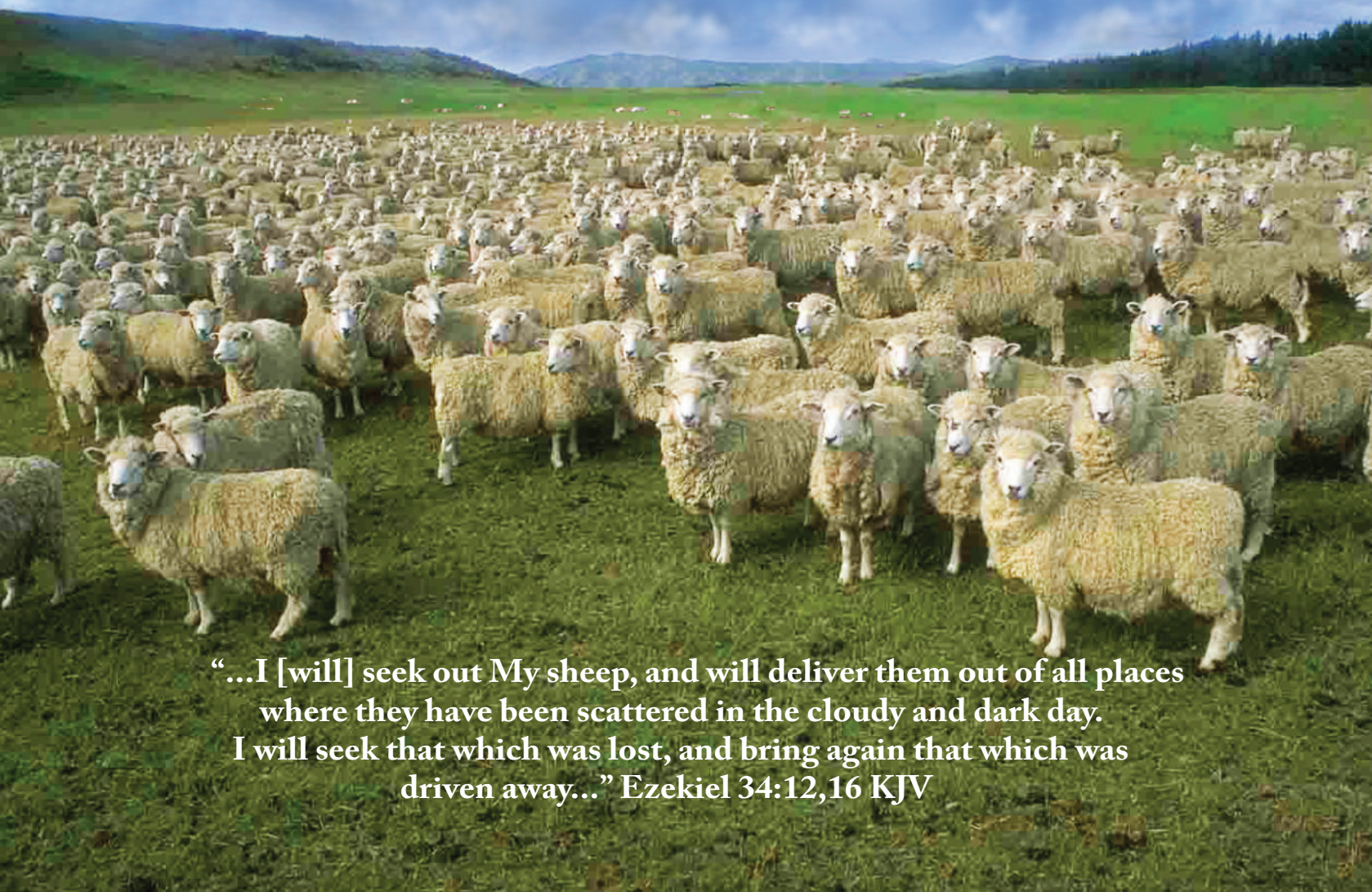


The _____ Philadelphia Remnant

Jul/Aug/Sept 2013



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



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

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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 Valley Springs, 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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Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong

Speaks to the Brethren

July 4, 1981

Greetings, everybody: nice to be back here again. Last week I was up at Orr, Minnesota speaking to many of our young juniors up there; and we had about as many, well, neighboring Church people from surrounding Churches that had driven some distance to be there (some parents I think were there also) as there were students or children. So we had quite a little crowd up there last week. The week before that in Cincinnati ... no, let me see ... yes, I guess it was Cincinnati. Boy, I am losing track. With being around so many places lately, I'm sort of losing track.

From Cincinnati we went right on into New York, where we had a meeting on Sunday with some people that I think are taking over Quest magazine. I think that Quest will be closed

up. Let me see, today happens to be the 4th of July doesn't it? Well, I think it will be closed on the 15th; and that is going to mean a saving to the Work of some 4 million dollars a year, and with inflation it would probably have run 4 1/2 or 5 million dollars next year.

I am glad that can go into additional telecasting, broadcasting, additional publishing and getting the gospel out to the world, which Quest was supposed to do but was never allowed to do (although it had been started with the supposition that it would). I find that contracts were made with the editors and people that there would never be anything religious in it whatsoever, although promises were made to me that there would be. Well, at least we will be rid of that.

Now next Sabbath, let me see, we are going back to Charlotte, North Carolina where a group of Churches in that area will all meet together; and on the following Sabbath I hope to go up to Vancouver, British Columbia for a number of Churches in western Canada and perhaps some from northern Washington will be up there. Then during the following week I will be again to this next session of the children up at Orr, Minnesota on the way to Europe. And then on the Sabbath of that week, which will be (I see, it'll be 3 weeks from today.) a combined service again for the Churches in England, somewhere in London.

I think the Sabbath after that in Germany with a service of the people from Germany and

Holland, perhaps Belgium and countries, at least German speaking countries. I think there may have to be some German translators there. Then to at least one of the Churches in France, and perhaps down to Switzerland; then back home and speaking to a group of young people at Orr, Minnesota on the way back; or the final group at Orr for the summer. We are having three groups up there this summer, by the way. The 2nd group is just starting this week; and I will speak to them, God willing, on the way back over to England, and Germany, and France and then to Orr, the next group on the way back. After that I hope I'll be back here with you again, and so it will go.

BIBLE LIKE A JIGSAW PUZZLE

Now I have been speaking the last several times I've been here, and in other Churches also, going right back to the beginning in the Garden of Eden. God has been revealing new truth to us. It's not new truth. It's truth that's been new for a long, long time. But God's truth is always new, by the way. It never gets old. It's not old truth. It's perpetually new; but a lot of it is new to us, because we hadn't seen it before. Now, it's all been in the Bible; but, you know, the Bible is like a jigsaw puzzle.

I'm sure you all have worked out a jigsaw puzzle at one time

or another. It's a large picture. Sometimes it's, oh, about so big; and sometimes they're smaller.

other where it belongs.

Now, the Bible is like that. I've often thought of starting to



It's cut up with a jigsaw with little curlicues all here and there, in about anywhere from 100 up to quite a little more than a thousand different pieces, all curlicues around different ways; and you have to put them together. They're cut in such a way it's very difficult to know what piece goes next to what other piece. Now, when they are unscrambled, you don't see any picture at all. You don't realize there is any picture there; and yet there is a picture there when you get it all together, and when you get them into place one next to the

explain that in Genesis 1 verse 1. And in **Genesis 1 verse 1** to explain and go to other parts of the Bible that talk about the same thing and throw additional light on what is there. Well, I would go next to **John 1:1**, in fact in **John 1:1** to John 1 **verse 4**. And to make it still more clear, I think I would go on to verse **14** in John 1. And then I think I would go to the 3rd chapter of Ephesians and verse 9 where the Word, who became Jesus Christ, was really the maker of all things.

How God made ALL things by Jesus Christ.

Now the Word of **John 1:1** was with God {1} and He was also God. I mean, He was with God, and He became Christ. But originally when He was just called the Logos in Greek (or in the English language it's translated into the word "Word") which means Spokesman, revelatory thought. He was God, and He was with God. It's just like John can be with Smith, but John is also Smith because he's the son of Smith.

Now at the time of John 1:1 the Word was not yet the Son of God. I wonder if you realized that. He did not become the Son of God until He was born of the virgin Mary; and that's only a little over 1900 and, oh, about 1980 some years ago. Then He became Christ; but originally He was The Word, but He also was God.

Back in Genesis 1 verse 1 you find "in the beginning Elohim," and that was written in the Hebrew language. The word for "God" translated into the English word God is there Elohim, which is a uniplural noun like the word family or church, or team or group: more than one person forming one group, or more than one person forming one church or one family.

God is only one God, but there's more than one Person in God. And you find that if you go to John 1:1 that explains a lot about Genesis {2}1:1 "In the beginning God," Elohim, a

uniplural. That's why when you come to verse **26** God said **"Let (not) Me make man in My image."** God said -- Elohim, the uniplural, more than one Person, said -- **"Let Us make man in Our image."**

Now, as you go on through, you can explain a great many other things from other parts in the Bible. **"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"** -- and it should be plural heavens, not heaven as it is in the King James. You'll find that other translations, as far as I know I think about all of them, give it 'heavens,' plural. In the Hebrew Moses wrote it plural 'heavens,' not one, just heaven.

heaven of God's throne, and I think that is sometimes called the 3rd heaven. That's not necessarily still further away. It is the 3rd heaven, and we don't know where that is.

There is only one place in the Bible that gives us an idea, and that's in the (let me see) the 14th chapter of Isaiah where it speaks of it as being in the far north. I think it is referring to the throne of God and God's heaven at that place.

TOHU AND BOHU

Now as you go a little further you find that that throws a great deal of light on what is in Genesis 1:1. The very next verse begins to lead to a lot of other things.



There are three heavens mentioned in the Bible: the heaven where the birds fly, where we find air planes today; then the heaven which is above that, which we call outer space today, where our astronauts have gone and where the other planets exist; and then the

"And the earth was without form and void." Now you go back to the Hebrew word, **"and the earth was,"** and in this case it means **'became'** because the same Hebrew word is used "became" in other places in Genesis.

It "**came to be**" would be a better translation. Now "with-out form and void" is the English translated from the Hebrew words 'tohu' and 'bohu,' and that means chaotic, in confusion, waste and empty, a condition of decay.



That is not a newly created condition at all. A thing doesn't become decayed when it is first made, or first created, or first brought into being. It comes to be decayed later.



Then you have to go to the **14th chapter of Isaiah**, the **28th of Ezekiel**; and you have to go into **II Peter 2 and verse 4**; and you have to go into many other Scriptures in the Bible to begin to learn

WHY it had become that way and what had happened. Many other Scriptures fit in there before you even get to the next verse.

Now that's the way the Bible is. If you are going to understand the Bible, you are going to have to read it like that. You have to find a part here, a part there, and a part somewhere else that fits into the Bible -- clear into the beginning in Genesis or any other part of the Bible.

Now again you must put the Bible together -- every verse that modifies it, or describes it, or goes along with it and fits in with it like a jigsaw puzzle, one piece fitting next to another. You must get every other Scripture in its context; and not put a different meaning on it because you can take a certain part of a Scripture, a whole sentence or a part of a sentence, and make it mean something else.

That is like the old preacher (I almost called him the Methodist preacher, but I'm not sure he was a Methodist. He might have been Presbyterian, Baptist, or something else.) back in the time of our great, great grandmother's about. In other words, this probably was back in the latter part of the 19th Century, and we are living in the 20th Century.

There was a new fad in women's hairdo. (I think you've heard me tell this before, but I know it has been

some time.) The younger girls had a new hairdo. They were doing their hair up and rolling it around in a top knot, just slightly forwards in the middle of the top of their head.

Now frankly I've seen women's hair done that way; and I don't like it very well. I don't think it's very beautiful; and so you don't see many women doing it that way today, because I think they don't think it is very beautiful either. And you know a woman's hair is really her glory physically, and a woman can just change her whole appearance by changing the way she does her hair.



As I say, usually you don't see any two women who do their hair up the same way. Well, I think every woman should do it the way that is more becoming for her and it fits her face better; and I guess that's what most of them do, and that's alright.

HERE A LITTLE, THERE A LITTLE

Anyway, this preacher was preaching a scorching sermon. He was preaching a corrective sermon last Sunday morning. Of course, it was a Sunday morning; and he was scorching these young women of that new modern fad. He told them to take that top knot down. He said, "My sermon this morning, my text is found in Matthew chapter 24, verse 17. You can turn to it and read it if you want. **Matthew 24, verse 17** '...Top not come down ...'" Now he says, "Young woman, God says for that top knot to come down;" and he preached a whole sermon on that one Scripture.

It does say 'top not come down' there because Christ is talking about a time of trouble coming when he says that "he that is on the house top [should] not come down" to take anything out of his house. So the 'top not come down' is there alright, but that isn't what it means in that context.

So you see what I mean, in understanding the Bible you take a little here, a little there, a little somewhere else and put them together. But you've got to know that you get the meaning as it is in its own context and see that it makes sense put together with the other Scripture in its context until you have a complete picture; and that's the way the Bible is.

Now if you start to read the

Bible, and you just start in Genesis 1:1, and you start to read the Bible through; and I've heard people say, "Well, I know about the Bible. I've read the Bible all the way through from beginning to end." Well, you know, I was brought up in church, until I was 18 years old, and Sunday school. I didn't know what the church believed.

I did know some things. I know that they believed and I believed (and I just took it for granted) that I was an immortal soul [and] that I would live forever. If I died that I'd pass on or pass away out of this body; and if I'd been good I'd go to heaven, if I'd been bad I'd go to hell! But I was going to live forever because I was an immortal soul, or else I had one, or something. I didn't know which.

Well, I had to come to find that I was all wrong. And I know that after I was married when I was age 25; a marriage that lasted, well, 50 years from the time we fell in love and were engaged, and it just lacked 3 months and 15 days exactly it would be 50 years from the marriage date. But I'm sure we'd been in love with each other for that long because we were engaged some little time before we were married. Most young people are, or used to be, or should be. And, anyway, my

mother sent us a Bible right after we were married.

Now I didn't read it so much because I was a slow reader; but my wife was a more rapid reader, and I thought we'd get through it quicker if she read it. And the main thing was just to get through it, because I didn't understand it anyway. She'd read it to me. It was like



saying "dah dah dah dah dah dah dah." I didn't get anything out of it.

If you start to read and read through the Bible verse by verse, chapter by chapter, book by book, you will not get the meaning. You just won't get it that way, because what you read in one place must be put together with some of the things that you will read in other places; and I didn't know that then.

A PHILADELPHIA LAWYER

Now it wasn't until I was (well, let me see, it was in 1926 and I was) 34 years of age that I was challenged, and for the first time began to look into the Bible, because I thought it said something it didn't, and I wanted to make it say something that I wanted it to say.

Of course I was quite disappointed because I said it didn't say what I wanted it to say at all. Then I began to learn something about the Bible. But I've learned all of that since I was 34 years of age. I was really a biblical ignoramus before that, or a biblical illiterate, whichever way you want to say it, the first 34 years of my life.

I did know that we'd gone through the book of Proverbs in Sunday school instead of the usual quarterly, as they called it, or the Sunday school lessons that the church used in all the other Sunday school classes. Our boys' class, and we all grew up together from little kids up until I was 18, all together, the boys' class. I don't know where the girls were, they must have had a class of their own or something because I remember we were only boys; and we had a young man teacher. To me, we thought he was quite an old man. But as I look back and think now, I think he must have been in his young, or not over his middle, twenties. But we all liked him.

Proverbs Proverbs Proverbs

So we just went through the book of Proverbs; and when we'd finished the book of Proverbs, we went back and started going through the book of Proverbs again; and after that we went through the book of Proverbs again.

Now that's about all I knew; but that did put one thing into my mind -- that I wanted to have understanding. And I know when I was 5 years old my father said I was going to be a Philadelphia lawyer when I grew up because I always wanted to know why. I wanted to know how, and whether, and everything else about anything. I wanted to understand it. I asked so many questions.

Well, I didn't know then I would be a Philadelphia lawyer some day when I grew up because here I preach the law of God and the government of God in the Philadelphia Era of the Church. So I AM A PHILADELPHIA LAWYER, am I not? So my Dad was right.

Oh yes, I tell you from the years of 18 to 20 I felt sorry for my father. I knew more than he did. And then he moved out. We had been living in Des Moines, Iowa when my father moved out to the west coast, first to Idaho and later out to Salem, Oregon. So I didn't see my father any more from {3}1912 until 1924 (so 12 years later when I saw my father). I had a lot of respect for him because I found he had

learned so much in that 12 years, and he now knew more than I did. But I didn't know that when I was 18 or 20. And of course a lot of boys of 18 or 20 are like that. At that age they know more than their parents do.

But, nevertheless now, that's all just a prelude to what I was going to get into for a sermon today. I wanted to tell you a little something about the Bible. And I was wondering, I have been going back to those two trees in Genesis; and that's the foundation of everything in the world. If you want to know why anything is like it is today -- Why is the world like it is? Why do we have the kind of world to live in that we do have today? -- you have to go back to that time; and I have been developing a lot of time to that recently.

I wanted to get to something else today. Well, I thought about whether I should bring a message on prophecy. Now, I'd like to get back to the prophecies once again; and I think it's about time that we do, and I think that I shall very soon. But it just seems that the way things have been breaking I haven't been able to speak here just regularly every Sabbath; and I don't get any of it but once every 3, 4 or 5 Sabbaths. But perhaps I will sometime soon.

Prophecy...

PERSECUTION BY SARDIS MINISTRY

But there is another type of subject: I found years ago up in Eugene, Oregon, before we started Ambassador College and before I ever moved down to Southern California, Pasadena, that just taking one chapter in the Bible and going through that chapter verse by verse, could form a very good sermon, the material for a good sermon.

Now once I remember up in Eugene, Oregon, I had not had time to prepare a sermon. I was caught short and didn't have time. So I quickly told the congregation that Sabbath that I would take a chapter in the Bible and go through it. I said, "Now why don't I let one of you select a chapter, and I will go through it and expound it."

Well, there was a Sardis minister there; and he did not like me. I have told you the Sardis ministers persecuted me. The Sardis brethren all loved me, but their ministers did not. They felt competitive, and they did not like me, and they persecuted.

This man was sitting in the front row. He said, "Mr. Armstrong, may I suggest that you preach on the first chapter of Isaiah." I said, "Fine, alright."

You know for the minute I didn't know why he wanted me to preach on that. I just remembered one thing, **"though your sins be as crimson, they shall be as**

snow." I knew that was in that chapter, and the rest of it for a minute I just did not remember. But I knew he had some motive. I didn't know what it was, but he wanted me to preach on that.

Now, I had been taking the truth about God's annual Holy Days to the Sardis people; and they had rejected it. And he wanted to lay a trap for me just like the Pharisees did for Jesus. He wanted to trip me up and trap me, and he thought he had me there.

So it came to where God says, in the 1st chapter of Isaiah as I was going through it, that God hated ... and wherever it is. Well, why don't I just turn to it for a minute? That is not what I intended to preach on today at all, and I'll get to something else in a minute; but let's go back to that just a second. I want to show you, it is rather interesting and I think if we just get to something interesting like that for a change it will be a little bit of a change in sermon material here; and I think it'll be good for all of you.

Isaiah the 1st chapter, I didn't have it marked because I hadn't intended to use it. But he says here:

Isaiah 1:11 "(To) what

purpose is the multitude of sacrifices [And by the time I got to that point, I believe that's the place, I was emphasizing the word **"your."** It was their sacrifices that God was against.] **unto me saith the Lord: I am full of burnt offerings of**



rams, and the fat of (fed) beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of (he) goats." Now, let me see. Yes, **verse 13:**

Isaiah 1:13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and Sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting. (14) **YOUR new moons and YOUR appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear {4} them. "Your appointed feasts,"** and I put the **"YOUR"**. They were their. They were not God's appointed feasts!

And did I wallop that minister

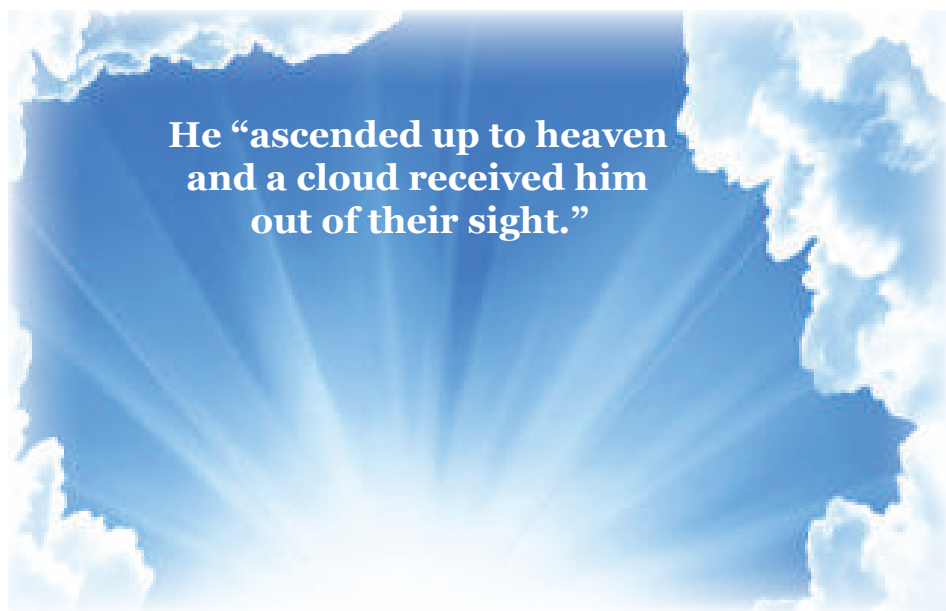
in the front row. I said, "That's just it." I said, "YOU want to have YOUR CAMP MEETINGS. You want to have YOUR WAYS. But GOD'S HOLY FEASTS, GOD'S HOLY DAYS, you don't want to observe." So his trap came right back on him. But God has always helped me in a case like that.

WHAT IS CHRIST DOING TODAY?

Well, I just wanted to explain a little about that sort of thing; and today I thought I would do that. I would not only take a chapter, perhaps I'll continue on later; but I would start in the book of Hebrews. Now I find that it has been almost 20 years ago (19 or 20 years ago) in England I started a series of sermons on the book of Hebrews, and I believe I continued it even here in Pasadena at that time. Well, that's almost a generation ago.

Then I had a long series of programs on radio, and that series of programs on the book of Hebrews was repeated on radio about a year or so ago. I haven't been following it in the last year. I don't know just what they've been running just recently, but I didn't expect so.

I thought that was a fairly good series, an interesting series of television, or radio programs rather; and I think it may be repeated again, because it was not dated. It was not timed. It is just as good now as it was 20 years ago. But I think we need some of that again. In other



words, the book of Hebrews is the book about Jesus as our High Priest.

Now one might ask this question: What has Jesus been doing this past 1900 years? Is Jesus dead? Well, He died; but your Bible and mine says He rose again, and He is not dead any longer. The last we saw of Him, He **"ascended up to heaven and a cloud received him out of their sight."**

That was about 10 days before the day of Pentecost and 40 days after His resurrection. But where's He been since? What has He been doing? He has been very much alive, and He has been doing something for us. He IS the head of the Church, but He is not a dead head of the Church.

You know, that reminds me, I was having a luncheon one time and holding a series of meetings up in Umapine, Oregon. There were some 7th Day Adventists people up

there, and one of them had come to one of my meetings. Of course, they didn't come to more than one of them. But they came to one, and to invite me to their home for, I think it was a Sabbath or a Sunday dinner. Well, I accepted. I went.

Well, of course, they got into an argument with me; and they talked about their having a prophet in their church. And they said, "Well, Mr. Armstrong does the Church of God have a prophet?" I said, "Oh, yes." I said "Jesus Christ is our Prophet." "Oh well, well." they said, "We mean a living prophet. But do you have any living prophets?" "No," I said, "Do you?" (because Mrs. Ellen G. White is their prophet and she died quite a while ago). And they looked at one another rather astonished. They had forgotten their prophet is dead.

I said, "Your prophet is dead, but our Prophet is still living. Our Prophet is Jesus Christ. He is the head of the Church.

He is the greatest of all prophets." He still today is living, and He is the head of the Church. But where is He today? **"He ascended to the right hand of God in heaven"** and there He has been the High Priest of the Church ever since.

Now, He's not the High Priest of the world. The world rejects Him; and even individual Christians are not members of His Church. They reject Him as the head of whatever church they belong to because He is not the head of any other church but His own Church; and, if they are not members of it, He is not the head of their church. That's all there is to it.

His Church is "fitly joined together." It is "compacted in every joint" just as if it is welded together, solidly bound together and organized. The organization is explained in the 12th chapter of I Corinthians and the 4th chapter of Ephesians; and how God has organized His Church. It is an organized body, but it is not a human organization. It is a spiritual organism, and yet it is well organized.

Now I might just say, by way of a little news I might put in right here, that in the past week the board that I have surrounding me now in the human level of the Church, at the headship of the Church, the leadership, is an Advisory Council of Elders. And in this past week we have been going

over a constitution, and forming and carefully going over every line, and sentence, and paragraph of a constitution and bylaws of the Worldwide Church of God, an unincorporated spiritual organism. But it is organized, and well organized.

BEGOTTEN, NOT YET BORN

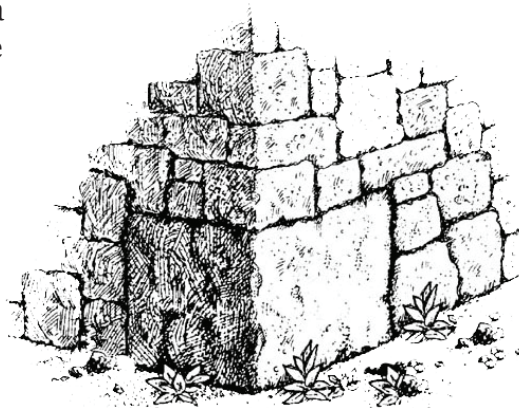
Now the unincorporated Worldwide Church of God does have a number of corporate entities under it, one of which is the Worldwide Church of God Incorporated, a California corporation. We are incorporated actually in a number of States, but the only members of the corporation are merely the officers of the corporation.

But the general laity of the Church are only members of the Church of God. In other words, we are all children of God; and the Church's congregation is the assembly, group, family. We're the begotten Family of God, not yet born. Now, there are plenty 'born again' people all around. They don't know what 'born again' means. They don't know what Jesus meant by that word, but in God's own Church we do know. We are begotten of God, and we do have the promise of being born of God; and too bad that others cannot understand that.

We are in the process of spiritual growth of overcoming Satan and this world, coming out of this world; and of growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour

Jesus Christ; and also of enduring until the end of this life, or the end of this time, whichever comes first.

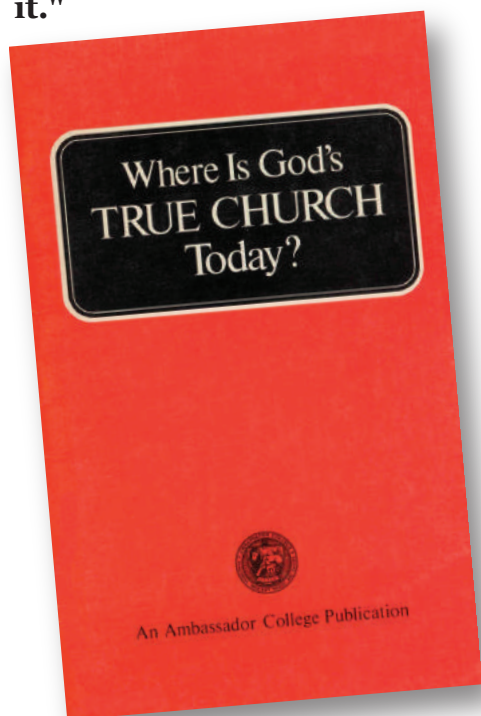
So God has given us that understanding because this is the Church of God, and it is based on the Word of God. And of the foundation of the Church, we find in Ephesians the 2nd {5} chapter that it is founded on the apostles and the prophets, **"Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone."** But it is **"fitly joined together."**



And Christ pictured it in the 15th chapter of John when He spoke about Himself being the vine and we are the branches. But did you ever notice that the branches are all joined to the vine, and the branches are joined to one another through the vine. Through CHRIST, we're JOINED to one another. We're FITLY joined together. You break one of them off and let it go alone, and it's also broken off from Christ.

A lot of people who want to be lone Christians say, "Well, I don't have to belong to any set church." Well, God has one

Church. He doesn't say, "I will create several different groups of churches." **"I will build my church and the gates of hell [or the gates of the grave, which it should be translated] shall not prevail against it."**



And He did build His Church, and the gates of the grave have not prevailed against it. It is still here. We have a number of Congregations; but we are all organized, we are all together, and we do all speak the same thing -- and that one thing has to be what Christ speaks. Christ is the Word of God. He is the Spokesman.

Well, now finally I'll get around to what I was going to speak on for a sermon today; but come back to the book of Hebrews. But speaking about prophecy, I do want to get to it because ... Before I start this, I want to say another word; and I would just like to sort of talk

to you a little bit today. I don't get to do that very often.

Lately I have been coming with a planned, set sermon. I've tried to stay right on the beam and not sidetrack with something else, and I think I've been doing that fairly well lately. All my life I have had to try to avoid getting sidetracked and jumping off onto some other thought that will flash in my mind as I go along, but to stay right on the subject. Well, I've been doing that lately.

TIMES OF TROUBLE COMING

But today I just wanted to say what comes to my mind. That's what I am doing. I just want to talk to you as one of you, and we need a time to talk like that and be together because we are all one in Christ.

But speaking about prophecy, how many of the 4 billion people [today 7 billion, plus] that exist on earth today do you think are still going to be alive when Christ comes? Now I think Christ is coming very, very soon because ALL of the prophecies and everything in the Bible that has to do with the time of His coming, the conditions of the world at the time of His coming, show that we are in the very last days just before the actual coming of Christ.

Now by that I don't mean that He can come tonight or tomorrow, because a number of things have to happen before that. At least there has to be a 3½-year period. There has to be a Great Tribulation, and it's

coming.

There has to be the forepart of what we call the Day of the Lord, and the Day of the Lord is when God intervenes and begins to supernaturally intervene in the world's affairs and take over PRIOR to the coming of Christ; and then He will take over completely when He comes.

But even prior to His coming, there are going to be frightful signs up in the sky. There are going to be plagues, and you know you will find that a tribulation is coming on this nation and 1/3rd of our nation is going to die of disease epidemics resulting from famine.



Famine

In other words, famine and the disease epidemic that will follow -- pestilence, as it is in **Matthew 24**, and again back in Ezekiel (Let's see, in the **5th** chapter I believe it is of **Ezekiel**), and our cities are to be destroyed. Then another 1/3rd of our people are to die by military warfare, which in our day now means nuclear warfare.

Our cities are to be destroyed. Isn't it significant that it's the cities to be destroyed? Most of the people are living in cities today. They've moved off of the farm. And it is cities that can be destroyed now by hydrogen bombs, atomic warfare. That was never possible until our time. Just since World War II has that become possible.

But soon after that they began to announce the hydrogen bomb, so great an atomic bomb only triggers it and sets it off. I don't know, what is it, a hundred times, a thousand times more powerful, more devastating, something like that? I haven't kept up on the technicalities of those things as I used to even.

I want to go into that again myself because I think we need to go into what is going to happen between now and then all anew and all afresh -- because somewhere between a 1/3rd and 90% of ALL LIVING people on earth today are going to be DEAD before the 2nd coming of Christ. Did you know that? That's the kind of time we are LIVING IN, and very few people KNOW IT.

AHEAD OF THEIR TIME

Now I want to go back into prophecy once again. I was going into prophecy on radio 30, 40 years ago. I was about 30-40 years ahead of my time. Well, I tell you, the apostle Paul and the original apostles were way ahead of their time by 1,900 years. They thought the coming of Christ was going to happen right then in their time and their lifetime, their generation. They didn't know it.

Petra a Place of Safety for God's people?

I was over there in about 1956, I believe it was, in a cave inside of the rock. And, well, if you have to get up in the middle of the night, that's quite a provoking place to be, as I found out, because even in summer it is rather cold nights over there.

No it's not a pleasant place to be either. It's a frightening place in a way because the amount of arrangement and all of those caves and some of the



The United States did not have another atomic bomb when Hiroshima and Nagasaki were bombed. Now the Japanese didn't know that. They wouldn't have surrendered if they'd known that, but they didn't. They thought there were going to be more, and so they surrendered before any more of their cities were bombed; but we could not have bombed any more because we didn't have another atomic bomb. The only two we had were used. You might say it was a bluff; but the bluff worked, and they surrendered.



But then if you read in the plagues that God is going to send at the end of the Great Tribulation and in that time, how many people are going to die in other countries and all over the world.

things that ... the carvings that they've actually carved a façade of buildings out in the front of one building, right in the mountainside in the rock; but it is not a pleasant place, believe me.

does not tell us; but God will show us in His due time. We are getting near that time, and I do want to go back into those things again.

Now I want to stop right there and comment on that a while, and we may have to go to a few other Scriptures. You can't understand the Bible if you just go right on without knowing what is in other Scriptures that have something to do with it and say the same thing.

{6} Anyway, the prophets that spoke unto the fathers. Now the fathers go back prior to the time of Christ, don't they? Well now, in the days of Israel and of Judah and prior to the time when Judah was taken captive and became a slave people and no longer a nation, the prophets who wrote were Moses, and Samuel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, (I'm not quoting them in order.

I just jotted some of these down.), Hosea, Amos, Micah, David in the Psalms, and Solomon in the Proverbs, and Hosea, and Joel, and Zephaniah. Now that is all before the fall of Judah. Some of those wrote in the days after Israel had been taken captive and taken away, but Judah was still there with its capital in Jerusalem.

PROPHECIES FOR THE CHURCH TODAY

Now second, there are two very important prophecies that were written IN the captivity when they were slaves; and that message DID NOT go to the fathers back then, but were only retained to the Church today -- Ezekiel and Daniel. They wrote during ... They



Now if that's where we're to go, you are not going to like it. And yet a lot of our people want to get to Petra. "Oh, can we go to Petra?" Well now, get that right out of your mind because it is not a pleasant place.

I will just say this: If the Bible tells us WHERE we're to go on the "**two wings of a great eagle**" (and the Bible does say that we will do that, **[Revelation 12:14]**), that is where we would go. But I am not sure the Bible tells us where we are going to go. So you still can't be sure of it. But, if that is not it, then the Bible

The Book of Hebrews

So now I just had a little talk with you for quite a while now, and it's alright because as I start in this book of Hebrews I can stop at any verse I want to. So let's begin now in the first chapter of Hebrews, chapter one.

Hebrews 1:1 God [now that's the Father], who at sundry times and in divers [or different] manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets. (2) Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son whom he hath appointed heir of all things ...

were slaves and in the captivity. Ezekiel was among the captives on the river Chebar, and Daniel was in Babylon.

Now Zerubbabel was a governor. He was not a prophet, incidentally. But the prophets of that time were Ezra and

and North western Europe and the British Isles. Now many people don't know that. They don't know where they went. They're called the lost 10 tribes.

But it is interesting to know that and to know the order of these prophecies. Now the prophecies, for example, of all of Israel: many of these prophets prophesied after Israel had been taken captive and were only prophets to the kingdom of Judah after Israel had gone into its captivity.

Now there are some other prophets that didn't write books of the Bible (like, for example, Elijah was the prophet and Elisha, {7} but they didn't write books. You don't find II Elijah 6 verse 7. You don't find that in the Bible, but it is interesting to notice that.



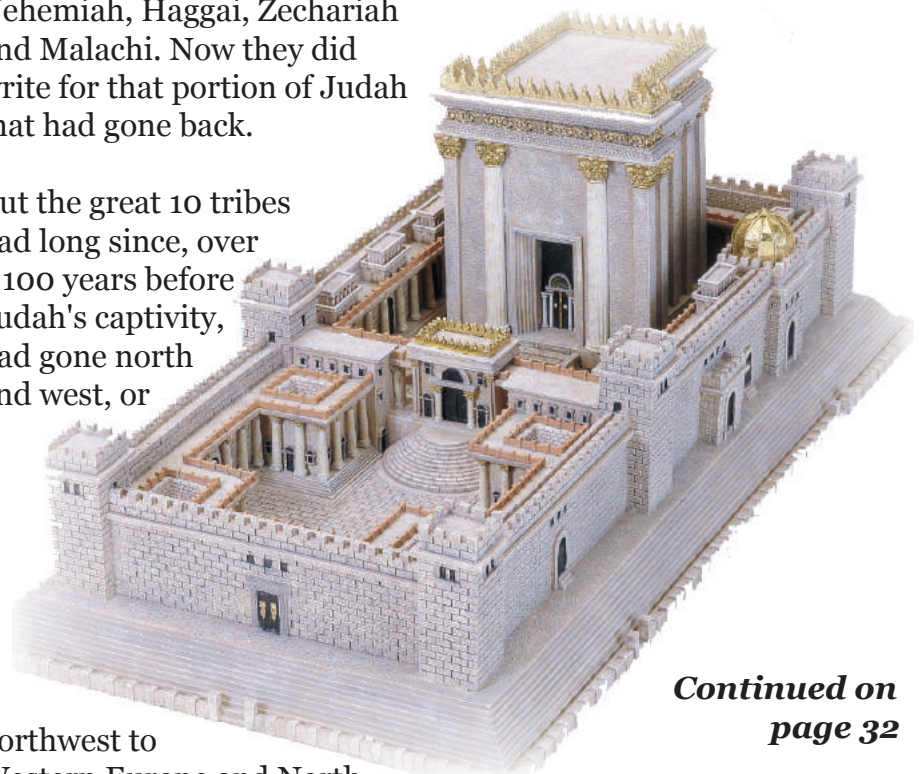
Now 70 years after the captivity of Judah, a number of Judah (not any of Israel, but a number of Judah) -- and it's only A FEW of Judah even, and Judah consisted only of the tribes of Judah and Benjamin and Levi; and it's only a part of them -- were sent back to Jerusalem to build the 2nd temple.

The temple that Solomon had built had been destroyed finally by 580 BC, beginning with 604 and on down to 585; and I think it finally was finished by 580 BC. But 70 years later a colony was sent back to build another temple under Zerubbabel.

Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. Now they did write for that portion of Judah that had gone back.

But the great 10 tribes had long since, over a 100 years before Judah's captivity, had gone north and west, or

northwest to Western Europe and North



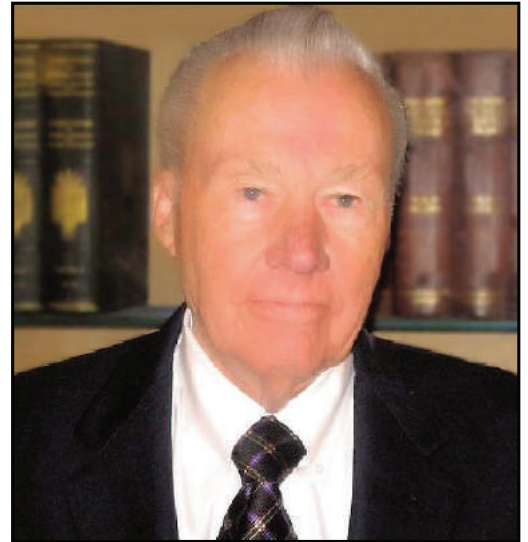
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Personal

from the Editor

Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

“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.”
Luke 17:26-27



Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

Dear brethren,

While studying end-time Prophetic Scriptures, in view of what took place in the pre-Flood world, and with Sodom and Gomorrah, it becomes easy to see present day society is in grave danger!

Daily the News Media continues to make known the same evils exist in the House of Joseph as they did at that time. These evils can be compared to a developing cancerous growth that largely began in the past century and both societies have now been almost totally consumed by it with little life-time left; tragically very few people seem to care.

Perilous Times

As the result perilous times have begun overtaking the house of Joseph, especially Manasseh (America, ***Deuteronomy 28:15, 45***); with grievous record-breaking disasters:

large communities suffering loss of lives, total devastation of homes and properties from e-5 tornadoes, major hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, increasing drought over the breadbasket states, floods, and shockingly— recent frightening heavenly signs! Precursors that portend horrifying times soon to come!

Considering the evils of the pre-Flood world of Noah (***Genesis 6:1-3***), while knowing the loving God that He is (***Genesis 6:6***), there must also have been warnings from Him, as are being seen now—warnings that were manifested in many ways over the closing years of that world to try and help the people to see the like-sufferings they were experiencing was due to the violation of God's Holy and Righteous Laws.

But they did not make the connection any more than the people do today.

Viewing the sinful condition of

this present evil world as witnessed today (***Galatians 1:4***), one should be able to see the end is virtually in sight for the House of Israel as it took place in “... **the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water**” (***II Peter 3:6***).

The Death Throes of the House of Joseph—

America is also nearing its death as a society and as a nation, just as is Britain and the other Tribes of Israel and for the very same reasons. The breakdown reasons for the near death of America are due to the ever-increasing legalized abominable sins of mankind, and the law rendered powerless to prevent the never-ending and increasing violence with rampant murders, robberies, burglaries, strife, and contention.

America's death has been made possible by the failure of the justice system to uphold the intent of the constitution by its original founders. This has



brought about the wicked surrounding the righteous – people locking themselves in their own homes for their protection! And even with all of these terrible things ongoing in society, perverse judgment continues throughout the judicial system.

This tragic sinful condition exists and continues to worsen in this country because it has been legalized by a majority of the law-making bodies of Congress and upheld by the majority of the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States.

The Post-mortem examination, or [HYPERLINK "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autopsy"](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autopsy) \o "Autopsy" autopsy, an examination of the corpse in order to determine the cause of death of the House of Israel would reveal all of the above causes – death due to the rejection of God and His laws (**Romans 6:23**); society

living their lives their way—the way of grievous sins as did the pre-Flood world and Sodom and Gomorrah.

God the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever

With these things weighing on



the mind, one should also realize: **“God does NOT change,” (Malachi 3:60); He is the same today as He was yesterday and will be forever” (Hebrews 13:8)!** And because He is – there should be great FEAR of what will soon take place as **severe corrective punishment** from Him for the nations of Israel and mankind:

“And they shall (come to)

KNOW that I am the LORD; I have not said in vain that I would bring all this CALAMITY upon them (verses 1-7).” **“Thus says the Lord GOD: “Pound your fists and stamp your feet, and say, ‘Alas, for all the evil abominations of the House of Israel! For they shall fall by the sword (verse 6, *nuclear warfare*),**



by famine (**Joel 1:1-20**), and by pestilence (**Deuteronomy 28:58-61**). He who is far off shall die by the pestilence, he who is near shall fall by the sword, and he who remains and is besieged shall die by the famine (food embargo, **Deuteronomy 28:52**). Thus will I spend My FURY on them.’” (**Ezekiel 6:10-12**).

These Scriptures make known that almost total destruction for the House of Israel is sure to come and close at hand! Prophecy with its beginning fulfillment is now being witnessed with disaster coming

upon disaster of one kind or another with increasing frequency (**Ezekiel 7:26**)!

And just as it took place with that pre-existing world of drowning deaths for billions of people, so will death, and worse, be for the many millions of people today from **famine, disease epidemics,** and the **Great Tribulation!** **Ezekiel 5:12.**

The Flood that Destroyed a Pre-Existing World

Scripture makes known only EIGHT members of just one family from among the billions existing at that time survived the Flood of Noah; the reason why is because:

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man (meaning he obeyed God's laws), perfect in his generations (the purity of race – no interracial marriage in contrast to the almost total interracial marriages in that world, Genesis 6:1-3; Luke 21:27); Noah walked with God (Genesis 6:8-9).

Total Destruction Fell on Sodom and Gomorrah

Further, only FOUR members of the family of Lot survived the **burning fire and brimstone** that fell from the sky on Sodom and Gomorrah – **instantaneous horrible**

fiery deaths for all the people in those cities! **Genesis 19:1-29.** Speaking of that time, Jesus Christ said:



“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” (Luke 17:28-29).**



It should be noted that Marriage, as God intended it to be

between man and woman (**Genesis 1:27-28**), was not mentioned here by Jesus Christ for those cities were mostly sodomites (**Genesis 19:4-9**). However marriages between the same genders undoubtedly did take place in those cities as they are today.

Why the Few Spared Each Time?

Realizing the great need for our understanding of that time, together with the desire of being saved today from the coming horrors, the REASON why God spared those few people, while destroying all of the other people, must be emphasized!

Noah walked with God while the world about him had sunk into the vilest of sins. The level of evil they had reached was never enough! Scripture reveals they kept searching for other ways to reach the bottom in their obsession for sexual self-gratification as well as being in a continued state of violence—so *corrupted*, God could no longer tolerate their evil; *they had to die!*

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every

intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. . . . So the LORD said, “I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I made them” (*Genesis 6:5-7*).



Imagine—of the billions of people who then lived in that pre-Flood world, only Noah was found to be righteous before his God— *only Noah!* And because he was found to be righteous in contrast to all others, speaks volumes why mankind continues to exist today! *Think*—had Noah not been found righteous before his Creator God this could have meant the end of mankind! You and I would possibly have never known life.

A New Beginning of Mankind

And because of that one man's

righteousness his immediate family was also spared making possible the beginning once again of mankind repopulating the earth. Think about this one man and why he was spared by God:

“But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD; . . . Noah walked with God” (*Genesis 6:8-9*).

The Pursuit of Sin Destroyed Mankind in that World

In this context, one should soberly think about the following Scripture and its intended meaningful importance to all living in today's world in view of the same conditions now existing as they did at that time:

The earth was also 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

earth (*Genesis 6:11-12*). And God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth” (*Genesis 6:13*).

Those Tragic Times Summarized by the Apostle Peter

The Apostle Peter was also led by Jesus Christ to write of those times as a grave warning for God's people; and a witness for all others of the gravity of sin, and its deadly consequences:

“For if God . . . did NOT spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the Flood on the world of the ungodly;

“and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to *destruction*, making them *AN EXAMPLE* to those who afterward would live ungodly; and delivered *righteous Lot*, who was oppressed by the Filthy Conduct of the wicked, (for that *righteous man*, dwelling among them, tortured his soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds)—then the LORD knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations (*severe and heavy trials*) and to reserve

the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

“and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the LUST of uncleanness and DESPISE authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed (daring). They are NOT afraid to speak evil of dignitaries (Margin: glorious ones, Jude 8, meaning God’s apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong)” (II Peter 2:4-10).

Noah and Lot Spared from Death

The Church of the ever-living God needs to focus and seriously think about the vitally important reasons why He spared the families of Noah and Lot: They survived due to their obedience to His laws and having an ongoing relationship with Him while seeing all others flagrantly disobeying and disrespectfully thumbing their nose in defiance of their Creator God and His holy laws!

Is there any question in the minds of anyone about the same sinful problems existing in present day society as they were in that world? If you think otherwise then you are blinded to what is being seen daily via the News Media!

And like it was then with Noah and Lot, so it is today: Total destruction would have already taken place except for a very few select people of God who are living their lives as did

Noah and Lot, as made known by God’s prophet:

“Unless the LORD of hosts had left to us A VERY SMALL REMNANT (Matthew 24:22; Romans 11:4-5), we would have become like Sodom, we would have become like Gomorrah (completely destroyed).” Isaiah 1:9.

Ten Percent to Survive in the near Future

Bible prophecies make known as few as **Ten Percent of mankind** who are living today will survive the horrors soon to be unleashed by Satanic forces that will lead Israel into the **Great Tribulation**— to be followed three and one-half years later— *the feared **Armageddon—a violent and deadly end for this age!***



The following Scriptures reveal the virtual decimation to which the nations of Israel will be reduced during the Great Tribulation:

Then I said, “LORD, how long (blindness to remain on Israel, Romans 11:7-10)? And He answered, “Until the cities are laid waste and without inhabitant, the houses are without a man, the land is utterly desolate (Ezekiel 6:6). The LORD has removed men far away, and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land (Leviticus 26:31-39; Deuteronomy 28:63-68).

But yet A TENTH will be in it (will return after Jesus Christ returns and liberates them from slavery), and will return and be (used by Jesus Christ) for

consuming (*Zechariah 14:14; 10:3-5; 12:5*), as a terebinth tree or as an oak, whose stump remains when it is cut down, so the HOLY SEED (*Israel*) shall be its stump" (*Isaiah 6:11-13*).

Further, God's prophet Amos, wrote:

"For thus says the LORD God: 'The city that goes out by a thousand shall have a hundred, and that which goes out by a hundred shall have TEN left to the house of Israel' " (*Amos 5:3*).

sinful conditions. Further, even aside from God's corrective punishment, it would in time crash under its own weight of sin.

Jesus Christ is very soon going to deal with Israel first, and later the Gentiles nations, for their iniquity is almost complete as it came to be with the Amorites (*Genesis 15:16*):

"Behold the Day of the LORD comes, cruel, with both WRATH AND FIERCE ANGER to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy SINNERS from it" (*Isaiah 13:9*).

rare than fine gold . . ." (*Isaiah 13:11-12*).

God Never Changes Nor Do His Laws

Please know: **IF** God destroyed the Pre-Flood world because of their recalcitrant sins; and He did! And **IF** God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because of their abominable sins; and He did! And **IF** God is ". . . the same yesterday, today and forever, He does not change . . ." (*Hebrews 13:8; Malachi 3:6*); THEN, and He is, then one should also know God is no respecter of persons!

Therefore one should also know these serious judgments are soon to come upon the House of Jacob for they are guilty of the very same sins!

The Day of the Lord

Having spoken about the terrible deaths to befall the pre-existing world, and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, Jesus Christ added the following regarding the destruction to come in our time as it did then:

"Even so will it be in THE DAY when the Son of Man is revealed" (*Luke 17:30*).

It will happen quickly and unexpectedly as it did with Sodom and Gomorrah:

"For it will come AS A SNARE on all those who



These Tragic and Terrible Times Soon to Come

Anyone who stays attuned to the news media, and has any astute discernment at all, should be able to understand the House of Joseph cannot endure under these terrible

As to why this severe chastening, God makes it known:

"I will PUNISH the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will halt the arrogance of the proud, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. I will make a mortal more

dwell on the face of the whole earth” (Luke 21:35).

A Blitzkrieg Nuclear Attack

With bare notice (*Ezekiel 7:14*), Jesus Christ will permit Satan to bring about the **deto-nation of Nuclear Bombs** over the major cities of the House of Joseph and reduce them to melted rubble as severe corrective punishment for their heinous sins (*Ezekiel 6:6-7; 12:20*).

Those who do not perish in the **devouring fire and everlasting burnings from the Nuclear Blasts** (*Isaiah 33:14*), will be captured and removed from the land of Israel to Europe. Those who will not be incinerated in the ovens will be sold into captivity (*Deuteronomy 28:62-68*).

For the most part they will become the slaves of the nations that make up the Revived Roman Empire for three and one-half years before they are liberated by Jesus Christ when He returns to this earth (*Jeremiah 31*).

Advance Warnings

For those who have the discerning eyes to see, God’s anger is already being poured out in limited ways as can be seen by the disasters in nature and otherwise, as **WARN-INGS** of the worst yet to come! The only means of preventing the coming horrors is through godly repentance; which appears to be very unlikely.



...Burnings from Newclear Blasts...

The question is asked by God’s prophet:

“... Who among us shall dwell with **everlasting burnings (from the Nuclear Holocaust)**? He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly . . .” (*Isaiah 33:14-15*).

The Warning Words of Jesus Christ

While viewing these calamities already taking place one should also realize the warning words of Jesus Christ who spoke of these coming terrible times that are now drawing very close:

“For then there will be great tribulation, such has not been since the beginning of this world until this time, no, nor ever shall be,” (*Matthew 24:21*).

This will be the time of Jacob’s trouble:

Now these are the words that the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah: “For thus says the LORD: ‘We have heard a voice of trembling, of FEAR, and not of peace. Ask now, and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob’s trouble . . .’” (*Jeremiah 30:4-7*).

Be Very Watchful

Jesus Christ spoke of the need of always being vigilant, astutely observing the warning signs, that will enable us to see

the closeness of these terrible things to fully take place that will also makes known how so very close is His coming back to this earth:

“Now **WHEN** these things **BEGIN** to happen, look up, lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” Then He spoke to them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they are already budding, you **SEE** and **KNOW** that summer is near. So you also, **WHEN** you see these things **HAPPENING** (*beginning to take place*), **KNOW** the Kingdom of God **is near** (Luke 21:28-31).



In view of all these horrors that are soon to be upon all Israel and humanity, the closing words of caution and exhortation from our Savior Jesus Christ must seriously be kept in mind:

“But **TAKE HEED** to yourselves, **LEST** your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come upon you unexpectedly. For it will come as A **SNARE** on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth” (Luke 21:34-35).

With these warning words in mind, God’s people must extricate themselves from the evils of this Babylonish System that is being manifested so promiscuously and prevalently in the House of Jacob: “**And I heard another voice from heaven saying, ‘Come out**

of her My people, LEST you SHARE in her sins, and LEST you RECEIVE of her plagues. For her SINS have reached to heaven (as did the sins of the Pre-Flood World of Noah, and

the Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah), **and God has remembered her iniquities’**” (Revelation 18:4-5).

To be accepted by the protective caring embrace of Jesus Christ’s loving arms from the terrible times that we have now begun entering there must be an ongoing love relationship with Him, with watchfulness, and never ceasing prayers to Him, as He made known in the closing part of this chapter of His overview of end-time prophecies:

“**WATCH** therefore (*being very vigilant of these warning signs*), and **PRAY Always** (*never ceasing*) that you may be counted **WORTHY** to **ESCAPE** all these things that will come to pass, and to **STAND** before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:-36).

**WATCH
and
PRAY
Always...**



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And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, ‘The FEASTS of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be Holy Convocations, these are My Feasts.’”

Leviticus 23:1-2

*G*od’s Fall Holy Days are almost here. They hold great meaning to us as the true and faithful members of God’s true Church wherever each one of us may live. And we are looking forward to observing them again this year. And that is as it should be.

Many of us have been observing these Festivals for many years. And they have always been eagerly looked forward to with joyful anticipation with their meaning in mind. And this year should be all the more meaningful in view of where we are now in time.

An Overview of the Fall Holy Days



Each of the Festivals point forward to the coming of Jesus

Christ, the removal of Satan the devil, and the Millennium— a thousand years of reigning with Jesus Christ, the Prince of peace, bringing peace at last to this war-torn and blood soaked earth by establishing His firm Governmental rule on this earth.

And beyond the Millennium will be the Last Great Day that holds great meaning for all of us as we look forward to seeing our families once again along with the rest of mankind who will be in their graves at the time of their resurrection.

The Purpose of This Writing

The purpose of this writing is to refresh our minds regarding the meaning of these coming Holy Days and preparing for their observance in view of this terrible time in which we now live.

Everyone should realize this is a most serious and critical time in which very troublesome problems are accelerating in this nation and the

world for which there are no solutions other than the coming of Jesus Christ.

Sadly very few people realize the seriousness of this time in which we live. And even those in society who do recognize this as a time of crisis, and speak and write about them, do not have the offices of authority to resolve them. And even if they did nothing truly positive would come from what they would offer as solutions nor would society accept them. This is very evident.

God in heaven above led Isaiah the Prophet to write of the sickness to be found in the leadership and the societies of the House of Joseph:

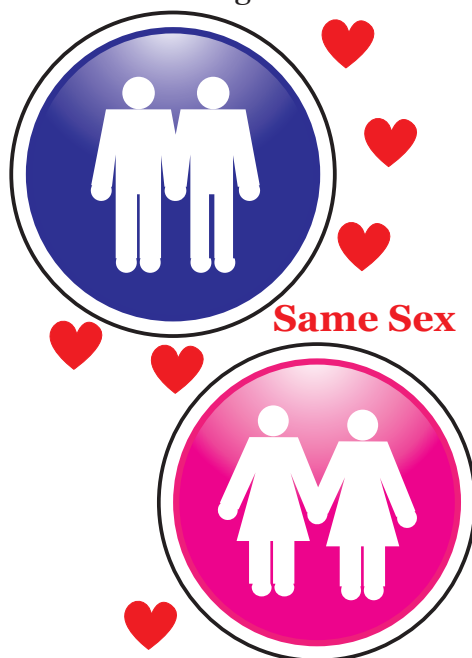
“ . . . The whole head is sick and the whole heart faints from the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds with bruises and putrefying sores . . . ”
(Isaiah 1:5-6).

The Looming Crisis Leading to the End of This Age

It must be realized the House of Joseph is facing some real problems in many ways due to the liberal sinful condition now existing and worsening in each nation! And this sinful condition is having an impact on God's true Church in view of our observance of these Holy Days.

“And because lawlessness will abound (no restraints) the LOVE OF MANY will grow cold” (Matthew 24:12).

As God's people, we would do well to consider the seriousness of the time in which we live for the sinful ways of this world is closing in on us!



It is very evident that society is able to do whatever they want in many areas without any real restraints! They have the backing of the majority of the law-making bodies who have

passed legislation to make their sinful ways possible and those laws have been upheld by the highest courts of the land. Tragically their lawlessness is having a liberalizing impact on some of God's people.



The FreeWheeling Life Style of Society

This has become so terribly bad that in recent times Satan the devil has begun influencing the lascivious ways of society to be taking place on God's Holy Days as an affront to God Himself!

Three years ago we learned the homosexuals were actually going to have a pride parade on the Day of Atonement in the city where we were planning to observe God's Feast of Tabernacles. In addition it was largely sponsored by the Inn where we were to stay during the Festival.

We then made the decision to observe God's Feast of Tabernacles in Utah. Recently we learned its capital is the number one city for the same gender couples rearing

children. Some time ago it also said that same city is the number one city for homosexuals. It can be seen this problem is sweeping this nation and the nations of this world and becoming a composite of

Sodom and Gomorrah.

Satan's Defiance of God

This can be illustrated by what took place this past Feast of Firstfruits (*Pentecost*). A pride parade was announced by its leaders to take place at 4 pm on that Holy Day in Oklahoma City.

It should be remembered that the very next day a record-breaking tornado struck just outside Oklahoma City in the city of Moore. Terrible devastation took place with loss of lives.

If that was not enough, another record-breaking tornado took place the following Friday in Reno City, a few miles from Oklahoma City! It then headed for Oklahoma City and even

affected Moore once again. Once again there was much damage and loss of life.

Christ. Time has almost run out for this age.

Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21

Many Bible prophecies speak of these terrible times, but the ones that are mostly used to high light the others are in the above prophetic Scriptures given by Jesus Christ. He has foretold all of these terrible things would be taking place because of sin and would lead to the end-time.

Jesus Christ used God's late apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, to cry out the warnings of those prophecies during the 52 years of his life-time ministry. And via of our websites he is still crying out the same prophetic warnings:

• **“And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things**

All these terrible disasters taking place should leave no question in the minds of God's people that Jesus Christ is beginning to reveal His anger against the House of Joseph for thumbing their nose in rebellion and defiance of Him and His Holy Days.

This is not to say that every time such parades are held that something terrible will follow, but what did take place in Oklahoma should serve as a real warning of far more terrible disasters to come unless there is repentance.

Time Running Out

The News Media day by day makes known we are witnessing the real beginning of the end of this age by seeing before our eyes the worsening unsolvable problems of nations and mankind as viewed from the end-time prophecies of Jesus

Also reported by the News Media: there are the problems of record-breaking heat and lack of rainfall in the bread-basket states, devastating floods and huge out of control fires in several mid-western states! These disastrous problems are creating a real threatening serious drought that in short time will come to be a state of famine as



made known by God's prophet Joel.

MUST come to pass, BUT the end is not yet.

• “For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

• “All these are the beginning of sorrows.” *Matthew 24:6-8*.

This is what is now being seen as perhaps never before on the world scene! Internal rebellion and the overturning of governments continue to take place.



There are also nations warring against one another!

Like Rome of old this nation has its military spread out in various nations trying to help their leaders and peoples. At the same time there are also the internal struggles going on within this government. The many unsolvable problems within this nation and Britain are leading to the **Great Tribulation**.

With these many problems in mind it should be realized the coming of Jesus Christ, as pictured by the Feast of Trumpets, will soon become reality.

And its observance is almost here.

The Feast of Trumpets

As we all should know, the **Feast of Trumpets** introduces the Fall Festivals. And it holds significant meaning that should seriously be considered—especially this year in time!

Further, the **Feast of Trumpets** is always observed on the 1st day of the 7th Month that pictures another **beginning** – the new civil year (**Leviticus 23:23-24**), as does the first

month of God's Sacred Calendar that pictures new beginnings (**Exodus 12:2**).

In view of this coming Festival Season it's observance could be very close to the last one to be observed

where we now live due to the very dark and stormy clouds that are now hovering over a dying and evil age (**Galatians 1:4**).



The Sounding of the Seven Trumpets

Realizing the major problems we have been observing in this nation, we would do well to consider the possible ominous meaning of this coming Feast of Trumpets – Could it be that we have already begun witnessing the forerunner of the sounding of the first trumpet – and perhaps more fully this coming time?

The first angel sounded: And HAIL AND FIRE followed, mingled with blood (as the result), and they were thrown to the earth (similar to Sodom and Gomorrah, Genesis 19:24). And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green grass was burned up.” (Revelation 8:7).

To enable us to get a perspective of the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets please note the following quotes:

United Israel: "In the Torah itself, this holy day is never called Rosh HaShanah. Rather it gets a different name--Yom Teru'ah, that is "day of the blast." Teru'ah in Hebrew refers to raising up a loud noise, whether a shout or the blast of the trumpet or Shofar . . . There is, however, an association of this day with a "trumpet," or more properly, a "shofar," in Psalm 81. But notice carefully, our word TERU'AH also occurs, in the very first verse, here translated "shout." It really means to raise up a noise, and it can be voices, instruments, and of course the piercing sound of the Shofar.

"... The best clues to the BIBLICAL meaning of this day are found in *Psalm 80 & 81*. . . the connection here to Joseph is amazing. And to the redemption as a whole. Judaism is surely right to connect the sound of the Shofar as a call to the Tribes, and a call to all humanity to awaken, a call of judgment and preparation...as it falls ten days before Yom Kippur, the Day of Covering, and then leads into Sukkoth, which seems to be a picture of the Kingdom of dwelling in "booths" or "huts," that is temporary shelters, as in the days when they were led out of

Egypt and had that intimate, "face to face" relationship with YHVH. "Each year this sequence is pictured...this is the "LAST" month of the holy calendar, the SEVENTH month (no festivals really in months 8-12), so it seems to picture somehow the "end of history," but in a mini-form, year by year James D. Tabor President, UIWU."



End Quotes

The Feast of Trumpets is indeed a call to all of us to AWAKEN before the 1st Trumpet begins to fully sound! **Revelation 8:1-13; 9:1-21; 10:7; 11:15-19.** This Festival also makes known the **Day of Judgment** is now poised to begin falling fully upon Israel and the Church of God!

Realizing where we are in time this Holy Day is now holding even greater meaning than ever—for it is also a time of **PREPARATION** for the

dawning of a new age and of the Kingdom of God to be established by Jesus Christ at the sounding of the 7th Trumpet! And all of us as God's people should realize this.

The terrible things we have been witnessing with more prophesied to come with even greater ferocity— terrifying times to follow— is leading in short time to the **Great Tribulation** which will begin taking place three and one/half years before the sounding of the 7th trumpet.

The Great Tribulation

As has been explained by Mr. Armstrong, this coming horrific time will be Satan the devil's use of demonic influenced human leaders to display his great deadly anger through them to destroy all of the nations of Israel! And for the most part prophecy reveals his objective will be accomplished.

This will be a most terrible time, such as never been before, no, nor ever will again, so said Jesus Christ (**Matthew 24:21; Daniel 12:1**). This will be the time of Jacob's trouble (**Jeremiah 30:4-7**).

As God's true people the prophetic Scriptures in **Ezekiel (6:11-14; 7:23-26)** should **strike enough godly fear** in each of us to try

harder to establish a closer and ongoing relationship with Him. It is only in this manner that we will be protected from this coming dreadful time! And more importantly—to be enabled to stand before His glorious presence when He returns!

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Tragically, Israel and the Corporate Churches are in a *sleepy-time state of mind and nothing it seems can startle them sufficiently to awaken them to see how little time we now have and the vital need of Spiritual preparation for it!*

When considering the overview of our national un-resolvable problems, and where we are now in time, this coming **Feast of Trumpets** is very close to the final **WAKE UP warning** before the door closes! (**Revelation 3:18-22; Matthew 25:6-13**).

The collimation of these horrors will lead to the sounding of the 7th Trumpet that will herald the return of Jesus Christ back to this earth and the dawning of a new age!

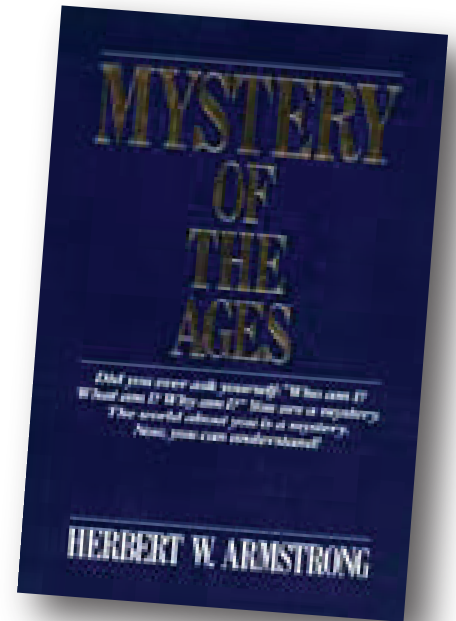
Meaningful Dates Regarding the Gospel

We would do well to remember the Passover Season in 2006, and the following January 7, 2007, for they marked a major milestone in regard to end-time prophecy being fulfilled. It was on those dates Jesus Christ chose to re-activate His Work – sending out His Gospel and the Ezekiel warning Message through the use of the Recorded Works of His late apostle – using his VOICE and WRITINGS – to reach the world via websites. And with those websites the beginning of the publication of the Philadelphia Remnant Magazine which is a composite of the former Plain Truth and Good News Magazine.



Jesus Christ has also been using me since 2003 to write articles to be published in the Journal (*Church Newspaper*

published in Big Sandy, Texas) to try and wake former members up by urging them to compare their beliefs with Mr. Armstrong's writing of the **Mystery of the Ages**.



This effort has been to try and get them back on track with the fullness of the faith once delivered to the saints and restored by Jesus Christ through His late apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. To my sorrow there has been virtually no success!

It is truly sad that Scripture reveals those of the Sardis and the Laodicean Church Eras won't be counted worthy to escape the **Great Tribulation**. During this coming horrifying time only those who repent and remain faithful to Him while experiencing horrible deaths at the hands of the Revived Holy Roman Empire will be among those who will be harvested in that first resurrection (**Revelation 6:9-11**).

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A Godly Fear

We need to ask ourselves whether these coming terrible times are striking any real fear in us as to whether we might not endure faithfully unto the end. If not, we are in bad shape spiritually! Remember this is the problem of the Laodiceans. It is a sad ongoing fact that many thousands of the membership appear to be totally unconcerned. This is terribly tragic!

By observing the news it appears a **revolution** is brewing within this country. At the same time the greatest of all *depressions* is to befall this country and is at our door!



Also, from what is being said, we are very near a pandemic of one or more different kinds

of disease. Either of them could quickly lead into a real shortage of food supplies, and real hunger, and then **Famine!**

Realizing we will be affected by these grave problems that we continue to hear about on a daily basis from the News Media, the question comes to mind: *why aren't we more concerned about our future than the conservative speakers and writers about America?* Do we not realize our eternal future is at stake?

God has a curse on the house of Joseph because of our rejection of Him and His Holy righteous laws. As the result our sins have reached the cup of completeness, and **judgment** is now at our door as it came to be for the Amorites (**Genesis 15:16; Jeremiah 30:7**). The end is virtually in sight!



The point is—we should first and foremost be looking forward to the observance of these Holy Days for what they picture, and though we look forward to the fellowship, with food and drink, which is very

good, but they should not be the priority.

The Day of Atonement

Ten days after the Feast of Trumpets is the Day of Atonement that pictures Jesus Christ sending a great angel to bind Satan for 1000 years (**Revelation 20:1-3**). This special Day of Atonement is intended by God to hold very special significance for each and every one of us as He makes known in His Commandment for its observance.

And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Also the 10th Day of this 7th Month shall be the Day of Atonements (plural, Soncino Commentary); it shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your soul (meaning to completely fast – no food or water – for those who can without endangering their health) . . . And you shall do no work on that same Day, for it is the Day of Atonement, TO MAKE ATONEMENT FOR YOU before the LORD your God. For any person who is NOT AFFLICTED on that same Day, he shall be cut off from his people . . .” (Leviticus 23:26-32).

We continually view on television nations of this world in rebellion and fighting one another in warfare amid rumors and threats of warfare from other nations. Considering the meaning of this Day should be very meaningful to

to us for it pictures the time when Satan will be bound and mankind will cease their warfare and they will begin coming to be AT-ONE-MENT with each other in peace (*Isaiah 2:1-4*).

Five days after the Day of

saying, ‘In the 7th month, on the 1st Day of the Month, you shall have a Sabbath, a memorial of triumph, or shouting of joy, with trumpets, a holy convocation (*Leviticus 23:23-24*).’” *Psalms 81:1-4*.
A/C C. C. # 36



Atonement is another Festival that also holds great meaning for all of us as people of God.

The Feast of Tabernacles

The Feast of Tabernacles pictures the wonderful glorious Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ during which we, as Firstfruits, are to be with Jesus Christ as His Bride, will aid Him in bringing true teachings and peace to the survivors of mankind:

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel,

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, saying: ‘The 15th Day of this 7th Month shall be the Feast of Tabernacles for Seven days to the LORD. On the 1st Day shall be a Holy Convocation . . . you shall keep it as a Feast to the LORD for Seven days in the year. It shall be a Statute forever in your generations.

You shall celebrate it in the 7th Month. You shall dwell in booths for Seven Days . . .” *Leviticus 23:33-43*.

The Feast of Tabernacles is a special time of being in the invisible presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and have our minds refreshed with its meaning and looking beyond to its fulfillment.

It is also a period of time in which there is great enjoyment and fellowship with brethren of like faith and belief in the teachings of the Holy Scriptures.

The Last Great Day

Memorial Day is observed each year in this country. It is a day that many people visit cemeteries and lovingly place flowers on the graves of dearly beloved family members not realizing that God in heaven above will remember and bring them back to life in the Great Resurrection that is to come and made known in Scripture.



The LORD God further spoke to Moses about this Last Great Day, though attached to the Feast of Tabernacles, it is distinctly separate and apart from it:

“... on the 8th day you shall have a Holy Convocation . . . and on the 8th day a Sabbath-rest . . .”
Leviticus 23:36, 39.

This Last Great Day has the meaning of truly a Day of Memorial – a time when they will be remembered and resurrected! Jesus Christ spoke of this coming time:

“Do not marvel at this for the hour is coming (according to God’s Time Table) in which ALL who are in the graves will HEAR His voice and COME FORTH—those who have done good to the resurrection of life (eternal), and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation (judgment, crisis, John 5:28-29)

This Great Resurrection of all who have ever lived and died without having been called in this age will take place shortly after the end of the Millennium as made known by the Apostle John:

“But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished . . .” (Revelation 20:5).

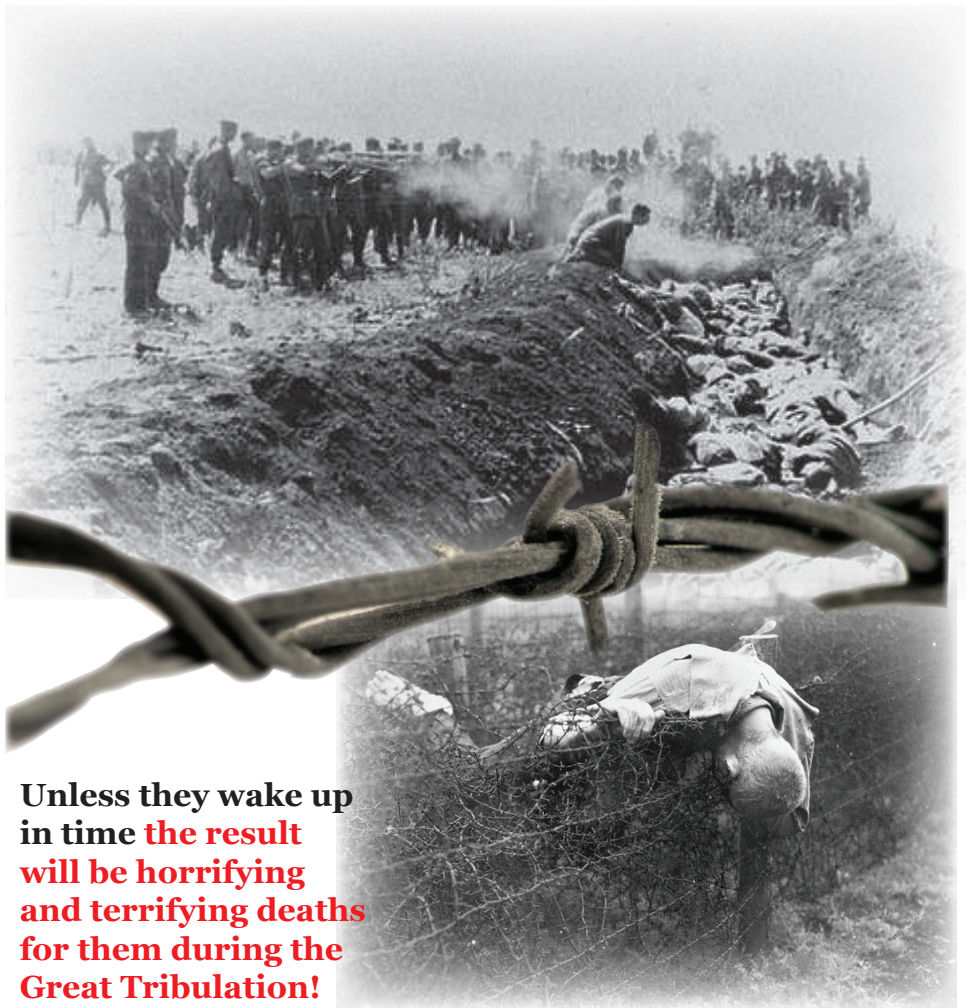
Watching the Signs
Jesus Christ made known the **SIGNS** that should carefully be watched for by each of us for they are intended by Him for all of the people of Israel, and those within the Churches

to realize—these signs are pointing to the closeness of the end-time, and the need more than ever to draw close to our wonderful caring God and Jesus Christ! **Luke 21:28 -36.**

However as it has been said, there are none as **blind** as those who refuse to see even when the facts are presented to them. This idiom clearly makes known why so many in Israel and the Church are turning their heads away refusing to see where we are in time, and what they will be soon facing— *just as the Jewish people failed to do in Germany prior to the outbreak of World War II!*

With the knowledge I have of the major corporate Churches and some of their erroneous teachings and the acceptance of them by both ministers and members, apparently with no significant questions, just sleepy-time contentment, *I am left discouraged, sad, and grieved at their lack of concern.*

I love all of these men and women I have known for many years and do not want to see anyone have to suffer the horrors just in front of us. This is why I write as I do and have for about ten years. However, it is like shouting into a very strong wind—*going nowhere!*



Unless they wake up in time the result will be horrifying and terrifying deaths for them during the Great Tribulation!

The objective of my writings to the Journal and Pastor's Comments is to see a return to the true Church of God with the fullness of belief in the true doctrinal teachings of Jesus Christ.

This would lead to caring love for God and for neighbor that would be brought about by Jesus Christ (***I Corinthians 12:12-13; Ephesians 4:1-16***). My heart-felt desire is to see this take place.

Brethren, these Fall Holy Days were designed by Jesus Christ to enable us to think deeply about the meaning of each one. And as we draw closer to the end of this age we should think all the more seriously about them for they point to the fulfilment of the time that will affect each one of us.

With these things in mind let us look forward to their observance this and every year while drawing closer in our relationship with our wonderful Father through Jesus Christ that we might receive a greater depth of their meaning, while rejoicing before Them and with one another in unity and harmony, while obeying Their command for their observance—

**“... You shall seek the place where the LORD your God chooses . . . and there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice in all to which you have put your hand, you and your households, in which the LORD your God has blessed you.
(Deuteronomy 12:5, 7).**



Continued from page 13

NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS DIFFER

And yet we find that the Church is **"founded ON the apostles AND THE PROPHETS, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone."** I want you to get this. Now I have to go back to Ephesians the 2nd chapter to pick up that scripture that fits in right here; and, to understand this, we need to know all of that.

Yet you only find, let's see, about four prophets mentioned in the New Testament. One was an elderly woman past 80 years of age who picked up the infant child Jesus, took Him in her arms and blessed Him as just a little infant, and then went on and apparently died soon. Nothing more was heard of her at all.

There was a prophet by the name of Agabus; and God spoke to him and used him to carry a message to one of the apostles (to Paul) and telling Paul that God sent a message to him that if he went on to Jerusalem, where he proposed to go, that he would get into trouble in Jerusalem. Well, Agabus told Paul.

Now Paul didn't doubt that, but Paul went on anyway; and he did get in trouble. A great deal of trouble! That's why he appealed finally on to Caesar, and later went on his very perilous trip to Rome. He had a

shipwreck on the way at one of the places where we are going to have a Feast of Tabernacles this year, the Island of Malta, just south of Italy in the Mediterranean Sea; and we'll have a Feast site there this year. So that's a rather historic place.



Anyway, there were two other prophets at least to whom God revealed that they should lay hands on Barnabas and Saul and anoint them as apostles and send them as apostles to the Gentiles. Now they did that, but they didn't contribute any doctrine or any belief to the Church.

They didn't have an administrative position in running the Church or administering the affairs of the Church in any way. Not ANY of those four prophets {8} did. So there were no New Testament prophets that had anything to do with being founders of the foundation of the Church. So it refers to the OLD Testament prophets.

Now every one of these Old

Testament prophets is quoted in the New Testament, and they ARE a part of the foundation of the doctrines and of the belief of the Church. The WHOLE of Ezekiel and the WHOLE of Daniel were written FOR THE CHURCH and were

NEVER given to the people of Israel while they were a nation. They were written after Israel and Judah were both slaves in captivity, and were not a nation; and they were not ever proclaimed to Israel and Judah under the Old Testament.

How important is Daniel to the book of Revelation? How important is Ezekiel to understanding many of these other prophecies and knowing the things WE need to know in our time? Yet those books never were given to Israel or Judah while they were a nation, and there was no way for one of them as a slave to get his writings to the rest of them who were scattered here and there as slaves. So it is good

But EVERY bit of the Bible that was written is the Word of God! Even the word of these prophets, and even though, what He spoke and what is recorded in writing in the Bible IS part of the Word of God.

So Christ is heir of the whole universe.

Alright, ***Ephesians 3*** and verse **9**, God created EVERYTHING. God created the world by Jesus Christ. He is the One by which (and Christ is the

with the very CHARACTER of God" in the Moffat Translation. STAMPED WITH THE VERY CHARACTER OF GOD. **"The express image of His person,"** but 'image' sometimes means character.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is profitable for doctrine, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

And Who is The Word of God? The Word of God (***John 1:1*** and verse **14**) **"became flesh and dwelt among us"** and became Jesus Christ. So it is the Word of CHRIST regardless if it was that God was speaking to them, beginning with Moses. It also is for us and for the Church today. We'll just notice that as you go along.

Word of God) **"He spake,"** as you read in one of the Psalms, **"and it was done."**

Well, the POWER that did it when Christ SPOKE was the HOLY SPIRIT. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit that comes from Christ and from God -- not a separate person, but a POWER that emanates from them.

God made man in the form and shape of God. God said **"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness" [Genesis 1:26]**. We are made like God in form and shape, and we are made to BECOME in the very image in the sense of His character.

God did not create Adam in God's character, but God gave him a chance to COME into God's character through the Tree of Life; and Adam rejected that and took the forbidden fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and said he would go along without any help from God.

Now, the **2nd** verse: **[Hebrews 1:2]** God **"has in these latter days spoken unto us by his Son."** Now 'His' you'll notice is in italics in the King James and some of the other translations **'by a son'** or **'His son'** and I think **'His son'** is very good there. At least the translators of the King James put it there. **"Whom He hath appointed ..."** God the Father then appointed Christ what? **"HEIR of ALL things."** Now the Moffat translation translates **'all things'** to mean the entire universe. The entire universe!

Now notice this: that Christ then is the HEIR to inherit the whole universe. Well, God used Him in creating it all. **"By whom also he made the worlds."** That is, by Christ. He made the world. There again God made everything by and through Christ.

IN THE IMAGE AND CHARACTER OF GOD

Now verse 3 **[Hebrews 1:3]** **"Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person ..."** Now some of the other translators have that a little different. **"Stamped**

The express image of God's person (in His very character, and stamped with the character of God the Father), and **"upholding ALL THINGS."** Now then, I'd like to read that. I have the ... Let's see, I have here the Revised Standard translation. I have to use two or three different magnifying glasses, and I have to use a little stronger one for this Bible.

Hebrews 1:3(RSV) He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature [Now, the Revised

Standard says 'his nature,' and Moffatt says 'of his character,'; upholding the UNIVERSE ['All things' means the universe; and here the Revised Standard calls it 'the universe'; upholding the universe.] by his word of power [In other words, the power that is in His Word. He speaks.

other words, the Holy Spirit) until Christ came. But, when Christ died, His blood reconciles us to the Father.

Now, to understand that, you have to go back to the 5th chapter of Romans; and you will find there the blood of Christ DOES NOT SAVE YOU.

LIFE COMES FROM LIFE. And so you read in the 5th chapter of Romans that we are reconciled to God by the DEATH of His Son. Not "saved by the death of His Son." "Reconciled TO GOD by the death of his Son," but **"we shall be saved by his LIFE,"** -- by His resurrection! And we'll be saved by a resurrection. Now go back and read the 5th chapter of Romans, and you will understand that.

So, you see, you have to fit in other parts of the Bible with this as you go along to really comprehend it and understand it. He purged our sins, reconciling us to God the Father. Now on the other hand, does that mean just anybody can say, "Alright, I'll go and ask Christ to reconcile me to God the Father?" Oh no, because JESUS said **"NO MAN CAN COME TO ME except the Father which hath sent me draw him."**

And in the 1st chapter of Ephesians you learn that we in the Church were PREDESTINATED before the whole world, PREDESTINATED to be called now by God. And it is only those that God the Father calls and DRAWS, through the power of the Holy Spirit, who can come to Christ.

Now, the Pharisees came to Jesus with trick questions; and someone might come to me with a trick question. "Mr. Armstrong," they would say, "here's a man who really sincerely in his heart wants to

God Upholds the whole Universe by the Word of His Power

The Holy Spirit performs whatever He speaks. ... the entire universe. Now I want you to notice that ALL THINGS here means 'the universe' by the Word of His power.] **"when he had by himself purged our sins,"** (KJV) {9} [In other words, by His death on the cross, Jesus had purged our sins to reconcile us to God.]

CHRIST'S BLOOD DOES NOT SAVE

Now our sins had cut us off from God; and we could not get back to God, because He had shut up the Tree of Life (in

A lot of people don't understand that. A lot of preachers will preach the blood of Christ saves you. It doesn't.

The blood of Christ forgives your sins up to the minute of your repentance and the minute of your belief and acceptance. But it does not forgive any future sins you commit tomorrow and next year, in advance, before you commit them. It simply does not. And the blood of Christ doesn't save you.

The DEATH OF CHRIST CAN'T GIVE YOU LIFE. LIFE CAN'T COME FROM DEATH.

come to Christ, and to come to God, and wants to obey Him, and wants salvation, and wants to come out of the world, and wants to have God's Spirit and live God's way.

Do you say that he can't come to Christ unless the Father draws him?" "Yes, I do." "Well, is he shut off?" "No." "So, what then?" "Well," I say, "If he does want to do that, the Father DID draw him (Didn't He?) or he WOULDN'T WANT TO." Do you get the answer?

gave myself to God. I gave up trying to disagree with Him. I saw I disagreed. I saw He was right and I was wrong. But (Instead of saying "I GET Christ, I appropriate, I accept Christ, and I'm going to get and take.") I said: "I will give myself to Him. He bought and paid for me, and I belong to Him." So I did. I gave myself to Him. But I know now that He had drawn me and called me, otherwise I wouldn't have wanted to do that.

with those closest to me -- my family and my relatives. So I went to them. I was just in awe, an eager beaver. I was all enthusiastic. I was all lit up with it.

Now you see, my wife, when she first learned about the Sabbath, came and she said, "Oh, I must go tell Herbert. He'll be glad to hear this." That was a wonderful truth to her when she saw in the Bible that we must keep the Sabbath on Saturday instead of observing Sunday, which is not the Sabbath. Well, I didn't want to hear it. I didn't like it a bit.

God used that to start drawing me, but He hadn't drawn me very much yet.

But, after 6 months intensive study, I saw how wrong I was; and I proved that God exists; and I proved that the Bible is His Word. I saw that I disagreed with it, and I saw that He was right; and everything He said made sense, and everything I believed did not.

Then I received His Word with joy, and happiness, and enthusiasm; and I wanted all my relatives to believe it. They thought I was insane. They thought I'd gone crazy. "What happened to you? Well, I don't want any of that." They didn't want any of this truth AT ALL.

No, you see, God had not drawn them. Some of them are still living, and He still hasn't drawn them even to this day.

...unless the Father DRAWS him...

But what about the world? They don't WANT to! And any man who DOES WANT TO, WANTS TO ONLY BECAUSE GOD THE FATHER DID DRAW him. But you take most people, they don't want to.

Now go back to the time when I

TRYING TO CONVERT OTHERS

But what do you think is the first thing I did? Oh, I was so filled with happiness about it all, and the TRUTH that God had revealed to me was so WONDERFUL, that I just wanted to share that right away

How many of you had that experience when you were first converted? You wanted to get members of your family and others that were close to you, and you wanted to get the truth to them; and they wouldn't have any of it. They just thought you were crazy. And that's the way it is.

CARNAL MIND HOSTILE

The natural mind of man (the carnal mind, which is the mind we're born with) "is enmity" which means hostile, **"against God; is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed CAN be."** That mind has to be changed and receive another Spirit.

There is a spirit in with your brain that imparts the power of intellect to your brain, but you are only half there mentally. You only have HALF of a MIND. You need the Spirit of God to complete your mind. That's the other half, and the more important half. And without that you will find that the things of God are foolishness to you, and your mind is just hostile against them. You are not subject to the law of God, which is God's way of living, **"neither indeed can be."** And that's the way it is.

Now, as we go on through this, we see all of these things. **"When He had purged our sins,"** and as I say that only reconciled us to God the Father, **"sat down on the**

right hand of the Majesty on high." Now why did He do that? Why did He go up there? He'd qualified. He'd overcome Satan. He had qualified to restore the government of God. He had qualified to sit on the throne of the WORLD, and to establish the Kingdom of God, and to be the Ruler of the WHOLE EARTH.

Why did He not take it then? Why had God waited FOUR THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE THE SECOND ADAM CAME?

But the first man, Adam, had a right to make a choice; and he had an opportunity, and a right, and a command from God to take of the TREE OF LIFE. HE COULD HAVE HAD A WHOLE COMPLETE MIND, BUT HE DIDN'T; AND, WHEN HE SINNED, HE BROUGHT DEATH ON HIMSELF.

SATAN WAS THERE; AND SATAN HAD GOT TO ADAM THROUGH HIS WIFE, EVE. His wife, Eve, was the first



...hath God said ?...

God had SHUT UP the tree of LIFE, and SHUT UP THE HOLY SPIRIT, FROM MAN. MAN HAS A MIND, AND GOD CREATED THAT MIND; AND, AS GOD CREATED IT, IT'S HOSTILE TO HIM.

woman of the ERA movement. Ever think of that? That started back with Mother Eve, and the women still want to wear the pants. I was just trying to think where I mentioned that the other day.

I know: I was speaking to all of the visiting ministers the other day, just a few days ago; and I was mentioning how the wife of one of our Evangelist rank ministers, one of our oldest ministers in the Church ... I mean not in physical age but in years of service and leading the Church; and, of course, both of them graduated from

Ambassador College, he and his wife, years and years ago. I think their children are aged to be in College now, maybe are. I forget how many of our former students now have children in Ambassador College. But I remember I asked her one time -- I said, "Did you ever try to be the boss in your home and wear the pants?" She looked kind of funny. She began to grin a little bit; and she said, "Well, yes, once." I said, "Oh, once; and did you find who the boss was?" She said, "You're telling me, I sure did!"

Well, I've had two wives (and the first one was my wife until death, as she should have been), either one of whom perfectly capable of being the boss, but neither one has been; and I think that's the way it should be. But a husband not only should rule his wife; he

should rule her in LOVE, and in patience, and in kindness, and in absolute consideration for her in every possible way.

It's like when we were in conference this week. My wife called me on the telephone, and they told me later that she called, and I called her back.

And she said, "Well, I called you; but I didn't want to interrupt you in conference." I said, "Well, my wife always gets in to me no matter where I am." She said, "I knew that; but I didn't want to interrupt just the same."

Well, my wife has always had a

privilege that other women don't have some ways. I've wanted to treat a wife with love, with kindness, with consideration, and with honor, and to give them every honor like that; and I think every husband should do that.

But the husband still is "the head of the wife;" and, if he can't be the head of the wife, there's something wrong with him somewhere. He should be able to BE the head of the wife; but he should be in all love, and patience, and kindness, and goodness in every way.

ALL HAVE SINNED
Now, "**He sat down on the right hand of the Majesty**

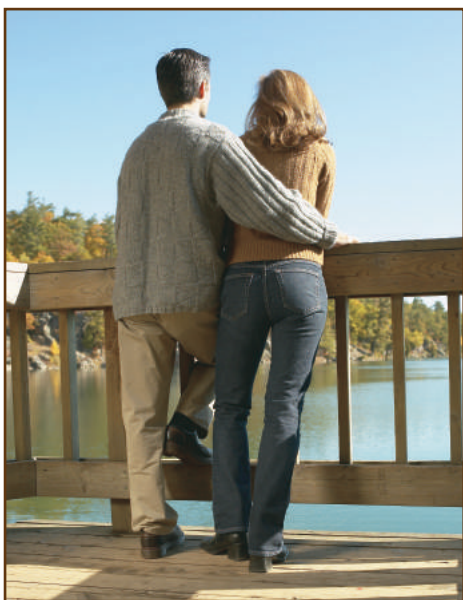
on high." Oh, yes, so I was saying: Why did God then wait 4,000 years for the second Adam? (And even after the second Adam came and purged our sins.) Now the first Adam, as I say, he had sinned; and Satan was still there, and the world sort of overlooked Satan, and so their children began to sin.

None of the sins of Abel were recorded; but we know he did sin, because they are specifically not recorded, but in general they are because another Scripture says "**All have sinned**" and that includes Abel.

Cain sinned. He was a murderer and killed his brother;



then he lied to God about it. He got punished too, didn't he? But God's punishment is corrective, and intended to correct us and can help us. His punishment is in love, and not in hatred or vengeance and



wanting to see us suffer. God doesn't want us to suffer. God doesn't have hate. He has LOVE. He hates evil. He hates wrong things, wrongdoing; but



He doesn't hate people. But then Christ, even after he had QUALIFIED, after he had CONQUERED Satan, He went up to HEAVEN at the RIGHT HAND OF GOD as our HIGH PRIEST. WHY? WHY IS GOD WAITING for SIX THOUSAND YEARS before He gets rid of Satan and before He establishes everything on the earth? WHY? Because man had to learn, and man has not learned yet by 6,000 years of man's going the wrong way that his way of life is wrong.

I was just saying to another minister this morning: Well, what's wrong with the way the world is living? Why isn't trying to get the best of everything right? When it's good for you, look how much more you get when you try to get everything, take it away from the other. If the other man suffers,

is the life of business today." There's what businessmen believe, competition. In sports, everything is competition.

"Let's get the competition going. We want competition." Satan wants competition. Satan is the number one competitor.

COMPETITION VS COOPERATION

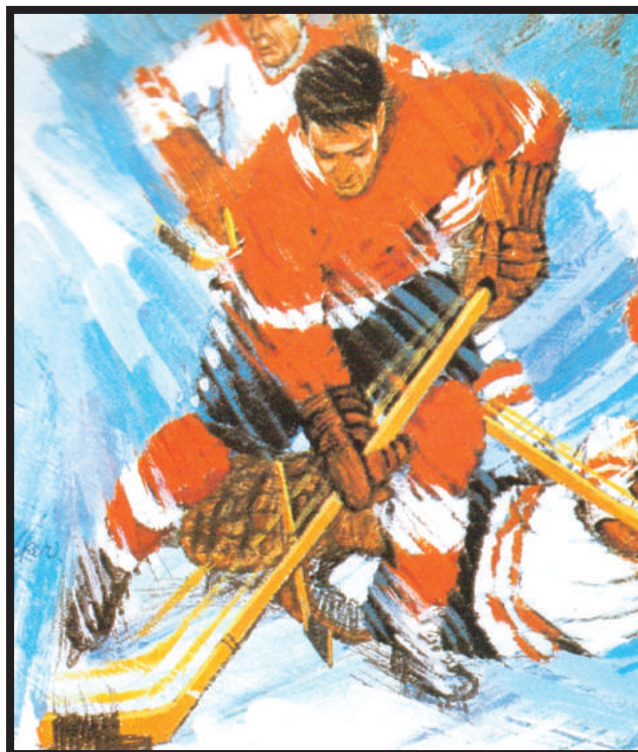
The world still thinks competition is a better way than cooperation. Now God's law is based on cooperation. Satan's law is based on competition,

and yet some of you right here still think you like competition. How about it? God knew that if humans did not have time for generation after generation to LEARN THE LESSONS -- TO LET THEM GO THE WAY THEY WANT TO, AND LET THEM SUFFER -- AND LET THEM FIND OUT THE RESULT OF THEIR WAYS, they would never believe it.

I tell you, if God had corrected things in Adam's time and before other children were born, and fixed it all up for Adam, and let Christ come and pay his debt for him and

say, "Now Adam, it's alright, you go right on." -- they would always have believed Satan's way is better. But, let me tell you, after 6,000 years ... and even then, they're going to have to see in a 1,000 years Millennium of living to prove that God's way is better, people would never believe it.

Now God has known what He is doing. He is reproducing Himself in us so we can be stamped with His character, even as Jesus was. And His character is knowing that His law is a way of life, and that is the right way, and that no other way is right. And how many of us have been living in the way of this world, and going the way of this world and doing the things of this world? (The practices of this



world, the games, the sports, the social life, the amusements of this world.) How many of us

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

Free Online Bible Study
www.cog-ff/biblestudytools

The Ten Commandments
www.10commandments.ws

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

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

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

Herbert Armstrong-His Life & Work
www.herbertwarmstrong.info

Lost Ten Tribes of Israel
www.losttentribes.org

Prophetic Events
www.propheticevents.us

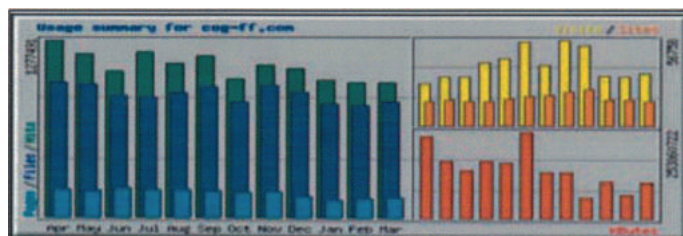
Restored Truths of God
www.restoredtruths.net

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

COGFF-Home School Association
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An Open Letter to the Scattered Flock
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