in the days of Noah and Lot – before sudden mass destruction wiped out hundreds of thousands of lives. In the same context, Christ warned: "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; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened (Matthew 24:21-22)."

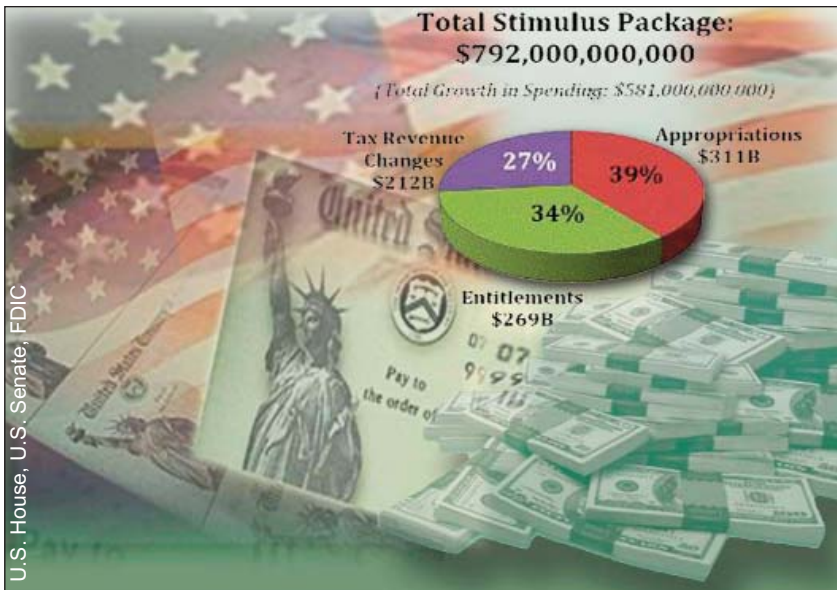
Who can deny that such conditions are widely extant throughout the world today and rapidly worsening? When we see all these things happening, just as Jesus Christ emphasized, we know the Great Tribulation and, ultimately, the Kingdom of God are near, much closer than many people dare imagine!

GREED, CORRUPTION

Americans and citizens worldwide were astounded in the autumn of 2008 to see literally trillions of dollars in their savings and investments wiped out in the worst financial meltdown since the Stock Market Crash of 1929 triggered the Great Depression of the 1930s. Many blamed greed and corruption on the part of selfish corporate executives, bankers and politicians for the debacle that has caused widespread suffering and anguish.

In an April 23, 2009 article titled "A Glimmer of Hope?" *The Economist* cautioned: "The worst is over only in the narrowest sense that the pace of global decline has peaked. Thanks to massive – and unsustainable – fiscal and monetary transfusions, output will eventually stabilize. But in many ways, darker days lie ahead. Despite the scale of the slump, no conventional recovery is in sight. Growth, when it comes, will be too feeble to stop unemployment rising and idle capacity swelling. ... Much of the rich world will see jobless rates that reach double digits, and then stay there. ... Public debt will soar because of weak growth, prolonged stimulus spending and the growing costs of cleaning up the financial mess."





Writing in the April 28, 2009, *Asia Times*, Hossein Askari, a George Washington University professor, observed: “A world financial system, based on reserve currencies and floating exchange rates, faces unparalleled instability. ... The floodgates of rapidly expanding money supply have been opened wide, and reserve currency central banks have decided to adopt unorthodox policies, that is, unlimited printing of money, which some noted economists have rightly called ‘counterfeiting.’ ... The world economy has recently experienced the worst commodity inflation in years, triggering food and energy riots and bringing the world economy to a standstill. The credit expansion has been so fast over the past decade that it has pushed the national banking system in a number

Just as corruption filled the earth during the days of Noah, it runs rampant from top to bottom in society today. The Prophet Isaiah many centuries ago foresaw this revolting condition prevailing at the end time: “Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward. Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints, From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; They have not been closed or bound up, or soothed with ointment. ... Your silver has become dross, your wine mixed with water, your princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves; Everyone loves bribes, and follows after rewards. *They do not defend the fatherless, nor does the cause of the widow come before them* (Isaiah 1:4-6, 22-23).”

The Prophet Habakkuk warned about the dangers of indebting ourselves so deeply to others as the United States has done by racking up a national debt exceeding \$12 trillion – with no end in sight! “Shall not all these take up a proverb against him, and a *taunting* riddle against him and say, ‘Woe to him who increases what is not his – how long? And to him who loads himself with many pledges?’ Will not your creditors rise up suddenly? Will they not awaken who oppress you? And you will become their booty (Habakkuk 2:6-7).”

of countries towards bankruptcy. ... Major central banks have been printing *trillions* of dollars, euros and pounds and injecting a frightening degree of liquidity into the financial system. There is no banking regulation or safety guidelines that can prevent the chaos that is likely to ensue.”

Askari continued: “The U.S. has decidedly embarked on the most expansionary fiscal and monetary policy in its history and has completely abandoned any notion of financial and fiscal discipline. ... Despite unsustainable fiscal deficits and household indebtedness, the Obama team has dwarfed George W. Bush's financial disorder and has launched a \$787 billion stimulus package, a



\$275 billion housing subsidy, and created a budget with a deficit of \$1.85 trillion, or 13 percent of gross domestic product. U.S. government bailouts are reported at \$12 trillion.” Askari noted under Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke’s leadership, the Fed has injected a staggering \$3.5 trillion in liquidity into the banking system in 2009.

“Hyperinflation is in the works – not today, but it will come, just you wait. The incredible U.S. fiscal and monetary expansion will tax the rest of the world heavily, a world that uses the dollar as a reserve currency. The U.S. government will ... shift the cost of bankruptcies and bailouts to dollar holders. In case of a stampede out of the dollar, the real value of dollar holdings could simply evaporate in real terms.”



Wolfgang Staudt, Flickr, Morguefile.com

WAR, FAMINE PESTILENCE

global agricultural, population, environmental and economic trends, and their interactions. The combined effects of those trends and the political tensions they generate point to the breakdown of governments and societies.

“Yet I, too, have resisted the idea that food shortages could bring down not only individual governments but our global civilization. I can no longer ignore that risk,” Brown wrote.

“In six of the past nine years, world grain production has fallen short of consumption, forcing a steady drawdown in stocks. When the 2008 harvest began, world carryover stocks of grain (the amount in the bin when the new harvest begins) were at 62 days of consumption, a near record low. In response, world grain prices in the spring and summer of last year climbed to the highest level ever.”

The *New York Times* reported in June 2008 nearly 30 countries sharply curbed food exports to ensure their own people had enough to eat at affordable prices. India, Vietnam, China and 11 other countries limited or banned rice exports.

Fifteen countries, including Bolivia and Pakistan, capped or halted wheat exports. More than a dozen limited corn exports, it said. Three of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse – **war**, **famine** and **pestilence** – are starting to gallop at a quickening pace as described in Revelation 6:3-8.



A VULTURE LURKS NEAR A STARVING AFRICAN CHILD

FOOD SHORTAGES, FAMINE

Literally millions of starving people in impoverished Third World countries have borne the brunt of disastrous economic conditions in the industrialized Western World.

In an article published April 22, 2009, in the *Scientific American* magazine, Lester R. Brown, founder of the Worldwatch Institute, asked, **“Could Food Shortages Bring Down Civilization?”** Brown shows the dire threat of global famine stalking mankind – just as Jesus Christ so knowingly foretold about 2,000 years ago. “For most of us, the idea that civilization itself could disintegrate probably seems preposterous. ... For many years I have studied



U.S. Marines, U.S. Army, USAID, NOAA, Jupiter Images

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS ...

Violence fills the earth as wars intensify. Starvation and food shortages are worsening, and epidemics are accelerating to the point of becoming global pandemics, as the recent frightening swine flu outbreak reminds us.



Medicins Sans Frontiers

CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

KNOW IT IS NEAR!

Although all signs indicate the return of Christ and establishment of the Kingdom of God are near, most people agree, “The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of times far off,” denying the imminence of the **Great Tribulation** and **Christ’s Second Coming**. Notice how God answers them: “None of My words will be postponed any more, but the word which I speak will be done (Ezekiel 12:27-28).”

The Prophet Ezekiel gives many specific end-time prophecies against the modern House of Israel. He shows a time of **great economic trouble, violence, corruption, immorality, war, famine** and **pestilence** coming upon the land.

Ezekiel 7:2-4: “An end! The end has come upon the four corners of the land. Now the end has come upon you, and *I will send My anger against you*; I will judge you according to your ways, and I will repay you for all your abominations. My eye will not spare you, nor will I have pity; But I will repay your ways, and your abominations shall be in your midst; Then you shall know that I am the LORD!”

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong used to explain the expression “you shall know that I am the LORD” in the Book of Ezekiel refers to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Conditions in the world took a dramatic turn for the worse on Sept. 11, 2001, when Muslim extremists unleashed the worst terrorist attack in U.S. history by savagely attacking the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon. The world has never been the same!

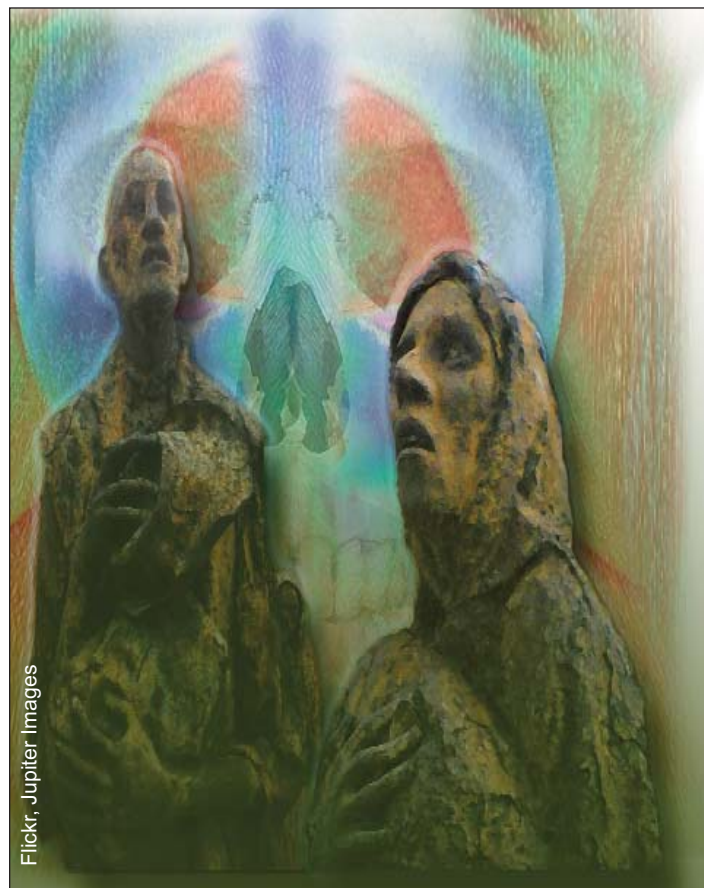
“Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘A disaster, a singular disaster; Behold, it has come! An end has come, the end has come; It has dawned for you; Behold, it has come! Doom has come to you, you who dwell in the land; The time has come, a

day of trouble is near ... Then you will know that I am the LORD who strikes. Behold, the day! Behold, it has come! Doom has gone out ... Violence has risen up ... The time has come, the day draws near. 'Let not the buyer rejoice' ... The sword is outside, and the pestilence and famine within. ... Horror will cover them; Shame will be on every face ... They will throw their silver into the streets, and their gold will be like refuse; Their silver and their gold will not be able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the LORD ... Make a chain, for the land is filled with crimes of blood, and the city is full of violence. ... Destruction comes ... Disaster will come upon disaster (Ezekiel 7:5-7, 9-12, 15, 18-19, 23, 25-26)."

In the Book of Zephaniah, God says He will "*punish the men who are settled in complacency*, who say in their heart, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will He do evil.' ... The great day of the LORD is near; It is near and hastens quickly ... Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD's wrath; But the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of His jealousy, for He will make speedy riddance of all those who dwell in the land" (Zephaniah 1:12, 14, 18).



THE TWIN TOWERS OF NEW YORK CITY



Flickr, Jupiter Images

ABOVE, GLOBAL FAMINE WILL STALK THE EARTH
AT RIGHT, GOLD WILL BE RENDERED WORTHLESS

Beyond this troubling time of corruption, violence, famine, pestilence and natural disasters, we can take comfort and rest assured that the Wonderful World Tomorrow will dawn when Jesus Christ establishes His millennial reign on earth, bringing about global peace, prosperity, health and abundant happiness for everyone.

Meanwhile, conditions in the world are rapidly worsening. "When these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near. ... So you, likewise, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near!" Indeed, it is near, even at the very doors!



Wikimedia

A Line in the Dirt

A Lesson from the Alamo

Could You Give Your Life
for a Higher Cause?

By Ed Tidwell

In the spring of 1836, William Travis, the commanding officer at the siege of the Alamo in Texas, drew a line in the dirt with his saber. A time for a crucial decision had come, one he could not command or force on any of the defenders of Texan independence inside that tiny garrison near San Antonio.

They ranged from 182 to 257 in number. Up against impossible odds, the defenders of the Alamo faced the vastly superior armed forces of General Santa Ana, Mexico's military dictator.

Word had arrived that the reinforcements they were counting on under James Fannin were not coming. The fledgling recruits of General Sam Houston were few and not sufficiently trained for the fierce battle ahead.

Two options lay before them: To flee and live to fight another day or to stay, fight and try to weaken the Mexican army, which was sure to launch an assault. The hope and future of Texas was at stake.



JAMES FANNIN

Each had to decide on what side of the line in the dirt to stand. Realizing what was about to occur, these gallant men – caring more for their families and a life of freedom – were prepared to face the insurmountable onslaught.

After counting the cost, they bravely gave their lives, repulsing two attacks before they were overwhelmed in a third attack and slaughtered. Most historians agree that 400 to 600 Mexicans were killed or wounded during that historic battle. In the near future, true Christians also will have to make a similar difficult decision that very well could cost them their lives. How would you decide?



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COUNTING THE COST

The end of this age is near. Prophetic events recorded in the Word of God have been happening all around us, culminating in the crises at the close of this end time. Although we as Christians have endured agonizing experiences at times, we have not yet been subjected to literally laying down our lives. Prophecy does make known that **some** will suffer persecution unto death.

Matthew 24:9 tells us, **“Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for My name’s sake.”** But the final part of Revelation 20:4 shows those martyrs will live and reign with Christ for a thousand years!

The trials we have faced, though small by comparison to other Christians before us, should encourage us that a loving God has kept His Word. In I Corinthians 10:13 we read, **“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”**

Our loving Father will be there in our time of need. That should assure us like a beam of light shining on the path ahead.

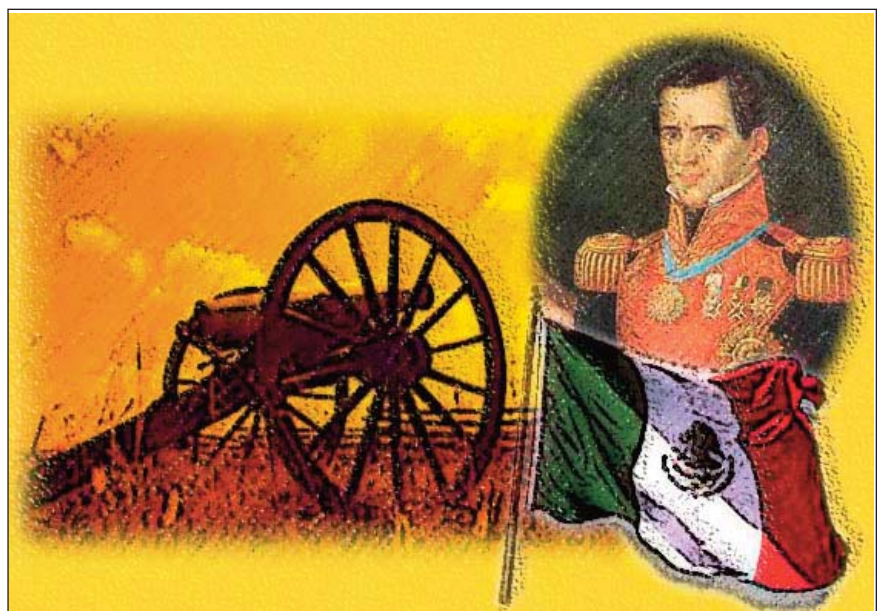
In Acts 7:55–56, we see the example of the heavens opened for Stephen before he was stoned to death. He saw the glory of God, and Christ standing at the right hand of God as he was dying for them. It was an awesome privilege. By this example, we can rest assured that whatever may be required of us, we can take comfort in the promise of our High Priest described in Joshua 1:5 and Hebrews 13:5, **“I will never leave you nor forsake you.”**

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

Over the next few months and years, Satan, knowing he has but a short time, will pull out all stops to

destroy the faithful people of God. Whatever we must endure, we must have the trust and confidence that Paul espouses in Roman 8:35, **“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?”**

We also should remember exactly who is our enemy. Ephesians 6:12 clearly states, **“For we do not wrestle against**



GENERAL SANTA ANA



DAVY CROCKETT AT THE ALAMO

flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Satan comes at us through many methods, using men, institutions, governments, man’s laws and beliefs.

Again, in comparison to the many Christians before us, we really haven’t had it all that bad. None of us has sweated blood about what we have endured as Jesus Christ did on the night before His death.

“And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground (Luke 22:44).” The trials we have endured, no matter how difficult, have been a conditioning process to strengthen our faith for the final tests to come.

A TIME FOR COURAGE

We, of ourselves, can do nothing. We have no voice in this society, nor can we do anything about it. Only God can give us the strength and courage we need to face the next years before us. The Word of God, the scriptures in His Holy Bible, is our source of courage – the recorded examples of men of valor written for our example.


Joshua was instructed to be of good courage for God was with him (Joshua 1:9). Just as God was with Joshua and all the other men and women of faith, God will be with each and every one who loves the Day of His Appearing.

LINE IN THE DIRT

At baptism, we all had to “count the cost.” Now, for those who have the eyes to see, we are approaching the end time, and a “line in the dirt” has been drawn. There is no turning back for true Christians. The hope that lies within us, the whole purpose for which we draw breath, is to be sons of God.

As Christians, we need to stay close to our God, obeying His laws of liberty, exercising

the fruits of the spirit and growing with the very character of God. As Christians, we will be building “kingly character” in order to teach and rule with God in the soon coming Kingdom of God. We need earnestly to be building godly qualities in our lives NOW.

The gallant, incredibly brave men of the Alamo gave up their lives with only *a hope* that their families could live in a free Texas. While we are not to live by the sword or take up arms (Matthew 26:52), true Christians have a much higher calling and hope for spiritual robes to live and rule with Christ in a world free of all the ugliness, crime, violence, war, disease and every other misery devised of men driven by Satan the devil. *Shouldn’t we be willing to die for that if a line is drawn in the dirt?* 



The Royal Plan



Morguefile.com, Jupiter Images

By Tom Cooper

In 1984, an Ambassador Television Production special was released showing the King and Queen of Thailand making visits throughout their country to see and improve the conditions of their fellow countrymen. They had a team of professionals with them for medical and technical expertise suitable for the specific villages and regions to be helped.

The royal family personally counseled the villagers and took time to resolve each person's problems. There were many dozens of people at each stop.

In one area of their country where opium was produced, they brought engineers with plans for possible

reservoir sites to persuade local farmers to switch from opium to growing food crops.

The royal family, who arrived via helicopters, brought kindness and aid, which was reciprocated by loving respect from their subjects. This plan from the royal family was considered by themselves to be modest, but also quite unique in this world. It was a true “win/win” plan for the nation of Thailand!



OPIUM POPPIES IN THAILAND

In a succeeding *impromptu visit* to one village by the Queen with Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, the plight of a newborn child whose mother had died came to light. The baby was transported to a hospital and later adopted. If the queen had not decided to take Mr. Armstrong for this visit, the baby girl would have died.



QUEEN SIRIKIT, MR. HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

The Queen told Mr. Armstrong he had saved this baby's life and that they would not have visited that village at all if it had not been for him and his film crew. In each visit, the team of professionals was directed by the King and Queen, depending on circumstances.

Imagine what would happen if on each occasion for a royal visit, the accompanying team had other "important" things to do, establishing their own plans or agendas. The royal plan would have been put on the "back burner"! Thank-

fully, it was evident the Thai officials were very dedicated and loyal to their subjects. Would God the Father and Jesus Christ expect less?

GOD HAS A ROYAL PLAN

God our Father has His own "ROYAL PLAN." His plan is seen "here a little and there a little" throughout the Bible. The world as a whole does not understand His plan, yet it has been unfolding right on schedule for centuries.

In Exodus 19:5-6, God tells the nation of Israel, "**Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.** These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

Through the centuries, God has placed these words before Israel and ultimately before "spiritual Israel." Revelation 20:6 says, "**Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.**"

Understanding this royal plan being worked out by God the Father and His son Jesus Christ changes our perspective on what life is about, as it radically changes our life's direction. No matter what our financial condition and no matter what trials we may

face, God sees where our "heart" is and provides the help we need to grow in faith.

Our faith in God develops from our relationship with Him. Without faith, we cannot please him. Hebrews 11:6 says, "**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, the faith chapter, adds to our understanding of what God is looking for in His future priests. It is espe-

cially important to be building faith in God the Father and Jesus Christ at this time, as Scripture reveals it will be in very short supply prior to Christ's return.

“Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8) So each future priest must live by God's laws to teach them to future generations, including those at the Second Resurrection and to live by the faith of Jesus Christ. For God to offer His “Royal Plan” to any human being is mind-boggling and is more valuable than anything this life has to offer. Do we have complete FAITH in the teachings of Jesus Christ?

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL

Just as the King and Queen of Thailand went about their country with a team, so God's plan includes a team for His son, Jesus Christ. However, God's plan for His King of Kings is not modest! His plan includes every nation, and every person! In fact, everyone who has ever lived (or will live during the coming Millennium), will be given the opportunity to be a part of His plan.

There are always men who believe their own thoughts are more important than Christ's, as shown by their own actions.

They lead by human effort, without God's Government. The Laodicean attitude of choosing (doctrines) for themselves and being lukewarm about repentance are some of the chief Laodicean attributes. Without repentance, they and any who follow them will not be part of God's team. Obedience to everything God instructs, with humility, is the criteria God is using during this testing process. Would any human king accept less?

What kind of government will Christ head? Will there be many kings, each having their own agenda, or perhaps some “lesser king” who decides to have a democratic, voting government of the “top gods”? Or will there be some who take a title to themselves like “the chief prophet” or “second King (only to Christ)”? No! It is a FACT that Christ told us what kind of government He will have, so we don't have to “choose for ourselves”!

In Matthew 20:25-28, Christ begins explaining to His disciples, **“You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”**


Humility, like Moses exhibited, along with true gut-wrenching repentance, like King David experienced, are attributes of the entire team now being chosen by the God Family to represent His Government to all nations! Are you truly one of Christ's disciples?

In prior issues of the *Philadelphia Remnant*, readers have been reminded that God has used His 19-year cycle to unfold as a “timeline” in His Church. The next cycle will begin in January 2010! What occurs then (based on Scripture and world events) becomes clearer every day and with that also comes a sense of urgency for us.

There is an admonition to all of the Philadelphia era found in Revelation 3:11, **“Behold, I come quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.”** Christ is coming in our lifetime, and we must hold fast to what we have spiritually (the re-

vealed truths as shown in II Thessalonians 2:10), so as not to lose our crowns (our positions of government).

This means now! Harvest time will be here before we know it. Consider God's words carefully and ask if we are faithfully and humbly obedient to all of the restored truths? The “bottom line” is that we all must believe and teach what Christ taught us during the Philadelphian era when He, Christ, restored to God's Church more than 18 truths.

God's royal plan is a most wonderful and astounding part of the true gospel. God reminds us, **“And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.”** These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel (Exodus 19:6).




OPIUM CONVERSION PROJECTS

The Unthinkable

Continued from Page 4

But they had lost the truth. They were not learning. They were not growing in grace and knowledge. They had the right name, and they knew about the law, but they didn't know it fully. They didn't understand that the law must be kept in principle, in spirit and not in letter. There is so much that they did not know. They looked at sin as just some literal point of the law. If God said that this particular identical thing is sin, it was. If God didn't mention an identical thing, well, then it was okay to do it.

That is what the liberals are saying today, but there is the general principle of love toward God and love toward neighbor as exemplified and magnified in the Ten Commandments. Love toward God and love toward neighbor and then love toward yourself in the sense that your mind and body is the temple of God's Holy Spirit, or made to be potentially, at least, it is. I don't think in all cases of all



people that is true, but it should be and could be and potentially is and both the mind and body should be taken care of, and to that extent we should love ourselves, but not selfishly. But we should love our neighbors as ourselves.

So the wickedness is great. Then it carries on, **“Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision,”** and it carries right on to *the Battle of Armageddon* and the time of God being there. So prior to the Second Coming of Christ, the weak, and the minor and the small nations are going to arm and say, **“We are strong,”** and they have been doing it.

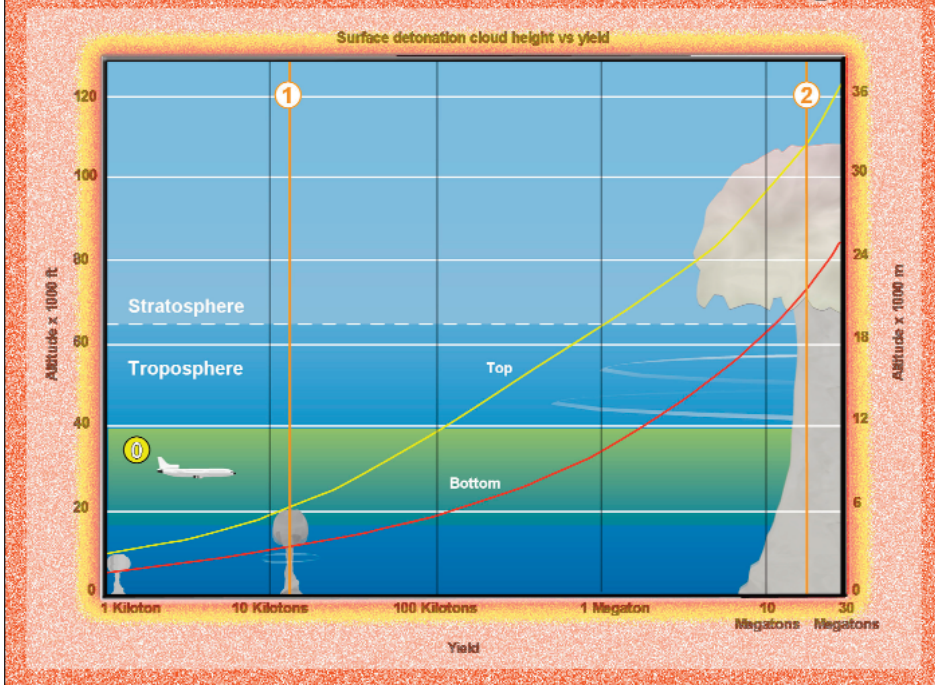


U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, Morguefile.com, Jupiter Images

THE CREATION OF MANKIND

Now, it's such a world as this. I've been talking about this world a great deal, and the foundation of this world was the time of Adam, when God created the first man. Now God had not put a nature in that man one way or the other. He didn't have an attitude, a motive, a desire and intent, a purpose to do either right or wrong. He had just been created. He was created as a full-grown adult, with a mind that was just like a full-grown that had started from a baby and grown up to that point, but God created him that

Nuclear Cloud Detonation Heights



band Adam, and that was already known to them at that time.

God had offered Adam eternal life! God had offered Adam the chance to be GOD, and He offers you and me that chance today – to become God! I wonder if we can realize it. Brethren, I don't think we realize.

Number one: I don't think we realize how great and how powerful is the hydrogen bomb and the kind of weapons that are available now. I don't think we really understand and realize it! I don't think it ever sinks completely in. It would HORRIFY you if you do!

Second: I don't think we realize how GREAT IT IS, how WONDERFUL IT

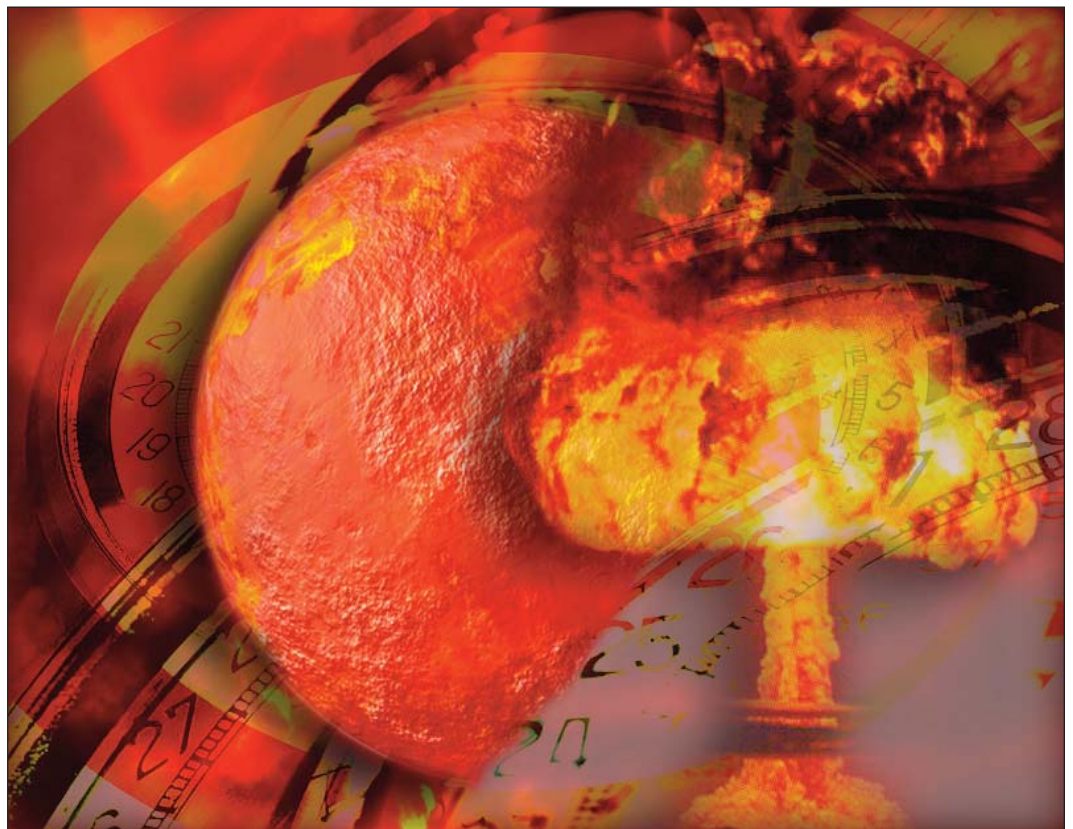
way in the first place. But yet it was a mind as unfilled with knowledge as a newborn baby five minutes old.

But God began to teach him and then God put him in the Garden of Eden. And God taught him about God's law.

Only very little of what God said is recorded in the second chapter of Genesis, but some of it is recorded there. And since God told him that the wages of sin is death, we know that, God tells us that in (Romans 6:23).

And God couldn't have pronounced a death sentence on him for a certain thing unless he already knew the penalty of God's law, and he would have to know something about God's law at least in principle, of obedience to God, of love toward God. That he would have neighbors. That Adam should have loved his wife, and Eve should have loved her hus-

IS to become God and have such character. God can't lie. God can't sin. God can't become unhappy, but God is Creator. God is a doer. He is always doing something that brings great pleasure and great satisfaction and honor and glory and everything good. And what a wonderful and a





U.S. Army, Defense Nuclear Agency, Morguefile.com, Jupiter Images

good feeling that is – successful, righteous, happy accomplishment – and so many people just want to be left so there is nothing to do. Whereas I said that what I teach is that we can become God, and that we will be creators and have a great responsibility, but it's going the way of righteousness, and it's the hard way, and it gives us very great responsibility, but great happiness comes from that kind of accomplishment.

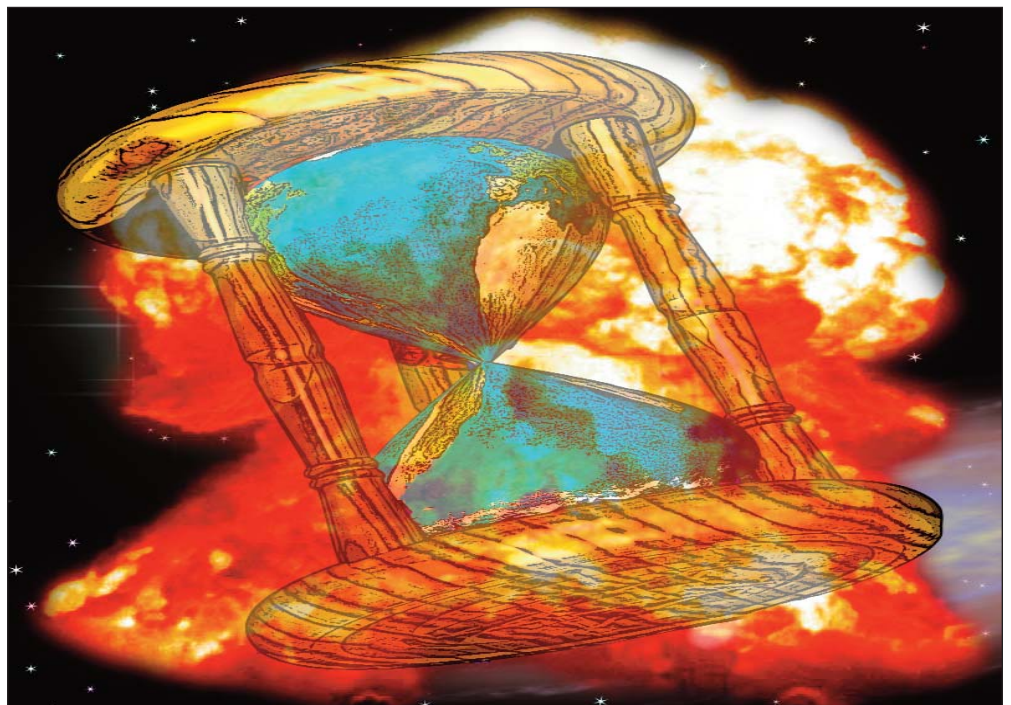
I'm glad that somehow God awakened things in me when I was 16. And in those formative years, I was at least preparing, although He hadn't opened my mind yet. I hadn't come to know God yet, really. I knew about Him a little bit, but not much. I didn't really come to know Him until I was 34 years of age. But I had been prepared for a lot of things from age 16 on, and I tell

you, they are the formative years, from 16 up to 25. By age 28, I was very successful in the city of Chicago and making as much money as, well, about a third of a million dollars it would be in today's dollar value. And, of course, that's the world's standard of success. By that standard, I was becoming quite successful.

And then God – and things happened in a way that I know it was God and nothing else – took all that away from me and reduced me down to real poverty, and I knew what it was to go hungry. And then God opened my mind in a challenge for Him, and I had to begin life all over, and I had to give up the business career.

I rather turned my back on it and gave myself over to Christ, asked Him to come in and live His life within me, and He began to fill my mind with un-

derstanding and with knowledge and has given me the wonderful, matchless opportunity and pleasure of being able to share that knowledge with all of you and with actually millions of other people.





Could there be any greater blessing to come to anyone than that? And a wonderful blessing, and I want to tell you that happiness comes from doing and successful doing and accomplishment of right things with a clean conscience that don't bother your conscience or anything of the kind.

Nevertheless, in due time, it was appointed from the foundation of the world that man should die. He did not have immortal life, so his lifespan would be, approximately 70 years, on the average. Some die at birth and some a month old, and some a year, and some 10 and some 20, some 50 and some 70 years old. A few live past that age. You'll average about 70.

And people don't understand that this life is just here for a purpose and only for a little while, and you've got so much time to get so much accomplished! But people really don't think about that. They only think about enjoying the moment and the pleasure of the moment while they are going along. But God then appointed that men should die, but

*after this the judgment, that this is not the only life. But this is a temporary physical life, but everyone who ever died would come back to life again, so you read in I Corinthians 15, verse 22 and on, that **"as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive (by a resurrection)."***

But after death and after the resurrection will come the judgment on people who never heard of God's true plan, of God's great purpose, and who have been mised by this false civilization.

MANKIND TRYING TO LIVE WITHOUT GOD

And men are trying to live without God, and this world has been built without God! But it has been built, influenced and guided by Satan the devil. And we're in such a world now. And

God is not going to end this world until the world has come to see that it's had 6,000 years, and it's tried everything and as long as man would say, "Well, if you had just given us another few days or weeks or months or maybe years, we would have solved our problems." I tell you the great of this world still think they are going to solve their problems. They don't admit they are so absolutely licked they can't solve the problems. They think we are going to make this a better world some way. "We're going to solve all these problems."

Well, they've been trying it for the past 6,000 years, and it's been getting worse and worse and farther and farther away from solutions, farther and farther away from solutions.

CHRIST BEGAN HIS CHURCH

It was in such a world that Jesus came, and He started the World Tomorrow. He said, **"I will build My Church."** And the Church is merely the Kingdom of God, the Church is the Kingdom of God in embryo. Now, everyone of you was

once an embryo before you became a human being. We are not the Kingdom of God. We are the Church of God, *but the Church is the kingdom in embryo*. And you were not a human being when you were an embryo, you were a human being in embryo. And after four months you became a fetus inside of your mother, in her womb. And then you had to develop for nine more months before you could even be born. And the Church has to grow and develop spiritually and in knowledge.

Now, Jesus started the Church by calling His 12 disciples. And for 3½ years He taught His disciples. And when they had been taught, He says, **“I have ordained you that you should go out and teach others.”** And so He gave them then the Great Commission. In Matthew 28 where He said, **“Go into all the world and TEACH all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, TEACHING them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.”** That’s Matthew 28 the last three verses, last four verses.

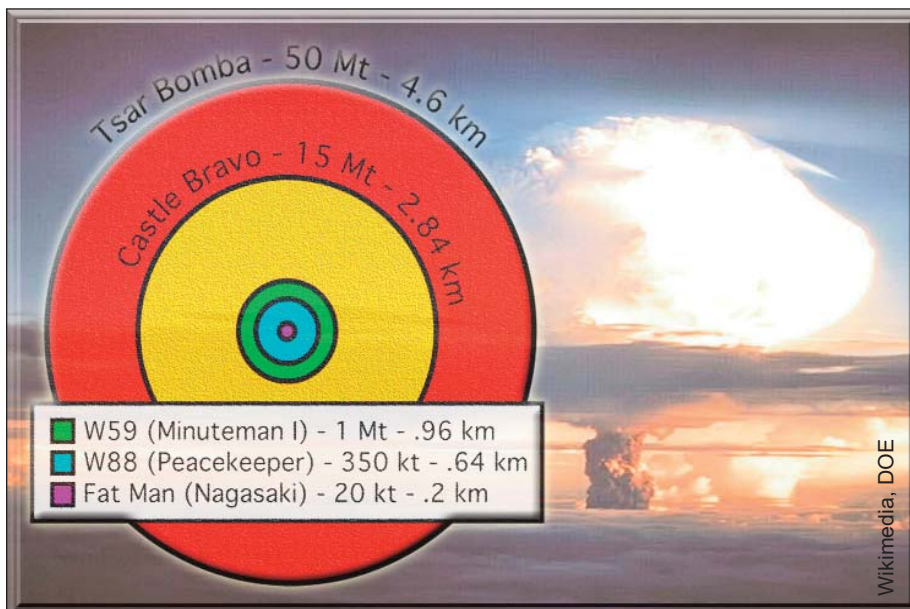
So the disciples had been taught by Jesus. He was their teacher. They had gone to school with Him. They didn’t sit in the classroom. They went from village to village. They walked different places, but He was teaching them. That’s the kind of school they had. They didn’t have, didn’t follow Plato’s idea of a school. And they went out to teach others. And so the Church got started.



GREAT TRIBULATION COMING

But let me tell you what is going to happen. Now, let’s get back to where we are right now. We are in the Church now. I’m coming back to this, but Matthew 24, beginning with

verse 21 and that is speaking of the time just ahead of us, and I will prove it to you in a minute. **“For then,”** the time just ahead of us, **“for then shall be great tribulation,** such as was not since the beginning of this world ... no, nor ever shall be, and except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved (alive), but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened,” or cut short. In other words, God is going to stop it all before all humanity is obliterated. It is a time when it is possible to blast all human life out of existence, and all human life would be blasted out of existence except for the coming of Christ!



Let me tell you **the hydrogen bombs now could blast all humanity out of existence**, 30, 31 years ago that could not have been possible. Now it is possible. So there is something about the time.

Now, let me give you something else, what's going to happen immediately after, verse 29: **“Immediately after the tribulation of those days,”** not a thousand years after, but IMMEDIATELY after! **“IMMEDIATELY after the tribulation of those days,”** a tribulation so bad it's never happened before and never will again. Nothing like the hydrogen bomb has ever happened before – never will again.

“The sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.” Supernatural signs; God is going to miraculously, supernaturally intervene, and people are going to realize the POWER OF GOD! The people that are ignoring God now and don't want to hear about God are going to run SCREAMING when that happens and asking for help and CRYING OUT to God for mercy.

“And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man,” that's of Christ in the heavens. **“And then shall all the tribes of the earth,”** or all of the nations, **“mourn ... they shall SEE the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory,”** – the Second Coming of Christ to put Satan away and to take over all the governments of all the nations and have one nation ruling the



TORONTO, CANADA

whole world – the Kingdom of God. And you and I, brethren, have been called, and we are that *Kingdom in embryo* – if we GROW in grace and in knowledge, if we GROW in knowledge, if we are developing, growing in embryo!

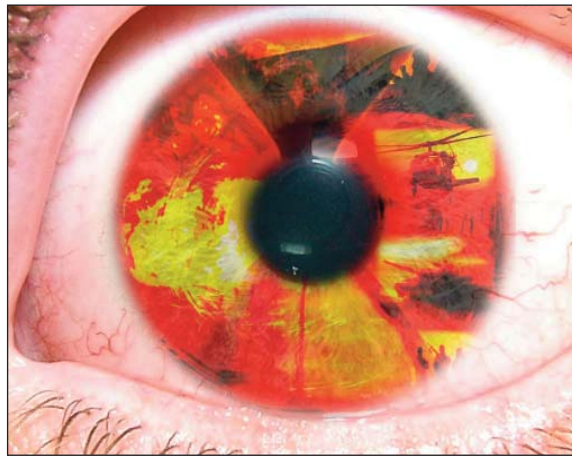


When you were an embryo if you had not grown, you were only the size of a pin-point. How little was that compared to how big you were when you were first born? Well, how little are we now compared to what we will be when we are *born again* into the Kingdom of God? People need to wake up to this thing! They don't realize how serious it is. They don't realize the MAGNITUDE of it! They have their minds on other things somehow, it seems.

So you see, it's a time just before the Second Coming of Christ, but it's a time *after* the hydrogen bomb because otherwise we had not ever reached a time when not a single human being would be left alive. Never before has that been possible. Now let me show you again what is going to happen, many great cities are to be destroyed. Let's go back to Ezekiel 6 and verse 6: **“In all your dwellingplaces the cities shall be laid waste.”**

Now who is God speaking to and what time is He speaking of? Well, we go back to the very beginning. We even go ahead of that, as a matter of fact, all of the prophecies in Ezekiel. Ezekiel was a prophet to **“the house of Israel,”** not to the house of Judah, not to the Jews, but to the **house of Israel**, which today is Britain and America. And he starts out in the very beginning of his book the fifth and sixth chapter and speaking of Israel. It speaks here in chapter 5, verse 4, how **a fire** shall come forth from all the house of Israel. It’s the **“house of Israel”** he’s talking about.

And after talking about the **“house of Israel,”** we begin in verse 11 in chapter 5 of Ezekiel., **“Wherefore, as I live, says the Lord (Eternal); surely, because thou hast defiled my sanctuary with all thy detestable things, and with all thine abominations, therefore,”** I have diminished **“thee; neither shall mine eyes spare, neither shall I have pity.”**



“A third part of thee shall die with the pestilence, and with (a) famine shall they be consumed in the midst of thee: and a third part of thee shall fall by the sword round about ... and I will scatter the third part to all the winds, and I will draw out a sword after them.”

Let me see, there is another point here I wanted to bring to your attention. Anyhow in chapter 6 then, **“And the word of the (Eternal) came to me, saying, Son of man, set thy face toward the mountains of Israel,”** or the nations of Israel, **“and prophesy against them, and say, Ye mountains of Israel, hear the word of the (Eternal); thus says the (Eternal) to the mountains.”**

Now this is literal to the mountains and the hills and the rivers and the valleys. That is in the land of Israel. Now begin with verse 6, let me see, then speaking to the house of Israel primarily, and he’s a prophet to the house of Israel.

Well, in verse 7, ***“And the slain shall fall in the midst of you, and you shall know that I am the (Eternal).”*** That is a special little phrase that Ezekiel uses that is not used in other writers or other prophets in the Bible. The time when they shall know that He is the Lord or the Eternal. That means the Second Coming of Christ. It’s used time and again in the Book of Ezekiel, always referring to the Second Coming of Christ.

And he continues on in verse 9, **“And they shall loathe themselves for the evils which they have”** done in the past. It’s after Christ’s coming. They’re not going to do that until He comes.

Now then, I want to go on a little further to the 12th chapter of Ezekiel and verse 20, and here again, ***“And the cities that are inhabited shall be laid waste, and the land shall be desolate;***





of Israel that prophesy, and say unto them,” or that are preaching really and that prophesy out of their own hearts, “Hear ye the word of the (Eternal),” and then he *scorches* the ministers, and that’s the ministers here, not in Judah, but the ministers in Britain and the United States. So there is no question about who and where and what time and to whom God is addressing there, and who is mentioned.

But now I want to turn to something else again. Just before these things happen, back into Matthew 24 again. Jesus had been in the temple with His disciples. They had just come outside, and He was showing them from outside the temple, the buildings of the temple, and He was telling them that the temple was going to be destroyed and that not one stone would be left on another. And they sort of broke off, and He went up on the Mount of Olives, and it’s one of the other, I believe it’s either Mark or Luke says there were three of the disciples came to Him up there.

it’s going to happen just before the coming of Christ!

Now, in Matthew 24, this great time, such as never happened before when ALL LIFE would be snuffed out if God didn’t stop it, which could not happen *before* the hydrogen bomb is happening just before the Second Coming of Christ, and here is just before the Second Coming of Christ because they are going to know that He is the Eternal.

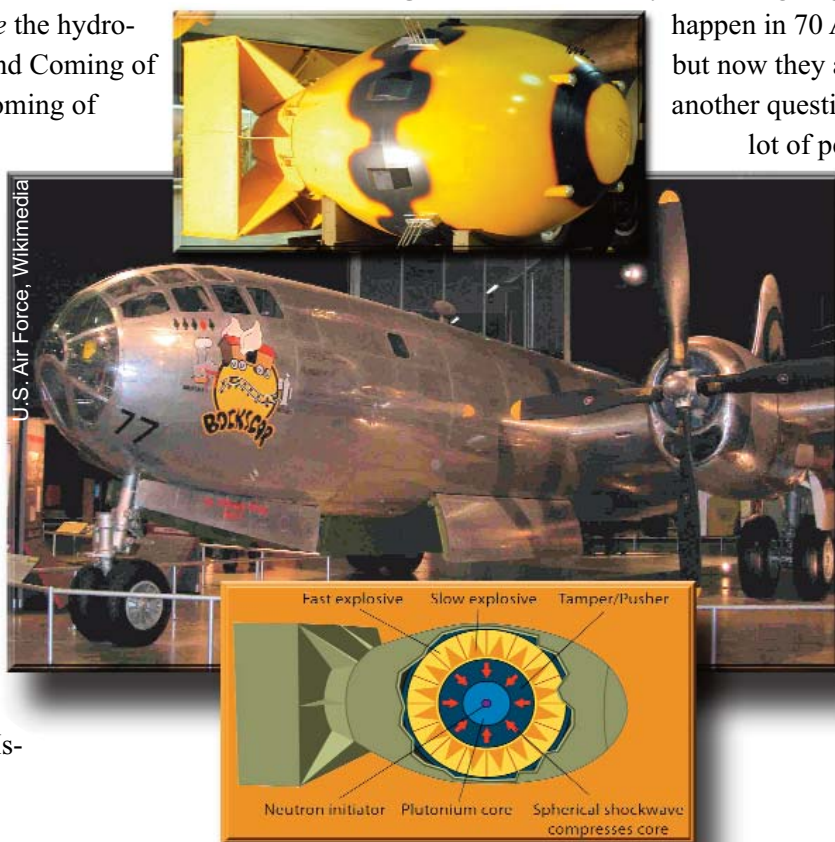
Now it goes on in verse 24 here, “**There shall be no more any vain vision nor flattering divination within the house of Israel.**” And then later he says, “**O, rebellious house,**” and always He is speaking of the house of Israel all through the Book of Ezekiel, wherever He says “**the rebellious house,**” it is all referring to Israel, never to Judah.

“**Son of man, behold, they of the house of Israel say, the vision**” that’s, well, it goes on to say it’s speaking of the house of Israel all the way through.

Chapter 13, “**And the word of the (Eternal) came unto me saying, Son of man, prophesy against the prophets**

and ye shall know that I am the (Eternal).” In other words,

Anyway, they came to Him and they said, “**Tell us, when shall these things be?**” Now, actually that was going to happen in 70 A.D., but now they asked another question. A lot of people





saying, it's not them quoted, and He's not quoting them.

I ran that down one time to be sure I was right and not wrong in that. And I went through EVERY place I could find in the Bible where anyone came in the name of Christ and ALWAYS they came as His representative, never once impersonating Him or saying that they themselves were Christ, never.

“Many will come in My name,” that is that they were coming as Christ's representatives saying that Jesus is the Christ and deceiving the many. Then there was **“wars and rumors of wars”** and things like that. And there shall be famines and pestilences, but He said here in verse 6, but the end is not yet. But **“these things must come”** first, **“but the end is not yet.”**

THE SIGN OF CHRIST'S COMING

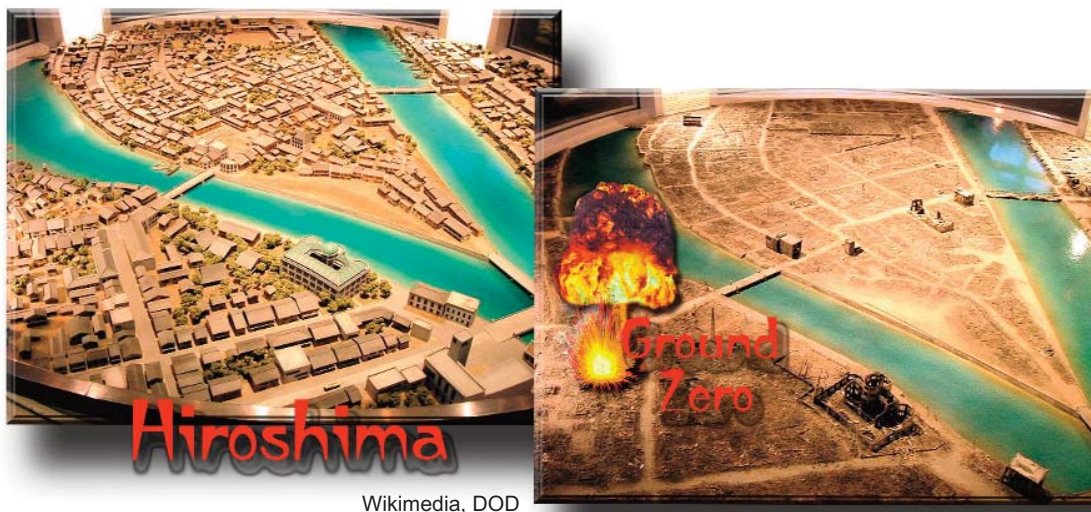
Then He came to verse 14, and He answered the second question about the sign of His coming. He answered their first question first. He didn't give the sign of His coming till He gets to verse 14 here. And He said, ***“This gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and THEN shall the end come.”*** That's the end of this world. That's His Second Coming.

don't see this. Jesus was talking about one thing and that one thing happened in 70 A.D. They said, ***“When will these things be? AND what shall be the sign of Thy COMING, and the END OF THE WORLD?”***

“And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive YOU.” Who was He talking to? His disciples. Don't let anyone deceive YOU. They were then living in the first century.

“For many shall come in My name, saying, (that) I am the Christ.” Brethren, most people read that saying that many will come saying that THEY are the Christ. Oh, no! They just put a comma in the wrong place in translating it. You get the original in the Greek language, and it's talking about many coming, *professing to be the ministers of Christ*, saying that JESUS is the Christ. Jesus is talking. **“Many will come,”** Jesus said, **“saying, that I,”** Jesus, **“am the Christ.”** It was Jesus talking when He said, **“I am the Christ,”** not that many would come saying that they are the Christ. Many will come





Wikimedia, DOD

You read of Jesus conquering Satan just a line ahead of this. **“And immediately the spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness,”** right after He was baptized, and He was there in the wilderness 40 days, tempted of Satan, and was with the wild beasts and the angels ministered to Him. Now you get

Brethren, when did the gospel of the Kingdom start being proclaimed? Jesus said that right around 30 A.D., late 30 or early 31 A.D. The Church was founded in 31 A.D. What gospel did Jesus preach in Mark 1, verse 1: **“The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”**

the details of that in the fourth chapter of Matthew. There was the greatest battle that EVER HAPPENED, the battle for the throne of the WHOLE EARTH! And you find in the fourth chapter of Matthew the details of that great battle.

And then it shows as soon as He was baptized, after John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee preaching the gospel. What gospel? **“The gospel of the KINGDOM OF GOD.”**

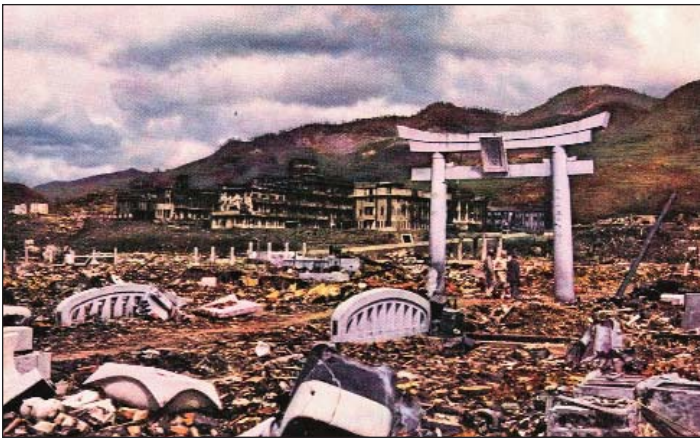
Now the time was FULFILLED when Christ had conquered Satan. So He said, came to the gospel saying, **“The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand.”** The Kingdom was at hand! He was going to call now, the Church, which in fact as I’ve been telling you the last two

Now a kingdom is a nation, a government, a nation under a government.

“... Of the Kingdom of God and saying the time is fulfilled.” Why was it fulfilled? What did that mean? People read right over that. They don’t get the meaning of that, “the time is fulfilled.” Now stop right there. There is a MEANING on that. What is the meaning? The time had not been fulfilled until Jesus had overcome Satan!

Satan tried to kill the Christ child, but that wasn’t Jesus overcoming Satan. God the Father got a message through to Joseph and Mary, Mary the mother of Jesus, saying, **“Flee into Egypt until this thing is all over.”** They were trying to, Satan was trying to have Jesus killed through King Herod. And when he had died, He said, **“Now you can go back into the land of Israel.”** That’s when they went back up to Nazareth. But that wasn’t Jesus conquering Satan.





NAGASAKI DEVASTATION

or three weeks, and I didn't realize this myself before that. *The Church is the Kingdom of God in embryo. In other words, it's the embryo that will BECOME the Kingdom. We aren't yet the Kingdom of God. We are the embryo of what will BECOME the Kingdom of God. And it started with those 12.*

THE CHURCH A 'TEACHER'S COLLEGE'

And then on the Day of Pentecost there were 3,000 added. The next day or two, two more thousand and then others. But always, they are supposed to be teachers. I mean we are supposed to be students and to learn and then we are supposed to be teachers. That's why you read over in Hebrews, where the Apostle Paul writing the Book of Hebrews said to the people in the Church that whereas you ought to already be TEACHERS, you still need to be taught the very beginning of the religious or the spiritual education of the things of God.

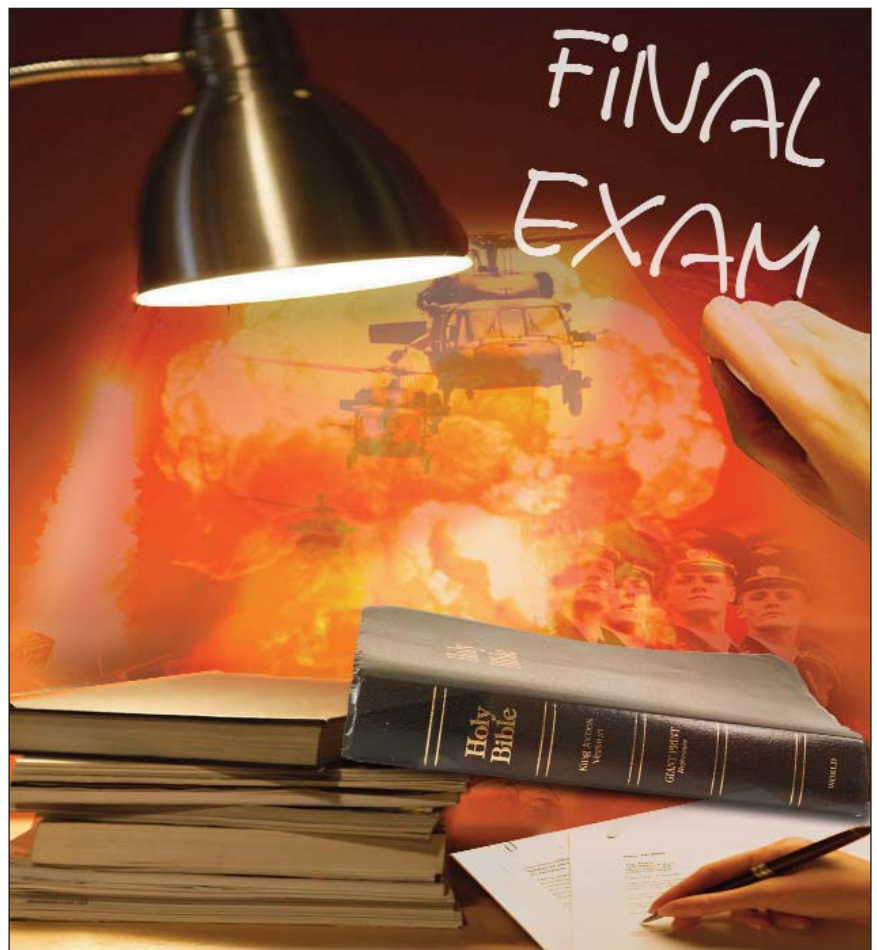
Brethren, what grade are you in, in spiritual education? Now stop and think each one of you, are you past the first grade? Are you in the second grade? Are you in junior high or are you in high school yet? In SPIRITUAL EDUCATION how far have you gone in the KNOWLEDGE of spiritual knowledge and the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? How far advanced are you NOW?

We are coming up to the time of final exams!
Are you going to be able to pass the grade and get into the Kingdom? I want to ROUSE you

to THINK! We've been just taking things for granted! We've been just stupefied! We haven't been awake! I know God says to the weak nations, *"Awake here! Get awake! Build up, beat your farm implements into weapons of war!"* And they've been doing it! Oh, yeah! They'll wake up for war! But will you wake up for peace – for the Kingdom of God? Brethren, I have to put energy into what I do, and I hit 90 years of age next month.

Now, not one of us knows whether he is going to be alive one day longer or not. I don't know. But I feel somehow that perhaps God needs to have me to stay around a while longer. And I know this, that I've got to put every ounce of ENERGY that I have into it EVERY SINGLE DAY!

But I have to be up and going, and I have to ROUSE myself, and it's harder for me to rouse myself out of bed mornings than it used to be. It's HARDER for me to STIR myself up and DRIVE myself on, but other people they just take it easy and take it for granted. They're not in a hurry, and I wish some of you would show a little more energy, brethren. I wish you'd get a little more EARNEST about



that reached England and Northern England later and Scotland and North Ireland. We went on that later. We were on a different channel, and I think the broadcast was on Wednesdays, and we were reaching all Europe at that time. Later, we were reaching England.

Tell me who was preaching the gospel of the Kingdom between? I think that maybe it was preached a little bit from that time up to 70 A.D., but certainly not after 70 A.D. And actually, it didn't start going around to the world to kings and people like that until 1970 – 1,900 years later, and that's a century of time cycles.

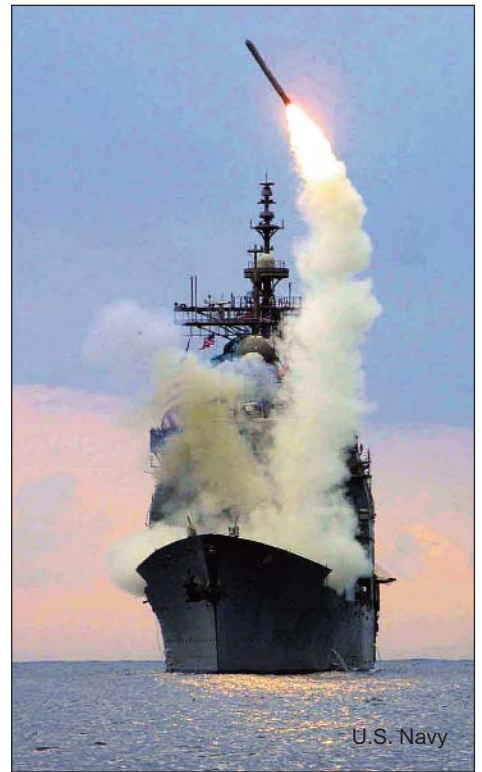
And 19 years is a time cycle as you find by the sun, the moon and the earth, which God set in their respective places and orbits to determine lengths of time.

You know, I'm reminded of one who used to say to me
19 years is no
time

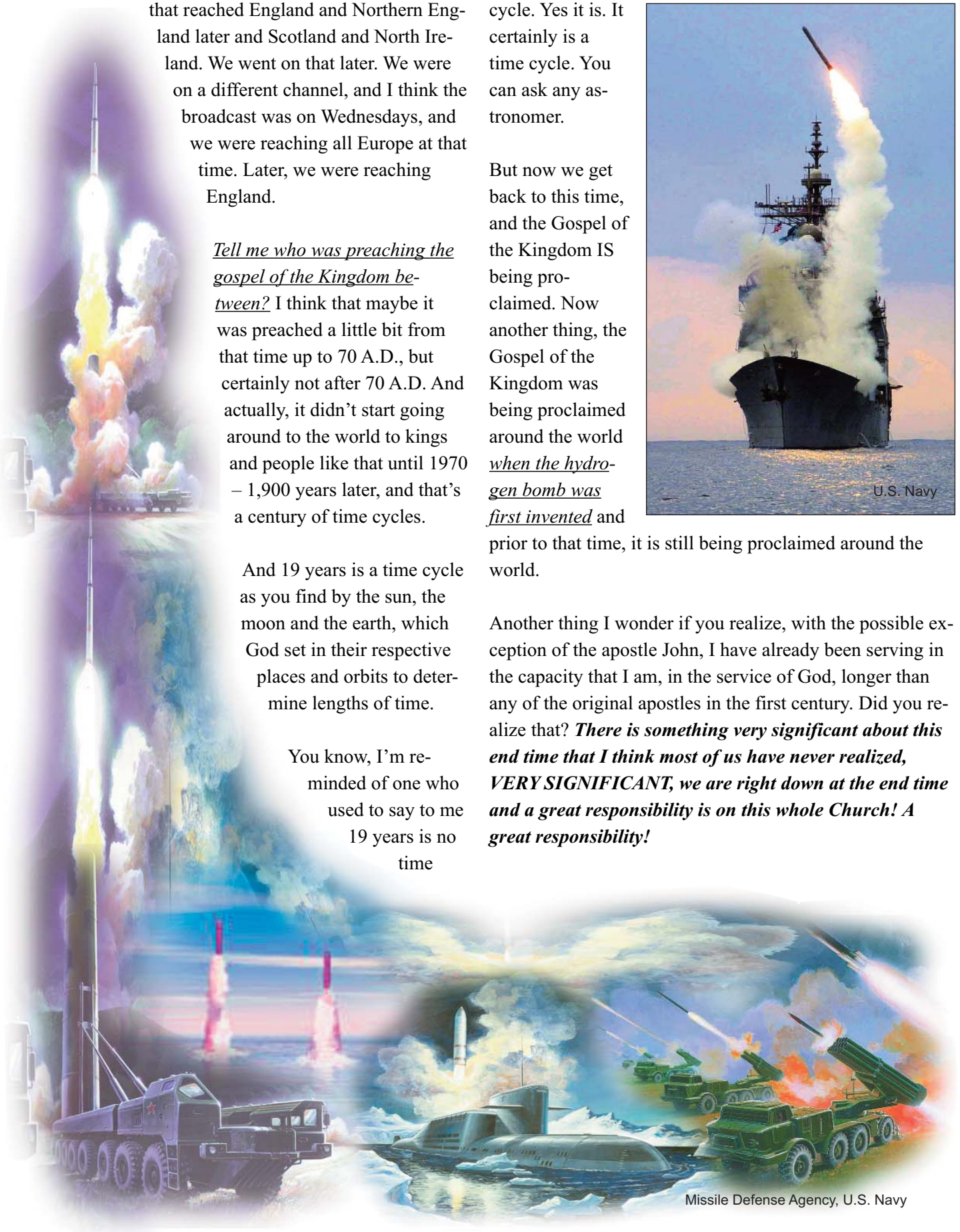
cycle. Yes it is. It certainly is a time cycle. You can ask any astronomer.

But now we get back to this time, and the Gospel of the Kingdom IS being proclaimed. Now another thing, the Gospel of the Kingdom was being proclaimed around the world when the hydrogen bomb was first invented and prior to that time, it is still being proclaimed around the world.

Another thing I wonder if you realize, with the possible exception of the apostle John, I have already been serving in the capacity that I am, in the service of God, longer than any of the original apostles in the first century. Did you realize that? ***There is something very significant about this end time that I think most of us have never realized, VERY SIGNIFICANT, we are right down at the end time and a great responsibility is on this whole Church! A great responsibility!***



U.S. Navy



Missile Defense Agency, U.S. Navy



*The time of these prophecies, **the time when the hydrogen bomb was invented that could destroy all humanity.** The time of these prophecies is the time when the Gospel of the Kingdom is going to the world for the first time in 100 time cycles of 19 years each. It's astounding when you realize the truth! It ought to shake us up! It ought to.*

Now turn to Malachi, the third chapter of Malachi, and notice here verse one, **"Behold, I will send My messenger, and he shall prepare the way before Me: and the Lord, whom you seek, shall suddenly come to His Temple."**

What temple is Christ the Lord coming to? Brethren YOU are that Temple! A SPIRITUAL Temple as you read in Ephesians the second chapter.

"Even the messenger of the covenant," this is Christ. Now He's coming to His Temple. His Temple is the Church at His Second Coming. **"Whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, says the LORD of Hosts."**

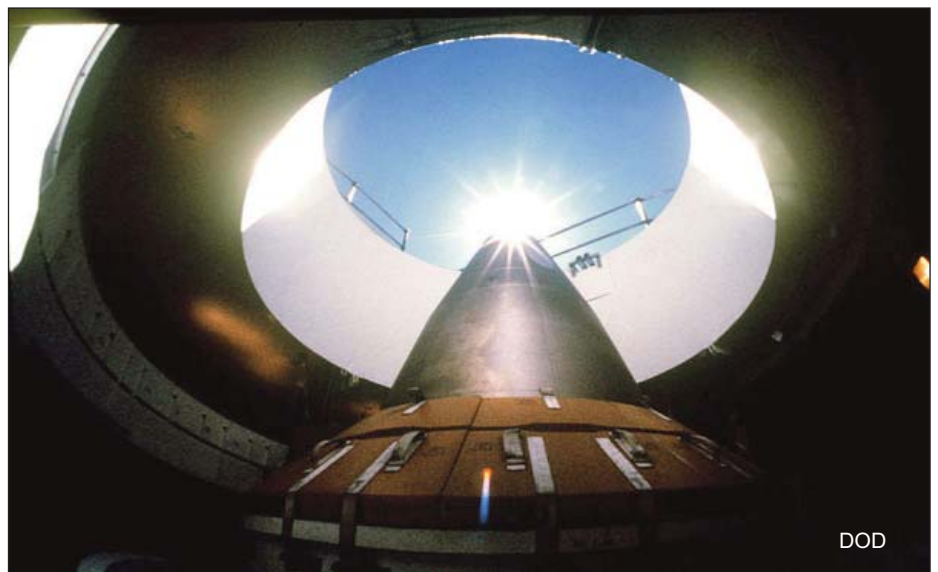
Now, is this talking about His First Coming? You'll read in Matthew, Mark and, well, in John, at least in three of the four gospels, of how John the Baptist fulfilled this prophecy. John the Baptist was not Elijah. Jesus said Elijah had already

come. John said he was not Elijah, but Jesus said that he had come in the POWER and SPIRIT of Elijah. A different man, but in the power and spirit of Elijah.

No, Elijah the same man is not coming back until the time of the resurrection, and that hasn't happened yet! But who is this talking about here? Was that talking about John the Baptist before Christ's First Coming?

Because you go right on and the next words, **"But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver: and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD."** That didn't happen when He came the first time. None of this has happened when He came the first time.

"As in the days of old, and as in the former years. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift





witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, and the widow and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not (the Lord), saith the LORD of Hosts.”

And we’ve had liberals in the Church trying to turn people aside just a little bit. Liberalizing and watering down the truth of God. Oh, God help us from that kind of thing. I hope that we are getting that cleaned out of the Church. *That’s talking about someone to prepare the way before the Second Coming of Christ.*

Now, the Church started out as an embryo of the Kingdom of God, to become the Kingdom of God, but pretty soon they turned to false gospels, a false message, and the truth was sabotaged, and the true gospel was suppressed and was not preached for 1,900 years. One thousand, nine hun-

dred years the gospel was not proclaimed to the world. The Church was supposed to have kept it, but they lost most of it during that 1,900 years, and God has had to raise up someone to restore it, and, brethren, it’s a TREMENDOUS responsibility. And you have to share that responsibility with me. You simply do have to.

THE CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT CHURCHES

Now, back here in Revelation the 18th chapter we find something, no, in the 17th chapter we find the church that did come, and they turned to other gospels. In the 17th chapter and verse 5, on “her forehead,” the church’s forehead and this is the church of traditional Christianity, on “her forehead was a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**”

Yes, old Rome was the mother church, but, brethren, her daughters are not God’s churches. Her daughters are har-

lots, and God says so right here, and it's all part of the Babylonish system and now Mother Rome is trying to get her daughters back. And the Pope signed up some kind of agreement with the head of the Church of England just a couple of three weeks ago in London. And they're getting back together. I don't know how far they'll get back together, but it's starting in that direction.

THE MARK OF THE BEAST

*And things are starting until there will be 10 nations in Europe that'll form one great empire, and it's going to happen, and old Mother Rome is going to ride on top of the heap and **then the Mark of the Beast is going to be enforced**. And I think I'm going to have to preach some sermons on that. Nobody else is doing it.*

And, incidentally, a lot of the truth was suppressed within

this Church while I was away and overseas, including the booklet on **the Mark of the Beast**. Some of you ought to get that out and read it.

Because if you try to keep the Sabbath, you are going to be in trouble very soon, and you are going to find you are going to be tested as to whether you are willing to even give your life if necessary for the truth. Do you love it that much? You are going to be TRIED and TESTED in the next few years as never before!

And I think we are going to be tried and tested in the next MONTHS this year, because **some are predicting a worst Depression than EVER happened. The economy is going to take a terrible tailspin now economically and unemployment will grow VERY great and if that happens it's going to hit God's people.**





We're right close to final exams. We are supposed to have been learning. How far are you? Are you still back in first grade? Or are you only in second or third grade? Where are we, brethren? Where are each one of you? Ask yourselves that question, not the one next to you, ask you, yourself.

Now, here is this Babylon, and God calls us out of that. He says that, **"Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen."** And then in verse four, Revelation 18, ***"I heard another voice from heaven, saying, COME OUT OF HER, My people."*** That's out of this world's church, which is really the church of Satan. ***"That ye be not partakers of HER sins, and that ye receive not of HER plagues."*** ***She will punish you if you keep the Sabbath. That time***

And it's a warning, and I have warned you. **I warned you a couple of years ago to tighten your belts and get ready for a LOWER cost of living. Because you are not going to be able to ENJOY all of the MATERIAL things and the GOOD LIVING you have had, and I tell you now once again brethren, and you will see that God is showing me what is coming! It's not going to be easy! It's not going to be just peaches and ice cream from here on, and just getting into the Kingdom of God, and everything is going to be all wonderful. We are going to be TRIED and TESTED and PURIFIED! Have you got what it takes? Are you going to be able?**

is coming, and you're going to have to stand up and be counted. Have you got what it takes? It's going to cost you money. It's going to cost you everything. Where are you going to be, brethren?



But we are to go out and teach all nations, and we want to keep the Work going.

ENTERING PERILOUS TIMES

Well, brethren, I just know we are in very perilous times in the very last days. I don't like to have to come and talk this way and tell you about it.


I'd like to just tell you that everything is just nice and easy and is going to be easy, and everything is just wonderful – and it will be!

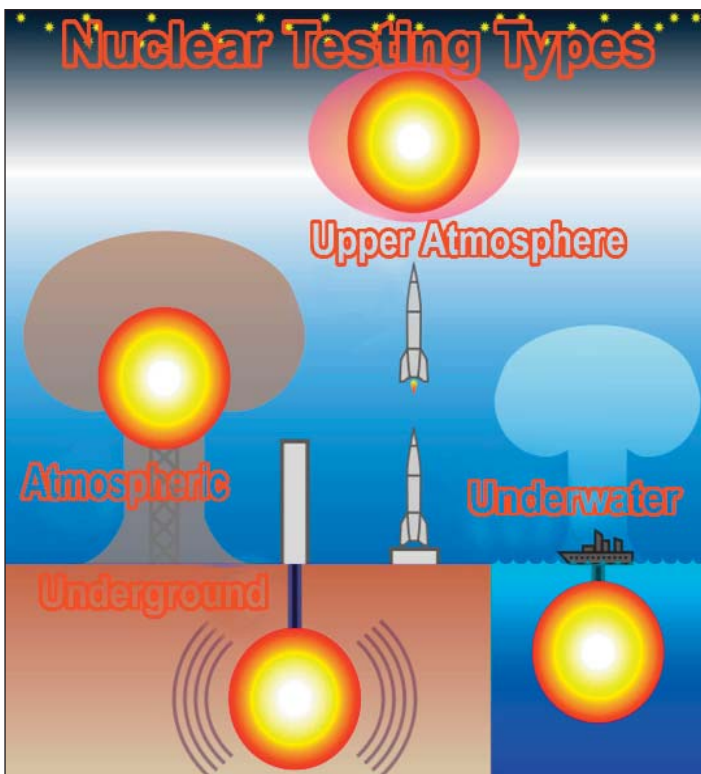
But I have to tell you the bad news is going to come first. Your mettle is going to be TRIED brethren! Are you going to come through?

I do need your continued prayers. I know that many of you are praying for me, maybe all of you are. Well, I need it, but you need to pray for one another, too. We are going to be tried as we never have been tried before and very, very soon. This isn't going to go on this way forever.



In the meantime, enjoy yourselves as much as you can, but throw yourselves with dynamic energy into PRAYER and into the Work of God and realize that the pleasures of this world don't count anymore.

The one great thing as this former Harvard professor said is this matter of survival! What about us? Are we going to survive? Some of us won't brethren. And I hope it's not many of us that won't, but I know some of us won't, and I hope that we'll pray for one another that we won't fall by the wayside, but that we'll all come through because there are perilous times ahead right now. We're already in perilous times, but they are going to be far more. Well, talking isn't going to do it. It's a case of "did you get the message?" 



Editor's Comment: To make room for this sermon to fit into an article it was necessary to edit out a large portion from it. However, what was removed did not take away from the subject matter. For those who would like to have the complete sermon please write or call and it will be mailed to you on a CD or Cassette.

Alton "Don" Billingsley

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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

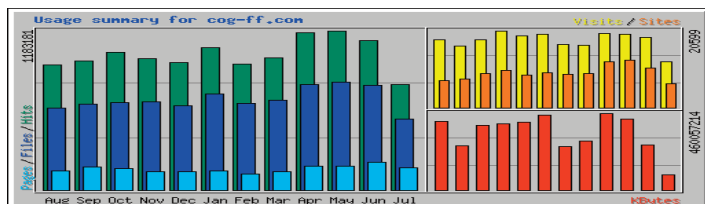
Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?
www.sabbathcentral.com

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

An Open Letter to the Scattered Flock
www.bodyofchristonline.us



Tens of thousands of Internet users visit our sites each month.

