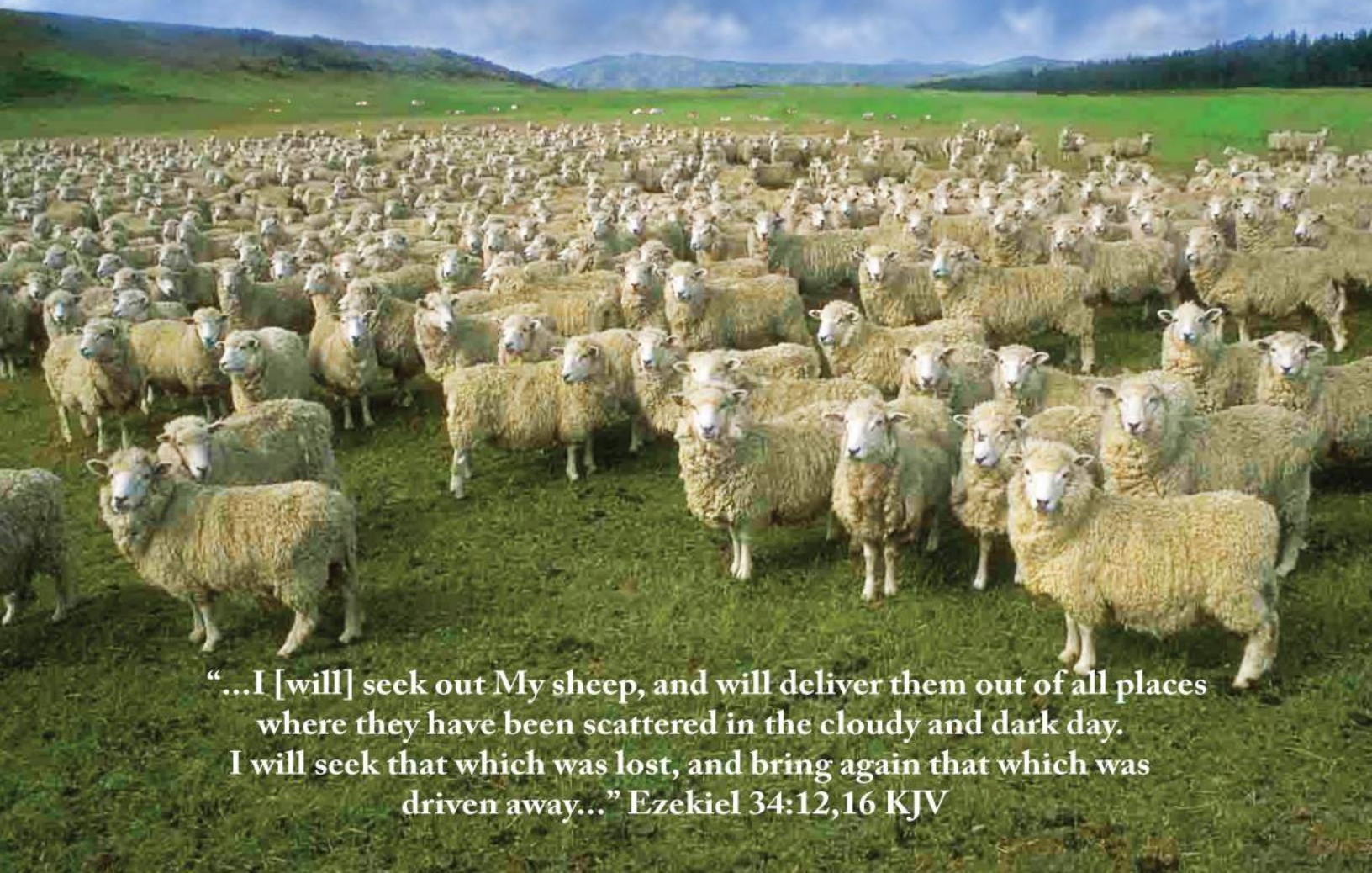


The _____ Philadelphia Remnant

Jul/Aug/Sept 2014



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

The Philadelphia Remnant

Jul/Aug/Sept 2014

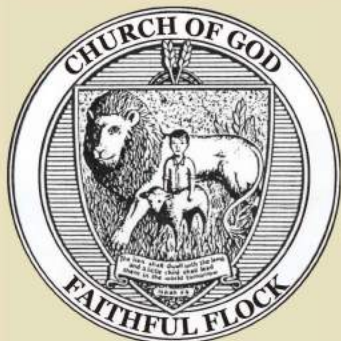
VOL.13, NO. 10

CONTENTS

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong	The Holy Spirit 1
Personal from the Editor	Mr. Alton 'Don' Billingsley 12
Russia in Bible Prophecy	Mr. Alton 'Don' Billingsley 26
Web sites, statistics	Back Page

Cover: The flock of sheep pictured on the cover of this magazine represent the scattered brethren of God's True Church. (*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 in which Jesus Christ used Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong during his life-time mission reaching out to people worldwide with the message of the soon-coming Kingdom of God through his preserved recorded writings.



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

Entire contents copyrighted. The Church of God. All rights reserved. The copyright subsisting in material quoted in this publication and trademarks appearing in this publication belong to the respective ownership thereof and no claim of ownership therein is made by the Church of God.

BiblePictureGallery.com or Jupiter Images.com photos used as clip art.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Alton B. 'Don' Billingsley

DESIGN/LAYOUT

Steve Serfontein

WRITERS

Alton B. 'Don' Billingsley
Steve Serfontein
Duane Miller
Lawrence J. Burns

PHOTOS/GRAPHICS

Steve Serfontein

PROOFING

Peggy Billingsley
Elizabeth Serfontein
Marie Duncan

TRANSCRIBER

Melissa Nash

COVER, WEB GRAPHICS

Jason Busa
Frank Olive
Steve Serfontein

PUBLISHER

Alton B. 'Don' Billingsley

CIRCULATION/BUSINESS MANAGER

Joseph Duncan

SECRETARY

Lawrence J. Burns

Published by
Church of God Faithful Flock
P.O. Box 130
Valley Springs, CA 95252
www.cog-ff.com



The Holy Spirit

November 1981

By
Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong

I want to get back to a subject I was talking to you about the last time I was here, about three weeks ago. And I'd like to turn to a couple of Scriptures, first in the 8th chapter of Romans. Let's get to something a little more spiritual.

The Mind of Mankind

In Romans the 8th chapter verse 7 speaks of the carnal mind, the natural mind. That is not, doesn't say, an especially evil mind. It's just the mind everybody's born with. **Romans 8:7, "The [natural, or] carnal mind is enmity against God."**

That is, hostile against God. Do you realize that? That the natural minds of men are hostile against God? I find that people who don't know God (or even if they think they are in some church, and they really don't know God though they think they do), if I begin to mention any of the truth of God, they want to change the subject in a hurry. It's very unpleasant to them, because they don't realize it but their minds are HOSTILE against God.

They are uncomfortable when you talk about God to them. It's just like they say, "Well, God, what are you trying to stick your nose into my business for? What are you trying to get from me, God? I want you out of my life." They think God is trying to harm them. They're afraid of religion. They don't understand. **Romans 8:7 "... hostile against God: for it is not subject to the [law] of God, neither indeed can be."**

Take the Protestant religion. There is one basic truth . . . It isn't truth. One basic belief, that they have; and that is the law is done away. They believe you repent. Mostly they don't even put repent into it. But if they do, you are just sorry for what you have done. You accept Christ. Now, it's all {1} and you go right on. Of course, you go on still doing it again.

To them, to repent doesn't mean turn around and go the other way. It doesn't mean give up the way you've been living. They don't understand it at all. But if you accept Christ, you're going to go to heaven when you die. Otherwise, because of Adam's sin, you're consigned to go to hell. And most of them think that. HOW MANY OF US have believed that kind of rot, brethren? Too many of us have let that rub off on us, and we don't understand the real truth.

GOD'S SPIRIT DWELLING IN YOU

Romans 8:8 "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. [That's the natural, fleshly mind -- the way we're born.] (9) But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, IF [IF . . .] so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you."

Brethren, DOES THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELL IN YOU, AND HOW DO YOU KNOW? I want to tell you that many of you don't know whether the Spirit of God is dwelling in you or not.

LISTEN TO ME, BRETHREN. I WANT TO WAKE YOU UP! A LOT OF YOU DON'T KNOW THAT, AND YOUR WHOLE ETERNITY IS DEPENDENT UPON IT.

Romans 8:9 Ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit [that's Spirit with a capital "S," meaning the Holy Spirit.], if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. IS the Spirit of God DWELLING IN YOU?

How do you know? What does the Spirit of God dwelling in you do? What change does that make, if any, in your life? any change been made in your life?

Romans 8:9 "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ he is none of his." Maybe you have said, "I accept Christ." You have been baptized in water. You have been received into the Church; and you say you are a Church member; you are a member even of God's Church.

But IF the Spirit of Christ – the Holy Spirit of God – is not dwelling in you, and unless you are being led by it and you are following it, you are not a Christian. You're just a member of an organization.

Do you know what is the Spirit of God?

Did any change ever take place when the Spirit of God came into you? Now turn on to another verse, verse 14:

Romans 8:14 "As many as are LED by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Are you being LED by the Spirit of God? Now is that just something you talk about? Or is something real that has really happened and changed your life? Is your life different? Is it led in a way by the Spirit of God now that it was not before your conversion? How do you know what is the Holy Spirit? How do you know whether you have received the Holy Spirit?

Do you know that there are perhaps a few million people in the United States (I know it's many hundreds of thousands.) who believe there's only one way you know whether you have received the Holy Spirit, and that's if you



'speak in tongues.' Well, that's what they think is the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit.



SERIOUS WARNING

Now we are going to have to go into a lot of these things a lot more than we have in the past, brethren, because I THINK WE DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND. AND I WANT TO GET THIS CHURCH ON THE TRACK! I want you to be able to rise and meet Christ in the air, and to be changed from mortal to immortal, from human to divine so that you are an immortal divine being when you meet Christ up in the air. And I am afraid that many of you ARE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT. Listen to me! I'm talking to YOU, brethren.

What good does it do me to pour out my heart to you if you don't listen, if you don't believe? Jesus came and preached to thousands, and only 120 out of those many thousands believed what He said. He fed the 5,000, they listened to Him; but He said, "They didn't come to listen to what I said. They just came to get their bellies filled."

I go and I speak to a group of our people in some city in the United States. And maybe most of the members of 8 or 10 churches in that area will come, and there'll be a much larger group than their normal church services. Then they go back and say, "Oh, I got to see Mr. Armstrong. I got to see Mr. Armstrong, God's apostle. Isn't that great?" "Yeah well what did he talk about?" "Oh, what did he talk about? Well I don't know what he talked about. But I got to see him! Isn't that wonderful?" Now, how much did that profit them?

Take a look at me. I'm nothing! I'm a nobody! Except as the Word of God is in me and unless Christ is using me I'm nothing. You're nothing. But we can all become something through Christ Jesus, but only if we have the Spirit of God. Otherwise, we are not Christ's. And, brethren, I have been awakened lately.

I am afraid that MANY OF OUR PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH COME AND SIT HERE, AND LISTEN. They don't really comprehend the message, and they are NOT CHRIST'S at all. They are not really Christian. They are not going to meet Christ in the air, and He's coming in this generation.

I WANT YOU TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY, BRETHREN. I don't know how I can ... All I can do is shout at you, or something, and hope that some of you will get the message. You need a shaking up! You just need to have someone shake you, and shake something into you.

I think that a lot of you are like you read back here in **Ezekiel 33:30-33**, where it says the people come, and they come as God's people. Yeah, they're members of the Church. And it's a prophecy for our day. And they listen to God's minister, and they sit there as God's people. And they'll hear your words.

And lo you are unto them as one that is playing on a wonderful beautiful instrument, or singing a beautiful song (although they don't hear the words or get anything out of it). They hear your words; but they don't understand them, they don't do anything about it. It makes no difference in their lives. They come as God's people. They hear your words, but they do them not! It doesn't mean anything to them.



If I can't shake you up, if I can't send you home with a different realization than you had when you came here, I've wasted my time and my love for you. You know I don't get paid any extra for it. I don't do it to please me, or for profit; but I do want you'd realize it.

GOD'S SPIRIT CHANGES YOU

Romans 8:14 "As many as are LED by the [Holy Spirit], they are the sons of God." Now what does it mean being LED by the Holy Spirit? Let me tell you, first of all the Holy Spirit isn't going to grab hold of you and pull you along. It won't do that at all. The Holy Spirit won't get

behind you, and shove and push you against your own will. It isn't going to do anything like that.

I tried to preach a sermon on it, about three weeks ago I believe it was, whenever I spoke here last. Let me see if I can. {2} Do you see the light bulb in there? That's like you if the Spirit of God is not in you. The Spirit of God comes. {3} Does it make any difference? It changed the light bulb, didn't it? Do you know the Spirit of God in you will CHANGE YOU as much as that electric current coming in there changed that light bulb? Has anything taken hold of you and changed YOU that much? Or are you still just the same as you were, but you've just joined an organization? You just sit here as God's people? Brethren, your just sitting here in a seat is not going to get you into the Kingdom of God. It just is not!

THE CARNAL VS THE SPIRITUAL

Now I'd like us to understand this just a little more. I've taken so much time already; I don't have much time left. I want to go back a little bit in the 7th chapter. Paul spoke about the law of God, and he said in verse 14 of the 7th chapter:

Romans 7:14 "For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold unto [death]."

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

Brethren, you and I were all born carnal. Paul said, "**I am carnal.**" That didn't mean he was just naturally trying to be as evil as he can. It didn't mean that at all.

Romans 7:15-18 "For that which I do, I allow not; for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that I do. (16) If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it [the law] is good. [But he said, "I'm not good. The law is."] (17) Now then it is no more I that do it, but the sin that dwells in me. (18) For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing."

Do you know that in you dwells no good thing? The way you were born, you are just so much dirt out of the ground.



That's all. And that's where you are going to go back. And it's appointed to men once to die. And for most all people, after that the judgment. But the Church is an exception, and judgment is already on the Church.

We're the firstfruits. That's what the Feast of Pentecost means every year. **Romans 7:18-22** For to will is present with me (That is, make a decision and a determination and to will.); but how to perform that which is good I find not. (19) For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. [Now we're all going to have to wrestle with that problem.] (20) Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwells in me. (21) I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. (22) For I delight in the law of God after the inward man."

Paul believed in the law of God. He KNEW it was the way to live -- the right way to live, the way he wanted to live; but he found he wasn't living that way. Do you have that same trouble? Well, I've had it all my life; and I've had to struggle with it.

Romans 7:23 "But I [find] another law in my members [And brethren that same law's been working in your members – unless you are doing something about it. It was in Paul. It's been in me] warring against the law of my mind.

The law of his mind is the same as the law of God, which he's accepted into his mind. That's the law of out-flowing love – first to God and then to neighbor.

Romans 7:23-25 . . . warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. [It's there because Satan has put it there; beginning from the time we were a day old.] (24) **O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? (25) I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord."**

God only can deliver us, and it's through the power of His Holy Spirit. Now first we have to come to realize we have been wrong, and realize that of ourselves we are helpless to do right; and we've got to have the help of God. And if we do that, and we REPENT of what is wrong and the way we've lived in the past that means we turn from it and we don't want to do it anymore.

That doesn't mean we go on living that way and say, "Well, I'm sorry. Now it's alright." You know most people in the Protestant churches think if they just say, "Well, I'm sorry. I repent." Then they go right on doing it. They haven't repented. But if they accept Christ, they think that's going to get them into heaven.

FROM PHYSICAL TO IMMORTAL LIFE

Now we know you don't go to heaven. We know you get into the Kingdom of God, and

that'll be right here on the Earth. But it is not a change of place. It's a change of your state and condition. You won't be flesh and blood any longer. The only life you have now is the blood circulating in your veins and the breath of air that goes in and out of your lungs. That's what keeps you alive.

There is a spirit in you, but that spirit in you is NOT WHAT KEEPS YOU ALIVE. THAT DOES NOT GIVE YOU LIFE! It has nothing to do with your being alive or dead. It just functions in your mind as long as you are alive. And your life comes from the food you eat and the water you drink, feeding the body and keeping the heart pumping blood and your lungs breathing air in and out. That's all that keeps you alive. That's where your life is. That's the only life we have, brethren.



We don't have immortal souls! "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." So now you come to the 8th chapter of Romans: **Romans 8:1** "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

ACQUIRED KNOWLEDGE

And the Spirit of God, the law of God, is the way of God; and the Spirit of God opens your mind to understand that way. If Adam had taken of the Tree of Life that would have opened his mind to revealed spiritual knowledge; and Adam never had spiritual knowledge. Adam said, "No. I'll just acquire my own knowledge." God made Adam so he could acquire knowledge of the physical, the material.

And do you know that in all of the colleges and universities of this world, **ALL THEY KNOW** and **ALL THEY TEACH . . .** You listen! Now, get this. Understand this. All they teach is about physical material things. Spiritual principles they know nothing about. The things of God they know nothing about.

They don't know what they are. They don't know what a human being is made of. They don't know why a human being is on Earth. They don't know what God's purpose is and where we're going. They don't know the way. They don't know the cause of all of the world's troubles. They go ahead and solve their troubles; they don't know what causes troubles. They don't know the way to peace. They don't know the way to an immortal, eternal life.

And God won't give you eternal life – and it is the gift of God – and He won't give it to you until you are willing to

start to LIVE by the law of God and to LIVE GOD'S WAY. Now God will put His Holy Spirit in you if and when you **REALLY** repent and accept Christ. But listen. God only gives you a little tiny bit of His Holy Spirit to start. The Bible talks about "pouring out" the Spirit, like water.



. . . Spirit, like water

You pour out water. (I've got some water here. I could pour it out.) It's like air that you can blow, and it moves; and the Spirit of God moves. But the Spirit of God will come in to you, and you only have a little of it to start with; and if you don't grow in the Spirit and in the knowledge of God, what little you had is going to leave you.

SPIRITUAL WAY OF LIVING

Brethren, take the parable of the pounds and the parable of the talents. The one who was-given one and did nothing

with it, when Christ comes, He will take away the one you had if you haven't increased it. If you have not grown spiritually -- in spiritual knowledge and in the spiritual way of LIVING so that you have actually LIVED a different way – you will lose out entirely; and you will burn up in the final Lake

of Fire. You will never be in the Kingdom of God.

God will only give immortal life to those who will live it in a way to be happy, and in a way to make other people happy, and in a way to walk with God. And two can't walk together except they be agreed [**Amos 3:3**]. And God doesn't agree with the way you lived your life before you were converted, if and when you were converted and supposing that you were.

The Spirit of God coming into you IMPREGNATES you with divine Life. The spirit that is already in you does not give you any life. The spirit that is in you only supplies the power

of intellect to a physical brain. And that physical brain is kept alive and active only by the air you breathe and the pumping of your heart and that has to be kept going by food and water out of the ground.

You are "of the ground" and "out of the ground." THAT'S ALL YOU ARE, BRETHREN. Understand it. Nobody else is teaching you that. No other church on Earth will teach you that. That's why this is God's Church! And it's quite different from any other church on this Earth, quite different.



When the Holy Spirit comes, that impregnates you with immortal Life. But listen. You are like an embryo in your mother's womb, as you were at one time; and you haven't even grown large enough to be called a fetus yet. That takes four months, when your body began to take on human form and shape. But listen. IF you were not fed on the physical food, you wouldn't have grown

physically; and your mother would have had a miscarriage. You would never have been born. You would have died inside of her body; and she'd had to get rid of you, already dead. That is an exact type. IF you don't grow spiritually, you will be aborted. You will not go on. You have to GROW in the Spirit and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

YOUR REAL EDUCATION

Brethren, listen to me. You talk about education. You go to school. You start in the first grade. They teach you to read

and write and to figure. Reading, 'riting, 'rithmetic – the so-called "3 Rs." All they are going to teach you there, and all they're going to teach you when you get to high school, and all they will teach you in the university is physical, material knowledge. They are not giving you spiritual

knowledge.

When you are converted, then you begin YOUR REAL EDUCATION! You can't get it in the college, or the universities, or the schools of this world. YOU CAN'T GET IT THERE! You didn't get a real education. You only got a lot of physical knowledge. And about 50-75% of that is rot, and is wrong, and is error, and not truth. YOUR REAL EDUCATION begins when you are converted.

And you feed on spiritual knowledge, and the Word of God is that spiritual knowledge. You feed on the Word of God, instead of material food. And if you are not studying the Word of God, if you are not being educated EVERY DAY OF YOUR LIFE like you are just starting to school all over again, you are only starting in the first grade. As a matter of fact, you are hardly in the first grade yet. You are only in the kindergarten spiritually, when you are converted. And if you don't go on studying SPIRITUALLY and SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE ... the Holy Spirit opens your mind to comprehend it. Before that, you couldn't have understood it anyway. But when the Spirit of God comes, you can begin to understand it; and it will reveal that knowledge.

Now, it is the impregnation of divine Life; but it is only a start, if you go on. But you must grow, and grow, and grow EVERY DAY OF YOUR LIFE. Do you know more

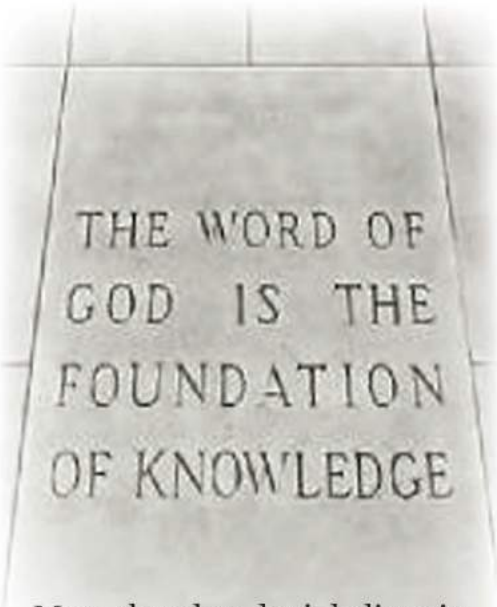
spiritually, do you have more spiritual knowledge than you did a month ago? Most of you don't brethren. Look in the looking glass and see; and say, "Here's someone that doesn't know any more than he did a month ago spiritually!"

SHAME ON YOU! You won't make it into the Kingdom of God if you don't change that! Am I wearing myself out, telling you that? Are you going to go away heedless, paying no attention? Nobody else gets up in front of you and tells you this. I'm the only minister that God has that can talk to you this way; and you had better open your ears and your minds and your hearts, and LISTEN or you won't make it into the Kingdom of God. I'm telling you.

The Holy Spirit then is the power that opens your mind to comprehend spiritual truth. Here are the great people who graduated from Harvard. They can't understand spiritual truth. They've just been educated in physical knowledge. Now they have to get spiritual knowledge. You can know more spiritually than they do. But do you?

We are going to school every day we live. And you gain in spiritual knowledge through the Word of God and, believe it or not (and listen), through prayer. How much do you pray? And by listening to the Word of God as God's ministers give it to you. There was a wonderful sermon preached on this platform this morning.

I think most of you were not here and didn't hear it. Mr. Jackson preached a very fine sermon this morning. But that was spiritual food, and that's what we need. But we need to grow in spiritual knowledge.



THE WORD OF
GOD IS THE
FOUNDATION
OF KNOWLEDGE

Most churches don't believe in acquiring spiritual knowledge. I have a sister that's still in the same church I was brought up in, the Quaker church. She said to me one time . . . She said, "Herbert, you don't . . . You don't read the Bible to try to understand it, do you?" I said, "Well, of course." "Oh," she said, "but you can't understand it." "Oh yes, I can; but you can't Mary," I told her. I said, "Don't you read the Bible?" She said, "Oh yes, of course I read it." "Well why do you read it, if you don't read it to understand it?" She said, "Just for inspiration, we're not supposed to understand it." I said, "Whoever told you that? Whoever told you that was lying to you, and you'd better quit believing him; and believe

what God says in the Bible. But you don't believe what God says. You say, 'I can't understand. Why should I believe what He says?'"

I make it plain. You can understand what God says to you through me. I'm trying to make it very simple, and plain, and very clear -- so you can understand it. And, if you don't accept it, that's your fault; not mine.

The Holy Spirit in you will begin to open your mind, but you must GROW in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. That is the last two verses of Peter (II Peter), of Peter's letters. Peter, the first apostle and the chief apostle at that time; and he was speaking the truth of God.

Now next to that, once you see and understand the truth of God, you have to use your own will to say, "That's the way I will live. And I will try to DO that way. I'll quit doing the other way."

TALE BEARING AND MAKE-UP

Do you know what the Bible says about tale bearing and rumors? Well, this Church has not practiced that. We're the biggest tale bearing and rumoring Church that I EVER HEARD OF! SHAME ON WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE THAT DO IT! Now some of you right here are guilty of that. You're going to answer to God for that, if you don't stop it. Good news - do it. Good news - tell people. Bad news - shut your mouth up

about it; and try to believe the best in people, not the worst. It seems we want to believe the worst; and want to whisper that to everybody, we want to tale bear it.



I say something. Someone takes an exception to it. They get on the telephone; and it goes from one end of this country to the other, to the whole membership. Read what James wrote about the tongue. That's another thing that we do that is wrong. And, if we're going to grow in God's grace and knowledge, we quit doing those things.

I've tried to clean up our women's faces recently. I think some women didn't like it.



They resented it. I'm very glad that most of the women in this

Church here I find . . . I've had reports that most of you, when you knew I'd made that decision, took your make-up off right off the bat, even before you heard a sermon on it.

Well, congratulations and thank you for doing it. But you didn't please me by doing it. You only pleased God. Sometimes I wonder what the women would do if the men started painting up their faces in all kinds of ways.



Some of these things are so ridiculous, but we don't think about that. The only thing women think of, "Other women do it. The world does it. And we must go along with the world, mustn't we?"

God says, **"Come out from among them, and be separate."** [II Corinthians 6:17]. Do you want to still be

with the world? Go to the world. Don't come into this place. This place is not of the world. We are to be different from the world. We are a separate and a holy people! And we've got to live that way.

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S PART

Now, the Holy Spirit will open your mind -- if you study the Word of God, if you listen to the Word of God. And you grow in Spirit as you pray to God more and more. And pray for the brethren. Pray for people, even for your enemies. I pray for my enemies even before I do for some of my best friends and some of the brethren.

Of course, God may bless them by punishment to wake them up. Maybe that's the best thing for them. God knows. I don't. But I only pray for them, not against them. I don't want any harm to come to them. I just want blessings from God to come to them. You can pray for your enemies. God isn't going to hurt them, not unless it's for their good. He won't do anything that's not for their good.

Now, next to understanding, the Holy Spirit will give you the love of God that keeps His law. You were not born with the kind of love that will perform and keep God's law. You have to have a special love that comes from God. It's impossible for you to really love God like you should. We only love Him because He first loved us. And it's His love

coming through the Holy Spirit into us, and some of that goes back.

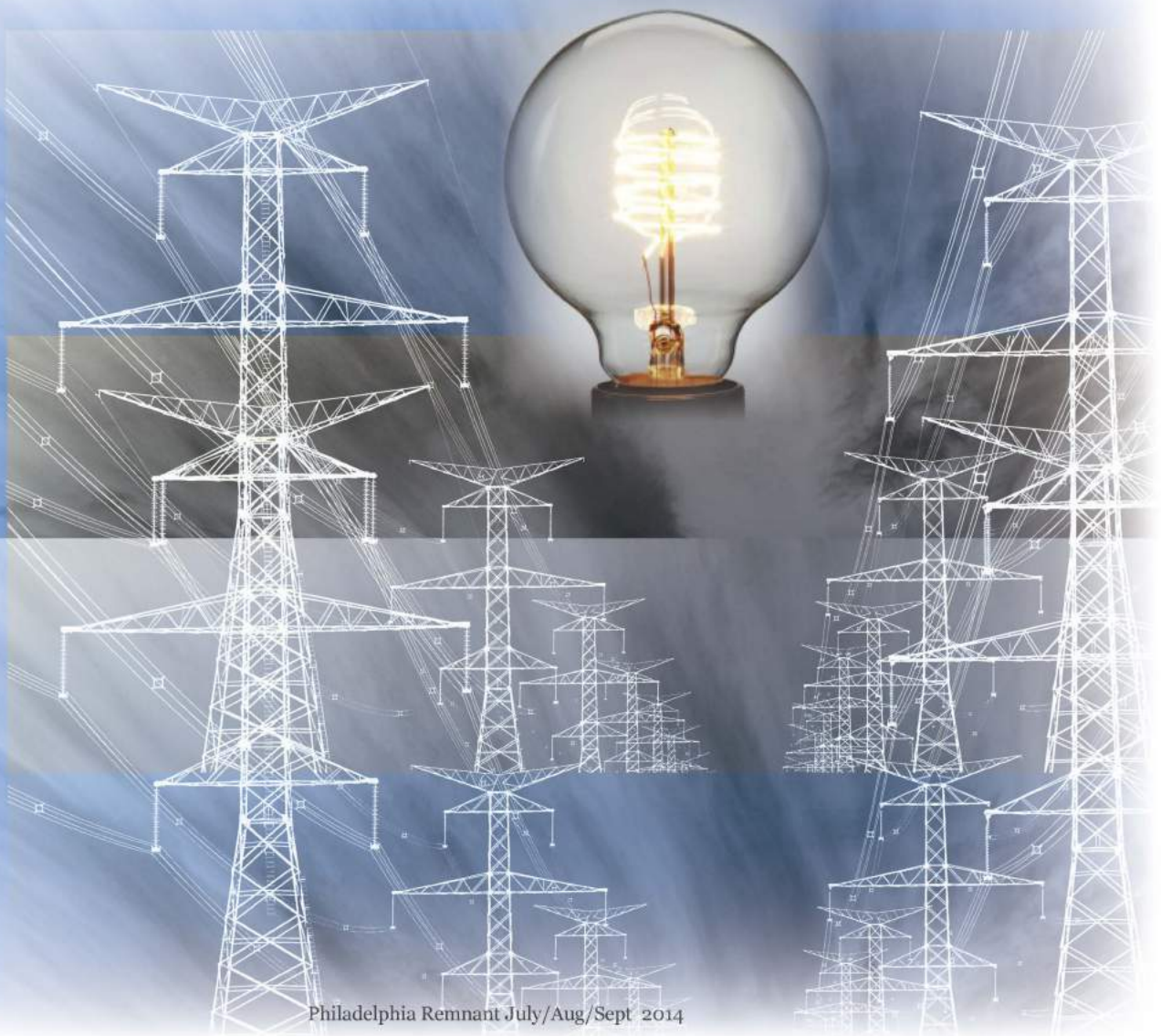
You see there are two wires going into this light. One brings the electric current in, and the other goes back. The Holy Spirit comes in; but it FLOWS, like water or like air moving. And part of it must go back to God in love toward Him, and part of it out to neighbor and love toward them. And God will give you that kind of love. It's a different kind of love than you were born with.

Next the Holy Spirit will give you the faith OF Christ. That's not some faith you work up. That's a gift that God puts in you – that kind of faith, to believe Him – if you study His Word, if you get to know Him. Faith is only knowing that whatever God has promised He will do. You can rely on it. That's faith.

Then the Spirit of God will give you the power to do it. And all those things will make a change in your life! The electric light coming into that bulb here changed it and made

it light up, made a big change. You and I are to be the light of the world, and we are to let our light shine. Not that the world can hear what we say, but that it may see our good works and how we live.

Part of our good works they won't agree with in the world, but some of it they will. It reminds me of the first time we held the Feast of Tabernacles, or really the second time, in Mount Pocono. There was a merchant there running his store; and he said, "You people, we found when you



Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014



were here last year you were just the best people we've ever known in our lives. All the merchants and businessmen here say, 'They've never seen people like you.' Well we think you're just the best people we ever knew. There's only one thing we can't understand. Why in the world would people so good as you have to believe that crazy religion of yours?" Well, this man answered and said, "Well that's why we're so good. It's the religion that does that, and it will do the same thing to you." And he was speechless. The world can see our good works. They know we are pretty good people. We act like good people if we act God's way.

Then, finally, if we endure to the end, if we grow in grace and knowledge -- finally, if we die, we will be resurrected in the Kingdom of God. If we are still living, we'll be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of the eye. God will give us immortal Life. This mortal will put on immortality. That's the process, brethren.

I wish I had time. I could talk on that all day and all night. I've only said a little; but I hope you got that little, because time is up. But let's go on to the Kingdom of God. Let's get this Church ready. Let's get each

one of us ... You get you ready. You can't make the one next to you ready. You can make you ready. Be sure you do. And God bless every one of you.

Editor's Comment: A few minor edits were made in this sermon. However what was removed did not take away from the subject matter. For those who would like to have the complete sermon please write or call and it will be mailed to you on a CD or Cassette.
Alton (Don) Billingsley



Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

Personal

From the Editor
Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

The promised Elijah was sent and used by Jesus Christ to not only RESTORE God's laws and doctrinal teachings, but was also used to WARN the House of Joseph, America and Britain, during his lifetime mission of 52 years, 1934-1986, of the terrible times that would lead into the dreadful Day of The LORD – unless there would be repentance of their abhorrent sins.

And though he is dead, his mission continues via his recorded works of voice and writings on our websites. However for the most part they are ignored by virtually everyone due to his death and no longer considered to be relevant.

As the result ministers and members of the former Parent Church, that was pastored by God's late apostle, are seeking

God's Warning Message

“... The END has come it has DAWNED for you; Behold it has come! . . . a day of trouble is near; ... Now upon you, I will soon pour out My fury . . . So you, son of man: I have made you A WATCHMAN for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and WARN them for Me”

Ezekiel 7:6-8; 33:7

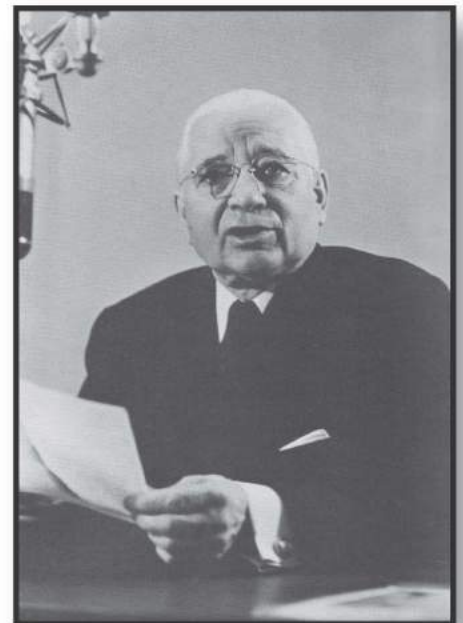
“God's Watchman”

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the LORD . . . Jesus said . . . “Indeed Elijah is coming and will RESTORE all things” (Malachi 4:5; Matthew 17:10-11).

their own recognition for fame and gain by having their own beliefs and teachings.

Though they understand the prophecies of the end-time they fail to understand the immanence of them. Therefore they are in grave danger due to this and their erroneous belief that they are in right standing with God (**Matthew 7:21-23**).

Now their day of reckoning is almost here along with the nations of Israel as made known by God through His prophet! They will pay the price for having rejected Jesus Christ by rejecting the man He sent to preach the Gospel and the Ezekiel warning message



of a most terrible soon-coming time:

“Alas! For that day is great, so that is none is like it (Matthew 24:21; Daniel 12:1); and it is the time of Jacob's trouble . . .” (Jeremiah 30:4-7).

History to Repeat Itself

There are many lessons that should have been learned by the peoples of America and Britain from the past history of mankind—but to no avail.

While considering the wicked and corruptive causes of the drowning deaths of billions of people in the Pre-Flood world of Noah (**Genesis 7:17-24**), and the horrible fiery deaths of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah (**Genesis 19:24-25**), and then focusing on the same wickedness in the societies in America and Britain, one cannot help but wonder how much time is there left before God brings the fullness of the ultimate disaster on both these nations as He did with that Pre-Flood World and Sodom and Gomorrah?

Jesus Christ said that when it comes it will be as a snare and entrap them (**Luke 21:35**). He further said they would be living their lives in delusion believing no power bloc of nations will arise in Europe or in Asia that could bring disaster on them due to having their trust in their leadership and military.

Thus, it will be at such a time when a blitzkrieg nuclear attack will suddenly strike with terrible disaster with little warning and no retaliation (**Ezekiel 7:14**).

Learning from History

Jesus Christ spoke of this coming time while comparing His people Israel with the

Pre-Flood world of Noah as well as Sodom and Gomorrah with the intention that His people Israel learn from what happened to them and not make the same fatal errors:

“And as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be also in the days of the Son of Man: they ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, UNTIL the day that Noah entered the Ark, and the FLOOD came and destroyed them all.

Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built (*marriage is not mentioned here undoubtedly due to their predominant sodomite societies*); **but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.** Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed” (**Luke 17:26-30**).



Noah a Preacher of Righteousness

God always gives ample warnings as many Scriptures make known with the hope of repentance lest He has to deal severely with His people (**Ezekiel 33:11**). Noah was a preacher of righteousness (**II Peter 2:5**), and was used by God to warn the peoples of that time period that a Flood would come and destroy all of them unless they repented.

As the time drew near to the completion of the 120 years God had allotted to that world before it would be destroyed, Noah must have preached more urgently to them (**Genesis 6:3**). But they continued to jeer and make fun of him even though they were viewing the almost

finished Ark.

And just before the Flood came one could think that upon seeing all of the animals going on board the Ark they would have had a change of heart. However there is no evidence of it (**Genesis 7:8-9**). As the result they paid the price of their hardheartedness and sinful ways with their lives in drowning deaths (**Genesis 7:21-24; Romans 6:23**).

Righteous Lot

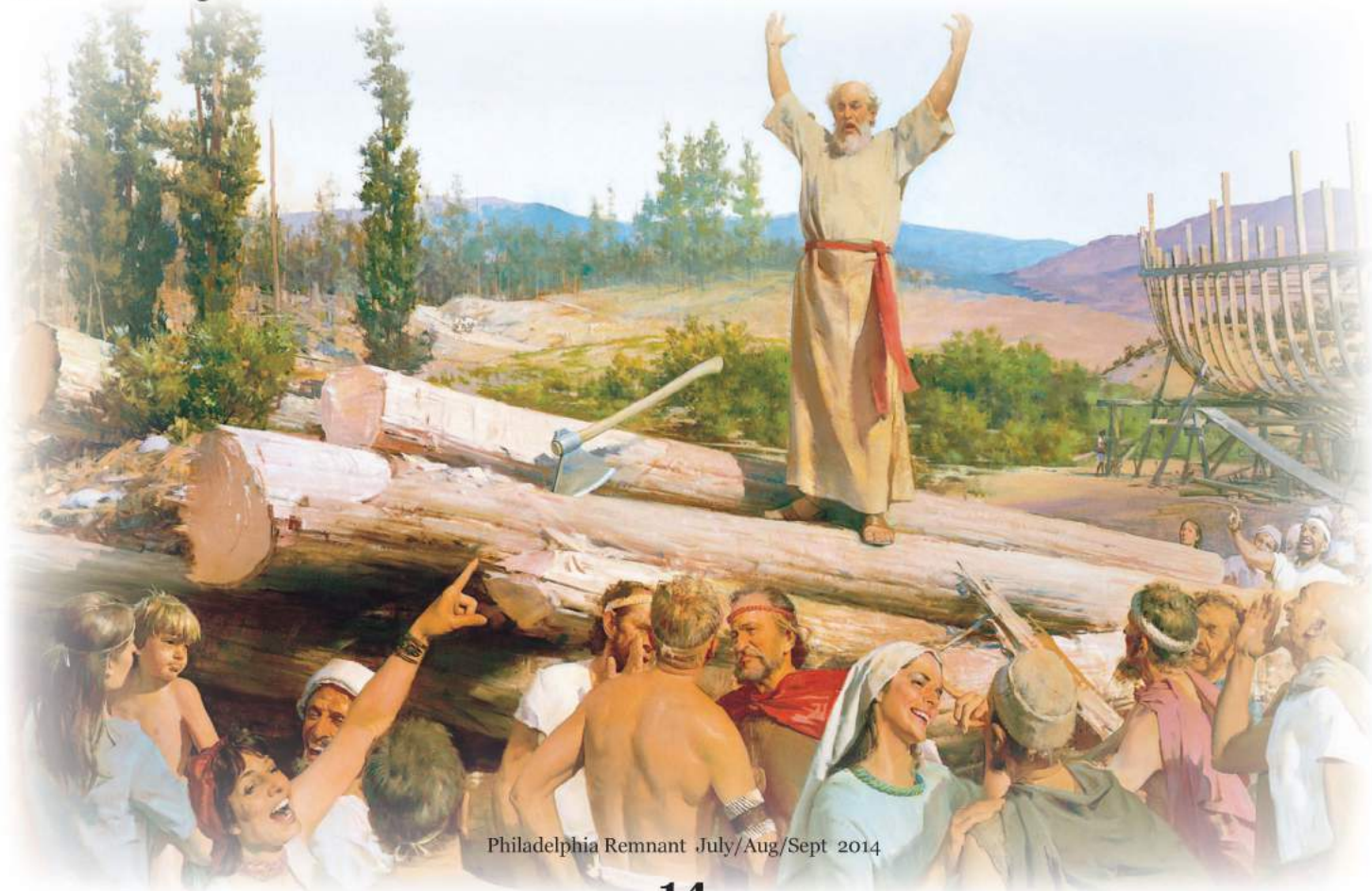
Regarding Sodom, the LORD said to Abraham:

“Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and because their sin is very grievous, I will go down

now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not I will know.” Then the two men (angels) turned away and went toward Sodom (Genesis 18:20-22).

Upon their arrival Lot strongly urged them to stay in his home (**Genesis 19:1-3**). During the first part of the night the sodomites tried to seduce the angels (**Genesis 19:4-5**). This was all the angels needed to know to proceed with their instructions to destroy the cities.

Later that night they asked Lot about his family with the intention of delivering them as well as his immediate family:



Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

“Have you anyone else here? Son-in-law, your sons, your daughters, and whomever you have in the city—take them out of this place! For we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has grown great before the face of the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it.”

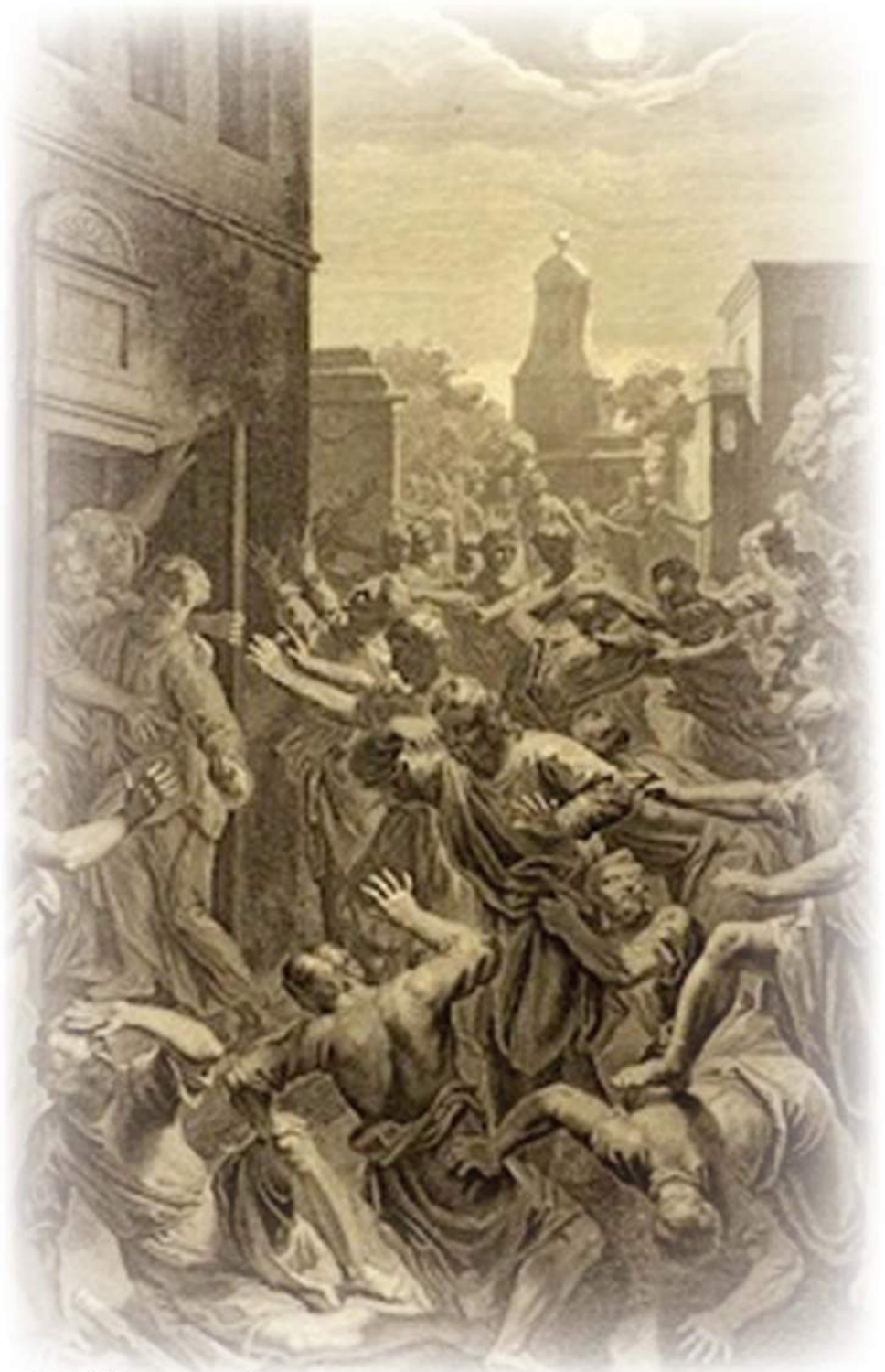
So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in law, who had married his daughters, and said, “GET UP! GET OUT OF THIS PLACE FOR THE LORD WILL DESTROY THIS CITY!” But to his sons-in-law he seemed to be joking (*Genesis 19:14*).

He undoubtedly pleaded with them to leave Sodom with his immediate family otherwise they would also be destroyed, but to no avail. Upon returning home he told his wife and daughters the sad news of their refusal to leave with them. They undoubtedly wept together knowing what was going to happen to them and there was nothing more they could do to save them for time had run out.

When the moring dawned, the men (*angels*) took hold of his hand, his wife’s hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the LORD being merciful to them, and they brought him and set him outside the city. So it came to pass, when they brought him outside,

that he (*leading angel*) said, “Escape for your life! Do NOT look behind you NOR stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountain, lest you be destroyed!”
Genesis 19:15-17.

In a very similar manner, though the circumstances will vary, God’s Elect will also be warned to flee at the right timeto escape the destruction coming upon the House of Israel (*Revelation 18:4-5; Jeremiah 51:6, 45, 50*).



Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

Lot's righteous example that he set before Sodom and Gomorrah was also a witness to them. However this has no positive effect on them. Rather they made fun of him just as they had Noah. As the result they paid the penalty for their abominable sins by experiencing horrible excruciating painful deaths from the fire and brimstone that fell from the skies on those cities:

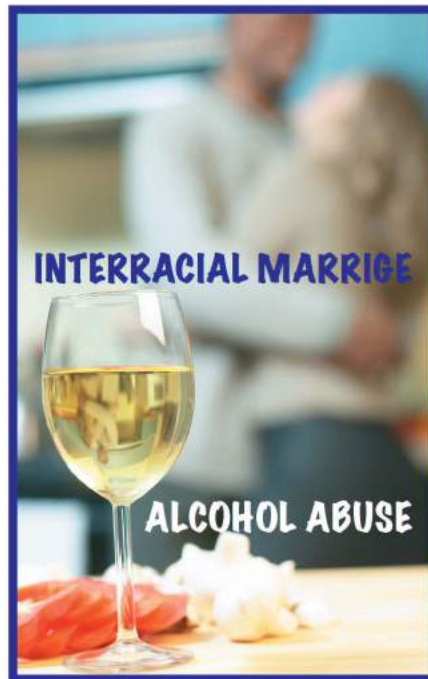
Then the LORD rained *brimstone and fire* on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens. So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground . . . the smoke of the land which went up like the smoke of a furnace (*Genesis 19:24-25, 28*).

An Overly Permissive Society

Through the eyes of the news media it can easily be seen by the wise that the very same powerful darkness of evil that overshadowed and pervaded the Pre-Flood World of Noah, Sodom and Gomorrah, has also carried with that darkness the same overly permissive evil effect on America, Britain, Canada, South Africa and Australia!

Much of this has taken place during the past few years! Tragically over half of its peoples have eagerly accepted and become part of it! Largely the rest of society is tolerant of it with no conscience to trouble

them. They will also pay the same penalty due to hiding their eyes and turning their backs on it (***Leviticus 20:4-5***).



Christ is continuing to use his voice and writings to sound the warning via websites through the Open Door of His Gospel Message (***Revelation 3:7-8***).

However the corporate churches have no desire to listen to his recorded messages of warnings let alone taking any positive action toward preparing for this coming time by making the right and wise decisions.

Sadly none of these peoples realize how close we are to the Great Tribulation in which many millions of the people of Israel will be killed by nuclear warfare; this will be followed up by having to experience horrible deaths in captivity; and the remainder to be sold into slavery with hard



In this end-time, God raised up and used His late apostle, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, who was also the promised Elijah, to warn Israel from 1934 to 1986. Though he is dead, Jesus



Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

bondage (***Ezekiel 5:12; Deuteronomy 28:48***).

Warnings also in Nature!

God is also using the increasing frequencies of record-breaking acts in nature, such as: the worst kind of devastating tornadoes, record-breaking floods, serious drought, terrible consuming fires, and very heavy snowfall, etc., by which He is giving preliminary warnings of the terrible things soon to come to pass.



There is also the breakdown of leadership and the judiciary. This has led to a terrible increase in lawlessness with ever-increasing violence together with the moral decadence in society.



All of these areas, in addition to others, make known the House of Joseph is in its Death Throes—very close to dying from its terminal sickness and oblivious to it. There is no healing except from God and that can only come with genuine repentance.

Little Time Left

Since God destroyed those societies because of their abominable sins, and knowing God is the same yesterday today and forever (**Hebrews 13:8; Malachi 3:6**), one cannot help but wonder how



much time does Israel have left before the fullness of the ultimate disaster strikes the House of Joseph and all the tribes of Israel?

Though we can understand in part by the closeness of what is being witnessed via the News Media, the fullness of understanding can only be made known in view of the prophecies of the end-time.

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

And they are being further opened to understanding to God's chosen people to understand how perilously close the



House of Joseph is to its demise as nations.

Jesus Christ spoke of another time just a few years after His crucifixion when Jerusalem would be destroyed and He cried knowing what terrible times the Jewish people would

suffer because of their hard-heartedness to His visitation – the very Creator God among them, and they knew Him not (**Luke 19:41-44; 23:27-30**). Though He cared deeply for them (**Matthew 23:37-39**), the same love was not there for Him.

Jerusalem 70 A. D.

There are the historical writings that make known the extremely terrifying times that brought suffering and death to the Jewish people in Jerusalem in 70 A.D.



Titus and his enormous Roman armies totally destroyed the City and the Temple. Aside from the 97,000 Jews taken as prisoners, and not counting the 2,000 Jews the Roman soldiers ripped open in one night, hundreds were nailed to crosses outside the city, there were 115,800 who died in the City from the Famine and internal conflicts. (*The Bible as History, Keller, Page 407*).

Afterward, thousands of captive Jews were forced to fight wild beasts as a celebration, to amuse the populace of Rome (*Ancient History in Bible Light, Miller, page 263*).

Needless to say, Jesus Christ wants His people Israel to seriously ponder what took place at that time for it closely parallels in many respects what will take place with many hundreds of millions of people from the House of Israel to suffer even worse than the Jewish people at that time;

unless there is repentance before this takes place.

Warning Signs of Impending Destruction

When considering the Warning Signs that took place in Jerusalem in 66–70 A. D., one can clearly see a direct parallel with what is beginning to be

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

witnessed in phenomenon unparalleled in our time in heavenly signs; such as: lightning striking twice the dome of St. Peters, a meteor striking Russia – both taking place five days apart in February 2013!



These heavenly signs were meaningful to the astute and wise minds as warnings of the prophesied events soon to occur in this end-time. Society dismissed them as irrelevant. Yet, they have begun picturing the warnings of what is soon to take place, just as the HEAVENLY SIGNS OF WARNINGS were given before the fall of Jerusalem.

A Four-Year Warning

The duality of the warnings that began being given by God in 66 A. D. was four years before the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A. D. Based upon the many major unsolvable and accelerating problems facing the House of Joseph, it would appear there will be little more than four years, or less, before destruction also befalls the House of Joseph.

Ancient History in Bible Light, Dorothy Ruth Miller, Pages 260-261, "Fearful Sights and Great Signs" (**Luke 21:11**).

"Yet the Jews who suffered in the siege and destruction of Jerusalem were not left without warnings immediately preceding the siege. Josephus relates that before the revolt of the Jews which occurred in 66 A. D. on the eighth of Nisan, at the ninth hour of the night, so great a light shone round the altar that it appeared to be "bright daytime which lasted for half an hour." The scribes interpreted this as an omen of evil.

The same writer says that, "The eastern gate of the inner Temple, which was of brass, and vastly heavy, and had been with difficulty shut by twenty men, and rested upon a basis armed with iron, and had bolts fastened very deep into the firm floor, which was there made with one entire stone, was seen to open of its own accord about the sixth hour of the night." He says, "The men of learning understood it, that

the security of their holy house was dissolved of its own accord.

We are told besides that "there was a star resembling a sword which stood over the city, and a comet, that continued a whole year."

Before sunset, chariots and troops of soldiers in their armour were seen running about among the clouds."



The Day of Pentecost

This Holy Day observed in Jerusalem in 69 A.D., played a very significant role for it was on this Day the final warning came from God to the Jewish people of the impending destruction of their city.

Ancient History in Bible Light, Page 261, Miller: "Again on the night of the last Pentecost ever celebrated in the Sanctuary "as the priests were going by night, as their custom was, to perform their sacred

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

ministrations, they said that, in the first place, they felt a quaking, and heard a sound as of a great multitude, saying, 'Let us remove hence.'

"Josephus adds: 'But these men interpreted some of these signals [the beginning of the heavenly signs occurred in 66 A.D.] to their own pleasure, and some of them they utterly despised, until their madness was demonstrated, both by the

taking of their city and their own destruction."

The same writer recorded the prophesied destruction began taking place on the night of the Passover in 70 A. D. Jerusalem was conquered 134 days later by the Romans and the Temple of God was burned to the ground (pages 260, 262).

This night in their history should be considered with the Passover night in Egypt when the lives of the peoples of Israel were spared due to having the blood of the lambs splashed over the

doorways of their homes.

It would appear the Jews never gave this time in their history real serious and contemplative thought as to why there was no deliverance as they had at that time, but rather their destruction; and it began on this very night.

It was only the true and faithful people of God whose lives were spared by leaving Jerusalem just before the Passover night that meant death to the Jews. They observed the Passover in Pella, Jordan.

Page 262 “The Escape of the Christians” . . . “Some time before the siege, following the warning in **Luke 21:20-22**, they withdrew to Pella, beyond the Jordan, led by Symeon . . .” Thus their lives were spared from the horrible deaths of the Jewish people.”

Is History Repeating Itself?

As it was with the Jews in Jerusalem who dismissed these heavenly warning SIGNS, so it is with present-day society! It has moved on leaving behind what they have already witnessed with no serious and lasting contemplation.

Thus, it will come to pass just as Jesus Christ said: “. . . **it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth**” (**Luke 21:35**).



Church Members Sleeping

The Church Era of the Laodiceans, trusting in their own righteousness is slumbering in deep sleep believing they are self-sufficient and in need of nothing further from Jesus Christ! **Matthew 25:1-13; Revelation 3:17.**

They will awaken too late to flee with the Elect people of God from the Philadelphia Era of the Church of God! Their anguished cries to God will be of no avail for the Door will have been closed (**Matthew 25:10**).

The Philadelphian Church Era MUST also learn from the history of Jerusalem in 70 A. D. while considering the present; otherwise, there could be a most horrible and terrible price to pay with the cost of the crown of life and kingship (**Revelation 3:10-13**). The Apostle Paul wrote a warning for each member of God's Church:



“And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time TO AWAKE OUT OF SLEEP; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light” (Romans 13:11-12; Ephesians 6:10-18).

The Day of the Lord

Based on the miraculous heavenly signs in Jerusalem in 70 A. D., and with prophetic Scriptures in mind, undoubtedly there will be other Heavenly Visible SIGNS taking place as a type and forerunner of the closeness of the **Great Tribulation**—before the fullness of the Day of the Lord.

Whether, or not— there are many other SIGNS that relate to prophecy revealing how close we are to the end.

One major sign is the increasing gripping **drought** that is leading into the prophesied **famine, disease epidemics, nuclear warfare, and the Great Tribulation!** The LORD God wrote of these terrible times to befall His people Israel in the end-time through His Prophet Moses:



Drought



Famine

“Moreover all these **CURSES** shall come upon you, and **PURSUE** and **OVERTAKE** you, until you are destroyed, because you did not **OBEY** the voice of the **LORD** your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you” (*Deuteronomy 28:45*).

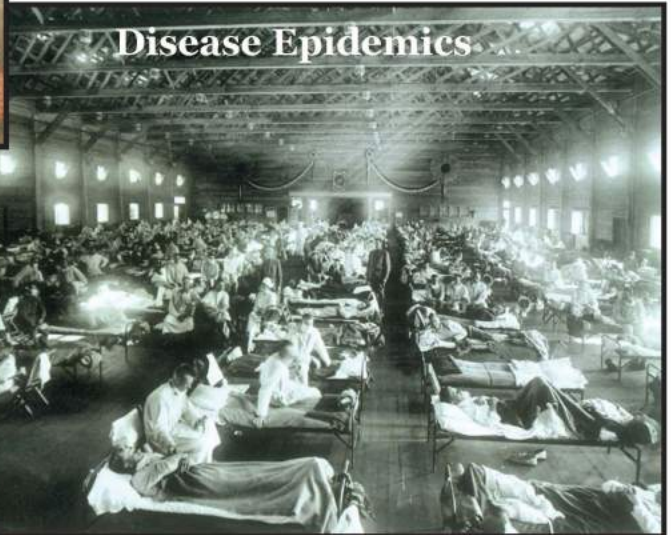
Jesus Christ spoke of these curses to come to pass in the beginning of the Day of the LORD as a time so terribly bad as never before witnessed or ever will be again (*Matthew 24:21; Daniel 12:1*).

Are There Few to be Saved?

Thinking about their own salvation and others, the disciples asked if only a very few would be saved.



Flue Virus



Disease Epidemics



Nuclear Warfair



The answer Jesus Christ gave to His disciples should be of great concern met with soberness and soul searching:

Then one said to Him, “Lord, are there **FEW** who are (to be) **SAVED?**” And He said to them, “Strive

(Greek: struggle, literally agonize as in agony) to **ENTER** through the narrow gate, for **MANY**, I say to you, will **SEEK TO ENTER** and will **NOT** be able. . . .” (*Luke 13:23-28*).

Grave Warnings for the Church of God

Jesus Christ also gave many grave warnings to His people in Scripture of possibly being deceived and led astray by

false teachers with their erroneous teachings. Those warnings are to be taken very seriously **(II Corinthians 11:13-15)!**

Always there is the need to be vigilant and on guard against the powerful deceptive tactics by Satan the devil and his human instruments knowing that to be deceived by them will lead into the Great Tribulation with possible loss of eternal life as warned by Jesus Christ:

“Beware of false prophets (ministers), who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but INWARDLY they are ravenous wolves. . . . [further] Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall ENTER the kingdom of heaven, BUT he who does the will of My Father in heaven. . . .” (Matthew 7:15, 21-29).

To be under the protective caring love of Jesus Christ from all that we will soon be experiencing, there is great need to be watching vigilantly all areas of possible endangerment while **praying always**—seeking a close relationship with our wonderful Father and Jesus Christ!

This is the counsel Jesus Christ gave to His Elect members so as to be graced with His loving protective care and ultimately be able to stand before His glorious presence when He returns **(Luke 21:36)**. It should be realized nothing else really matters.



Warnings from Jesus Christ through Mr. Armstrong

In addition to the heavenly signs that have already begun being seen as forerunners leading to the fullness of the Day of the Lord, no one will be able to say they were not warned over many years by God's late apostle for we are now witnessing what he preached coming to pass. In this context, Jesus Christ cautioned His people:

*"Now **WHEN** these things '**BEGIN TO HAPPEN**', **LOOK UP** and **Lift Up Your Heads**, **BECAUSE** your redemption draws near" (Luke 21:25-28).*

The House of Joseph is now on the very precipice of terrible problems soon to surface as never before witnessed! This will spell their end as nations along with the deaths of the members of the Laodicean and Sardis Eras of God's Church! **Revelation 6:9-11; 13:7.**

Though punishment and death will come in other ways, there is both a type and duality with the pre-Flood world of Noah, Sodom and Gomorrah, and the Jews in Jerusalem in 70 A. D., and for the very same reasons.





Sermon: Kingdom of God - Herbert W Armstrong



by Church of God Faithful Flock

✓ Subscribed

823 views



Like



About

Share

Add to



Given September 9, 1978.

Show more

ALL CONTENTS (1)



Share your thoughts

Top comments ▼

The World Tomorrow Television Broadcast
with Herbert W. Armstrong

[Click Here to View Video Index](#)

The Gospel/ The Ezekiel Warning

In reference to taking the Gospel and the Ezekiel Warning Message to Israel and the world, (**John 4:38; Matthew 24:14; Ezekiel 33:1-11**), Jesus Christ said the night is soon coming when no one can work (**John 9:4**). Realizing its closeness there is a great need to reach out with a loving and caring hand with this responsibility before it comes to be too late

There is a great and vital need to be in the faithful Church Jesus Christ is now using in this end-time as a conduit or instrument to support His

continued Work via of the Recorded Works of His late apostle on our websites. **Revelation 3:7-13; Matthew 24:45-47**. They also provide food for God's scattered people.

Please know by making the needed move to become an active member and participating in God's work could result in not having to experience the **Great Tribulation** and the possible loss of life!

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014



Sermon: God's People Don't Vote - Herbert W Armstrong

by Church of God Faithful Flock
1,842 views



Sermon: Wife & Rebuilding - Herbert W Armstrong

by Church of God Faithful Flock
873 views



Rely on God

by Church of God Faithful Flock
968 Views



The Place of Safety: Herbert W Armstrong

by Church of God Faithful Flock
4,121 views



Ghurch Government & Make Up (FOT) Herbert W Armstrong (uncut)

by Church of God Faithful Flock
526 views



Sermon: The Mark of The Beast by Herbert W Armstrong (uncut)

by Church of God Faithful Flock
15,924 views



From Sardis to Laodicea

by Church of God Faithful Flock
1,152 views



Bible Study 1 Corinthians 15 - Herbert W Armstrong

by Church of God Faithful Flock
967 views



Behind The Work Film 1982 - World Wide Church of God - Herbert W

by Church of God Faithful Flock
2307 views



Are you qualifying or disqualifying yourself - Herbert W Armstrong

by Church of God Faithful Flock
7,094 views



The Origin of Law - Herbert W Armstrong

by Church of God Faithful Flock
310 views



Conspiracy - Herbert W Armstrong

by Church of God Faithful Flock
353 views



Herbert W Armstrong talking about the Laodicean Era & Church

by Church of God Faithful Flock
1,564 views



Feast of Tabernacles 1983 Herbert W Armstrong Sermon

by Church of God Faithful Flock
454 views

Scripture reveals there will only be a FEW who will have heeded the **WARNINGS** and be blessed by God. Will YOU be of the Few, or of the **majority who refuse to listen to our loving and caring God, who WARNS:**

“Also I set WATCHMEN over you, saying, ‘Listen!—to the sound of the Trumpet!’ But they said, ‘We will NOT listen’ (Jeremiah 6:17). As to Why— “. . . You have forsaken the LORD your God and the FEAR of Me is NOT in you,” says the LORD God of hosts (Jeremiah 2:19).

Most sincerely and lovingly, I ask: where will you and I be when disaster suddenly springs upon the Church and Israel as a snare? Please know—unless we are vigilantly watching, praying, and enduring faithfully, while clinging to the **TRUTH** once delivered to the saints and

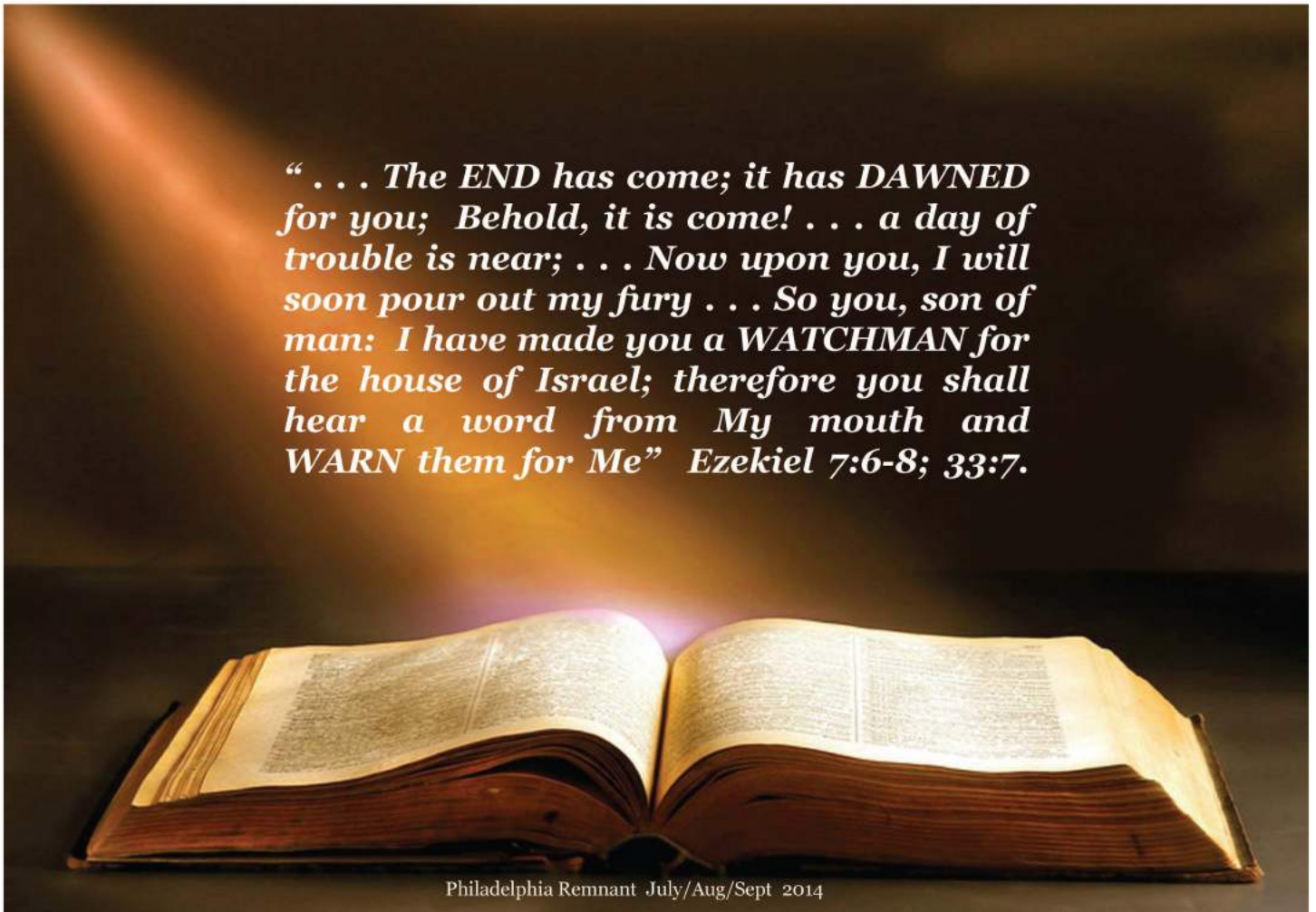
restored by God’s promised Elijah, we could be caught up in it and our cry to God would then be too late (**Malachi 4:4-6; Jude 3-4; Luke 21:34-36; Revelation 3:8, 10**).

We MUST be preparing ourselves Spiritually NOW!—while there is yet some remaining daylight, not trusting in ourselves, the military, or any one, but only in the true and wonderful caring God in heaven above.

Since prophecy reveals where we now are in time, it is all the more essential to keep in mind what God has made known through His Prophet:

Are we listening—are we involved in warning the Church Members who have strayed off-track, and Israel! Are we making the needed preparations, NOW!—Tomorrow may be too late!

“ . . . The END has come; it has DAWNED for you; Behold, it is come! . . . a day of trouble is near; . . . Now upon you, I will soon pour out my fury . . . So you, son of man: I have made you a WATCHMAN for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and WARN them for Me” Ezekiel 7:6-8; 33:7.



Russia in Bible Prophecy

Due to the Russian Bear's successful quest in restoring Crimea to its fold and the Ukraine almost within its grasp, she is being eyed by the nations of Europe, England, and America, with suspect and fear.

Is Russia preparing for World War III by seeking the restoration of her former Glory to emerge as the world's dominating leading power? Will she be successful in this venture? And if so, will she then seek to conquer the nations of this world including Europe, America and Britain? The answers will be given in this article from Holy Scripture.

By
Alton B. Billingsley/Lawrence J. Burns



Time is moving swiftly and world events with it. At the same time God's Time Table is keeping pace with them. True to the prophecies that make known the identity of the emerging super powers and what they will and will not do has been foreknown from the beginning of mankind but

beginning of mankind but would not be revealed by God until this end-time:

“Remember the former things of old (man's history), for I am God (EL,

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

history), for I am God (EL, the Almighty), and there is no other; I am God (ELOHIM), and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning (Genesis to Revelation), and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel

shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,' 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, the man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it" (Isaiah 46:9-11).

Further this awesome and great God says:

"Behold the former things (prophecies) have come to pass (in man's history), and New Things I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them" (Isaiah 42:9).

To whom does God 'tell of them?'

"Surely the LORD does nothing, UNLESS He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets. A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The LORD God has spoken! Who can but prophecy (make it known)?" Amos 3:7-8.

God's Time Table for Prophetic Events

God has a 'Time Table' for the appointed times of major prophetic events to come to pass in the close of this age.

This was made known by what the angel Gabriel said to God's prophet Daniel who had been given the knowledge of the prophecies for the end-time without the understanding of them:

Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord (to Gabriel), what shall be the end of these things?" And he said, 'Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed TILL the time of the end. Many shall be purified, made white, and refined (Laodiceans, Revelation 3:14-19), BUT the wicked shall DO wickedly; and NONE of the wicked shall understand, BUT the WISE shall understand'" (Daniel 12:4, 8-10).

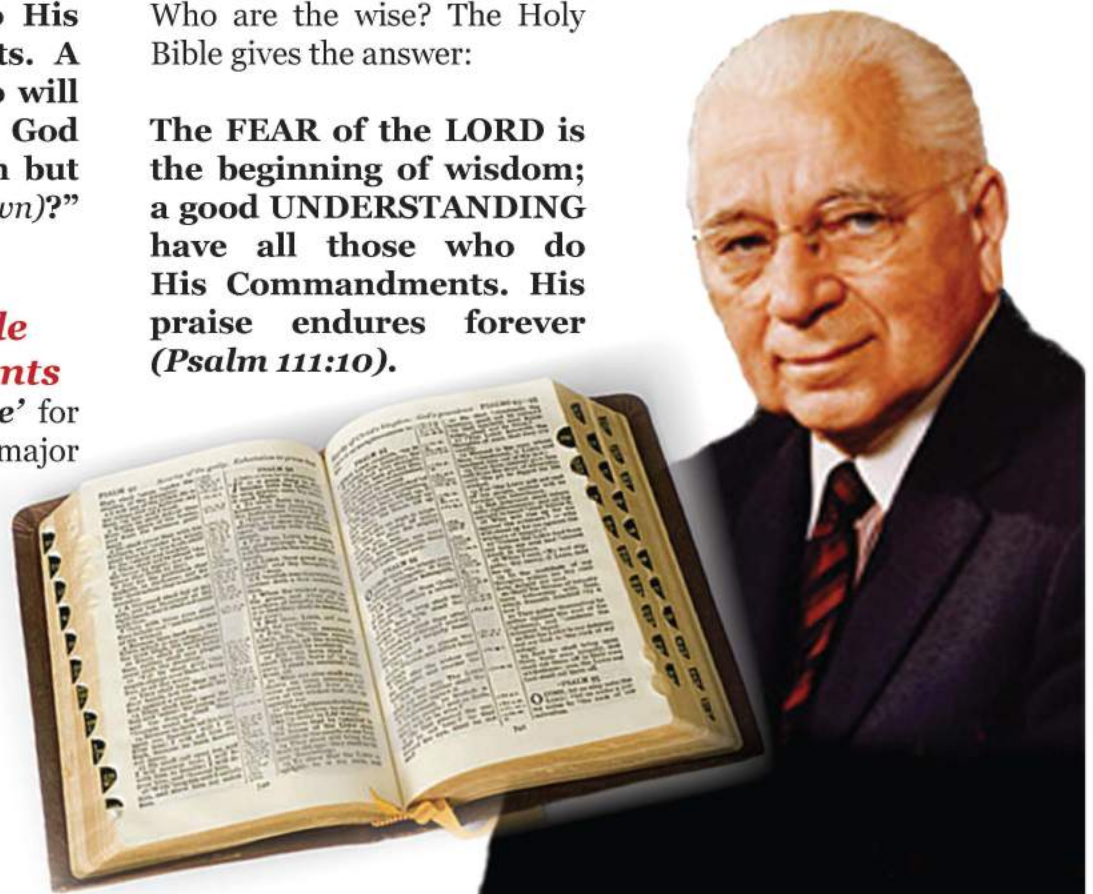
Who are the wise? The Holy Bible gives the answer:

The FEAR of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good UNDERSTANDING have all those who do His Commandments. His praise endures forever (Psalm 111:10).

Having been taught by him, we are beginning to see some of those prophecies being opened up with an even greater understanding due to seeing the major nations beginning to make their prophesied moves that will lead to the battle of **Armageddon** and bring to a close this present evil age.

God's late apostle, and His Elijah to come at the end-time, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, said one-third of the Holy Bible is devoted to prophecy and ninety-percent are for this end-time.

The prophecies began being opened up to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong as early as 1930. Over the following years of his ministry he came to an even greater comprehension of the meaning of them before he died in 1986.



The Major Nations to Fulfil Age-Ending Prophecy

With these things in mind, let us allow God's word to make known the prophecies concerning Russia and what she is prophesied to do in this end-time.

It has been wisely said that the House of Joseph can only see one enemy at a time. And though the world is not awake to what is developing in Europe another giant military power bloc is soon to materialize there. It will then forge ahead of Russia and become the real enemy of Israel.

However it is Russia that is currently alarming the nations in Europe and America by seeing her actively seeking to restore her former glory; this is viewed as a real threat to them. Many are frightened by what they see taking place with the Russian Bear.

Jesus Christ made known that world events are soon to be witnessed in ways that have never occurred before or after since the creation of mankind (**Matthew 24:21-22**). And what is to take place as revealed by Bible prophecy in the next few years should be very sobering and frightening to the leaders and peoples of this world; but their eyes are closed to these coming dreadful times.

However those that have been made wise by the Almighty

God do have understanding due to Jesus Christ having opened their minds concerning the terrible events leading up to His return to this earth as made known by the Apostle Paul:

“But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. For when they say (the world), ‘Peace and safety!’ then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman (Jeremiah 30:4-7).



And they shall not escape. But YOU, brethren, are not in DARKNESS, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light (truth), and sons of the day. We are NOT of the night nor of darkness” (I Thessalonians 5:1-5).

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

An Overview of Prophetic Events

Jesus Christ spoke to His disciples of the end-time in which there would be religious deceptions, false christs, wars, rumors of wars, violent occurrences in nature, earthquakes shaking the earth and more powerful ones threatening, devastating tornadoes, severe droughts, famine in various places, and plagues (**Matthew 24:3-8, 24**).

All of these destructive forces are being witnessed together with warfare among various nations. Records are continually being broken together with a serious threatening drought that will soon lead into the prophesied famine and with it the horrible disease epidemics (**Ezekiel 5:16-17**).



The Beginning Birth of Nations Struggling for Dominance

Through His prophets Jesus Christ also spoke of the alignment of blocs of nations in their struggle for world dominance in the very end time.

In the recent past we have witnessed the re-unification of Germany and the leadership role it maintains in the European community. We also know from prophecy they will come to be a world power so great the world seeing it will marvel (**Revelation 17:7-8**).

China has become an economic and a military power in the Far East; Japan has also come to be in prominence. These great nations along with Persia (*Iran*), Ethiopia, and Libya will later become part of the Russian bloc (**Ezekiel 38:5**); together, they will become a massive world power such as this world has never seen!

The Setting of the Sun on Britain and America

The British Empire having seen its zenith in greatness come and go is no longer meaningful to the nations of this world. The United States is in advanced stages of the most spectacularly rapid fall of any great nation or kingdom in history.

Though America is still the super power nation of the world she has been progressively in decline so greatly during the past few years that even the nations of "the world" are shocked and amazed at what they are witnessing.

No longer does she have respect from other nations due to her weak and indecisive leadership as noted by

conservative writers. Knowing God allows the nations to select its leaders to fit the society it governs (**Daniel 4:17**), this once great powerful nation has lost the pride of her power (**Leviticus 26:19**); this is due to her total rejection of God and complete disregard of His Holy righteous laws (**Deuteronomy 28:15**), as can clearly be seen when comparing society and its way of life with God's Ten Commandments.

And because of God's love for the House of Joseph, Britain and America, He will use the rod of correction from the revived Roman Empire to punish her for the grievous sinful way in which she has chosen to live (**Isaiah 10:5-6**).

Russia's Re-Emergence to a World Power

The nation that is now rising in prominence is Russia. And leaders of nations are worried

knowing they have little chance of stopping her short of war; which they do not want.

One needs only to look at the recent past of the late-1970's and all of the 1980's to witness the fall of the old U.S.S.R., over-extended, divided internally, bogged down in a decade long war in **Afghanistan from December 1979 to February 1989** that sapped its strength militarily and burdened by its finances.

By the time President Ronald Reagan said to President Mikhail Gorbachev (June 12, 1987), "*Tear down that wall!*" (*Separating east and West Berlin*) the U.S.S.R. was ripe to collapse. It had lost many of its territories: Georgia, Azerbaijan, and the Ukraine among many others.

Russia's Internal Problems

To keep Russia in check, God has allowed internal problems within it. The Ukraine was



Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

dealt with a horrific nuclear disaster at Chernobyl.

CHERNOBYL DISASTER

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

"The Chernobyl disaster (Ukrainian: Чорнобильська катастрофа, *Chornobylska Katastrofa* – *Chornobyl Catastrophe*; also referred as **Chernobyl or the Chornobyl accident**) was a **catastrophic nuclear accident** that occurred on 26 April 1986 at the **Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant** in Ukraine (then officially the **Ukrainian SSR**), which was under the direct jurisdiction of the central authorities of the Soviet Union. An explosion and fire released large quantities of radioactive particles into the atmosphere, which spread over much of the western U.S.S.R. and **Europe**.

The Chernobyl disaster is the worst **nuclear power** plant accident in history in terms of cost and resulting deaths,[1]and is one of only two classified as a level 7 event (the maximum classification) on the **International Nuclear Event Scale** (the other being the **Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster** in 2011)."

By the 1990's the U.S.S.R. was in ruins. This was a setback for Russian aspirations, but by no means ended it.

Under the dominant rule of Vladimir Putin, Russia has made attempts to regain the empire it lost two decades ago. Russia initiated a cyber-attack on Estonia in 2007, and a year later unleashed a military campaign against the former Republic of Georgia, but to no avail.



The Hibernating Russian Bear Has Awakened

Recently Vladimir Putin has been making renewed efforts to re-assert Russia as a dominant world power by his very strong and aggressive leadership to bring back into its folds its former tribes even though there is resistance from them.

Currently Russia is embroiled in a war on Chechnya as well as creating a civil war in the Ukraine. Nearly half of the Ukrainians today do not want their country to return to

Russia and are resisting with its military might.

Due to the Ukraine being a major agricultural nation in this region it would be of great value to Russia. And sooner or later, and not much later, Russia will have it back in their domain along with the others who were formerly part of the U.S.S.R. Russia is also flexing its muscles by exerting strong influence in Syria and Iran, as well as Cuba.

Why this recent re-emergence by Russia? To understand consider her very popular president by its people.

Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, born October 7, 1952, has been the **President of Russia** since 7 May 2012. Due to making the lives of the Russian people much better he has come to be a very popular leader and admired by many elsewhere.



Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

Vladimir Putin

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

“During Putin's first premiership and presidency (1999–2008), real incomes increased by a factor of 2.5, real wages more than tripled; unemployment and poverty more than halved, and the Russians' self-assessed life satisfaction rose significantly.[9] Putin's first presidency was marked by high economic growth: the [Russian economy](#) grew for eight straight years, seeing GDP increase by 72% in [PPP](#) (sixfold in nominal).[9][10][11][12][13] As Russia's president, Putin and the [Federal Assembly](#) passed into law a flat [income tax](#) of 13%, a reduced profits tax, and new land and legal codes.[14][15] As Prime Minister, Putin oversaw large scale [military](#) and [police reform](#). His [energy policy](#) has affirmed Russia's position as an [energy superpower](#).^[16] Putin supported high-tech industries such as the [nuclear](#) and [defense industries](#). A rise in foreign investment^[17] contributed to a boom in such sectors as the automotive industry. Putin has cultivated a [strongman](#) image and is a pop cultural icon in Russia with many commercial products named after him.”

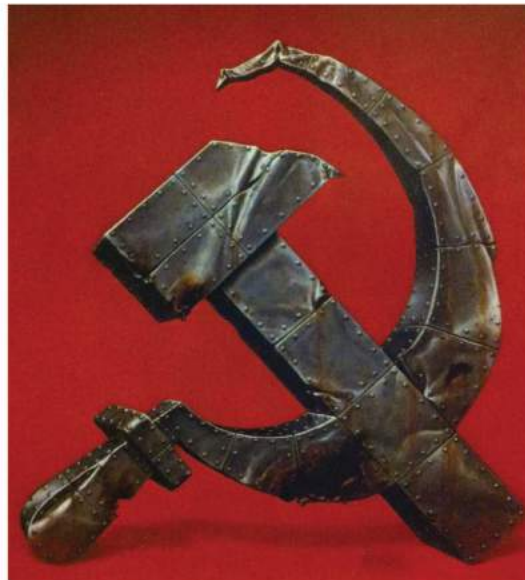
*It is very possible that Vladimir Putin will be the man to possibly head the bloc of Asian nations in the war against the Revived Roman Empire in the last war to be fought in this present age; the war that is referred to in Scripture as the dreaded **Armageddon**.*

Prophecy Reveals the Russian Bear of the End-Time

This great eastern and northern power is set to emerge on the world's scene as a massive military power just before the return of Jesus Christ. This will be a tremendous union of modern Communist-influenced nations capable of an army the size the world has never seen. They will have the dynamic capability of fire power with the capacity to kill a third of mankind.

God led the Apostle John to write of the mighty Russian Bear preparing for war against the 10-bloc nations of Europe, headed by the man named the Beast in Scripture, who will have already attacked and conquered the House of Joseph, America and Britain, some three years earlier and

are now prepared to wage war against Europe as determined by God:



Then the sixth angel sounded (the second woe): And I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth angel who had

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

the trumpet, “Release the four angels who are bound at the great Euphrates (Revelation 16:12-16).” So the four angels, who had been prepared for the HOUR AND DAY AND MONTH AND YEAR (an exact appointed time), were released to kill a third of mankind (approximately 2.5 billion people). Now the number of the army was two hundred million; I heard the number of them . . .” (Revelation 9:13-17).

Through His prophet Ezekiel, God identifies the vast country that will apparently form the basis for the massive forces that will be in league with it:

Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 2 “Son of man, set your face against Gog (constitutes a people), of the land of

Magog (*land of Russia*), the **prince of Rosh** (*leader*), **Meshech** (*Moscow*), and **Tubal** (*Tobolsk*), and prophesy against him, 3 say, "Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal" (*Ezekiel 38:1-3*).

Note: Russia is formed by the association of a number of great tribes. Though Russian is the primary language there are over one hundred languages spoken by these people.

Note: Gog in the land of Magog is the vast region of the U.S.S.R. in northern Urasia extending from the Baltic Sea to the Pacific Ocean. Meshech is Moscow, Tubal is Tobolsk. Their allies: Gomer, Togarmah, Tobol, are identified in Scripture as the sons of Japheth; father of the Eurasians.

The Three Woes of the End-Time

The worst of the worst times to befall mankind will come to pass by these power blocs locking horns in warfare shortly before Jesus Christ returns to this violent and corrupt world:

Then the fourth angel sounded . . . and I looked, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven (*earth's atmosphere*), saying with a loud voice, **Woe, Woe, Woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet**

who are about to sound!"
Revelation 8:12-13.

These 'Three Woes' will bring this world into Armageddon and close of this age.

punishment for their national disobedience to God's laws (*Ezekiel 5:12*).

The First Woe – Three Years Later



The house of Israel to enter the Great Tribulation

Three and one-half years earlier there will be the **Great Tribulation**; a most horrible and sorrowful time that is soon to befall all of the tribes of Israel. This rod of correction from God will be administered by the revived Roman Empire (*Isaiah 10:5-6*).

The Beast power will attack the House of Joseph with nuclear warfare and destroy the modern nations of Israel (*Revelation 9:1-12; Ezekiel 7:14-15*). One-third of the Israelite people will be killed by the warfare and another third will be taken captive as



During the third year of his rule the Beast will learn of a very serious threat from Russia who will probably be the leading nation of the conglomerate of other nations. This will be near the end of the **Great Tribulation** (*Hosea 6:2*).

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

"Behold, a people shall come from the north, and

a great nation and MANY kings shall be raised up from the ends of the earth. They shall hold the bow and the lance; they are cruel and shall not show mercy . . . against you, O daughter of Babylon” (*Jeremiah 50:41-42*).

“The King of Babylon (*the Beast*) has heard the report about him (*Prince of Rosh – Russia*), and his hands grow feeble; anguish has taken hold of him, as of a woman in childbirth” (*Jeremiah 50:43*).

He realizes his only hope for survival will be to wage a blitzkrieg attack against this enormous mass of military might:

“But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with great fury to destroy and annihilate many” (*Daniel 11:44*).

The Second Woe

Prophecy reveals that the LORD God will have stirred up the spirit of the peoples of the Soviet Republic to exact vengeance against the Beast for the cruelty he has brought on His people, Israel and His Church:

“... The LORD has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes (*U.S.S.R.*) for His plan is against Babylon (*Isaiah 10:12*); to destroy it because it is the vengeance of the LORD,

the vengeance for His temple” (*Jeremiah 51:6, 11; Isaiah 13:17-22*).

“I was angry with My people (*Israel*); I have profaned My inheritance, and given them into your hand. You showed them NO MERCY, on the elderly you laid your yoke (*of slavery*) very heavily” (*Isaiah 47:6*).



The LORD God will then use the Russian Power Bloc headed by the Prince of Rosh to counter-attack against the Beast power of Europe and destroy it (*Jeremiah 50:41-46; 51:28-33*).

“At the noise of the taking of Babylon the earth trembles, and the cry is heard among the nations (*10 nations he rules*)” (*Jeremiah 50:8-10, 46*).

Excerpts are taken from the 36th Lesson of the Correspondence and will be inserted here for it gives much greater detail of this coming terrible war that will know no equal and the aftermath of it.

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014

www.cog-ff.com -
Correspondence Course #
36 Pages 8 through 14

Next -- World War

1. What is the very next thing that will JOLT humanity? *Rev. 8:13*. Are not these THREE WOES the same as the FINAL THREE TRUMPETS? Same verse.



COMMENT:

Three is God's special number signifying FINALITY. These three woes are the THREE FINAL MAJOR BATTLES ending human civilization. This titanic struggle is to be fought in THREE STAGES. Each stage is so HORRIFYING that it is called a "WOE" by Almighty God. Each stage is so DESTRUCTIVE that only God will be able to repair the DAMAGE men will do to the surface of the earth.

At the third stage the THIRD WOE and LAST TRUMPET – men will be saved from extinction only by a MIRACLE from God. If God did not personally intervene in this climactic war, men would destroy the last vestige of human life from the face of the earth!

These terrifying events make the Feast of Trumpets a SOLEMN DAY. But to those who have YIELDED themselves to Almighty God's peaceful Government now, it is a

time of REJOICING. The wicked world of today will be DESTROYED, and the PEACEFUL WORLD TOMORROW will be established on earth by Jesus Christ!

2. What is the Bible description of this first woe? *Rev. 9:1-12*. Isn't the first woe the same as the fifth trumpet? *Verse 1*.

3. Doesn't John describe terrifying "locusts" – grasshoppers – that are used to inflict pain upon men? *Rev. 9:3-10*.

COMMENT:

The apostle John used the symbolic term "locusts" to describe the terrifying WAR MACHINES that would be invented and used by power-crazed men in this final World War!

Notice that these symbolic "locusts" or grasshoppers are DRIVEN BY MEN (*Verse 7*) – the LEADERS OF THE FASCIST BEAST POWER (*Nahum 3:17-19*) – and are able to fly (*Rev. 9:9*). They will make a tremendous noise and are protected by steel ARMOR PLATING! These super-weapons of destruction and world conquest were completely UNFAMILIAR to the apostle John. He could only describe them in the language of his day. These weapons are now beginning to EXIST. At the time

of the fifth trump and the first woe, it will be PLAINLY EVIDENT just WHAT THEY ARE and HOW THEY WILL BE USED!



4. Who is the REAL leader of this army of super-weapons? *Verse 11*.

COMMENT:

The Hebrew word, "abadon," and the Greek word, "apollyon," both mean "DESTROYER"! The leader of this army will be none other than SATAN THE DEVIL!

5. Where does this super-army, with its demon leadership come from? *Verses 2-3*. Is this symbolic "bottomless pit" referred to elsewhere so that we can identify the army which proceeds from it? *Rev. 17:8*. Isn't this super army the ARMY OF THE BEAST – the REVITALIZED FASCIST EUROPEAN ARMY – backed by the HARLOT

CHURCH OF SATAN the devil? *Verses 7-13*.

6. Who is it who will be SPARED from the attack of the Fascist Blitzkrieg? *Rev. 9:4*.

COMMENT:

When the whirlwind sneak attack of Fascist European armies thunders against their enemies, those who have WILLINGLY ACCEPTED the seal of God in their foreheads will be PROTECTED from the terrors to come! Many modern Israelites, who will have been conquered by German attack and A LIMITED WAR only a few years before will be the slaves of the European Beast Power. The people, with whom God is PLEADING and WHO HAVE BEEN WARNED of these terrifying days by God's ministers, will be unprotected from the rampant violence of the last World War UNLESS they WILLINGLY ACCEPT God's Government in their lives

and the sign of that Government – the seal of God's Holy Spirit.

Meanwhile, the hordes of Russia and much of Asia will be preparing to attack Fascist Europe – and pluck the riches of the Revived Roman Empire like a ripe plum. Rather than let the Communists obtain the **ADVANTAGE** by **STRIKING THE FIRST BLOW**, the Beast will turn to attack them in the **FULL FURY** of his **MILITARY MIGHT**!

This attack – utilizing **ALL** of the terrifying **DESTRUCTIVE POWER** the German mind can devise – will be the **FIRST WOE**. It will be the beginning of the final **ALL-OUT STRUGGLE FOR COMPLETE WORLD DOMINATION** between two hate-BLINDED RIVALS.

Now the stage is set for the **SECOND ALL-OUT BATTLE** for human domination of the world. The **SECOND WOE** is ready to begin, and the **SIXTH TRUMPET** is ready to sound!

Second WOE

1. Are the sixth angel's trumpet and the second woe the same? *Rev. 9:12-13.*

2. What happens as the sixth trumpet is blown? *Rev. 9:14-15.*

3. Why had these four angels been specifically prepared? *Verse 15.*

4. How many people will suffer the torment, torture and death inflicted by the Communist armies as they counterattack against the armies and cities of Fascist Europe? *Verses 15 and 18.*

COMMENT:

It is this **WHOLESALE CARNAGE** that Jesus Christ's personal intervention must halt! If such battles were permitted to continue, "**NO FLESH WOULD BE SAVED**" **ALIVE!**

5. How is the Communist armed force described? *Verses 16-19.*

COMMENT:

Again, the apostle John can only describe these **END-TIME, "DOOM DAY" WEAPONS** by comparing

them with things familiar to him. As man's technical knowledge mushrooms he will use the weapons described here.

6. What else can we know about the Soviet super-army as it attacks the Fascist Beast Power? With millions being slain by the super-weapons of nuclear war, how will a man's life be valued? *Isa. 13:12-16.* Won't this destruction be wrought by **THE DESCENDANTS OF THE MEDES** who now are in the **COMMUNIST BLOC** of nations? *Verses 17-18.*

COMMENT:

Babylon is God's name for the **POLITICAL and RELIGIOUS SYSTEM** that has sprung from the ancient city Babylon and has been perpetuated by Satan in **TODAY'S MODERN WORLD.**

7. Isn't Babylon prophesied to fall a second time?



Rev. 18:2 and Isa. 21:9. How long will the destruction of modern-day Babylon take? *Rev. 18:17-19.*

COMMENT:

Only in this age of TOTAL WAR and SWIFT DESTRUCTION could a city so great be reduced to smoke and rubble IN ONE HOUR! Such lightning speed was impossible in ancient

8. After the devastating Communist counterattack, will men yield to God's government? *Rev. 9:20-21.*

9. Does God STILL send His FAITHFUL MESSENGERS before this world to PLEAD with mankind to repent? *Rev. 11:3-6.* But will men HEAR and OBEY these two witnesses, or in A FIT OF FRENZY AND

the power of life and death, resurrect His witnesses as a sign to their murderers? *Verses 11-12.* In addition won't God cause an EARTHQUAKE TO SHAKE THESE PEOPLE FROM THEIR EVIL WAYS? *Verse 13.* Won't all of these events take place during the second woe and the sixth trumpet? *Verse 14.*



times, but today it has become COMMONPLACE! Compare this section of *Revelation 18* with many other passages for a thorough understanding of the calamities that will befall the wicked people of the Revived Fascist European Roman Empire (*Jer. 50:9-16, 40-42; and Jer. 51:7-11*).

The fall of ancient Babylon was only the small historic fulfilment of the MUCH GREATER FUTURE END-TIME DESTRUCTION which will befall the MODERN "DAUGHTER" of that ancient city.

RAGE AGAINST GOD won't the Beast cause them to be put to death? *Verse 7.* Where are these witnesses killed? *Verse 8.*

COMMENT:

Christ was crucified in Jerusalem, which has become AS EVIL AS SODOM AND EGYPT in the sight of God (*Jer. 23:14*).

10. When the Beast has murdered God's two witnesses, what will his subjects do? *Verses 9-10.* Will God, who has

Last Trump COMPLETES Christ's Intervention

1. What happens when the seventh trumpet sounds and the third woe begins? *Rev. 11:14-15.* Who receives the governments of this world? *Verse 15.* Is this a time of REAL REJOICING for those dedicated to God's Government? *Verses 16-17.*

2. But what is the reaction of rebellious mankind -- the wicked nations of this end-time? *Verse 18.* What has made the human governments of

the world so angry?
Rom. 8:7.

COMMENT:

Jesus Christ, the **NEW RULER OF THE WORLD**, will not be meekly accepted by the power-crazed nations **ALREADY** engaged in an **ALL-OUT STRUGGLE TO GRAB WORLD DOMINATION!** Instead, because man's carnal mind is **HATRED** and **REBELLION AGAINST GOD**, and refuses to be subject to His law and His Government (*Rom. 8:7*), **BOTH** Fascist Europe and Communist Asia will **UNITE AGAINST CHRIST**. They will consider Him their **COMMON** enemy -- and will be angry that He has come to take control of **ALL EARTHLY GOVERNMENTS!** They know that as long as Jesus Christ controls the earth, their human schemes for world domination can **NEVER** be completed.

COMMENT:

Just as the seventh seal was divided into the seven last trumpets, so the seventh trumpet is divided into the seven last plagues.

4. Aren't **RIGHTEOUS** angels clothed with white, a **SYMBOL** of the **RIGHTEOUS DUTY** they must perform in pouring out God's wrath upon the **WICKED EARTH?** Verse 6.

COMMENT:

God, who is **VERY MERCI-FUL**, **WILL NO LONGER WAIT** for men to repent of their evil deeds. Mankind, misguided by its human mind, will have almost destroyed **ALL LIFE FROM THE EARTH**, and **UNLESS GOD FORCE-FULLY INTERVENES**, **NO ONE** would be **LEFT ALIVE** to become the **FIRSTFRUITS** of His **MASTER PLAN**. In order **TO SPARE** those called "**THE ELECT**," God must **FORCIBLY STOP** world suicide (*Mat. 24:22*).



5. How are the seven last plagues described? *Rev. 16:1-4, 8-21*. Because man is **STUBBORN AND WON'T REPENT**, does God have to continue sending the plagues? *Verses 9 and 11*.

6. Doesn't God even prepare the way for the Communist hordes to cross the Euphrates into Palestine? *Verse 12*. Isn't this part of God's plan to **GATHER ALL NATIONS** that remain rebellious to His ways into one place for the **FINAL BATTLE** of World War III? *Verses 13-14*. See also *Zeph. 3:7-8* and *Joel 3:3-14*. Where is it that God will do battle with the wicked forces of man's government? *Joel 3:16*. Isn't this last battle for earthly control called the Battle of the Valley of Decision? *Joel 3:14*.

COMMENT:

Armageddon is the Greek name for "The Mount of Slaughter," or the Mount of Megiddo. Megiddo is a small town approximately 55 miles northwest of Jerusalem, situated in a large **BOWL-SHAPED** valley called the Plain of Esdraelon. It is at this place that the armies of rebellious mankind will gather to **CHALLENGE JESUS CHRIST** in battle to determine **WHO WILL RULE THE EARTH!**

7. Is it one of God's duties **TO MAKE WAR IN RIGHTEOUSNESS**? *Rev. 19:11* and *Isa. 11:4*. Isn't Christ going to smite the nations with His sword, symbolic of divine power? *Rev. 19:15*.

8. Isn't it at this time that Christ will tread the "wine press" of God's wrath?

Same verse. Isn't this "**WINE PRESS**" of God's wrath only speaking **SYMBOLICALLY OF THE GREAT BATTLE** that Christ will fight against **HATE-FILLED, POWER-MAD** mankind to **DEFEND HIS ELECT**? *Rev. 14:19-20* and *Rev. 19:17-21*. Why is God to punish with fury the mighty nations of this earth that are in open rebellion to Him? *Isa. 63:2-6*. Notice especially verses 4 and 5. Doesn't God refer to Himself as the One who alone is mighty enough to save men from **COMPLETE DESTRUCTION**? *Verse 1*.

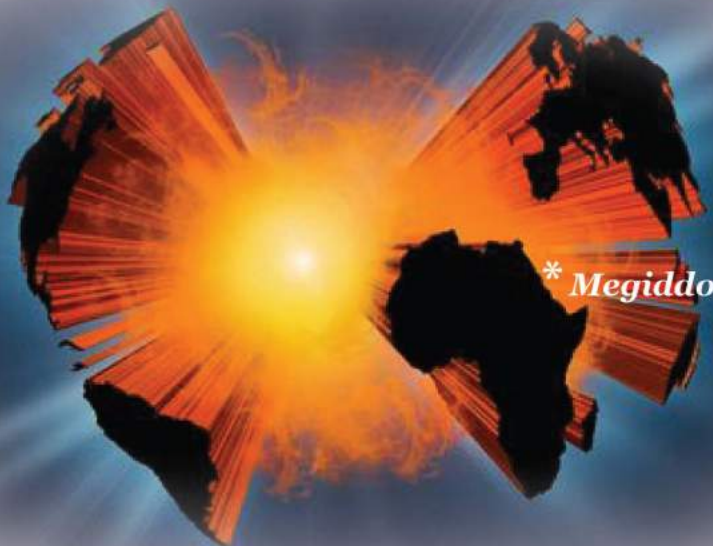
9. Even in destroying the wicked at His coming, won't Christ be **PLEADING** with men to **REPENT OF THEIR WICKED WAYS**? *Jer. 25:30-33*. Notice especially *verse 31*.

10. Who is it that is defeated in this final battle of World War III? *Rev. 19:18-20*.

11. After human resistance to the peaceful government of Christ has been **CRUSHED**, won't God punish the leaders of the Babylonian world system? *Verse 20*.

COMMENT:

God's Festival of Trumpets pictures this time of **CLIMACTIC WORLD WAR**



The FINAL BATTLE of World War III

and the ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JESUS CHRIST UPON THIS EARTH! When He does intervene and He will within your OWN LIFETIME – God's faithful servants will rejoice at His coming. They will have KNOWN and BEEN KEEP-ING the Feast of Trumpets – the Holy Day in God's Master Plan which PIC-TURES THIS IMPORTANT EVENT!

Saints Gathered at the LAST TRUMPET

1. Why will God's faithful people His elect--- REJOICE at the sound of the final trumpet, while the people of this evil age suffer for their disobedience? *Mat.24:30-31*. Why must God gather His faithful "elect" from all over the earth? *Mat. 24:22*. See also *Rev. 12:12, 17*.

COMMENT:

In the final battle of World War III -- at the final trumpet, and the third woe – Almighty God must SUPERNATURALLY INTERVENE to spare the human race from total destruction – FOR THE SAKE OF HIS ELECT.

2. What happens to those who have FAITHFULLY obeyed God's laws, submitted HUMBLY to His divine Government, and REJECTED the ways of their human nature? *I Cor. 15:52*. When does

this change occur? *Same verse*. Isn't it at the sound of the FINAL TRUMPET? *Same verse*.

3. What is this change that must be made? *Verses 53-5*

4. Who is it that will experience this change from physical human flesh to spiritual immortal life? *Verse 52*.

COMMENT:

When the apostle Paul uses the term "we" he is speaking of true Christians who have yielded their lives to God's Government and received God's Holy Spirit. These include the "ELECT" who are raised to immortal life in the FIRST RESURRECTION and those "elect" who are living at Christ's Second Coming. It is this SMALL GROUP that will become the "FIRSTFRUIT" HARVEST of God's wonderful MASTER PLAN.

4. When Jesus Christ returns to this earth with

the shout of the archangel and the trumpet of God,



will those who have yielded their lives to Him in humble repentance be resurrected? *I Thess. 4:16-18*.

5. What is said of those in the FIRST resurrection? *Rev. 20:6*. See also *Rev. 3:21*.

COMMENT:

The resurrection of the elect will occur at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ when He returns to rule over the nations as the King of kings and Lord of lords. Then all true Christians, who have received God's Holy Spirit, shall be resurrected to immortality, to inherit Christ's world-ruling Kingdom.

This FIRST resurrection occurs at the LAST TRUMPET! It is PICTURED BY THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS in God's Master Plan. . . .”

The Sleeping World *Quotes from, The United States and Britain in Prophecy, page 171, paragraphs 4-6:*

“We are entering a time of world trouble—utter WORLD chaos! There is war, strife, violence in Asia, Africa, South America—as well as Europe and North America. The population explosion is a worldwide threat to human existence [almost eight billion people]. Crime, violence, sickness, disease, inequality, poverty, filth, squalor, degeneration, suffering—these infest ALL nations!

“But as salvation is given first to Israel, so is corrective punishment!”

End Quotes

The Prince of Rosh (Russia)

Many things are coming to light that are fulfilments of Biblical prophecy. Russia, under the dynamic rulership of Vladimir Putin, swayed by Satan, is being thrust into the limelight of the world's attention.

Knowing President Putin would like nothing else but to indemnify (to regain) Russia's past empire, however God will hold them in check in one way or another until it comes time for them to be used to destroy Babylon, the Revived Holy Roman Empire, at Armageddon (**Isaiah 13:17-22**). In the interim Russia poses no real threatening danger to the

nations in Europe or the House of Joseph.

end-time prophecy; and for His ultimate plan of salvation for all of mankind.



The news now reveals that China calls for a new security pact with Russia and Iran:

Wednesday, May 21, 2014 3:48 PM “China’s president called Tuesday for the creation of a new Asian structure for security cooperation based on a regional group that includes Russia and Iran and excludes the United States.”

As can be seen the United States is being edged out of any real influence with Asia and soon will be with Europe as well.

The blessing is that Scripture reveals God in heaven above rules and will not allow any interference by any nation or bloc of nations that would affect adversely His Time Table for the fulfilment of

Philadelphia Remnant July/Aug/Sept 2014



God’s Work of the End-Time

In the meantime the responsibility of this small flock is to support the Work of God in getting the final warning message to the world as a witness of these terrible times that are now very close to becoming a reality; a time that will have no equal:

“For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And UNLESS those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved alive (Moffatt Trans.); but for the Elect’s sake those days will be shortened” (Matthew 24:21-22).

Jesus Christ instructs His true and faithful people to WATCH World Events with vigilance as they are now beginning to be understood in light of end-time prophecies that were formerly closed; and also to be praying for a close and abiding relationship with the ever-living, loving, and caring wonderful God:

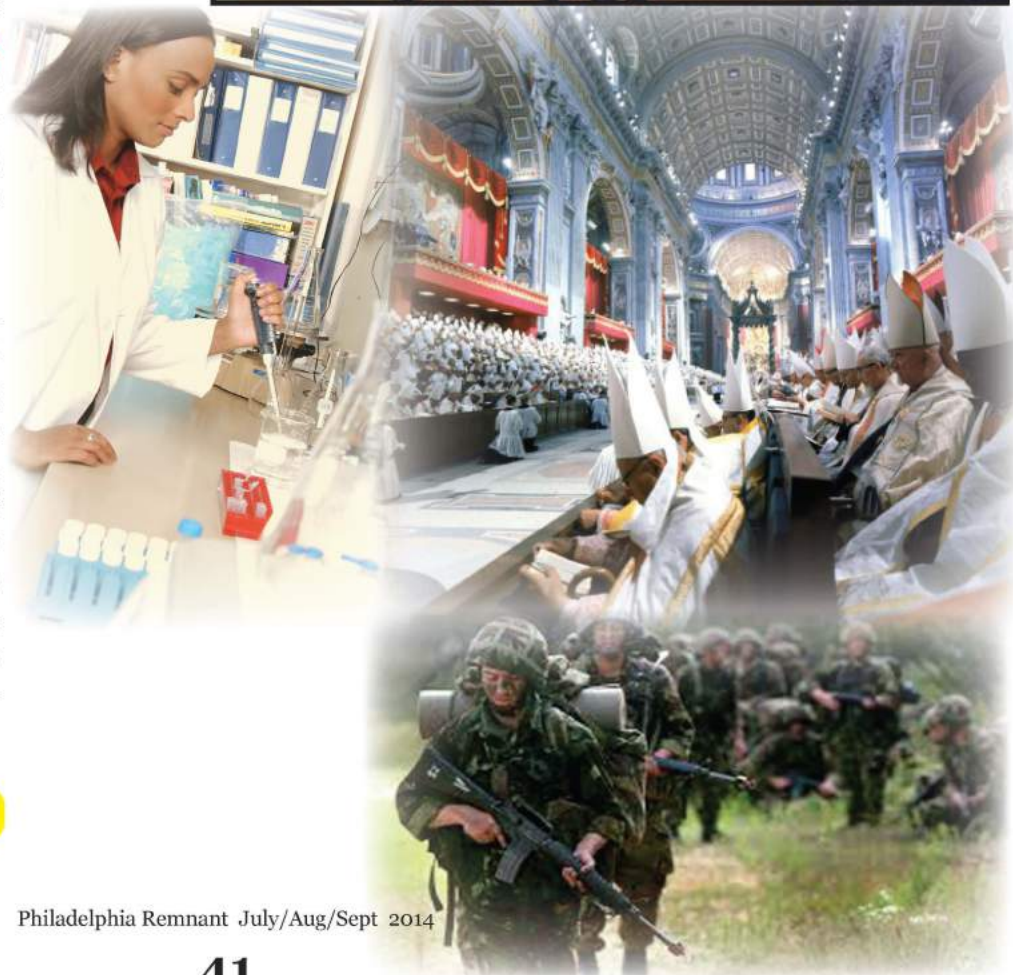
“Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man” (Luke 21:36).

A Needed Choice to Make

Jesus Christ makes known there will be a martyrdom of saints during the **Great Tribulation** (**Revelation 13:7; 6:9-11**) – possibly several thousand members who will lose their lives while experiencing horrible deaths.

He also reveals there will a protection for those who are identified as being faithful members while supporting His Work that is a continuation of the Work of the Elijah that He is presently using this small flock to do (**Revelation 3:7-13**). Time is running out – a choice has to be made by each member (**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**).

Please make the right one.



Church of God - Faithful Flock
P.O. Box 130
Valley Springs, CA 95252



Below are Web Sites made available by the Church of God - Faithful Flock as Bible resource tools.

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

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.losttribes.org

Prophetic Events
www.propheticevents.us

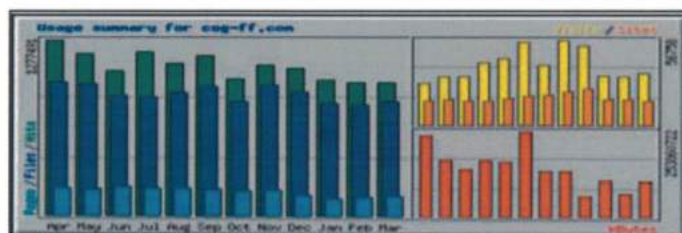
Restored Truths of God
www.restoredtruths.net

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

COGFF-Home School Association
www.coghomeschool.org

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

Watchman for the House of Israel
www.ezekielwatchman.org



Thousands visit our Web Sites each month

