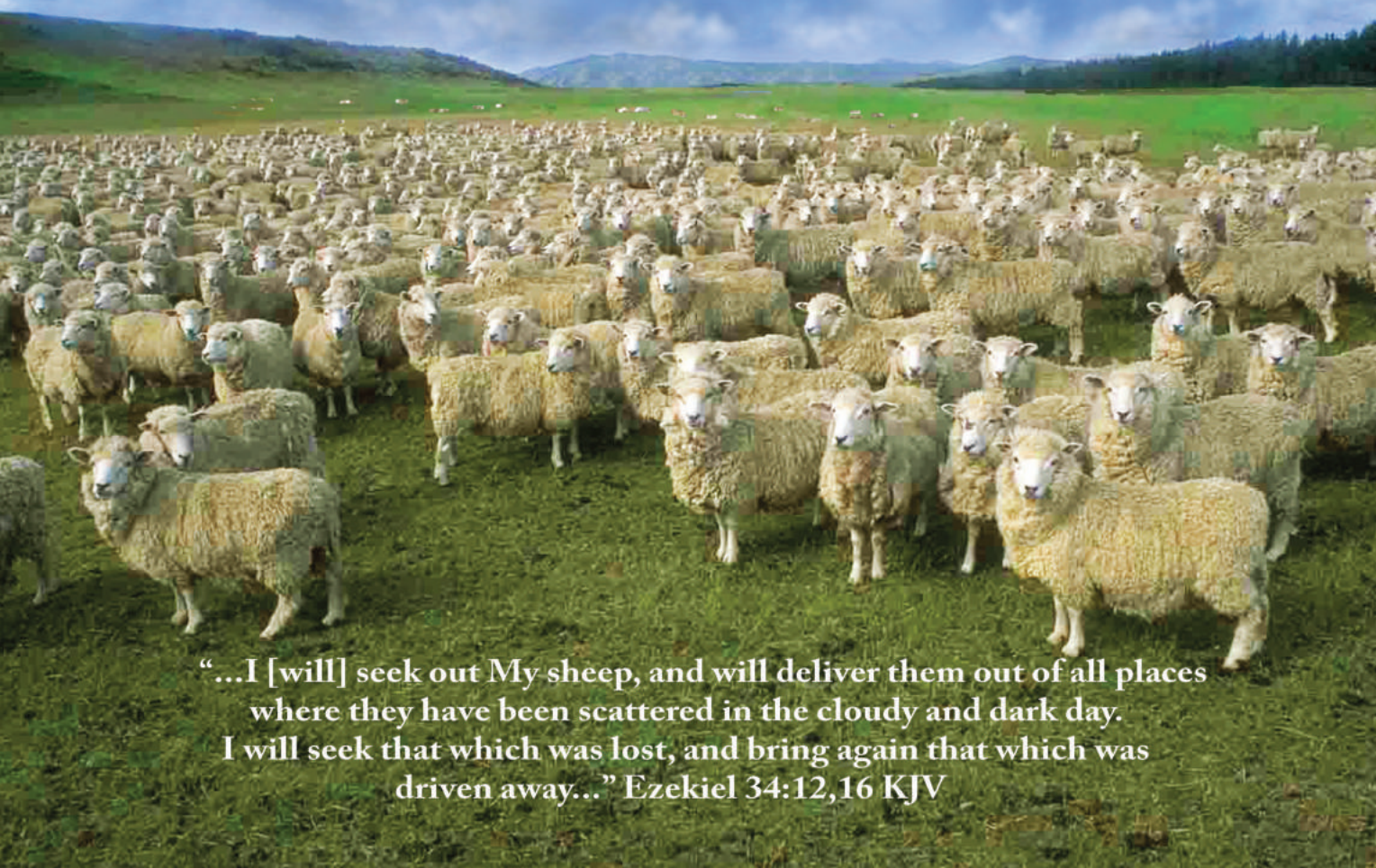


# The \_\_\_\_\_ Philadelphia Remnant

Oct/Nov/Dec 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



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**Cover:** The flock of sheep pictured on the cover of this magazine represent the scattered brethren of God's True Church. (*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.



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# The MARK of the BEAST



By Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong  
December 11, 1982

**W**ell, greetings once again everybody and special greetings for all of you ministers that are here for the refresher course from around the world.

Fifty years ago, I was putting emphasis on certain things where I was actually at least 50 years ahead of my time. You know actually the first century apostles were more than 1950 years ahead of their time. They thought the Second Coming of Christ was going to occur way back there in their lifetime and, of course, it didn't. But 50 years ago, I could see that we were coming into the last generation of this world. So many things had been happening. I wonder if you people can understand.

I don't think that very many of you can see things as I do. For example, I remember things

that happened back in the 19th century. I remember very well staying up until midnight to see the old century out and the new century in, and 1899 was going out and the year 1900 was coming in. Of course, I was only 7½ years old, and I couldn't understand why my parents kept me sitting up all that time in a Methodist church, and they wouldn't let me go to sleep, and I wanted to go to sleep so badly. Sometimes children can't understand some of the things their elders do.

## The Revival of the Holy Roman Empire

But today it becomes a very solemn warning, and now the time is very imminent. **The**

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**new States of Europe is on the verge of going together.** Now, it has gone together a number of times already, well, five times directly and a sixth time that the world hardly noticed, **and we are waiting now for the seventh resurrection of the Roman Empire.** And **the whole world is going to be astounded** and I can tell you it could even happen next year.

But along with it I want to come specifically today into a certain subject I have not touched on I think for some years now. I think that perhaps most of you have never heard me speak about it. In fact, the booklet that we had on it has become out of print. And that subject is **"The Mark of the Beast."** What is the **Mark of the Beast?**



We began to see that I was ahead of my time actually, and I think that we said publicly and in our advertising that the Plain Truth is a magazine that has always been ahead of its time on foretelling news events and giving the meaning of today's news, today's world news, what it means, where it's taking us, where we are heading, what is going to happen next.

And now we are right at the time where the so-called “**Holy Roman Empire**” is going to be revived again. And it goes clear back to ancient Israel. Let me go back even farther than that, in the time of Adam, after Adam made the wrong decision, rejected the spirit of God, turned his back on God, decided to take to himself the knowledge of right and wrong, good and evil.

## The Knowledge of Good and Evil

Now the knowledge of good and evil has nothing to do with dealing with matter and material things, with science, with technology, with such subjects as chemistry, physics, astronomy. It has nothing to do with building a house or building an automobile, but it has a great deal to do with your relationship with other people, but most of all your relationship to God. And that's what the world has completely lost. Because the knowledge of good and evil not only represents knowledge, of spiritual knowledge, of spiritual things – attitudes, events and what God has in store for those

who love Him and not for others.

But it is a matter of attitudes, and all troubles in the world come from the attitude that springs from the one human spirit with which every human being is born. Otherwise, you wouldn't have a mind. As I've



said so many times, even a cow out in the field has a brain as good as yours. An elephant's brain is a great deal larger. I don't really know if a cow's brain is a little larger or a little smaller. It's one or the other. But a cow seems to be rather stupid compared to a human being because there is no spirit in connection with its brain. And it doesn't have attitudes of competition and strife and of coveting and the type of attitudes that we humans get into in relation to one another.

But humans have forgotten all about their relationship with God. We have all kinds of relationships with other humans and so husband and wife can't seem to get along together in so many cases, parents and children, capital and labor, next door neighbors, group can't get

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along with group, race with race, nation with nation. We get into conflict, and it's all attitudes of mind.

## God's New Testament Church

Now, God closed up the Holy Spirit. When He closed the Tree of Life, He closed the Holy Spirit. When Christ came, He said, **“I will build My Church.”** He started it with 12 disciples. After He had taught them, on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came to them, and there were 120 actually that had followed Christ that received the Holy Spirit that day. Later that day, after Peter's sermon, about 3,000 others were baptized.

Then the Holy Spirit was open, but only to those that God would draw. Jesus said, no man can come to Him except the Father that sent Him draws him. And on that Day of Pentecost, Peter said the Holy Spirit was for as many as the LORD OUR GOD SHOULD CALL. Go back and read it in the second chapter of the book of Acts the 39th verse – **“as many as the Lord our God shall call.”**

I guess it was in the sermonette this morning it was mentioned that you didn't volunteer to become a follower of Christ or to become a Christian – YOU WERE DRAFTED. You are not a volunteer. God chose you and for each one of you, you were chosen out of perhaps a few thousand others that were not chosen, and so I've tried to tell



you that there is a very, very great responsibility on you because you have been chosen for something very great.

## The Descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob

Now, way back at the time of Moses many hundreds of years before Christ, God had decided to call the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And He made them into a nation, but they didn't have the Holy Spirit. It was not open to them. God gave them promises, but the promises that He gave them were all materialistic, nationalistic for material wealth and national dominance over other nations. But there was always a condition, and they never would fulfil the condition.

After a long time, they even divided among themselves into two different nations. One was still called the Kingdom of Israel, but they rejected their king, and they went in for democracy; and they chose the man who had practically been King Solomon's prime minister, who had practically run the government anyway for Solomon – Jeroboam.

The tribe of Judah split off and formed its own nation called the Kingdom of Judah, and they are the Jews, and the Jews from that time on are not Israel. They are the nation of Judah, not the nation of Israel at all. The world doesn't know that. So many of the people in the world don't know who they are. The people

of the United States, of Britain, don't know who they are. The Germans don't know who they are. The Jews don't know who they are. They have lost their identity.

They split up into two nations. And first, after seven dynasties and 19 different kings, Israel had followed their kings. And every one of those kings had rejected God and God's way of life; and they had all gone the way of sin contrary to the law of God, which is God's way of life and God's way of life is the way God and the way Christ have always lived from eternity, so far as we know.

As far as we know, they have always lived that way. And it's the way of peace. It's the way of cooperation. It's the way of love. It's the way of happiness, and it's the way of real great accomplishment and achievement and of a satisfying and fulfilling life. Humans don't know that.

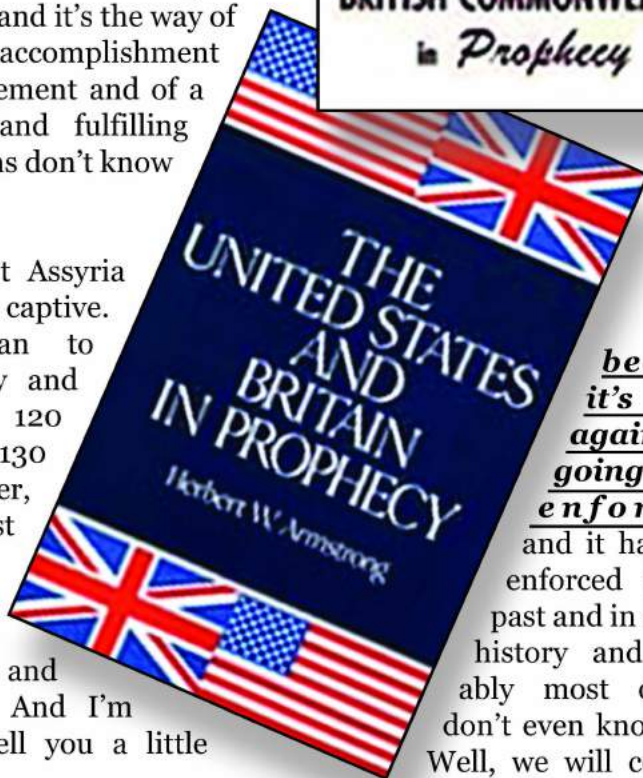
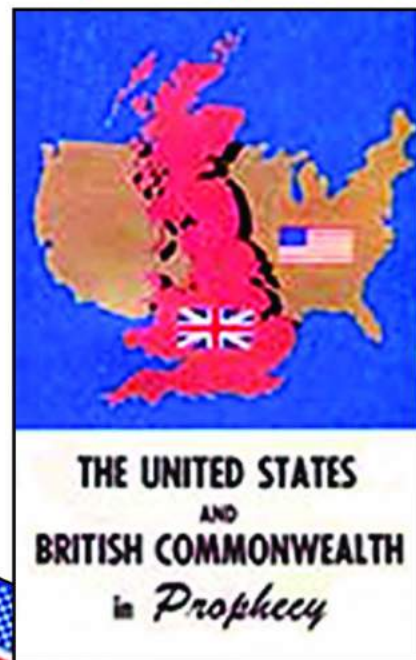
So, God let Assyria take Israel captive.

They began to move away and by about 120 years, 130 years later, they had lost their identity and moved westward and northwest. And I'm going to tell you a little

latter why Israel lost her identity. Now, Judah kept her identity, and I'm going to tell you why a little later.

## The Enforcement of the Mark of the Beast

But I want to get back to this **Mark of the Beast**



because it's soon again now going to be enforced;

and it has been enforced in the past and in ancient history and probably most of you don't even know that. Well, we will come to that.



Anyway, then God used Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to take Judah captive because they had turned away from God. Well, they never really turned to Him. They professed to back in the days of Moses, but they never really had done it.

Through Daniel, God gave King Nebuchadnezzar a knowledge of the true God and that God had given him the right to rule. Now, you're going to see that later on, a continuation of that was given its seat and power and authority by Satan the devil, but it was God who gave Nebuchadnezzar his seat and power and authority. **[Daniel 4:25-26]**

King Nebuchadnezzar was sent out for seven years. He finally acknowledged God, and he came back, and God gave him the kingdom back, but his son rebelled and went the other way, and the kingdom was taken away. **[Daniel 5:18-28]**

And so, it was succeeded by the Persian Empire and that in turn by the Greco-Macedonian Empire, or Greece, and there were four different divisions there and that in turn was succeeded by the Roman Empire. The Roman Empire had begun about 31 B.C. and ruled until 476 A.D., when the barbarians to the north conquered it and destroyed it.

Then we had three nations – the Heruli, the Vandals and the Ostrogoths that came in there for a few years, less than a hundred years from 476, but by 554, at the behest of the pope at

Rome. The Catholic Church had grown by that time rather powerful. Justinian who was ruling the empire in the east, now the Roman Empire had been divided. There was a capital at Constantinople in the east. Constantinople today is called Istanbul – which is the real metropolis of Turkey today, which used to be Asia Minor and up in the land of the Galatians and some of those people in the Biblical days.



Anyway, he restored what they called the Roman Empire. And again it was raised up again by Charlemagne, a French head, who came to his zenith in 800 A.D. And a little later Otto the Great of Germany, and after that Charles the Great, I believe it was of Hapsburg, of Austria. And after that came Napoleon. And there you have five different resurrections of the Roman Empire. But by the time of Otto the Great of Germany, they were calling it the **“Holy Roman Empire.”**

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And it actually meant that, they believed the Kingdom of God had come.

## **The Pope in Rome**

The pope was called “Vicar of Christ.” Did you ever look up that word “vicar” in the dictionary? He is supposed to have a name on his crown. I don’t think it’s there. It’s never been found.

I’ve heard it was supposed to be. I don’t know whether I’m pronouncing it correctly, but as it would seem to sound out in English “vicarias fei dei” or something like that. I don’t think there is any such words on the crown, however.

But the word “vicar” means “in place of.” It does not mean the representative of. It doesn’t mean he represents Christ. It means he’s kicked Christ out and taken over. Now, that’s rather brutal and that’s plain language, but I want to make it blunt enough so that you’ll understand what I’m saying.



Because that's what it actually means. Christ has been kicked out. There has been a revolution. There has been a military coup. The pope has taken over. Christ is out of it, and they are supposed to rule now, not just a thousand years, but forever.

## **The Resurrection of the so-called "Holy Roman Empire WWII**

Well, you know when Hitler came he was – Mussolini had made a little bit of – a resurrection of the so-called **"Holy Roman Empire,"** but it didn't really rise up to anything very big until Hitler joined with him in the Axis, and Hitler's whole idea was a thousand years of rule with the Master Race – the Germans. **[Isaiah 10:5-8]**



Now, the Germans are not a Master Race. They are a race of orderly people who are very great producers of certain mechanical things, have very great talents in certain directions. They are a people

who had been down and out after World War I. Hitler came around and raised them up with the idea that they were better than any other people on earth. He practically had them hypnotized, and I think a great many people in Germany today realize that. And I don't think you find very much of Hitlerism in Germany today.

However, it's coming in a little different way today. Now once again they are right on the verge of raising this thing up once again. Now, because it didn't happen in our lifetime, many people don't realize how it has happened time after time from 554 on up to 1814 when Napoleon, as we say, "met his Waterloo."

I go to Waterloo for lunch every once in awhile. King Leopold lives right practically there, in that very vicinity and we've been very close friends now since 1968.

## **The Enforcement of the Mark of the Beast**

Anyway, this whole system of Gentile governments began with Nebuchadnezzar. And now we find the LAST resurrection of it is coming up, and it means something to you and me! And **the Mark of the Beast is something that is going to be enforced, and you are going to risk your life on it in the very near future!**

In speaking of these very same things, Jesus said, "He that hath an ear, let him hear!" And I say to you if you have ears to hear you'd BETTER HEAR, and you'd BETTER UNDERSTAND! And don't take this lightly, because your life is going to be at stake!

I'm going to tell you, one of two things is going to have to happen to you, every one of you. And we're going to face it collectively as a Church, but each is going to face it individually also. You're going to be tested. If you try to save your life, you will lose it for all eternity. You may have to GIVE your present life in order to make the Kingdom of God. Are you going to try to live on and save it? Or are you willing?

There is one place in the 12th chapter of Revelation, after Satan has had the battle in heaven once again and has been sent back down to earth, where the saints loved not their lives unto death **[Revelation 12:11].** And that is speaking of our time and our people and those of the Laodicean Church to follow us almost immediately. **[Revelation 6:9-11]**

And the Laodicean era of the Church has not yet come, but it will. And I think that we are doing a whole lot to raise it up, but a lot of people have been hearing on the radio and television, and they realize they are hearing a message that is UTTERLY DIFFERENT from ANY OTHER religious message they hear ANYWHERE! And a lot of them, say, "Well, how can



one man be right and all the others wrong?" – because all the others preach about the same thing.

And millions have been reading it in the Plain Truth, because over five million copies and in another few months it will be going on toward six million, God willing, we hope.

## Daniel the Second Chapter

All right, I want to pick up this story in Revelation 13. It really starts in the second chapter of Daniel. Now, you know the story of the second chapter of Daniel. King Nebuchadnezzar had finally put together the first great world empire.

Civilization started with city states. Nimrod is the first one we have a record of in (the 10th) chapter of Genesis ... Nimrod built Babylon, Nineveh and a number of other cities and for a long time, the only governments were in cities. Each city had its own government, and we had what they called "city states."

And each city had its own king. They didn't call them mayors. They called them kings. And then they got into nations, and we had ancient Egypt, and we had ancient Greece and certain others and, of course, there was ancient Assyria. And later came the Medes and the Persians and others. But Nebuchadnezzar got even many of those together into a world empire of a number of nations – the first world empire.

Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. He saw a great image and that image showed what was going to happen, beginning with him. It was a great image ... I think it was 10 feet tall or else it was a great deal taller than that. Anyway, we've shown you pictures of it on the television program and the magazines.



The head was of gold. That represented Nebuchadnezzar. Now it started there, and it showed what was going to happen as we come down through the image. Its breast and arms were of silver. That was the next empire to succeed him or the Persian Empire. And then later on would come Greece or the Greco-Macedonian Empire. And that was the belly and thighs of brass.

And then came the Roman Empire and its two legs, because Rome was divided. And Satan's kingdom is divided and part of the Roman Empire was in the East and part in the West.

Now, incidentally, the Roman Catholic Church grew up, but it wasn't all ROMAN Catholic. There was the Eastern Orthodox Church as well as the Roman Catholic Church. And that has come down to today, also.

However, the Roman Empire fell in 476, and in 554, as I said awhile ago, Justinian was brought from Constantinople over to Rome to restore the empire in the WEST. And it wasn't restored as the Roman Empire in the East at that time. But it has had a number of successions, and now it's going to be restored once again. [**Revelation 17:7-13; Revelation 13.**]

Now, **Daniel 2** shows it finally coming down to the toes of the feet. But you see one of those feet is planted on Eastern Europe and one on Western Europe. And it comes down to



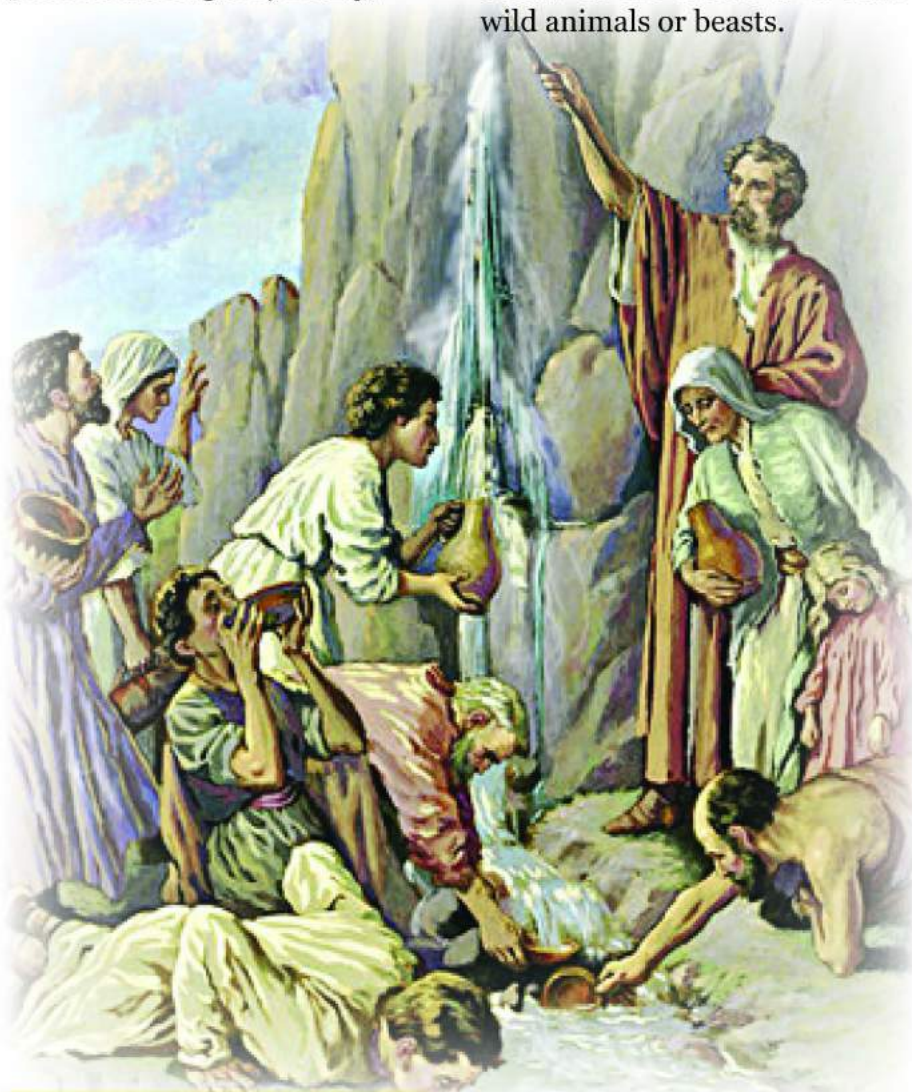
the final end of the Second Coming of Christ and smashing this WHOLE SUCCESSION of GENTILE GOVERNMENTS on the toes of the feet. That's the 10 kingdoms that are going to go together in Europe, perhaps next year, perhaps the year after. *[relevant now – 2014]*

Now, I can't set dates, and if it doesn't happen until two or three years from now don't say how Mr. Armstrong said it was going to be in 1983. I didn't say that. I say it COULD. I didn't say it WILL. Now, if someone tries to say I said it, I've got all you as witnesses I didn't because they tried to say back in 1972 that I said things that I did not say. Some people thought I said the Second Coming of Christ was going to occur then. No, I could see reasons why I thought this empire might go together at that time.

And our Work will stop very soon after this Holy Roman Empire has this next and last resurrection. And OUR WORK WILL STOP AND THEN WILL COME THE GREAT TRIBULATION, OUT OF AND DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION *[the Laodicean era of God's Church will become an entity and then have to endure a martyrs death, Revelation 3:16-19].*

But this Church, well, you are either going to risk death or you're going to take the Mark of the Beast – one or the other. Unless we are taken to a place of protection and safety, and there are two places in the book of Revelation that

certainly indicate we shall be. ***[Revelation 3:10; 12:14]***



But it's going take a miracle. Now, it took a miracle from God to get the Israelites out of Egypt way back there in the days of Moses. He had to strike a rock and water came out of it, and we may have to perform just as great miracles again this time. You'd better begin to believe in miracles because your very existence may depend on it.

Well, anyway, you come to Daniel the seventh chapter [7:1-8], and he saw the same

thing but in the form in his dream or his vision ... of four wild animals or beasts.

The first was a lion, and that was the Chaldean Empire. The second was a bear, and that was the Persian Empire. The third was the Greco-Macedonian Empire and had four heads. Well, it was divided into four divisions, and each one had its own head. And then, that made up six heads, and then the Roman Empire the seventh head and that was a fourth beast he saw. Of course, it had one head, but it was strong, stronger than any of the others and stamped over the territory of all of them and embraced them all, the Roman Empire.



## The 13th Chapter of Revelation

Now then, we come into the 13th chapter of Revelation, and it continues that same, identical thing. And I want to begin now in the 13th chapter of Revelation, and I'm going to take a little bit of time to go through it, word by word. As I say, I wish I could have many, many hours for this.

Now, John is telling here in the book of Revelation what he saw in a vision, like a dream. He was on the Isle of Patmos, and he was being shown the time of the Day of the Lord, and that's the time when God will step in and intervene in world affairs, and it will climax in the Second Coming of Christ and then the thousand year rule under Christ.

Now, the 13th chapter of Revelation he's showing what he saw in this vision. He says, **"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns. And upon his horns, ten crowns."** Now notice the crowns are not on the head, they were on the horns.

**"And upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the names of blasphemy." So there's something evil about it. "And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard."** It wasn't a leopard, but it was quick and catlike like the body of a leopard. It had the characteristics, the best



characteristics of a leopard.

**"And his feet were as the feet of a bear."** The most powerful part of a bear are its feet. And it had the strongest part of a bear because it was a very powerful thing. But it wasn't a bear. It just had the feet LIKE a bear.

**"And his mouth as the mouth,"** it wasn't a lion's mouth but AS a mouth of a lion. Now, that is the strongest part of a lion, especially a male lion,

and I don't know whether that's stronger than a female, but it just looks bigger.

**"And the dragon,"** now in Revelation 12 and Revelation 20 you see very plainly the dragon is Satan the devil, **"gave him his power, and his seat and great authority."** Now, let me give you one little key right here, **"gave HIM"** that's the male gender. Now in these prophecies the **"him"** or the male gender represents civil political government – political and military. The she or "her" or the feminine gender always deals



with a church. When you get to the 17th chapter, you find a woman riding the beast, but the woman is a church. The beast is a “**he**” or a “**him**,” which is a military or a civil political government.

Now, this thing is of Satan the devil, who gave it its seat and power and great authority. Now, this whole system as it started, God gave Nebuchadnezzar his seat and power and great authority, but by the time it gets down to this point, I’m going to show you that this includes the four beasts of Daniel 7 and this is speaking of the Roman Empire.

Now, there is a chart, and I worked out that chart, believe it or not some 55 or 56 years ago while I was BEING converted. God showed me the truth. Now, if you take, the only way you can understand this, and there are other chapters in Daniel that bear on the same thing. It’s a very complicated thing, and the only way you can understand it is like a large problem in arithmetic or mathematics, and it is greater than you can figure out in your head alone. You have to put it down on paper and add and subtract and divide and multiply and one thing and another, and it gets a little confusing.

You take 10,897 and divide it by 32 and multiply that by four and then subtract 822 and something else now, and have you got the answer? Anybody here got it? Well, I haven’t, either. You can’t do that. You have to put a thing like that

down on paper in order to get it. So that’s what I did, and I guess no one else ever thought to do that.

And verse 3, “**I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.**” Now, I want to you to notice the time sequence. It has been healed, and now since it’s healed the whole world is wondering after the beast.

Let me give you a little bit here in the Revised Standard translation, and “**the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months.**” Now this mouth with haughty, blasphemous words, brethren, I don’t want to accuse human beings and this is all ancient history anyway and not anyone now living, but that was the popes of Rome.

And here you have the Roman Empire and its deadly wound. It was wounded to death, but the “mortal wound,” this is the Revised Standard now, “**was healed, and the whole earth followed the beast,**” or wondered after the beast. Now that’s the beast after it is healed, “**with wonder,**” men worshipped the dragon, which is Satan the devil, and he is the god of this world and, brethren, I don’t think we realize it, but

## the world is worshipping Satan.

“For he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshipped the beast,” the beast now healed which is now, after Justinian and that time on, saying, “**Who is like to the beast and who can fight against it?**”



“**And the beast,**” now this is the healed beast, after 554, “**was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words.**” That mouth didn’t come until after 554, and it was allowed to exercise authority for 42 months. Now a day for a year in those times meant 1260 years, and it was, and it started in 554, and it ruled for 1260 years. Now, if you can figure that, that takes you to 1814 and that is when Napoleon was finally defeated at Waterloo.



**“It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming His name and His dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven.”** And, of course, those who dwell in heaven are angels that are described in the fourth and fifth chapters of the book of Revelation.

Now, a lot of that blasphemy, I have been in Rome and down at the pope’s summer palace at Castel Gandolfo and seen 5,000 people just screaming and frantic as if they were in a trance or a frenzy, “VIVA PAPA! VIVA PAPA!” And calling the “Most Holy Father.” The Most Holy Father, that’s a title that belongs **ONLY** to God, and they do give that to the pope, even to this day.

**“Also, it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them.”** And thousands or even up to a few million Christians or professing Christians were put to death and I’m going to show you, because of the Mark of the Beast, because they wouldn’t accept it. But I’ll come to that later.

**“And authority was given it over every tribe and people, and tongue and nation.”** That’s speaking, of course, about Europe and the different languages, and they have different languages in Europe.

**“And all who dwell on the earth will worship it, everyone whose name is not written before the**

**foundation of the world, in the Book of Life of the Lamb that was slain”** from the foundation of the world. Well, in the King James it says **“the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world.”** It was decided at the foundation of the world, the time of Adam, when Adam rejected the tree of life that Christ would come as the second Adam and be slain to pay the penalty of our sins.

Now, coming to the next verse, verse nine, I believe it is, **“If anyone has an ear, let him hear. If anyone is to be taken captive, to captivity he goes.”** Now this is coming down to a time now when it does apply to us. **“If anyone slays with a sword, with a sword must he be slain. Here is the call for the endurance and faith of the saints.”**





## The Revival to Life of the Roman Empire

**“Then I saw,”** John says, what he’s seen in a vision now, **“another beast.”** Now, who and what is this beast? **“Another beast which rose out of the earth.”** The first beast was out of the sea, and this one was out of the earth.

And **“had two horns like a lamb, and it spoke like a dragon.”** Now I believe that’s a little different in the King James. **“Another beast coming up out of the earth and he,”** and it’s a **“he”** now, not a **“she”** so this cannot be just the church as such, **“had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.”**

Well, a lamb pictures Christ. He appeared like Christ, but he spoke like Satan. The dragon is Satan. **“Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh,”** says God. So says your Bible. So actually, while he was pretending to be Christ, Christ on earth, ruling the Kingdom of God here, he was actually speaking like a devil.

Now the Bible says some very horrible things about the Roman Catholic Church. That’s why the Catholic Church has never encouraged people to read the Bible. And for a long time in Spain, before the present government, anyone sending a Bible, even as a gift to a friend, if someone was trying to have someone send him a Bible into Spain it would be confiscated on the way in.

Bibles were not allowed to be bought, and Spain is more Catholic than Italy. *[This is now taking place within the military in America; News Reports say Bibles are being removed from Base Hotel Rooms, 8-14-14; Military chaplains can pray but not in the name of Jesus Christ; movement is taking place in all areas of Government to remove any mention of God and His holy Laws, judges are ordering the removal of the Ten Commandments from monuments.]*



**“I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth ... two horns like a lamb that spoke as a dragon.”** So actually, it was masquerading as Christ, but out of its heart it was speaking what was in its heart, and it was Satan the devil or the tool of Satan.

## The False Prophet Used By Satan to Worship the Restored Roman Empire

**“And he,”** notice it’s **“he”** again, **“exerciseth all the**

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**power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.”** Now, not the first beast BEFORE its deadly wound was healed, but the first beast WHOSE deadly wound had now been healed. So it is the one that became the Holy Roman Empire.

Now, the Holy Roman Empire was political. What is this other beast? The only thing that it can possibly be is that the Roman Catholic Church is both church and state. I wonder if you realize that Vatican City is a separate nation! The Vatican is the “state” part of the church. That is the “he” part. The church is the “she” part. But there is a marriage. Well, I don’t think they’re married, either. It’s fornication, not marriage. Anyhow, many nations send ambassadors to the Vatican. It is a separate state within the nation of Italy.



Now I've been there. I have been inside of the Vatican library, and I have examined pages of one of the three oldest copies of the Bible in existence – the Codex Vaticanus. And I had to have a letter from Mrs. Clare Luce who was the American ambassador in Rome at the time, to sponsor me and guarantee that I wouldn't destroy it or steal it or take it out or anything of the kind.

And so they were very polite, and they let me have it and hold it in my hands and read it. I could have spent two or three hours there reading it if I'd wanted to. But I just wanted to see it for the novelty of it and because it is one of the OLDEST copies, and it may be THE oldest on the face of the earth, of the Bible.

## The Pope in Rome

**“He exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him.”** Now this is really the government part of the Roman Catholic Church. But this is the political government part, and it did exercise the power. The popes were on top of it, and the political rulers had to do what the church said.

I want to tell you they are coming to the place of doing that again, and just recently in Germany there has been a new law passed that the holy days to be observed as rest days or national holidays are to be decided by the church, and they must be either Roman Catholic

or Protestant, and each state like Bavaria or other states within Germany can decide what they want and whatever they decide the people HAVE to follow. Now, just bear that in mind, because we're coming to something.

**“He,”** that is the government part of the Roman Catholic Church, **“exercises all the power of the first beast before him.”** And that is the Roman Empire after it was healed or the Holy Roman Empire and why it was called **“holy”** is that the pope was supposed to be ruling it.

**“And causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast,”** which is the Holy Roman Empire **“whose deadly wound was healed.”** See, not the first beast before its deadly wound was healed or whose deadly wound was YET to BE healed, but they worshipped the beast whose deadly wound HAD been healed.

**“And he,”** now it's the Roman government, church government, **“doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.”**



Now if that has ever happened, I don't know, but a lot of this is yet to come to pass, and it may be that that has some significance.



Now, the Book of Revelation speaks in symbol a great deal. I haven't done any research on that particular little detail right there to find what that fire could, if it symbolizes something besides literal fire.

**“And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by (the) means of those miracles which he had the power to do in the sight of the beast.”** Now wait, I think there's another word I want you to get in the Revised Standard translation.

But all those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. In other words they had to worship this government or be slain, the government of the Catholic Church.

**“He had power to give life to the image of the beast that the image of the beast should”** now remember the image of the beast is the Vatican or the civil government of the church. **“And cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond to receive a mark.”**

Now we come to the **Mark of the Beast!** **“To receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell.”** Now, to buy means to purchase whatever you need – food, clothing, buy a new home, buy an automobile, whatever. Or sell, now you might, that

means you can't engage in the business of buying and selling, and you won't have the money. You won't have the wages to buy anything with.

**“That no man might buy or sell, save he that hath the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let them that hath understanding count the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man and his number is six hundred, threescore and six,”** or six sixty six, six hundred and sixty six.

Now, of course, people have tried to count that in every way. People have said that that **Mark of the Beast** is this and that and the other thing. It was the faces on the dimes years ago because the faces was a Roman symbol of ancient Rome, the Roman Empire.



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And it was Franklin Roosevelt's NRA, some people said. People normally read a thing like this and just make up from their own imagination what they think it is, but remember the Bible itself must interpret the Bible and the Bible must explain its own symbols, and we can't use our own ideas. If I give you my idea, I'm not leading you properly.

Now, I want to show you something in the chain of events in the book of Revelation. Go back to the sixth chapter of the book of Revelation. And there were the four horsemen and the first was a false Christ – those that were coming saying that they were the representatives of Christ, not that they were Christ, but the representatives of Christ and deceiving many. They were preaching that Jesus was the Christ and deceiving the many. **[Revelation 6:2; Matthew 24:4-5]**

After that came war and then came famine and then pestilence and death. Let's see there



was first the false Christ, then war, then famine and then pestilence. That was the four horsemen.

Now, let me see, go back to the sixth chapter, and I want to begin now with verse nine, **“And when He had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held.” [Revelation 6:9-11]**

**voice, saying, ‘How long, Oh Lord, Faithful and True, dost Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?’** Now, they are dead, but **it’s like their blood is crying out for vengeance.**

Of course, they’re dead. They don’t know anything until the resurrection, but this is just as if they were, it is all like an allegory, as if they were crying out, “Why don’t you avenge our

Now, white robes always represent righteousness. **“That they should rest yet (for) a little season,”** in other words, remain dead in their graves yet a little season, **“until their fellow servants also and their brethren that SHOULD BE KILLED AS THEY WERE,”** as they were killed, **“should be fulfilled.”**

In other words, there is going to be another martyrdom of saints. [Revelation 6:9-11; 12:17].



Now, way back in the Middle Ages, some reports say there were millions that were killed because they would not bow down to worship the papacy and because they would not observe Sunday, and they kept the Sabbath instead of Sunday.

**“They cried with a loud**

blood?” And God hasn’t done it yet, and that’s been a thousand years or more ago since a lot of them were martyred.

**“And white robes were given to each one of them.”**

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Now in ancient history, long before any of us were born, there were thousands and millions. It used to be sport in Rome. In fact, several of you may have visited Rome, and you have gone into the great Coliseum there, where they used to throw Christians on a Sunday afternoon.



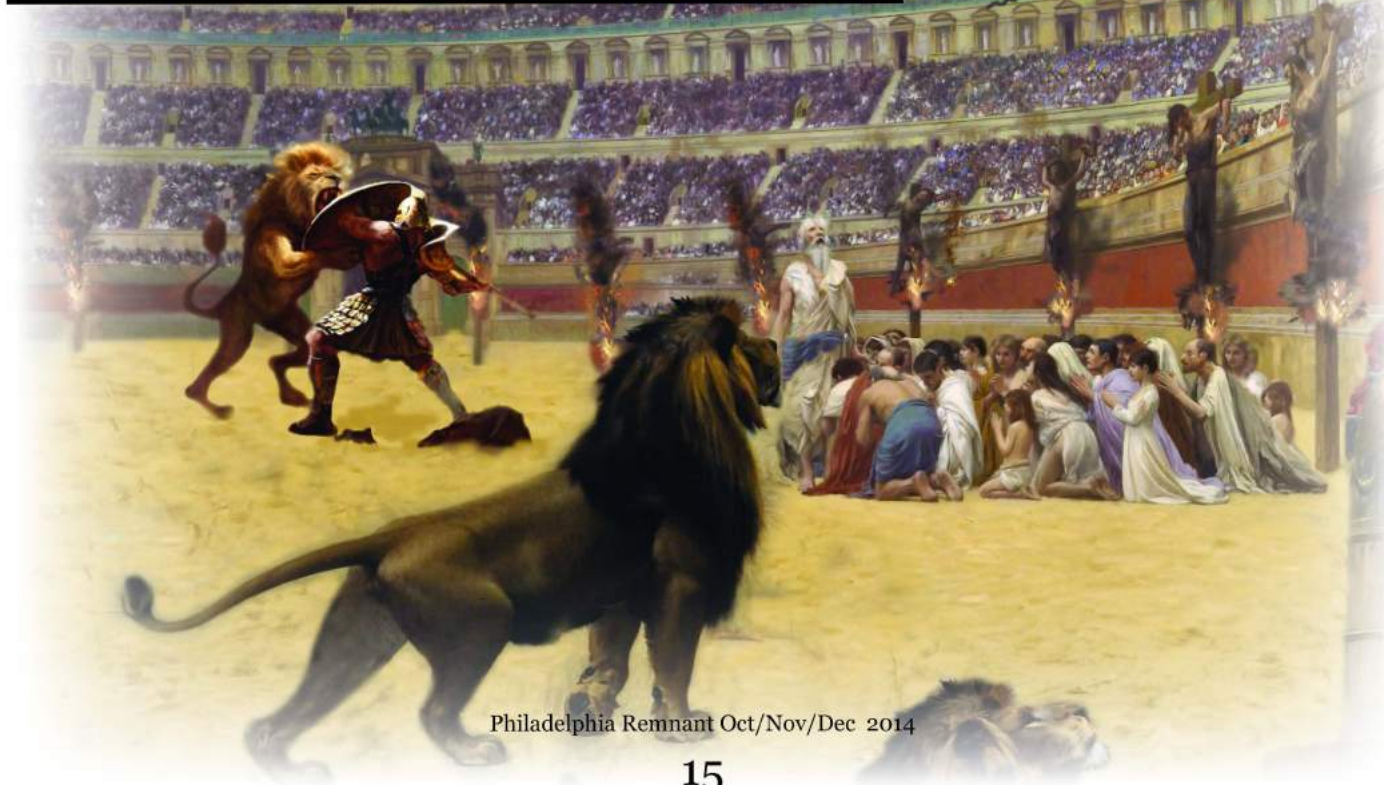
It was a Sunday afternoon sport. They had lions that were real hungry. They let the lions get hungry, then they turned the lions loose on the Christians in the arena – no place for them to go. And the lions would get them and tear them apart and eat them up and the people used to watch it with glee. As the lions tore them open, they'd bleed and the lions would eat them up.

Now that kind of thing has happened. We think that there never has been a time when people could be as fiendish and as evil as some things are now. I think perhaps they have been more so in the past. It just wasn't as widespread in general as it's got to be now.

And so that is the **Great Tribulation** and others are to

be killed in the **Great Tribulation** and that is representing the time sequence of the **Great Tribulation** in the sixth chapter of Revelation.

**“And I beheld when He had opened the sixth seal,”** now what happens right after the **Tribulation**? **“And, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became as black as sackcloth,”** and sackcloth “of hair, and the moon became as **blood**; and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree gathereth her untimely figs.”





And then, **“and the kings of the earth, and the great men and the rich,”** now this is the Day of the Lord, I want you to notice, **“rich men, and the great captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of HIS wrath is come!’”** That is the Day of the Lord.

Now then, let me read you that same thing back here in Matthew 24. Let me show you a time sequence. There were going to come, and there would be people representing Christ in verses four and five. Many will come in Christ’s name saying that Jesus is the Christ and deceiving the many, and all of these other things would be happening.

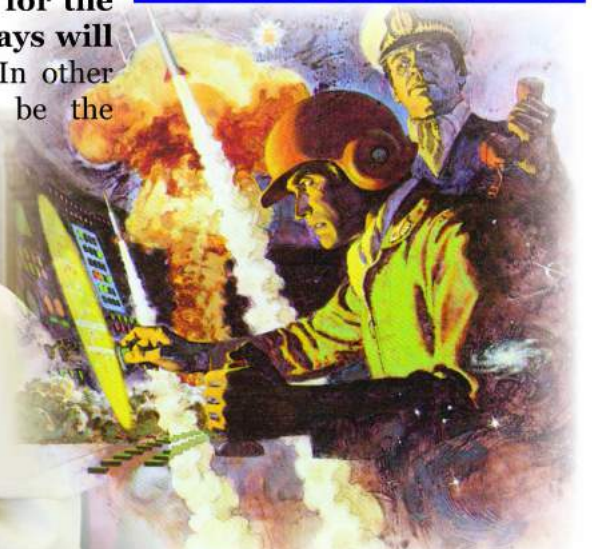
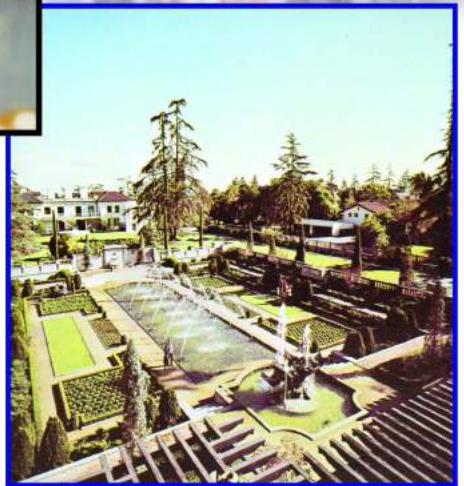
## The Gospel of the Kingdom of God

Then in verse 14, **“And this gospel,”** finally this Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world for a witness to all nations and then will come the end of this world! Brethren, this is the Church that is doing that, and I’ve been doing it. You’ve been backing me in doing it.



Now, what is next? **Verse 21, “For then,”** right after that, **“shall be Great Tribulation, such as was not from the beginning of the world to this same time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened there should no flesh be saved alive! But for the elect’s sake those days will be SHORTENED!”** In other words, it’s going to be the **Great Tribulation**.

Now, we are proclaiming that warning! While we’ve been proclaiming that warning, 30 years ago the hydrogen bomb was first produced! The first time a weapon of mass destruction could wipe out all humanity on the face of the earth!



And this says, then right after that, immediately after that will come the **Great Tribulation**.



That's going to come as the result of the reformation of this empire over in Europe! And it will be so bad, it will be nuclear World War III, that if God did not intervene, no one would be saved alive!

**“And then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven.”** They will see God sitting on His throne in heaven. And **“all the tribes,” or nations, “of the earth shall mourn and they shall SEE**

## Revelation the Seventh Chapter

Now then, let's get back to some other things. I was reading out of the sixth chapter of Revelation just a moment ago,



Now, what's going to happen right after the **Tribulation?** How is He going to end that **Tribulation?** **“For the elect's sake those days shall be shortened,”** and we brethren are the elect. Notice, **“immediately after the tribulation of those days,”** verse 29, **“shall the sun be darkened,”** here's the same thing I read in Revelation 6, **“the sun be darkened ... the moon, shall not give her light,”** the stars of heaven shall fall, **“the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.”** Those powers are spiritual powers of Satan and his demons.

**the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”**  
The Second Coming of Christ.

Brethren, we are the last thing triggering just before the **Great Tribulation.** The **Great Tribulation** is going to be brought on by this United States of Europe. It's not going to come by Russia, but by them. They will be a greater power than Russia or the United States **[Revelation 13:3-4].**



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and now let's get back to the beginning of the seventh chapter. I want you to notice a few things.

**“And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding up the four winds of the earth, that the winds should not blow on the earth.”**

Now they are the winds that blow on the trumpets, the trumpet plagues that come just before, as a matter of fact the trumpet plagues are the seventh seal, and the seventh trumpet is the seven last



plagues, and Christ comes at the time of the seven last plagues.

## The Innumerable Multitudes

Now comes the sealing of the 144,000. And then, separate from that and a little later is this beginning with verse nine, **“After this I beheld and, lo, a GREAT MULTITUDE WHICH NO MAN COULD NUMBER.”** The 144,000 appear to be this Church, brethren, and we’re not that big yet, but we’re getting that big fast.

### Editorial Comments:

Shortly after this time Mr. Armstrong realized his error and said no more about the World Wide Church of God being the 144,000 for he came to realize at least 50 percent or more were never converted and said as much many times before he died.

Mr. Armstrong also admitted before he died to Aaron Dean, his personal aide, who had asked him questions regarding some of the end-time prophecies that he did not know the answers; this also included the rebuilding of the third Temple.

In no way did Mr. Armstrong’s lack of understanding of the details of the end-time prophecies affect the doctrinal teachings that Jesus Christ used him in restoring within His Church. Each one is Scrip-

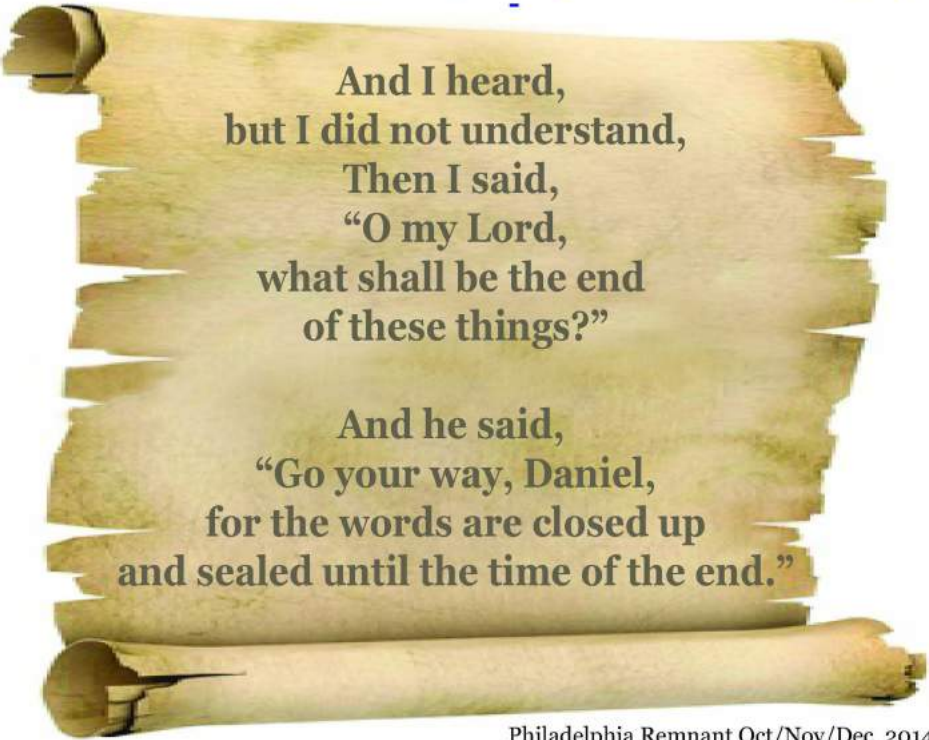
turally true for it was Christ who revealed them to him (*Malachi 4:4-6; Matthew 17:10-11*).

Mr. Armstrong was given understanding of the Trunk of the Tree of the end-time prophecies as was given in vision to the Prophet Daniel before him but was denied understanding (*Daniel 12:4, 8-9*).

Having lived beyond the time of the world empires, except for the last and final revival of the Roman Empire, Mr. Armstrong understood the Trunk of the Tree of these prophecies. But like Daniel, having died 28 years ago, he was unable to foresee and understand the details of the end-time prophecies that are now being opened up to the understanding

of God’s true Church due to this world having moved more fully into these end-times.

Case in point: Though Mr. Armstrong knew there would be “the falling away,” and did occur in 1995 (*II Thessalonians 2:1-3*), however he did not know: who, where, when, and how, it would take place. This becomes clear when one considers the very man he had appointed to replace him became an apostate after his death and brought about the preliminary “falling away” from the Church (the second one to occur soon, *Daniel 12:7*). It should also be realized he had to die before it could happen (*II Thessalonians 2:7-8*). An article is available upon request— Don Billingsley]



And I heard,  
but I did not understand,  
Then I said,  
“O my Lord,  
what shall be the end  
of these things?”

And he said,  
“Go your way, Daniel,  
for the words are closed up  
and sealed until the time of the end.”



An insert from another sermon by Mr. Armstrong: GALATIANS 5 & 6, 07-18 -1980, (LAODICEAN MESSAGE - NEAR THE END OF MESSAGE)

"The Laodicean Church are those who are going to come, they're going to find a leader, someone is going to lead them, and the church will not rise up and will not be actually formed [i.e. become an entity- presently the members are scattered or in other groups -he began speaking about the Laodiceans as early as 1969. This letter is addressed to the Laodiceans, NOT to the Church in Laodicea, as are the other six Church Eras addressed, Revelation 3:14 - Don Billingsley] until after we have gone into a place of protection, and after our work is finished and our time is over. It's not going to be contemporaneous with us. It will come after us. Now, I have never said that before."

"We have never had this state before. We have never understood it. And I've never come out with a definite doctrine on it before, because we have never understood it before. But, God has revealed it to me now."



## The Great White Throne Judgment

I beheld and a great number that no man could number **"of ALL NATIONS, and kindreds, and people,"** and different languages **"stood before the throne, and before the lamb clothed with white robes."** He sees a vision that represent things on earth **"and palms in their hands; and they cried with a loud voice saying, 'Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.'"** [Revelation 20 : 11 -12]

Now, one of the elders in verse 13 "answered saying unto me, **'What are these that are arrayed in the white robes?'**" And he said, **"Sir, thou knowest."** And he said unto me, **'These are they which came OUT OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION!'**

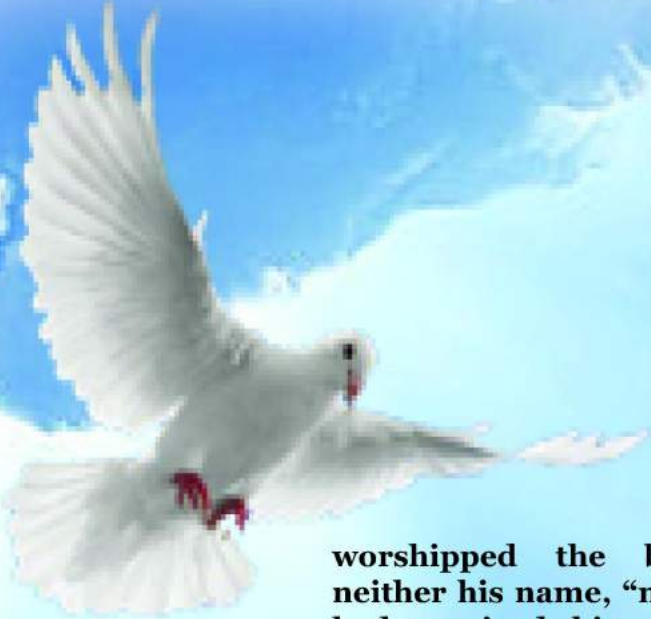
Now, modern translations say "THE" Great Tribulation.

[This is explained in the accompanying article in this publication]

**"And have washed their robes, and have made them white in the blood of the Lamb."** That will be the Church. It will have to be the Laodicean Church that will follow this Church and come out of the Great Tribulation.

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## The Martyrdom of the Saints of God

Now, I want you to notice something in Revelation 20 and verse four. Revelation 20 starts out with the angel taking Satan the devil and binding him a thousand years, but in verse four:

**“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that WERE beheaded for the witness of Jesus,”** martyrs, both way back there several hundred years or more than a thousand years and those yet to be martyred during the coming **Great Tribulation**, **“and judgment was given unto them.”**

**“I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness ... and for the word of God, and which had not**

**worshipped the beast,” neither his name, “neither had received his mark.”** Now, there’s the **Mark of the Beast** again, **“upon their foreheads, or in their hands and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”**

Those who REFUSE to have the **Mark of the Beast** will reign with Christ a thousand years. Now plainly, the martyrs over a thousand years ago refused that mark. And there are others that are to be martyred in the future, in the next few years, maybe within a year and a half or two years from now. It could be that soon. *[relevant now]*

## The 144,000 Saints with Jesus Christ

So now, let’s go back to Revelation 14, the martyrs over a thousand years (refused) the mark, now let’s see Revelation 14 and verse one,

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**“And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the Mount Zion, and with Him the one hundred and forty and four thousand, having the Father’s name written in their foreheads.”**

Now where is the **Mark of the Beast** to be written? The **Mark of the Beast** will be stamped in their forehead and in their hand, so that they can’t buy or sell, or they can’t hold a job and have money to buy or sell.

Now, take verse four, let’s skip and get the important ones. “These are they which were not defiled with women; and they are virgins,” that is spiritually speaking, not defiled with, in other words, with the churches of this world *[including the corporate churches that are off-track]*, but are virgins from that point of view.

Then referring to this Church, **“These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and unto the Lamb.”**

Again, we are the **“firstfruits,”** brethren. How many times do we see that, and we get that on the Day of Pentecost. Now, beginning with verse nine, and there were now two angels with messages.

**“And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ‘If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive**



**his mark** in his forehead, or in his hand.” Here it is again about the **Mark of the Beast**, “The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with **fire and brimstone** in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb;” at the Second Coming of Christ.

If you do not receive the **Mark of the Beast** you’re tortured! You may be martyred! If you do receive the **Mark of the Beast** then this is going to happen to you, and you brethren every one of you may personally in the next one and a half, two, five years, maybe 10 years, I can’t set a date, but it’s very, very imminent now! AND THE TIME HAS COME TO WARN! YOU’RE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION! You’d better know what is the **Mark of the Beast**.

“And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up even forever and ever: and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name,” the **Mark of the Beast**.

“Here is the patience of the saints: here are they,” now these do not have **the Mark of the Beast**, “that keep the Commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”



On the one hand are those who have the name of God in their forehead, and when it comes to work and things they have the Commandments of God and one of those Commandments tells you what day you can’t use your hands in work. And that day is the Sabbath Day! IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD!

Now why would Satan the devil use a church to try to make you break one of the Commandments of God? Satan is a great deceiver.

I want you to notice there are two classes. One will have **the Mark** and they will be martyred, and many things are going to happen to you by the police and the police state and they’re going to take over this country. If you’re not killed in the war and the famine and the pestilence that’s coming and



prophesied to come almost any time now, then you are going to face this.

But if you reject **the Mark**, let's see, **Revelation 12:17**, **"The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the Commandments of God, and have the faith of the testimony of Jesus Christ."** That's the word of God, the Bible. And what churches do have it?

Brethren, I had to find out way back there 56 years ago now, that the churches do not believe the Bible. They do not follow the Bible, but they preach precisely the opposite of the Bible. And when it comes right down to following the Bible, this is the only Church I know.

## The Sardis Church Era

The Sardis Church did as far as they went, but they didn't go far enough [**Revelation 3:1-6**]. They didn't even know what is the True Gospel. They didn't know what will happen during the Millennium. They knew there would be a Millennium all right, but they didn't have the True Gospel of the Kingdom of God. They didn't know we can be born of God. They have the Bible as far as they've got it, but they only have a little of it.

But now, the martyrs did not have the **Mark of the Beast**. Those who obey the human government may save their human life, but they're going to suffer all these plagues that I

read to you here from God and will not make it into the Kingdom of God.

Those who obey God may be tortured! Let me tell you what kind of torture. They used to run needles right up under your fingernails and thumbnails into the quick and boy that does hurt.

All right, I wanted to prepare you. Now, I'll give you one. They would tie a rope around your wrists together. They would tie another rope around your ankles holding them together. The one rope would be hitched up to one horse. The other rope from your feet would be hitched to another horse, and they'd start the horses in opposite directions and they'd pull you 'till they'd pull you apart. Actually pull your legs or your arms right out of their sockets until you're pulled apart. That's the way they tortured people until they died. It's so fiendish that I hate to tell you some of the things that have happened. And those things have happened and former people have gone

through that in order to keep the Commandments God.

Now, the two horned beast is merely a sort of enforcer. They enforce **the Mark**. They compel obedience. And they don't kill anyone. You notice that they're drunk with the blood of the saints, but they didn't kill them. They caused them to be killed. They just announced them "anathema from Christ," and the government killed them. But they ruled the government.

Now, they are going to compel disobedience to God, but they are not going to compel you to lie. They're not going to compel you to commit adultery. They're not going to compel stealing. They're not going to compel you to covet your neighbor's goods or your neighbor's wife.

They will not compel you to dishonor your father and mother. They will not compel you to have other gods. They might to worship idols, and they might not. They won't compel you to use profanity.



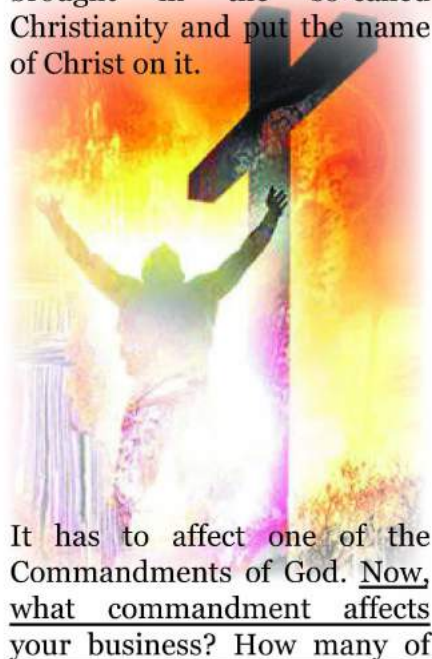
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## God's Holy Sabbath

Now they call the Sabbath "the Lord's Day." They say the church CHANGED it. And the church did change it, the Roman Catholic Church, but God did not! Cardinal Gibbons of the Roman Catholic Church wrote in my earlier life, but he's dead now, but I remember when he did, he wrote this: "That you may search the Bible from Genesis to Revelation and you cannot find one word in the Bible authorizing the sanctification of Sunday."

The Bible everywhere enforces the sanctification of Saturday, the seventh day of the week, but he said: you Protestants have to admit the **AUTHORITY OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH** that is branded on you when you observe Sunday! Because you have **NO OTHER AUTHORITY FOR SUNDAY BUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH!** And it came out of the sun worship that they brought in the so-called Christianity and put the name of Christ on it.



It has to affect one of the Commandments of God. Now, what commandment affects your business? How many of

our people have had to change their jobs? That has affected their job and their earning of a living and the buying and the selling because of the Sabbath?



## The Roman Catholic Council of Laodicea

Now, the Roman Catholic Council of Laodicea that was 363 A.D. They passed this: "Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath." They called it the Sabbath! They didn't try to say, it's the Protestants that have started to call Sunday the Sabbath. The Roman Catholic Church never did.

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Rather they said at this Council of Laodicea, "Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath," that they said is Jewish, "but must work on that day resting rather on Sunday. But if any be found to be Judaizing let them be declared anathema from Christ." And when the church called them "anathema from Christ" the government of the Holy Roman Empire tortured them and put them to death if they didn't obey and start to worship on Sunday!

There is no question about it, brethren. And that has happened. It is the only commandment that they have altered. They haven't altered the others, but they did try to alter this one.

## The False Prophet of the End-Time

Now, I'd like to have you notice back in Daniel the seventh chapter and verse 25, and this is speaking of the Roman Catholic Church and Daniel's, I'm on Daniel's four beasts here, and see that there was to be a small horn that was to come among them, that's the papacy, "and he shall speak great words against the Most High," isn't that just like I read in Revelation? **"And shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws!"**

They changed the law in respect of time and they changed the Sabbath into Sunday. And they changed the day from beginning at sunset to beginning at midnight. And they changed



the months from the new moons to the way it is. They've changed times all along and it all came through the Roman Catholic Church.

Think to change times and laws and **“they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and a dividing of times,”** in other words 1,260 years and they did that, carried on for 1,260 years.

### **God's Sabbath an Identifying Sign**

Now, I want you to notice that the Sabbath is not a mark. It is a sign. And I want to show you there is a difference between a sign and a mark. A sign is something that a man hangs out in front of his business. “Jones and Company, Furniture.” Now that identifies it,

tells who owns it, tells what it is. It's not a drug store. It's not a men's clothing store. It's a furniture store.

A sign identifies, but the merchant hangs it out of his own accord. It's not branded on him. He takes that himself and puts it out. A sign is always something that you hang up yourself to identify. Or, even a doctor would have a little, neat sign outside of his door. But it identifies who is in there. Who's in that room?

Now, let's turn back for a moment to Exodus 31 beginning with verse 12, **“And the Eternal spake unto Moses saying,”** now I want you to notice that this is something, it's a covenant and it's eternal,

and it has nothing to do with the Old Covenant. This is made after the Old Covenant was made! That means set apart for holy use and purpose. It identifies who are God's people! It identifies God.

Now, let's read on and I'll show you how. **“You shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is HOLY unto you!”** The world doesn't want to put any difference between the holy and the profane. This one Church is one that does, brethren! And you will have to begin to put difference between the holy and the profane. The Sabbath Day is holy. Your first tithe, which is God's tithe, is holy to Him. You are stealing if you use it. You are stealing if you use the Sabbath Day. It belongs to God. It's not your time; it's God's.

**“You shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: everyone that defileth it shall (surely) be put to death.”**

Now that was, of course, in the nation Israel.





It was the death penalty for **“whoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Six days may work be done; but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, HOLY TO THE ETERNAL! Whosoever doeth any work in that Sabbath Day, he shall surely be put to death.”**

**“It is a SIGN between ME and the CHILDREN OF ISRAEL,”** that is, it identifies them as God’s people. It identifies God. Why?

**“...forever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.”** It doesn’t say He



Now, there was a death penalty in Israel if you don’t keep the Sabbath. The Beast now says there is a death penalty in their law if you don’t break the Sabbath. You see how Satan wants to contradict? And yet he’ll counterfeit and let a lot of people think it is the Sabbath.

**“Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant.”** A PERPETUAL COVENANT! This is a COVENANT!

created. He made. ... He did create a few things. He created the land animals and people on that day, but He didn’t MAKE the earth at that time. He was remaking its surface. As you find in the 103rd Psalm and verse 30.

Oh, there’s so many of these little things that so many people in the churches of this world don’t understand in the Bible. But a sign identifies. Now, let me tell you a few things.

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Why did the Jews think that they were Israel? Why is it that our people ARE Israel but don’t know who we are? Because the first thing that Jeroboam did when Israel rejected King Rehoboam was to not only get rid of the priesthood, and the Levites went back and joined in with Judah, but he also changed the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday.

And he went right along with the pagans over in Assyria that were observing the Chaldean Mystery Religion. And because they lost the sign that identified them, no one knew who they were and they finally lost their own language, and they lost their identity.

## **Judah Continued to Observe God’s Holy Sabbath**

Why do people think that the Jews are Israel? Because they have kept the Sabbath through these centuries and years and the Sabbath is branded then as Israel. But it is a sign they have voluntarily kept. No one forced them to do it.

But the **Mark of the Beast**, a mark is a brand! It’s branded on you like they brand cattle! The cow doesn’t ask you to do it. The cow doesn’t do it voluntarily. You do it to him. And the mark is one that’s MARKED on you! The mark also identifies, doesn’t it? The sign identifies. Both a mark and a sign identify.

One is the SIGN of GOD, the other is the **MARK of**



**the BEAST.** They both have something to do with the right hand and the forehead, with WORK! The Christians who have the SIGN of God have the NAME of God. They're a Church of God – name written in our foreheads. We have it in our hand, and you find that the Commandments were to be bound in their hand and in their foreheads in other places in the Law of Moses when speaking of the Commandments of God.

mother, those closest to you. Not that you have to hate them, as it is in the King James translation of the Bible. But the world doesn't realize it makes any difference whether we love God or not.

### **God's Law is a Law of Love**

God's law is love; its love divided into two divisions, the two great Commandments.

And I haven't been preaching much about the Sabbath and in a good many years now, and I used to have to preach on that subject more than anything, back 50 years ago. But now we're coming to the place you're going to see how important it is.

So we haven't been talking much about it in this Church. We take it for granted. Well, don't take it for granted! It is VERY important, and I think

## **God's Sabbath a Test Commandment**

There is only one Commandment that the world absolutely will not obey and that is the Sabbath. The Sabbath is God's TEST Commandment. That is the one that is the TEST above all! Now God's law is love to God and love to neighbor.

You know, the carnal mind will often have a certain amount of love to other people. A lot, for example, a lot of husbands and wives who are entirely carnal get along because each is getting what he or she wants from the other. They can get along. Of course, too often they DON'T get along! It all depends on what they get, not what they give. But they don't seem to want anything to do with God.

You can't come to love God unless you love less your own children, your father and

Love toward God, that's the first four Commandments. Love toward neighbor, that's the last six.

The Sabbath is the one that shows love toward God and there is NO REASON IN THE WORLD TO KEEP THE SABBATH, except that it's holy to God and you are obeying God and keeping your foot off of the Sabbath which He says, the 58th chapter of Isaiah? Keep your foot off it from polluting it. Not eating it all up.

Oh, I could preach you sermon after sermon after sermon about the Sabbath, and we've been taking it for granted because we've been keeping it, and we just take it for granted.

we need a few more sermons about the Sabbath, and I think that I'm going to preach a little more about it and also about the every imminency of these things. We are now in the time of our final exams. In fact, we have been for the last two or three, four or five years. I've been telling you we are in that time, and there isn't much more time to go.

I had some other things that I thought I would read to you about the coming of this empire in Europe. But I just haven't had time, so I'm not going to take time, because time is up now. But I want you to realize the seriousness of this and the imminency of it, and the time of trial and testing is coming.



## Trial and Testing is Coming

And the time when we are going to have to be concerned about if we are going to have to get out of here and leave here, leave this auditorium. I don't know what will happen to it, He'll take care of it. Whatever He wants done.

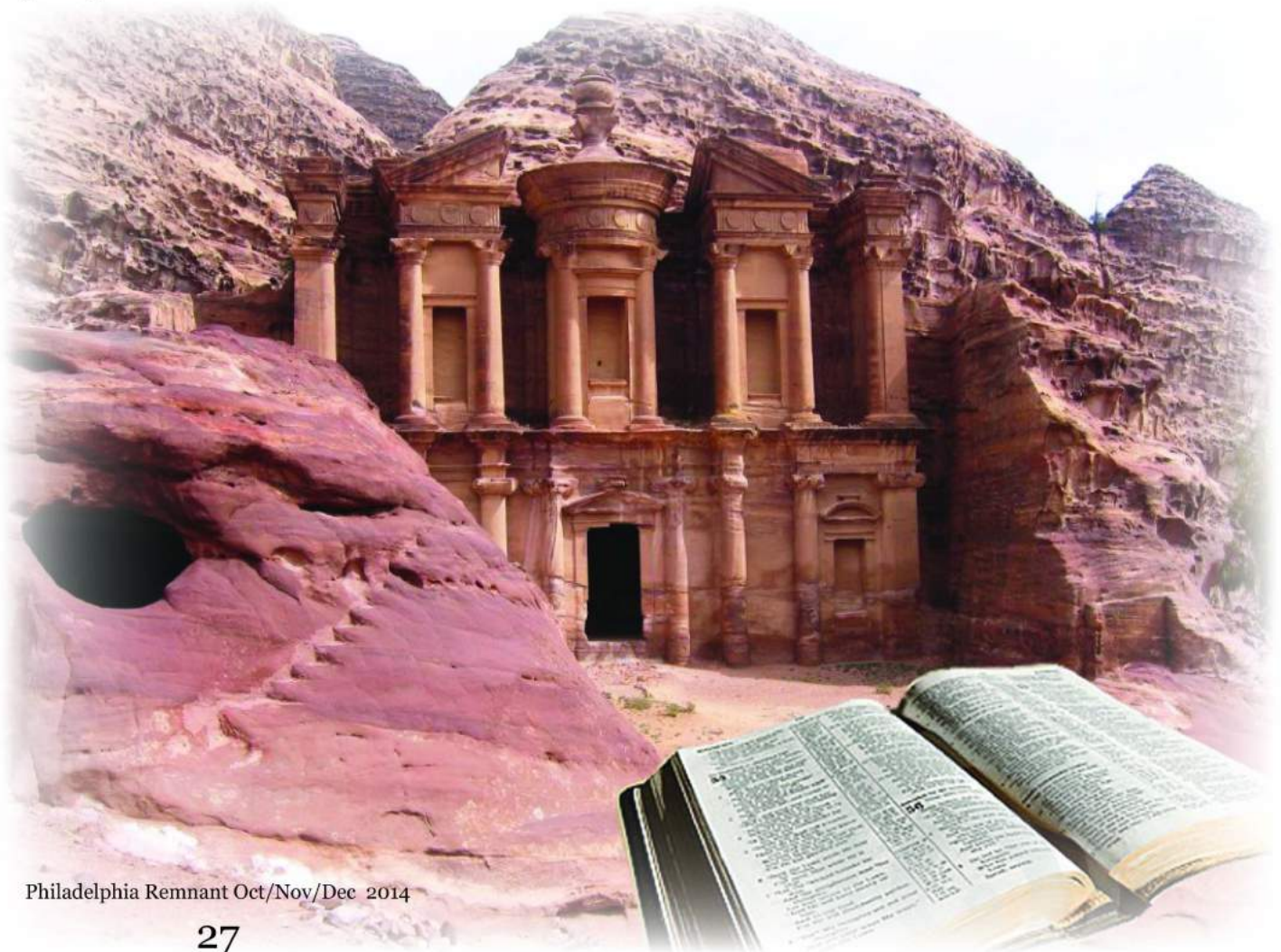
We may all have to go someplace. I don't know how we're all going to go. God is going to have to show us a lot of things He hasn't revealed yet. *[We have now come to the time that Jesus Christ has begun revealing these things to this little flock.]*

We're coming to the time when the ministers of this Church are going to have to tell all you people in the congregation its better not to have more children from now on because there's a curse pronounced on those that have, and even nursing babies that are that young at the time of this **Great Tribulation**, and it's going to come very soon now. I'm not setting a date. I'm just telling you it is VERY, VERY imminent.

Now, things are going together faster than we realize and most of it is not hitting the public press. You aren't going to read about it for a while in the

public press, but I get it confidentially from those on the inside, and I have, fortunately, had access to them. And I want to tell you that it is moving.

They say it's not moving fast enough for them. They are very disappointed that it isn't moving faster, but they are putting everything back of it that they can. And we've got to put everything back of getting ourselves ready that we can. I'm going to have to declare a time of fasting and prayer in the next two or three weeks, but I'm not going to do that this minute, today.





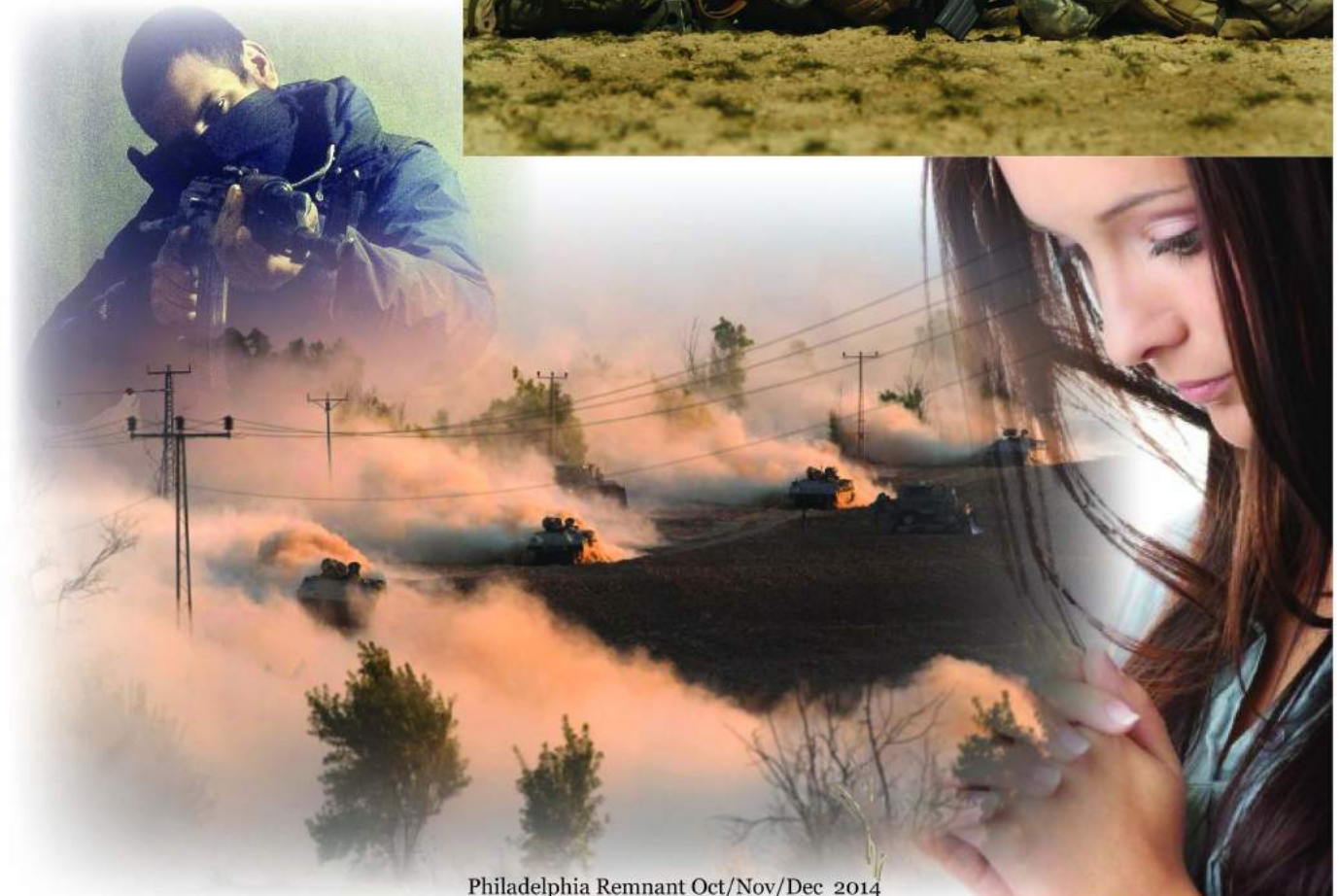
## A Time of Real Trouble Coming

FROM NOW ON BRETHREN UNTIL THE KINGDOM OF GOD, IT'S NOT GOING TO BE ALL PEACHES AND CREAM! If you think it's going to be just all beautiful and everything is hotsy totsy and dandy, FORGET IT! WE'RE IN FOR NOTHING BUT TROUBLE AND THE WHOLE WORLD IS!

But we are on God's side, and that means He's on our side doesn't it? And we need to get a little better on His side, and we are going to have to do some fasting and praying, and I'm going to set aside a time for fasting and prayer in the next few Sabbaths.

So, that's it for now, brethren. But whatever you do, keep close to God from now on because I'm going to tell you that times are different, and the devil knows he has but a short time! **[Revelation 12:10-12].** Now maybe you don't [know] now, but we'd better wake up to the fact that he does only have a short time and that means we only have a short time to be ready.

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

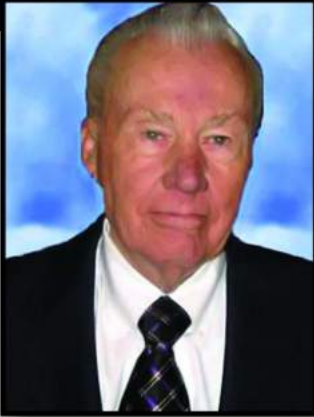


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# “Keeping Our Eyes on Jerusalem!”

“So when you see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing **WHERE IT OUGHT NOT**” (let the reader understand), “then let those who are in Judea **FLEE** to the mountains.”



*Mark 13:14*

## Personal

from the Editor

Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

### *Dear Brethren,*

A recent study into Scripture has revealed some astonishing discoveries of how and when the building of the Third Temple will make possible the abomination of desolation standing where it ought not, and the beginning of the Sacrificial Offerings.

Scripture makes known history will soon repeat itself in ways that will astonish the world regarding the fulfillment of these and other end-time

prophecies that must come to pass before Jesus Christ returns to this earth.

Historians have also recognized this over time as well and made their thoughts known in what has become famous quotes. The most often quote is by the great Spanish philosopher George Santayana (1863-1952), who said in *The*

*Life of Reason* (5 volumes, 1905-6): ***"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."***

*From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:* **"Historic recurrence** is the repetition of similar events in history. The concept of historic recurrence has variously been applied to the overall history of the world (e.g., to the rises and falls of empires), to repetitive patterns in the history of a given polity,

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and to any two specific events which bear a striking similarity.”

## Two Prophecies Sets the Stage for other Prophecies

In view of the end-time prophecies yet to be fulfilled two of them must begin *first* before the others. And almost immediately thereafter others will begin their fulfillment:

- The Temple must be rebuilt before the return of Jesus Christ to this earth to fulfill the prophecy of the false Prophet who is yet to sit in the Temple of God showing himself that he is God (***II Thessalonians 2:1-4***).

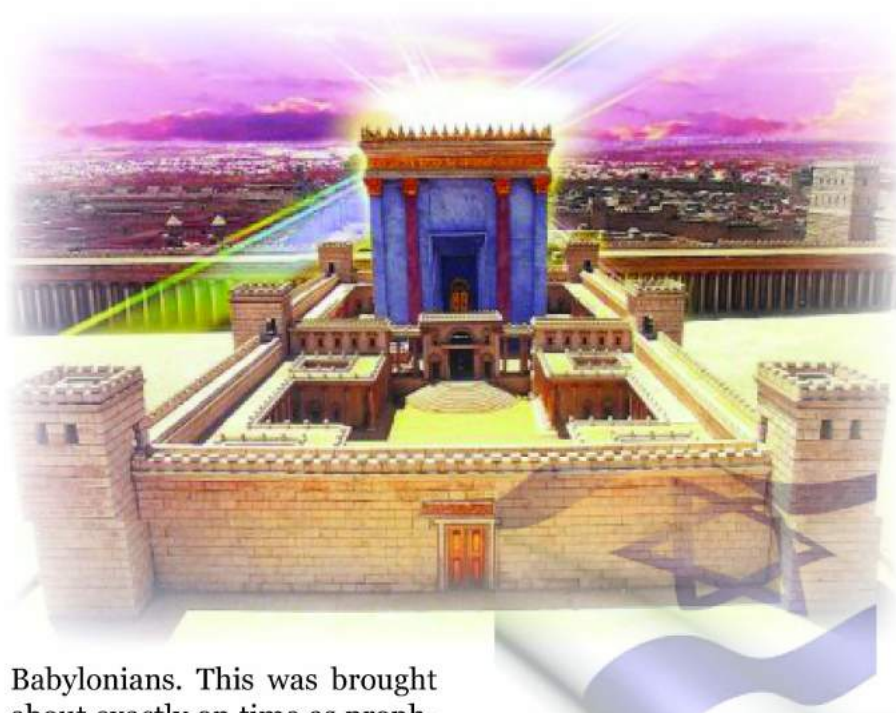
- Sacrificial offerings also have to begin being offered on the altar in Jerusalem by the Priesthood to fulfill ***Daniel 12:11***.

## The Rebuilding of the Second Temple

When looking back in history to the time of the rebuilding of the second Temple it can readily be understood its history will repeat itself in the near future for basically the same conditions are today as it was at that time.

To understand this more fully it will be necessary to review in brief the Books of Ezra, Haggai, and Zechariah.

The history of that time began after the Jews had completed their exile of 70 years to the



Babylonians. This was brought about exactly on time as prophesied by Isaiah the prophet who had named King Cyrus of the Persian Empire 150 years before he was born, saying he would make possible the rebuilding of the second Temple after having conquered the Babylonian Empire (***Isaiah 44:28; Ezra 1:2; Daniel 5:30-31***).

The Creator God in heaven above made all this possible to fulfill His ongoing Master Plan and will yet again.

## The Hostility toward the Nation of Judah (Israel)

The book of Ezra reveals the hatred and hostility for the Jews by their enemies toward the building of the second Temple at that time; the same is true today due to a very hostile world against the small nation of Judah (called Israel).

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And for the Jewish people to begin the rebuilding of it under such hostile circumstances is totally unbelievable knowing any effort to that end could trigger an all-out war by the Arab nations against Israel!!!

But to say this is impossible is to leave God out of the picture for prophecy makes known the Temple will be rebuilt! And it will! Scripture reveals the ever-living God in heaven above rules in the kingdoms of men and with Him all things are possible. He can affect the change of minds to make possible whatever He chooses:



**“The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever he wishes” (Proverbs 21:1).**

## **The Most Sovereign Almighty God is Supreme Ruler in heaven and on Earth**

And to ensure His Time Table for the ultimate salvation of mankind is always precisely on time, Jesus Christ sets up and removes the leaders of nations and kingdoms of mankind by either directly intervening, or permitting the appointing by others, or by enabling the people to vote them into their high offices to fulfill His ongoing purpose.

This is made clear by the Prophet Daniel who was used by God to write of His dealing with the haughty and arrogant King of Babylon,

Nebuchadnezzar:

**“Bear in mind what happened of old (His involvement in man’s history from his creation, Genesis 1:26-28) for I am God (Elohim), and there is none else (no other gods), I am Divine, and there is NONE like Me. I foretell the END (Book of Revelation) from the beginning (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-5), and from the start, things that had NOT yet occurred. I say: ‘My (Master) Plan shall be fulfilled; I will do ALL I have purposed’ ” (Isaiah 46:9-10, NJPS Translation).**

And to ensure His Master Plan remains on schedule, God has ruled in the kingdoms of men even setting up leaders and removing them from their exalted positions as was made known to Nebuchadnezzar supreme ruler of the Babylonian Empire:

**“... the Most High is sovereign over the realm of men, and He gives it to whom He wishes and He sets over it even the lowest of men” (Daniel 4:14, 21-23, 29, NJPS Translation)**

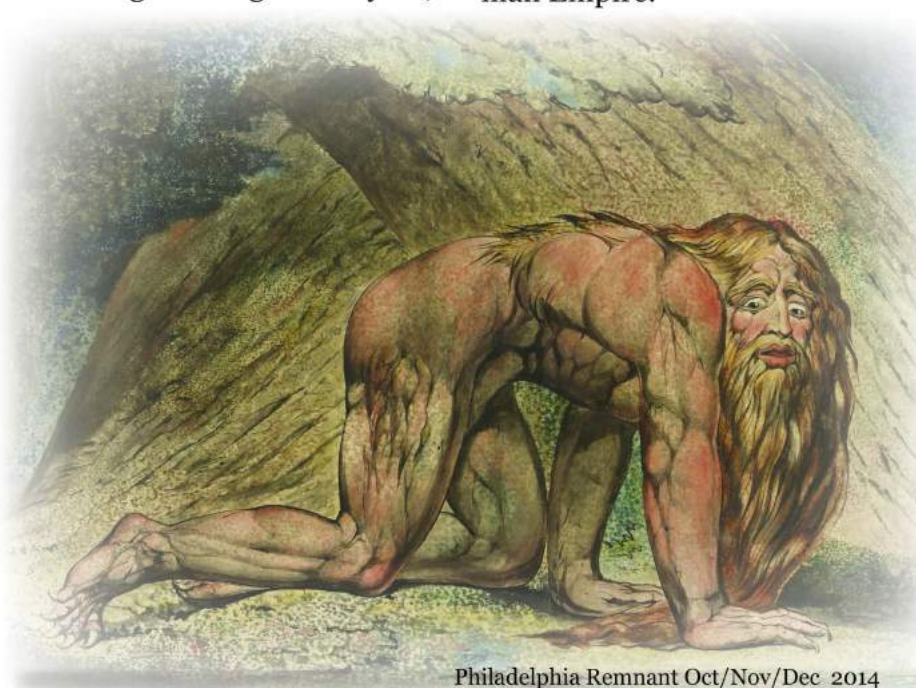
## **The Divine Intervention of God in Man’s Affairs**

Jesus Christ has sent His angels throughout man’s history, and continues in this end-time, to accomplish His will in the nations of this world, especially those who come into contact with the House of Israel, which also includes the nation of Judah, while making whatever interventions that are necessary with precise timing toward the fulfillment of His prophecies. And to that end, Jesus Christ said to the Jews:

**“My Father has been working until now, and I have been working” (John 5:17).**

The focus of Jesus Christ is to complete the Work of fulfilling that will bring to a close the end of this evil age, and the beginning of His millennial reign upon His return to this earth.

And the triggering prophecy for this to take place is the rebuilding of the Temple, and the beginning of the Sacrificial Offerings. After they have ended will begin the countdown to the return of Jesus Christ to this earth as made known by the Prophet Daniel:



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***“And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be 1290 days. Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the 1335 days” (Daniel 12:11-12).***

The GN (*Good News Magazine* August 8, 1987) is correct in its writing about them: “Both the 1290 and 1335 day periods end with the return of Jesus Christ. And each period begins with a significant event.”

### ***Excitement Building among the Jews for the Third Temple***

Considering the prophecies concerning the rebuilding of the third Temple, it seems without question that God has been stirring the spirits of the Jews over recent years toward the rebuilding of it as He did with the Jewish people to rebuild the second Temple (***Ezra 1:1, 5***). There is a very striking similarity between the two of them.

Recent writings from Jerusalem reveal God is currently stirring their spirits to a greater level toward the rebuilding of it. And at the exact time deemed by God this excitement and fervor for its rebuilding will be stirred by Him to such a high level it will overwhelm the Jews who are opposed to it. Recent postings from Jerusalem make this known:

JTA — As Egypt, Qatar, the US and the UN write proposals

for Israel-Hamas ceasefires, one organization based in Jerusalem’s Old City hopes to compose a peace plan of a different kind: a detailed architectural blueprint for the Third Jewish Temple on Jerusalem’s Temple Mount. . . . “It is not enough to wait and pray for the Third Temple,” the statement added. “It is a Biblical obligation to build it.”

According to Rabbi Chaim Richman, the institute’s international director, the temple would stand in the present location of the Dome of the Rock, a Muslim shrine. Muslims revere the mount as the Haram al-Sharif, or Noble Sanctuary.

But Richman did not set a target date for breaking ground for the construction project. . . . He said rebuilding the temple is the next step to Israel’s current military operation in the Gaza Strip.

Holy Temple,” he said. “So what if we root out the [Gaza] tunnels and missiles? Then what are we doing with our lives? The redemption of humanity is dependent on the Jewish people.”

NOTE: Of all of the 12 tribes of Israel, only Judah has retained their identity and heritage. One might ask for a proof of creation?



“We cannot be the people we’re supposed to be without the

A simple answer would be “The Jew.” One could also ask for the proof of the true Sabbath Day and Holy Days; the answer would be “The Jew.”

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This accounts for much of the hostility and persecution of them.

## Temple Institute to Build Sacrificial Altar on Tisha B'av

By Yehudah Lev Kay First Publish: 7/29/09. 10:09 AM Temple Institute. . . The Temple Institute, which has already built many of the vessels for the Holy Temple, such as the ark and the menorah, has now embarked on a project to build the altar. Construction begins Thursday in Mitzpe Yericho (east of Jerusalem) at 5:30 p.m.

"Unfortunately, we cannot currently build the altar in its proper place, on the Temple Mount," Temple Institute director Yehudah Glick said. "We are building an altar of the minimum possible size so that we will be able to transport it to the Temple when it is rebuilt." . . .

Glick said that Tisha B'av, a day associated with mourning, is really the ideal time to begin to build the Temple. "People mistakenly think Tisha B'av is only a day to cry," he explained. "It also has to be a day of action. We have the ability in our era to begin the construction of the Temple." . . .

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia: *This fast day commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem and the subsequent exile of the Jews from the Land of Israel. It falls either in July or August by the Western Calendar [2014 - the 5th of August; 2015 - July 26;*

*2016 the 14th of August].*

## The Temple Institute In Jerusalem Has Spent Approximately 27 Million Dollars On Preparations For The Rebuilding Of The Jewish Temple.

Written by Admin - Posted November 27, 2009 at 5:41 pm: "We live at a time when the signs of the last days are literally being fulfilled right in front of our eyes. One of the most exciting signs that Bible prophecy students love to keep an eye on are preparations for the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple. In a previous article, we discussed how the Temple Institute in Jerusalem took a giant step towards the rebuilding of the Temple by beginning to rebuild the sacrificial altar. . . .

But could the Antichrist someday pose as the Jewish Messiah and use such expectations to promote the use of the rebuilt Temple for his one world religion? It is something to think about. *[The Pope will indeed use this Temple for his one world religion while proclaiming himself God, Matthew 24:15; II Thessalonians 2:1-4; Revelation 13:11-18]*

In any event, preparations for the rebuilding of the Jewish Temple are heating up as never before, and as students of the prophecies of the last days this is something that we need to continually keep an eye on."

## Long-range Planning by God

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Jerusalem became a nation in 1948. This was the doing of Jesus Christ who made this possible by numerous miracles to make possible the final fulfillment of the end-time prophecies. And a major prophecy is for the Jewish



1948





people to rebuild the Temple and begin the sacrificial offerings once again.

The many conflicts now taking place in the Middle East are the prelude to the building of it. It seems likely Jesus Christ will use the outcome of those wars in the Middle East, the ongoing revolution in Syria, amidst the rising and falling of rulers in Arab nations and Egypt, for this to become possible.

### **God's Plans are for His Return to this Earth**

Many Scriptures make known God is directly involved in the kingdoms of men to oversee and make sure His Master Plan continues on Time. Through all of His end-time prophecies His purpose for all of them is to pave the way for the coming of Jesus Christ back to this earth and begin His millennial reign on it (**Matthew 24:14**).

concerning not only Jerusalem, but they also include the House of Joseph and their demise as nations. At the right time all will dovetail together to begin the count-down to the time Jesus Christ will actually return to this earth and then restore the 12 Tribes of Israel to their heritage.

### **Sacrificial Offerings to Commence Again**

And to reveal the approximate timing of the return of Jesus Christ can be found in the writings of God's Prophet Daniel:

**“And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up (‘standing in the holy place’, *Matthew 24:15*), there shall be 1290 days” (*Daniel 12:11*).**

This prophetic Scripture concerning the daily sacrificial offerings make abundantly clear they will commence once again after having ceased in 70 A.D. (*History reveals they ceased to be offered at that time when the Roman General Titus and his enormous Roman armies overwhelmed the Jewish people and conquered the City of Jerusalem.*)

There is a parallel example of the sacrificial offerings taking place in perilous times after the Jewish people returned from Babylon to the City of Jerusalem with the objective of rebuilding the second Temple. This is made known in the book of Ezra.

DANIEL

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO  
ST. MATTHEW  
CHAPTER 24

Before His return other prophecies have to soon come to pass

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## The Book of Ezra

Undoubtedly history will again repeat itself—from that time to the near future – almost word for word! For there appears to be a definite parallel with the nation of Israel (*Tribe of Judah*) today from the ancient history recorded in the book of Ezra.

Ezra shows how God fulfilled His promise to return the Jewish people back to Jerusalem in 536 B. C. after 70 years of exile in Babylon. (*Their return could be compared to many of the Jewish people returning to their ancient heritage in the Promised Land and becoming a nation in 1948*).

Having returned from Babylon to Jerusalem, Ezra and Nehemiah began restoring the worship of God by observing the Holy Days and beginning the sacrificial offerings to seek favor from God for they were living in fear of the countries around them. This is evident from the following Scriptures.

**And when the 7th month had come, and the children of Israel were in their cities, the people gathered together as one man to Jerusalem. Then Joshua . . . and his brethren the priests and Zerubbabel . . . arose and BUILT THE ALTAR of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings on it, as it is written in the law of Moses the man of God (Ezra 3:1-2; Deuteronomy 12:5-6).**

Consider the following Scripture in view of the present day circumstances of the Jewish nation called Israel today of that time (*they are only one Tribe of the 12 Tribes of Israel*):

**Though FEAR had come upon them because of the people of those countries, they SET THE ALTAR on its bases; and they OFFERED burnt offerings on it to the LORD, both the morning and evening burnt offerings (Ezra 3:3)**



Scripture reveals when they began these burnt offerings:

**From the 1st Day of the 7th month (Feast of Trumpets) they began to offer burnt offerings to the LORD, ALTHOUGH the foundation of the Temple of the LORD had NOT been laid" (Ezra 3:6).**

The Jewish priests will follow precedent and Scripture, and will begin offering burnt

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offerings on the Feast of Trumpets. History will again repeat itself. However it appears too soon for this to take place in 2014—but could take place any year there after.

History also records where the foundation of the Temple was to be laid and undoubtedly it will once again:

**The proclamation of Cyrus was that the house be rebuilt on its original site (Ezra 5:15).**

## Historical Duality

Similar to the Jewish people of that ancient time, the Jewish people have made all of the needed preparations for the sacrificial offerings. Sometime ago they built the Altar and have it ready to be moved to its rightful location when the time is right.

With the altar set in place will make possible the fulfilment of the prophecy to begin the sacrificial offerings; this will also make possible the building of the 3rd Temple.



## Israel will ally with the Beast of the Holy Roman Empire

Another prophecy will then begin being fulfilled: After having their relationship broken with America and Britain (***Zechariah 11:14***), and with the hostility of the world confronting them, the small nation of Israel will feel they have no choice but to turn to their former enemy Germany for the help they will need to hold off the Arab forces threatening them as did the Jews in that ancient time. At the same time the construction of the Temple will continue as it did at that time:

**So the elders of the Jews progressed in the building, URGED on by prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah (*preaching, Zechariah 8:9-10*) . . . and they brought the House to completion (*Ezra 6:14*).**

**The House was finished on the 3rd of the month of Adar in the 6th year of the reign of Darius and King Artaxerxes (*Artaxerxes is a regal title*) of Persia. 516 B. C. (*Ezra 6:15*).**

### Soncino Commentary:

Sixth year i.e. 516-15 B.C.E. Since the work was resumed in the sixth month of Darius' second year (***Haggai 1:15***) it occupied nearly four and a half years. The foundations were laid twenty years earlier, in 536."

**. . . They joyfully celebrated the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread for 7 days, for the LORD had given them cause for joy by **INCLINING the heart of the Assyrian King** (*Darius - Beast-today*) **toward them so as to give them SUPPORT in the work of the House of God, the God of Israel (*Ezra 6:19-32 NJPS*)**.**

This will be shortly after the full revival of the prophesied Holy Roman Empire having taken place. The Beast will then make a pact with Israel and send in a small contingent of soldiers as an added protection for them.

## The Pope to Move His headquarters to Jerusalem



About the same time prophecy reveals the Pope will move from the Vatican in Rome and establish his headquarters in Jerusalem

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### (*II Thessalonians 2:1-4*).

This move will take place after he will have been given the power of miracles. The Christian world will swoon at his feet in worship.

This will make possible for him to bring back to life the Holy Roman Empire of old by consolidating 10 nations in Europe together (***Revelation 17:12-13; Daniel 7:23-24***). He will then choose a particular man to reign over these nations who will be referred to as the Beast. The following prophecy makes this known about the future Pope:

**"Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth (*Europe*), and he had two horns like a lamb**

**(*religion*) and spoke like a dragon** (*Vatican is a State as well – a nation within the city of Rome*). . . (***Revelation 13:11***).



**“He performs **Great Signs**, so that he even makes **FIRE** come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he **DECEIVES** those who dwell on the earth **BY** those **Signs** which he was granted to do in the sight of the Beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make **AN IMAGE** (a replica of the old Holy Roman Empire) to the Beast who was wounded by the sword and (once again revived) lived (Revelation 13:13-14).**

He was granted **POWER** (authority) to give **BREATH** to the image of the Beast, that the image of the Beast should both **Speak** and **Cause** as many as would **NOT** worship the Beast to be killed” (Revelation 13:15).

### **A Picture of the Near Future for the Nation of Israel (Judah)**

During His overview of the major events that are to take place at this end-time

(Matthew 24), Jesus Christ spoke of the need for the Gospel to go forth to this world as a witness into all nations before the end of this age (**Matthew 24:14**). He then connects it with the third Temple that is to be built and what will take place shortly after its completion:

**“Therefore when you see the ‘**abomination of desolation**,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, ‘**STANDING in the Holy Place**’(whoever reads let him understand) THEN let those who are in Judea **FLEE** to the mountains (God’s faithful Church will then flee to the place of safety for their protection, Revelation 12:14)” (Matthew 24:15).**

### **The Writings of Daniel the Prophet of God – 604 B. C.**

Jesus Christ said this is what His Elect people are to be looking for within the newly constructed Temple. For understanding He said the reader must review the history of the former **abomination of desolation** in the writings of the Prophet Daniel that will have its dual fulfillment with the future sacrificial offerings (**Daniel 12:11**).

Daniel makes known this was initially fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes IV, 175-164 B.C. with the aid of the apostate Jews. However it reaches beyond that time to the anti-type, the Beast and the False Prophet of the End-time;





the emergence of it is already being witnessed.

## **Jerusalem to be Overwhelmed by the Beast's Armies**

In addition to the small contingent of the Beast's Roman Army to be placed inside Jerusalem with the pretext of protecting the Jewish people from the Arab armies (*as did Hitler promise peace while lying to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, 1938*), he will have a much larger force just outside

Jerusalem to be used at the right time to overpower the Jewish military and end the sacrificial offerings; the pope will then move into the Temple:

**“And forces shall be mustered by him (armies by the Beast), and they shall defile the Sanctuary fortress (overpower the heavily fortified defense system protecting the Temple); they (Beast - at the behest of the False Prophet) shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there**

**the abomination of desolation” (Daniel 11:31).**

History will repeat itself once again but in a different form. After having the Beast to take away the sacrifices the Pope will seat himself in the Holy Place within the Temple with the seated statue of Jupiter next to himself (*Meaning of Jupiter: dies pater, which means “shining father”*). He proclaims Jupiter to be the Apostle Peter to give him needed stature.



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# The Man of Sin to Sit in the Temple of God

The Apostle Paul wrote of this coming time when this Man of Sin will seat himself in the Holy of Holies in the newly built Temple showing that he himself is God:

**“Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day (verses 1-2 – the coming of Jesus Christ and gathering His saints to Him) will NOT come UNLESS the falling away comes first (this fulfillment occurred in 1995), and the Man of SIN is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself ABOVE ALL that is called God or that is worshiped, so that HE SITS as God in the Temple of God, showing himself that he is God” (II Thessalonians 2:3-4).**



***The Falling Away***— took place in 1995 when the apostate pastor general devastated the Worldwide Church of God by rejecting all of the restored teachings Jesus Christ used Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to restore within His Church and replaced them with Protestant teachings; over 100,000 members accepted the pagan teachings while rejecting the Truth they had formerly believed.



The abomination of desolation brought into the Temple by Antiochus Epiphanes IV was sprinkling the broth from a boiled swine's flesh in the Temple and on the Altar with it (*Clarke Commentary Volume 4, page 614, Daniel 11:31*). This has not been repeated since that time – *not even in 70 A. D.* At that time the Temple was burned and completely destroyed by the Roman armies (*fulfilling the prophecy of Jesus Christ, Matthew 24:1-2*).

Approximately 123 years later, as if in derision, a statue of Jupiter was enthroned above the ruins of the Jewish Temple by Emperor Hadrian (*The Bible as History, Werner Keller, Page 408*).

### Keep our EYES on Jerusalem

Certainly all of God's true people should be heeding this warning given by God's late apostle, not only to be watching world news, but in particular to keep our eyes on Jerusalem for it will be the focal point that will lead to the return of Jesus Christ.

Even now, this nation, the world, and the Church of God are facing some monumental and horrendous problems with much greater ones ahead. Hopefully God's people are preparing both mentally and spiritually to survive the horrors to soon befall Israel and the world; even now they are seen

emerging! Always, God's people must be praying fervently for the spiritual strength needed to survive them (***Luke 21:36***).





# This Writing is about Jerusalem, Past, Present, and future



Please know this writing is only an overview. In our projected new booklet on this subject this will be made very plain in a more lengthy writing on this subject. It will also explain more fully how the 1290 and the 1335 days, Daniel 12:11, tie in with the 1150 days of the cleansing of the Temple, **Daniel 8:13-14**, together with other important numbers pertaining to the end-time.

However this brief writing on the subject should be sufficient to see the need of keeping focused on this most important City of Jerusalem and the prophecies pertaining to it; while knowing the problems of today and in the near future will end upon the return of Jesus Christ back to this earth. Righteousness and justice will then begin to be restored as made known by God's prophet Isaiah:

**“I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city” (Isaiah 1:26; 2:2-4).**

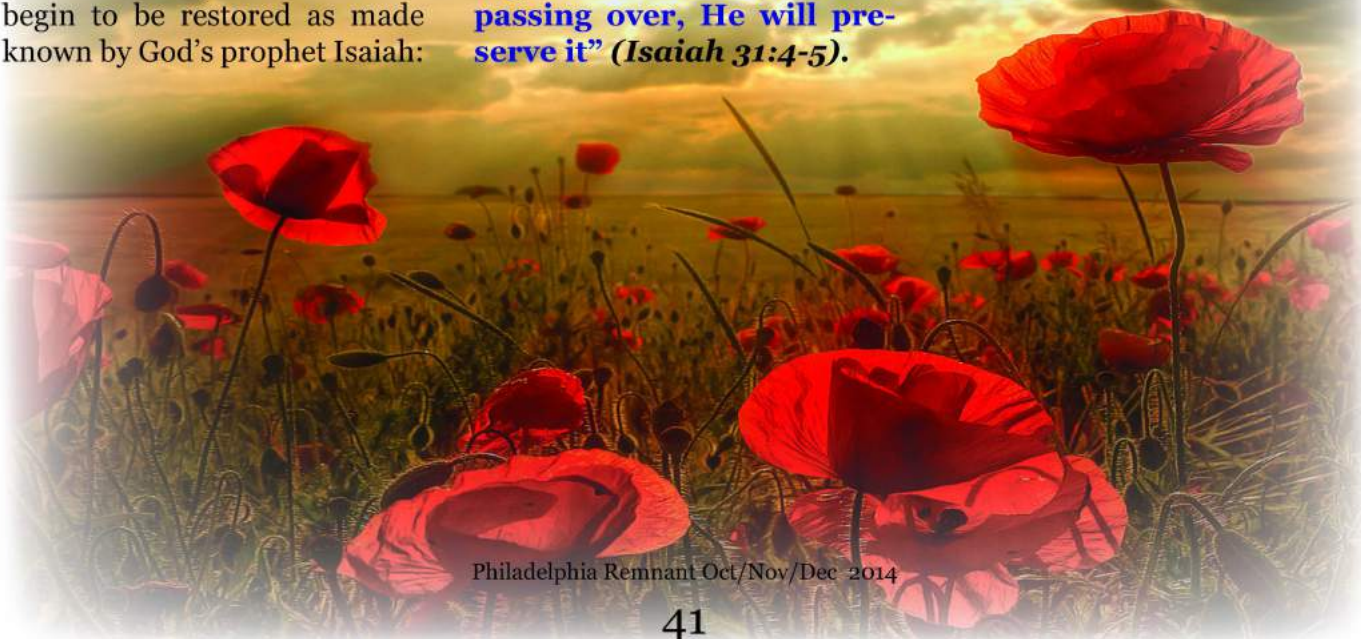
And to make this possible Jesus Christ and His Bride will overpower and defeat the armies gathered in the Valley of Jehoshaphat just outside Jerusalem in what is called the Battle of Armageddon (**Joel 3:2, 12; Revelation 16:14-16**):

**“So the LORD will come down to fight for Mount Zion and for its hill. Like birds flying about (Revelation 19:14; 5:10), so will the LORD of hosts defend Jerusalem. Defending, He will also deliver it; passing over, He will preserve it” (Isaiah 31:4-5).**

Jerusalem will then become the world Capital when Jesus Christ establishes His Throne on Mount Zion (**Micah 4:1-8**). It will become the showcase City of the whole earth and all of mankind will marvel at its beauty and worship the KING of Kings and LORD of Lords (**Revelation 19:11-16**).

With this awesome future in mind, God's true people should be praying, as Jesus Christ instructed:

**“Thy Kingdom Come!”**





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

**Church of God Faithful Flock**  
[www.cog-ff.com](http://www.cog-ff.com)

**Free Online Bible Study**  
[www.cog-ff/biblestudytools](http://www.cog-ff/biblestudytools)

**The Ten Commandments**  
[www.10commandments.ws](http://www.10commandments.ws)

**What Do You Mean Born Again?**  
[www.begotten.net](http://www.begotten.net)

**Pagan Holidays or God's Holy Days?**  
[www.holy-days.co](http://www.holy-days.co)

**Herbert W. Armstrong-Apostle of God**  
[www.herbertarmstrong.net](http://www.herbertarmstrong.net)

**Herbert Armstrong-His Life & Work**  
[www.herbertwarmstrong.info](http://www.herbertwarmstrong.info)

**Lost Ten Tribes of Israel**  
[www.losttribes.org](http://www.losttribes.org)

**Prophetic Events**  
[www.propheticevents.us](http://www.propheticevents.us)

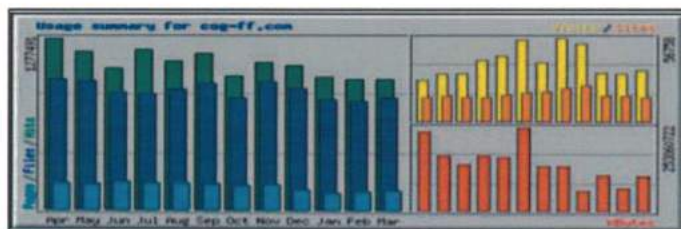
**Restored Truths of God**  
[www.restoredtruths.net](http://www.restoredtruths.net)

**Which Day is the Christian Sabbath?**  
[www.sabbathcentral.com](http://www.sabbathcentral.com)

**COGFF-Home School Association**  
[www.coghomeschool.org](http://www.coghomeschool.org)

**An Open Letter to the Scattered Flock**  
[www.bodyofchristonline.us](http://www.bodyofchristonline.us)

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