

The Journal

News of the Churches of God

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- 3 Noel Rude doesn't think it's likely that anyone is a bibliolater
- 3 Gavin Rumney talks about the canon and the authorship of Paul's epistles
- 4 Tina Engelbart thinks the early church had at least one female minister

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Navy pilot almost became WCG's 2nd in command

Dr. de Jager and Mr. Gerringer are friends of Charles Hunting. Chris Hunting is Charles Hunting's son. Dr. de Jager writes from Brisbane, Australia, Mr. Gerringer from Los Angeles, Calif., and Chris Hunting from Sydney, Australia.

By Garry de Jager, Robert Gerringer and Chris Hunting
Charles Freeman Hunting (commonly known as CFH), a figure widely known in Worldwide Church of God circles and its offshoots, died at a hospice in Sarasota, Fla., Nov. 11, 2011, Veterans Day (or Remembrance/Armistice Day).

He was just short of his 93rd birthday.

Charles was a strong and colorful personality, handsome in appearance and persuasive in vocal delivery.

Friends and opponents alike considered him a person of charm and warmth, with a mischievous streak. CFH could be insensitive and overly candid in expressing his opinions, although he had a reputation for being honest. He was a gifted speaker who could both inspire and instill fear.

At the height of his career in the WCG, he was one of the top five

executives and met dignitaries, presidents and royalty in many countries, including Emperor Haile Selassie, Golda Meir, Yigal Yadin, Gideon Hausner, King Leopold and the presidents of Lebanon and Egypt.

His life can be conveniently segmented into three stages: the roughly 35 years before joining the WCG, the 20 years as part of that organization, and the 35-plus years of a relatively quiet life after separation from the group.

Charles Hunting was the second and last child of Charles and Esther Hunting, born Jan. 11, 1919, in Santa Monica, Calif. He attended Redlands High School, then three years at San Bernardino College and one year at UCLA.

World War II volunteer

Shortly thereafter World War II started and he volunteered for the U.S. Navy as a trainee pilot, received six or so weeks of flight training for combat fighters and was dispatched on an aircraft carrier to the Pacific theater.

During the Battle of Guadalcanal in late 1942 he was shot down by "friendly fire" and wanted to bail out, but his

See CHARLES HUNTING'S, page 7



Charles Hunting



WOMEN IN THE BIBLE—In this JOURNAL file photo Tina Engelbart visits in Dallas in 2008 with longtime friend Wayne Cole of Tyler, Texas. See articles about Mrs. Engelbart and her perspective on women in the Bible beginning on pages 1 and 4 of this issue. [Photo by Dixon Cartwright]

The canon's still under discussion

Letters and longer comments in the form of editorials are still coming in on the Bible canon, a subject broached in the Dec. 20, 2011, issue by writers Dixon Cartwright and Alex Ciurana.

In this issue are editorials by Noel Rude ("Is There Such a Thing as Bibliolatry?") and Gavin Rumney ("Most People Don't Know How We Ended Up With the Bible").

Several letter writers this time also address the issue.

If you would like to weigh in, you're invited.

Letters about the canon or any other subject should ideally max out at 300 words.

Writers of articles other than letters are asked to include a brief biographical blurb and a photo of themselves. See page 3 of any issue of THE JOURNAL for examples.

E-mail articles and letters to info@thejournal.org, or fax them to (888) 488-6603, or mail them to P.O. Box 1020, Big Sandy, Texas 75755, U.S.A.

Church of God member says Bible doesn't prohibit women elders including preachers

By Dixon Cartwright

Tina Engelbart was taken aback a few years ago when she read a study paper produced by a committee of the United Church of God about the "biblical role of women."

She found herself in disagreement with the paper's thesis: that women because they're women are automatically disqualified from leadership positions in the UCG.

A few years earlier Mrs. Engelbart, in response to a question from her daughter and son-in-law, had embarked on a study of the proper role of women based on her research and interpretation of the Bible.

She delved into Scripture—Paul's epistles and elsewhere—after her daughter and her daughter's husband questioned a Church of God doctrine.

Wanted to explain

The teaching they questioned is based on a literal reading of 1 Corinthians 14. It says that women are to be "silent" in the churches.

Mrs. Engelbart, widow of former Worldwide Church of God and United Church of God pastor Ozzie Engelbart, who died in 2000, wanted to be able to explain to her grown children the Bible's teaching about women.

Couldn't find a prohibition

She says she was astounded to discover through her study that the Bible does not prohibit women from serving in leadership positions, even as pastors.

In 2005, during her several years of research, the church that she is a member of, the Ohio-based United Church of God, came out with a doctrinal paper titled "The Biblical Role of Women."

The UCG's paper concludes that, although women should not teach or preach during Sabbath services, the UCG "value[s] those individuals who serve the Church as teachers of other women, Sabbath school teachers, organizers of service to the ill and needy, youth camp leaders, helpers of widows, etc."

Although Mrs. Engelbart says she

has nothing against women serving as Sabbath-school teachers and helpers of widows, the UCG's policies are improperly restrictive and not in line with the Bible.

She tempers her comments, however, with assurances that she is a loyal member of the UCG. United is "my church," she said, "and I love my church. But we just happen to disagree on this issue."

Some examples

In her paper Mrs. Engelbart refers to several "significant inconsistencies when comparing various translations of the Bible with the Greek Received Text," including:

■ The appearance of Aquila's name before Priscilla's in Acts 18:26. The Greek puts Priscilla first.

■ The translation of *diakonos* as "servant" when applied to Phoebe in Romans 16:1, while in all other scriptures that use this same word it is translated as "minister."

See HER DAUGHTER'S page 4

SOOJ's Lake of the Ozarks Feast focuses on the young

Following are reports on 2011 Feast observances in Colorado and Missouri. This is the second installment of reports for the '11 Feast, which was observed by most Church of God members from the evening of Oct. 12 through Oct. 20 (counting the Last Great Day, Great Last Day or Eighth Day). THE JOURNAL expects to wrap up the reports in the next issue.

FEAST FOR THE SCATTERED

By Dale Atteberry

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo.—The Christian Church of God (CCG) of Grand Junction in 2011 held its 12th Feast of Tabernacles in Grand Junction.

My wife, Colleen, and I have attended 10 years and find each year to be topnotch in every way: the scenery, location, friendly people, facilities, spiritual food and extra activities.

These things are extraspecial to us because we are alone at home observing the Sabbath nine months of the year 175 miles from the nearest church and brethren.

Our visits to our sons in East Texas in the winter and the Feast of Tabernacles in the fall are only times we can be in church services.

Thanks to the small Grand Junction congregation, with all volunteer workers, for doing a big and effective work for us scattered Feastgoers.

People attended from several states, including Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Idaho, California, Washington, Oregon and Kansas. They return year after year. It's that good.

The sermons fit hand in hand as though they were appointed by the Lord Himself.

The messages are appreciated and informative, motivating us to bear down in our quest for the Kingdom prize. After all, boys and girls, that's what it's all about.

Pam Elliot conducted the choir and played the piano. Several others gave musical performances.

Two young fellows played trumpet and trombone: Cody Slater and John Traver. I would mention others but I might leave someone out.

We had two well-attended Bible studies. One followed a question-and-answer format and one was on history and its implications about Joseph of Arimathea and the founding of the Christian church at Rome by the British royal family. That was conducted by Rich Traver and this writer.

See FEASTERS REPORT, page 24



Dale Atteberry

Buyer of AU Big Sandy wants to give away historic 217-acre campus in Massachusetts

The buyer of the Ambassador University campus near Big Sandy, Texas, is trying to give away a historic 217-acre campus in Massachusetts, according to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Web site and other sources.

The property is formerly the Northfield Mount Hermon prep school, which renowned evangelist Dwight L. Moody founded in 1879.

The Oklahoma-based Green Family Trust, including trustee Andrew David Green, bought the AU Big Sandy property in 2000 from the

Worldwide Church of God for a reported \$8.5 million. The Green family purchased the Northfield campus in 2009 for \$100,000 and has spent \$5 million in improvements.

The Greens thought they had a taker, but the deal fell through. Now officials from several schools are lining up to check out the feasibility of acquiring the buildings and grounds. The catch? Although it's free,

the new owner must demonstrate the ability to afford upkeep. Catch No. 2: A prospective owner must commit to offering education based on more or less traditional conservative Christian doctrines.

The Greens sent invitations to 15 institutions in January. If none of those qualifies, other organizations may apply.

One university on the list of 15 is Azusa Pacific, near Los Angeles, where the last president of Ambassador University, Russell Duke, serves on the theology faculty.



Dwight L. Moody

Letters from our readers

Walter Wink's error of fact

Good issue. I am afraid there is an error of fact in the article by Walter Wink ["Which of the Three General Responses to Evil Did Jesus Choose?" beginning on page 7 of issue No. 147, dated Jan. 31, 2012]. On page 8, under the subhead "We're All Jews," Dr. Wink wrote:

"During World War II, when Nazi authorities in occupied Denmark promulgated an order that all Jews had to wear yellow armbands with the Star of David, the king made it a point to attend a celebration in the Copenhagen synagogue."

This is a myth, I am afraid. See the following articles: auschwitz.dk/docu/King.htm; snopes.com/history/govern/denmark.asp; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rescue_of_the_Danish_Jews.

Otherwise a thought-provoking-in-a-nonviolent-way article.

Lewis D. McCann
Milton Keynes, England

Scriptural authority

Now you've done it! Where will it all end? I just wanted to be one of the first, but certainly not the last, to employ the "slippery-slope argument" fallacy against you [in response to the editorial "Lo and Behold, an Elephant Is in Our Room," by Dixon Cartwright, in the Dec. 20, 2011 issue].

Yes, the canon is a big elephant, as is the related issue of scriptural authority.

I have spent not a little time in prayer and research on the topic, especially over the last two or three years.

My natural inclinations and training (university focus in math and physics) both tend to find me wanting *everything* to proceed logically from the fewest possible unproved axioms.

In my younger years I approached Scripture the same way, but, of course, the Bible does not work that way. Reading the (sometimes rather convoluted) explanations of fundamentalist scholars for apparent Bible contradictions and other difficulties only served to reinforce that conclusion.

So I find myself in a (lifelong?) process of refining my views on Scripture and its authority.

It is challenging and exciting, but I have been doing it quietly. I see you have gotten past that.

I have profited from the perspectives of N.T. Wright, though his big books are a tough slog. I recommend his *Scripture and the Authority of God*.

It is not so much about the canon as it is about how the Bible should be read and in what ways God's authority appears within.

You've opened the door. The continuing responses will be interesting, no doubt. May God bless you.

Brian Drawbaugh
Orrtanna, Pa.

Authors inspire

Just wanted to say I have read your commentary on the concept of the Bible being every word of God. ["Lo and Behold, an Elephant Is in Our Room," Dec. 20, 2011, issue].

I think your explanation was one of the most informative essays I have ever read on the subject, especially the point that every book you read from any author is his or her inspiration but that does not mean that it is absolute truth from God or anyone else.

I think the WCG mentality toward Scripture has for the most part caused many to make the Bible itself an idol.

By the way, the article "Why Do We Think the Canon Is Closed?" [by Alex Ciurana in the same issue] is also an exceptional essay that expresses thoughts I have had about inspired books upon which religions have been constructed, including books like the Koran and Joseph Smith's Book of Mormon.

Edward Rohn
Atlanta, Ga.

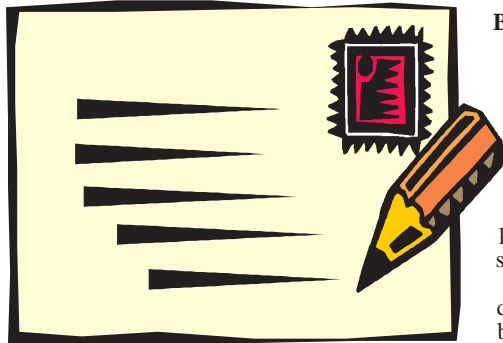
God can preserve a book

I think a God who can inspire a book can also inspire the preservation of that book, and I don't think He would inspire a book with errors or false information. I'm not referring to translation errors that can be so identified.

David Rydholm
Olympia, Wash.

Two witnesses required

Do we have an inerrant Old Testament? I don't feel threatened by this topic [the Bible canon], and kudos to



you for opening it up for discussion.

If Paul wrote the book of Hebrews, especially chapter 7, was he really taught by Gamaliel as claimed, and would he not be aware of this error in the Tanakh?

Shmuley Boteach thinks not in his book *Kosher Jesus*.

Another question arises as to Paul's being taught personally by Jesus in Arabia. Where are the required two witnesses to this event? We have only Paul's word for it.

Owen Murphy
South Slovan, B.C., Canada

Canon rethink

I see your Bible-canon rethink has created some waves.

It's a matter of scholarship vs. belief, I suppose. I think you pointed out that the first list of the New Testament as we know it was as late as Athanasius in A.D. 367.

In many early Christian churches several books (Revelation and six epistles including Hebrews) were regarded as "doubtful," and others (the Epistle of Barnabas, Shepherd of Hermas and Apocalypse of Peter) were often included in the canon.

But even today different parts of Christianity have different versions of the Bible—not just the Catholic and Protestant inclusion or exclusion of the Apocrypha but the Eastern Orthodox and Ethiopian Orthodox churches—including several extra books.

We tend to take the Bible as "given." But the complications of its composition, the fluidity of its content—and the authenticity of some of the books such as 2 Peter—really deserve more attention from those who have it as their sacred text.

Speaking of the book of Revelation,

Booklets can frustrate

I appreciated your article "Lo and Behold, An Elephant Is in Our Room" [Dec. 20, 2011, issue].

For several years I have had the same thoughts about the canonization of the Bible. I knew others who had the same thoughts.

Much of my reading has discovered an anti-Jewish bias in the history of the church from an early age even up to the present and

among, of all people, the COGs. Clearly, many of the Jewish writings were rejected by the Catholic Church and others with an anti-Jewish bias.

You are right: Why do we not question the role the Catholic Church had in the canonization of the Bible?

Many of us also do not question Mr. Armstrong. I am grateful for the service he did. I doubt I would have been called if it were not for him.

But the Scripture says that Christ is the end (or totality) of the law, not Mr. Armstrong or the Catholic Church or any other man. I think it is about time we let the Holy Spirit guide us into all truth and not Mr. Armstrong or the Catholic Church or any other man.

The Holy Spirit didn't die [with Mr. Armstrong] in 1986.

I seldom read church booklets or articles because I so often find that what they say is not exactly what the Scriptures say. Often their comments are out of context or erroneous.

The Scripture clearly says do not add to the Word and not to take away. To one degree or another all have done that, and we need to be careful.

Jason Darrow
Via the Internet

The framework of prophecy

I share your concerns [concerning the Bible canon]. These are honest issues.

In my brief article "A Framework of Prophecy," point No. 2 (the principle of the 40 and the 70), should it be studied at length, would give insight on how the Almighty does things.

The proper understanding of the 70 weeks is that an angel will appear at the beginning of the 70th week when the time is right, though it will be a desperate time for all of us on this planet.

But I don't think the COGs are ready to listen to that kind of theology. This is

'Imagine how much less apocalyptic certain preachers would have been—William Miller, Herbert W. Armstrong, Harold Camping, Ronald Weinland—if Revelation hadn't made it in.'

unfortunate but understandable. I believe the Almighty will use many people in the end time, not a limited Church of God group.

Though a person can understand much in this life, it may be that we have to come to a type of simplicity of faith in the time of Christ of "touching the hem of His garment to be healed." Much to learn from that.

My entire article, "A Framework of Prophecy," is at pierce.publishpath.com.

Phillip B. Pierce
Via the Internet

Be prepared

Always be ready to carefully check those scriptures that are studiously avoided by theologians.

Paul and Micki Herrmann
Metairie, La.

Limerickally speaking

Mr. Cartwright, please may I suggest
As a trial, if you like, or a test:
A limerick to run
Each issue, in fun,
About stuff that our church folk do best!

Here are some more examples (from oedilf.com/db/Lim.php). The first is by Chris Doyle:

Strict adherence to dogma may vex,
But it's what our religion expects.
Once in churchism's thrall,
True believers won't fall
For the lure of the opposite sects.

Still another, by Sheila Blume:

If it's dogma, belief is required,
As by Heaven the teaching's inspired.
To deny (parenthetically)
Is to falter heretically.
In the faith, this conviction's hard-wired.

Reginald Killingley
Big Sandy, Texas

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leavened bread is a type of an unleavened life. To understand exactly what is included in the leaven we are to avoid during the Days of Unleavened Bread, let's first notice some of the Hebrew words translated "leaven" in the Old Testament.

Mechametz refers to leavening agents: substances used to puff up or produce fermentation, causing dough to rise. Yeast, bicarbonate of soda (baking soda) and baking powder are such substances.

Another Hebrew word rendered "leaven" is *seh-ohd*. This literally means "sour dough," a naturally fermenting yeasty batter that was the most common leaven of the Israelites and which is still often used to cause baked goods to rise and become light in texture.

These leavening agents cause foods to become *chametz*. This Hebrew word is translated "that which is leavened" in Exodus 12:19. It is translated "leavened bread" in other places. It refers to foods that leaven has caused to rise, including bread, cake, some crackers, certain cookies, some prepared cereals and pies. A few candies and other foods also make use of leavening agents.

We may also eat unleavened pies and cereals together with all the meats, drinks, fruits and vegetables we normally consume.

Egg whites should not be used as a substitute for leaven in an attempt to circumvent the spirit of the law.

On the other hand, beaten egg whites used in meringue on pies and other desserts do not constitute a leavening agent. They have not been used to puff up any product baked of flour or meal.

immediately. This is a type of those hidden sins that we don't always discover upon conversion.

"Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (1 Corinthians 5:8).

Here is a URL for that issue of *The Good News*: tinyurl.com/PassoverGN.

Velvet Delorey
Corner Brook, Nfld., Canada

Personal best NTBMO

As I reflect on my life in God's church (38 years since baptism), I realize I have been blessed to take part in more than 30 Night to Be Much Observed gatherings.

Some were with as few as five brethren, others as large as 22; some in the homes of brethren, others in private meeting rooms within restaurants; some organized, along with an agenda of activity, by a single host or hostess, others casual and spontaneous; some with funeral overtones, others with music and jubilation; all with tremendous fellowship.

The NTBMO is a biblically inspired part of God's way of life, but what does it mean to you personally? How do you enjoy your evening?

I have always wrestled with: What is the right number of participants? Where is the best venue? Who should or must be invited? How should the event be focused?

Continued blessings, and may this year's event be your personal best ever.

James Ludvigson
Penticon, B.C., Canada

Correction

Oops! The Days of Unleavened Bread are Nisan 14-20, not Tishri 14-20. See the letter from David Rydholm in issue 146 of *THE JOURNAL* [under the heading "Three vs. Seven"].

David Rydholm
Olympia, Wash.

The Journal

News of the Churches of God

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Columns and commentary

Can there be such a thing as bibliolatry?

The writer is a researcher of Bible-related topics, author and former university professor who attended Ambassador College in the late 1950s.

A Sabbatarian Christian, Mr. Rude is employed as a linguist by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Nation and works with other American Indian tribes.

In this article Mr. Rude comments on Dixon Cartwright's and Alex Ciurana's essays in THE JOURNAL's issue No. 146, dated Dec. 20, 2011. Other responses to the articles appeared in issue No. 147, dated Jan. 31, 2012. See also Gavin Rumney's editorial on this page.

there are many fulfilled prophecies, not the least being the reestablishment of the Jewish state in the 20th century with all the patterns and miracles involved.



Noel Rude

Also, as others have said, the texts are validated by their content, the lack of outlandish claims such as are made in ancient contemporary literature, and by the divine coherence that permeates the whole.

As for the canon, there is a hierarchy to the Bible. The Torah (the first five books) is the foundation upon which everything else rests.

If you reject the Torah you reject it all, and, if you think you can make a good case for the validity of the Torah, you can judge the rest of the Bible as to whether it supports or contradicts or not.

Be careful!

Some today are tossing out the New Testament altogether. As they come to reject one paganized interpretation af-

nistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully."

What about evil?

But then what about all the evil and suffering that the Maker could prevent but doesn't? When asked about the evil in the world, the agnostic David Berlinski suggested that we read the Bible to make sense of it.

God asks that man learn lessons through terrible suffering—the Holocaust, for example—but then Berlinski asked that we note the outcome of it all. The Nazis lost, Germany lost millions of its own, and now there is a Jewish state.

The God of Scripture may not be what we'd like Him to be, but Scripture gives us a pretty good portrait of how things actually are.

If we choose to opt for a God who is nice and does not permit suffering, that God is surely not real!

Just what do you mean bibliolatry?

As for this business of bibliolatry (also mentioned in THE JOURNAL's editor), what pray tell is that? Are there actually folks out there who burn incense to the physical book, to its paper and ink and leather cover? Surely we cannot mean that those who reverence the Word are guilty of some wrong.

When we try to conjure up God in our imagination, we surely err. On our own we begin to remake God in our image instead of letting Him make us in His image.

No, as Jacques Ellul has argued (*The Humiliation of the Word*, Eerdmans, 1985), all that we have is the Word. We are distinguished from the beasts in that we alone have language, which is what makes it possible for our Maker to communicate with us.

"In the beginning was the Word," John says, "and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

The Word was God? Is it still? Is our only contact via the Scriptures? If so, then what on earth is "bibliolatry"?



"Folks, as the collection plate is passed around, please donate generously and think of it as stimulating the economy."

By Noel Rude

PENDLETON, Ore.—The modern secular state rests on two pillars: (1) Genesis got it wrong and (2) Darwin got it right.

First we need to settle for ourselves whether Darwin was right or whether the natural world shouts design and purpose. Only when we realize the latter are we prepared to put the Bible to the test.

Long ago we said: First you prove that there is a Creator, then you prove whether the Bible is the word of that Creator or not.

But *prove* is too strong a word these days. Better to say that we go with the best evidence.

We start with overwhelming evidence that the world has been designed for a purpose. Then we ask whether that Designer may have revealed Himself in the Bible.

This is not a frivolous claim, for the brightest mind of the millennium—the man who birthed modern physics and discovered the calculus—was convinced the Bible was the Word of God.

It's not circular to begin with a theory of divine origin. We ask what that might mean, and then we look for corroborating evidence.

Prophetic evidence

The evidence, we long ago taught, is in fulfilled prophecy. If we got some prophecies wrong, does this mean we throw in the towel?

I haven't the time here, but for me

When we try to conjure up God in our imagination, we begin to remake God in our image instead of letting Him make us in His image.

ter another, they eventually come to the conclusion that it was all spurious.

I say be careful! What is the central message of the New Testament? It is the good news of the Kingdom of God, of course, which is truly good news. Its central event was the resurrection. Anyone not in favor of the resurrection?

THE JOURNAL's editor suggests that, besides God being a loving Father, the Bible "also depicts Him as capricious, irritable and even tyrannical. Can God really be that way? I believe He cannot."

Richard Dawkins famously goes further in *The God Delusion*: "The God of the Old Testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction: jealous and proud of it; a petty, unjust, unforgiving control-freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogy-

Jude mentioned three mistakes to avoid

The writer pastors the Church of God Big Sandy and is a regular columnist for THE JOURNAL.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—In three consecutive Bible studies at the Church of God Big Sandy in February 2012, I gave the three parts of series about Jude 11.

In verse 11 Jude mentioned three characteristics that were influencing believers in his day. By reviewing the history within the Bible, we can learn many valuable lessons today.

Background material

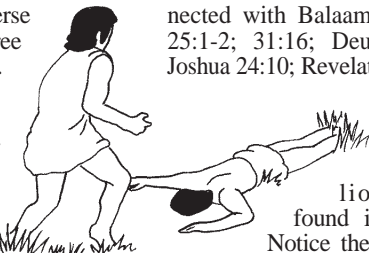
In Jude's letter to the believers he discussed false brethren who wanted to turn the grace of God into lawlessness (Jude 4). Jude reminded the readers that there are consequences for disobedience (verses 5-7).

When Jude got to verse 11 he mentioned the three characteristics to avoid.

Way of Cain

Everyone remembers the story of Cain and Abel in Genesis 4:1-15. Cain was a farmer, and Abel was a shepherd (verse 2).

Cain brought an offering from the fruit of the ground (verse 3), and Abel brought an offering from the firstborn of the flock (verse 4).



Rebellion of Korah

The rebellion of Korah is found in Numbers 16.

Notice the problem of the Levites. Moses spoke to Korah: "You take too much upon yourselves, you sons of Levi!" (Numbers 16:7).

Moses continued: "Then Moses said to Korah, 'Hear now, you sons of

The Eternal was pleased with Abel's offering (verse 4), but He was not pleased with Cain's (verse 5).

What was Cain's reaction? He became angry (verse 5) and ended up killing his brother (verse 8).

The apostle John reminded his readers in 1 John 3:11-18 to avoid the way of Cain and to show love to their brothers.

Error of Balaam

The error of Balaam is found in Numbers 22-24.

At first glance it appears that Balaam was not interested in the money of King Balak of Moab. (See Numbers 22:18; 24:12-13).

However, other verses seem to indicate that Balaam's heart was more interested in the money than it appeared. (See 2 Peter 2:15.)

Some verses reveal other sins connected with Balaam. (See Numbers 25:1-2; 31:16; Deuteronomy 23:5; Joshua 24:10; Revelation 2:14.)

Levi: Is it a small thing to you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, to do the work of the tabernacle of the LORD, and to stand before the congregation to serve them; and that He has brought you near to Himself, you and all your brethren, the sons of Levi, with you?"

"And are you seeking the priesthood also?" (verses 8-10).

Coercive hierarchy

Many church leaders use the story of Korah to teach their slant for the need to establish a coercive hierarchy. Here are two theories that many teach:

■ A person who claims to be a "special church leader" says that the rebelling Levites are the "clergy" and "laymen" who rebel against him.

Some among the "clergy" see how successful the special church leaders are at controlling the people so they create their miniature version of the same theory.

■ Many people who claim to be of the "clergy" say that the rebelling Levites are the "laymen" who rebel against them.

How about another perspective?

■ How many presumed church leaders are rebelling against Jesus Christ? After all, Jesus Christ is the Apostle and High Priest (Hebrews 3:1). How many presumed church leaders are trying to usurp the responsibilities of the Christ?

Most people don't know how we ended up with the Bible

The writer, a former member of the Worldwide Church of God, currently produces the Otagosh blog (otagosh.blogspot.com). In 2010 he completed a theology degree, majoring in biblical studies, from Otago University, Dunedin, New Zealand. See also Noel Rude's editorial on this page.

By Gavin Rumney

AUCKLAND, New Zealand —Just how we ended up with the Old and New Testaments as we have them today is an interesting tale, one that most of us know little or nothing about.



Gavin Rumney

Most people are aware that Catholic editions of the Bible include sections (in fact whole books such as 1 and 2 Maccabees) not found in standard Protestant versions.

More material

Fewer are aware that the Orthodox churches include even more material in their scriptures (such as 3 Maccabees and the Prayer of Manasseh).

So what about that extra material? Or, more to the point, why does the 66-book edition most of us are familiar with not include it, and who decides what is and isn't Scripture?

Traditionally, evangelical Christians have circled their wagons around the distinction between genuine writings and "apocrypha." Genuine writings being, of course, their 66-book Bible; apocrypha (sometimes called pseudepigrapha) conveniently being everything else.

Evangelicals have been quick to assert, for example, an "obvious qualitative difference" between the two.

Unfortunately there is an obvious qualitative difference between books

within the Bible as well, as anyone will know who has compared the Gospel of John with the Book of Numbers.

The creation of the canon

But wasn't the whole thing decided at the very start of the Christian church?

Here's where things get interesting. The Jewish canon (what Christians call the Old Testament) first reached its present form sometime after 70 C.E., the date when a gathering of rabbis was held at a place called Jamnia (Jabneh), 24 kilometers south of modern Tel Aviv.

Lee McDonald suggests that actual decisions were in fact made much later, in the 2nd century. But even with the earlier date notice that this is several decades after the establishment of the church.

Paul has left the scene, and the events related in Acts are already history.

No Christian input

Notice too that this was a Jewish initiative. There was no Christian input into the process at all. In fact, Jamnia was a reaction, in part, to the increasing influence of its loud and troublesome Christian offspring.

It is not surprising then that the Christians rejected this emerging Hebrew canon and continued to use the Septuagint (often referred to as the LXX), a Greek version of the Old Testament produced in Alexandria beginning in the 3rd century B.C.E.

No Hebrew originals

The Septuagint included several books and additional passages that the rabbis now rejected and are no longer found in the standard editions today.

In part this decision by the rabbis was based on the belief that there were no Hebrew originals for this additional material (ironically, the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls

See **SOME EPISTLES**, page 7

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Her daughter's question inspires a study of the role of women

Continued from page 1

■ The change of Nympha, a woman, into Nymphas, a man, in Colossians 4:15.

■ The change of Junia, whom Paul calls an apostle, into Junius, a man, in Romans 16:7 in some versions.

■ The change of Stephanas, a woman, into Stephanas, a man, in 1 Corinthians 16.

■ The statement that women must not teach men in 1 Timothy 2:12, yet Priscilla taught Apollos, "a man mighty in Scriptures."

The interview

This writer for *THE JOURNAL* and Mrs. Engelbart got together by phone on Feb. 26, 2012. The interviewer was in Big Sandy and Mrs. Engelbart was speaking from her residence in a suburb of Dallas, Texas. The following is excerpts of the interview.

WCG and AC background

THE JOURNAL: Maybe we can talk about your background. Where are you from?

Tina: I grew up in Germany and then, when I was 11, I moved to New Jersey.

THE JOURNAL: You attended Ambassador College?

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, I was Tina Simin. I graduated from AC in 1968. I went to AC in '64, and Ozzie Engelbart also went to Bricket Wood, and we became interested and we wanted to get married after my third year.

But then Mr. [Herbert] Armstrong found out that I had had previous college education and he told me he wanted me to finish my degree before marrying. At the time, that was not available in Bricket Wood, so I went to Pasadena for one semester.

So in January of '68 we got married, and, since we lived in Dallas because that was our pastorate, I actually graduated from Big Sandy. I was there only for the graduation ceremony. I didn't take any classes in Big Sandy.

I always said that because Ozzie went to all three colleges—he attended in Pasadena and was a pioneer student in Big Sandy and he attended in Bricket Wood—I had to keep up with him.

How it all started

THE JOURNAL: Can you tell me about your women's ministry or your—?

Mrs. Engelbart: I don't believe that I have a ministry.

THE JOURNAL: You don't have a ministry?

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, let me tell you how it all started.

I married Ozzie Engelbart and was with him in his ministry for over 33 years.

I had attended Rutgers University in New Jersey. That's why I was able to graduate from Ambassador in 3½ years. At Rutgers I didn't have a formal major, but it was actually ancient history.

Of course, I believed all of the doctrines of the church [the Worldwide Church of God] including our doctrine on women, that God chose men to be in authority over women and that man was the head of the wife.

He has the leadership position and the woman was subservient to him. I believed all that.

So I didn't come out to write my paper from the perspective of a flaming feminist, or even not so flaming.

A daughter's question

THE JOURNAL: Why did you decide to write anything?

Mrs. Engelbart: What started me on this journey was my daughter Sam, who is an attorney. She's a commercial litigator and has argued in court many times for Fortune 500 companies. She's a fantastic speaker.

All of my children grew up in the church. All three of them were born in Dallas. Sam is married, and her husband is not in the church, and he's also an attorney.

One time they came to church services and were listening to the sermon

Was there a woman minister in the New Testament church?

The writer is a member of the United Church of God. See THE JOURNAL's interview with Mrs. Engelbart beginning on page 1 of this issue.

By Tina Engelbart

DALLAS, Texas—Most Sabatarians, just like many of the mainstream Christian churches, believe the Bible prohibits a woman from having leadership positions in the church, such as being a minister.

They base that belief on their understanding of the scriptures that seem to say that women should be silent in the churches (1 Corinthians 14:33) and they are not allowed to have authority over men (1 Timothy 2:12).



Tina Engelbart

But there are examples of women leaders in both the Old and New Testaments that seem to contradict those prohibitions.

One of them is Phoebe. She is mentioned in the first two verses of Romans 16. Paul writes:

"I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also" (verses 1-2, NKJV).

Phoebe was a 'diakonos'

The first item of interest is the word translated "servant" in these verses. It is the Greek *diakonos*, a masculine noun.

As a matter of fact, there is no Greek feminine word used for *diakonos* in the Bible. However, the feminine term for "prophet," *prophetis* in Greek and translated "prophetess," is used, for example, for Anna in Luke 2:36.

So the masculine form of *diakonos* is used for Phoebe while the majority of Bible translations choose to translate this word as "servant." A few say she is a deaconess, using a word that doesn't exist in the Scriptures.

and he said to her: "You would be good at this." He was referring to delivering the sermon.

And Sam said, "I can't." And he said, "Why not?"

She said: "Because in our church women can't preach."

And he was absolutely shocked, horrified.

He said: "I can't believe you belong to a church that treats women so badly."

Says so in the Bible

So later, after I moved back to Dallas—Ozzie and I were living in Arkansas at the time of his death—Sam and I were talking and she said to me: "So why can't women preach?"

I said: "Well, it says so in the Bible. I'm not always happy about the situation either, but that's what the Bible says and we need to do what the Bible says. That's just how it is."

I said: "1 Corinthians 14 says let women be silent in the churches. 1 Tim-

How Paul Used the Word diakonos

Let's see how *diakonos* is translated in other verses in the Pauline epistles.

■ "Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers [*diakonos*] by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?" (1 Corinthians 3:5).

■ "Who also hath made us able ministers [*diakonos*] of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life" (2 Corinthians 3:6).

■ "Are they ministers [*diakonos*] of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft" (2 Corinthians 11:23).

■ "... I became a minister [*diakonos*] according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power" (Ephesians 3:7).

■ "But that ye also may know my affairs, and how I do, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister [*diakonos*] in the Lord, shall make known to you all things" (Ephesians 6:21).

■ "Paul and Timotheus, the servants [*doulos*] of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at

Philippi, with the bishops and deacons [*diakonos*]" (Philippians 1:1).

■ "As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant [*sundoulos*], who is for you a faithful minister [*diakonos*] of Christ" (Colossians 1:7).

■ "If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister [*diakonos*]" (Colossians 1:23).

■ "And sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister [*diakonos*] of God, and our fellowlabourer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith" (1 Thessalonians 3:2).

■ "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou

shalt be a good minister [*diakonos*] of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained" (Titus 4:6).

■ "I commend unto you Ph[o]ebe our sister, which is a servant [*diakonos*] of the church which is at Cenchrea" (Romans 16:1).

■ "I commend unto you Phoebe, our sister (which is a minister of the congregation of Cenchrea)." See PAUL SENT, page 8

Phoebe's official title

Paul commended Phoebe as a "*diakonos* of the church in Cenchrea," the port city of Corinth.

That she was a *diakonos* of the church in Cenchrea lends weight to the premise that in Phoebe's case *diakonos* was an official title used much as we would refer to a minister of the Dallas church.

You would not confuse "minister of the Dallas church" with "servant of the Dallas church."

Word Pictures in the New Testament by A.T. Robertson says that "the addition of '*tês ekklesiās*' (of the church) supports the meaning of the technical sense of the word *diakonos* as a title."

The great English Bible translator William Tyndale¹ translated Romans 16:1 this way (emphasis added):

"I commend unto you Phoebe, our sister (which is a minister of the congregation of Cenchrea)."

See PAUL SENT, page 8

Based on the scriptural translations, since the men were diakonos and were considered to be ministers, so should Phoebe as diakonos be considered a minister.

ing about women's role or other topics, it can be risky when people finally get to the point where things don't make perfect sense to them and they decide they're going to go wherever their study leads them.

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, and I'm sure you've changed some of your positions in the past few years, right?

THE JOURNAL: Right. Since I began *THE JOURNAL* in 1997, I've changed my mind on several things.

Basis for paper

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, later I went online and found United's doctrinal paper on women's role. Personally I don't like the word *role* because it gives the impression of play-acting, not really what a person is.

THE JOURNAL: That's what the word can mean: a part played by an actor.

Mrs. Engelbart: The UCG's doctrinal paper I found online is what I used as my basis for my paper.

THE JOURNAL: Who wrote the UCG paper?

Mrs. Engelbart: It's called "The Biblical Role of Women," and it was written by the doctrinal committee. It doesn't have anyone's name listed as author.

So I studied it for two years and got into lots of books, studying into the Greek and Hebrew, and I was shocked to find that what I had believed for all those years was not right.

I had the hope that the church would research it further and see if what I said was right or, if it wasn't, where I was wrong. That was the whole purpose of my paper.

Like a lead balloon

THE JOURNAL: So what happened?

Mrs. Engelbart: I responded to the paper. I took their paper, took their premises, whatever they said, and I responded to each premise, checking the scriptures in Greek and Hebrew.

It was totally a response to United's paper, and I did it as a research paper, an academic research paper.

This took me over two years. I started in 2004. Then in 2006, after editing, I sent it to the church.

THE JOURNAL: So how did it go over?

Mrs. Engelbart: Not very well.

I want to be careful here because I don't want to knock United. It's my church, and I love my church. But we just happen to disagree on this issue.

THE JOURNAL: What exactly was the response?

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, I sent it to all of the [12] council members. One of them agreed with me, but he didn't feel he was in a position to buck the others. So nothing was done.

I finally got a response from the head of the doctrinal committee at that time, sometime later in 2005, I think.

THE JOURNAL: The head of the doctrinal committee was Leon Walker, right?

Straw men

Mrs. Engelbart: The man who wrote me back, and I'd rather not mention his name, would set up straw men. He would state to me what I supposedly had said in my paper but which I did not say in my paper.

Then he would proceed to knock down my supposed arguments in attempting to disprove everything that I'd said.

THE JOURNAL: There's something familiar-sounding about that technique.

Mrs. Engelbart: He tried to disprove everything I said, but he didn't really look at any of the evidence.

THE JOURNAL: What's happened since then? Where are you in your thinking?

Mrs. Engelbart: The paper I sent to the doctrinal committee included only the first part of my case for women's service in the church. I took their statements, quoted them and then answered them.

My paper wound up being 86

See NO ONE SHOULD, page 5

'No one should think I'm angling for a ministry position'

Continued from page 4

pages. But this was only the first part of what women could do in the church.

I said I would write a second paper, and I did gather my data and information. I still plan to do that.

The effect thus far

THE JOURNAL: Okay. You are a loyal member of United, that is your church, but how has your experience of writing your paper and the response to it affected your personal actions? You mentioned a few minutes ago that you don't have a ministry.

Mrs. Engelbart: The reason I don't have a ministry: I was a minister's wife so I know what it's like having a ministry. Unless God really calls me to that, I don't feel that I want to be a minister.

And I don't want anybody thinking I'm doing this because I'm angling for a ministry position.

Just what do you mean authority?

THE JOURNAL: Has it, though, affected what you do in your personal Christianity?

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, it has. The whole paradigm has changed. I don't believe that men are in authority over me. But let me qualify that.

In the church I do believe in the authority and leadership of the ministry. But that's for all people. The ministry has a position of authority over the congregation, but their definition of authority, how United explained it in their paper, is not the way I see it.

Their definition of authority is they're in charge. But I like to say that my definition of authority is what Jesus said. He said, "Let he who governs be as he who serves."

I believe that people in authority are to be servants. I want to see the leadership positions in the church open to both men and women who are qualified and according to their talents and gifts.

I don't believe anybody should be in authority *over*—emphasis on *over*—anyone. Authority should imply a service position.

Authority vs. governing

THE JOURNAL: The words *authority* and *servant* almost sound like they contradict each other. So why even use the word *authority*?

Mrs. Engelbart: Because that's what Jesus used. He talked about those who exercised authority over them being called benefactors. But He said it should not be so among you. Let he who governs be as he who serves. Let's those who are in authority serve. That's what I believe.

THE JOURNAL: Is the concept of governing a step down the coercion ladder from exercising authority?

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, yes. Authority is a very loaded word.

Hope for a dialogue

THE JOURNAL: What do you plan to do now? Do you still hope for a dialogue between you and the headquarters or you and the local ministry?

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, I absolutely do, especially now that a lot of the people who were very adamantly traditionalists have left the UCG. [See "UCG Goes Forward With Two Thirds of Its Elders," issue No. 143, *THE JOURNAL*, dated January 2011.]

THE JOURNAL: Seems like that could change the official UCG stance on several matters.

Mrs. Engelbart: So I am hopeful that I can restart the conversation with the leadership of the church.

No timetable for equal opportunity

THE JOURNAL: So do you have a timetable for that?

Mrs. Engelbart: No, I'm just kind of trying to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit. My agenda isn't to push anything on anyone.

When people from Cincinnati come and speak [to the Dallas congregation], I do try to ask them about it, and so far I haven't been very successful. But I feel that eventually it has to happen.

I mean, at least a dialogue on it,

okay? We need a dialogue because the church's paper that is online has so many errors in it that it harms the reputation of our church.

I don't think anyone—man or woman—who belongs to a church can just go off and start preaching or start a new church or be a pastor.

They need to be under that church's government, under the leadership of the church they attend.

However, if men are eligible to preach or have the opportunity to become a pastor with proper training, so should the women have the same opportunity.

If someone wants to start their own church, unless they have permission from their church's organization they would have to leave that church organization and then they could do whatever they want.

Some might think from what I said that I don't believe in any church government or authority. That is not so. I believe church government should be comprised of both men and women who are qualified and that the church membership should abide by the church's rules, as it says in 1 Corinthians 16:15-16.

Tina's methodology

THE JOURNAL: I have some questions about your methodology, the technique you use for mining the Bible to prove or disprove your interpretations.

You argue that women should ideally be able to do whatever they wish regarding preaching, starting a church, being a pastor, etc., but your method is to proof-text to prove your point from the Bible. That can work but not in every case.

For example, a preacher can say from the pulpit: "We need to love our enemies and our neighbors as ourselves because the Bible tells us to."

But what if the Bible told you not to do those things? What should you do? Should you hate your enemies and your neighbors?

Mrs. Engelbart: That's kind of a hypothetical question. Since I believe that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible Word of God, I don't believe that the Bible would ever say such a thing.

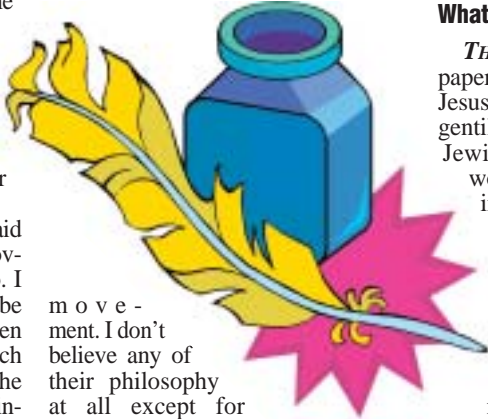
THE JOURNAL: From my point of view—which I acknowledge is only

the Bible and biblical authors. Actually, I can't stand the modern feminist movement. They're totally anti-biblical.

THE JOURNAL: So you're not a feminist?

Mrs. Engelbart: Absolutely not. I'm a biblical feminist. I'm not a feminist. Jesus was a biblical feminist. Paul was a biblical feminist.

Secular feminists, from what I have read, are totally anti-God, anti-Bible. They're for abortions. It's an ungodly



movement. I don't believe any of their philosophy at all except for maybe equal pay for equal work and no glass ceilings. That's about it.

THE JOURNAL: What's an example besides abortion of something feminists say that you see as ungodly?

Mrs. Engelbart: They hate men. They say the Bible is man's tool to keep women subjugated.

They demean a woman who stays at home to rear her children. That's the kind of thing they advocate. I don't believe in that.

Exercising authority

THE JOURNAL: On page 13 of your paper you mention that the United Church of God advocates male dominance over females when it comes to religious matters.

You take exception to that policy and state that you believe it can be proper for a woman to have, quote, God-given authority over a man, unquote, in religious matters.

But why wouldn't it be better if neither sex exercised some kind of presumed authority over the other sex?

Mrs. Engelbart: I totally agree. I don't think anybody is to *exercise*

authority. I believe leadership positions should be open to both men and women who are qualified.

And my question is: Why is it we can have men ministers and deacons in the church with minimum education in leadership positions and we have women in our congregations who are doctors, lawyers and businesswomen? Wouldn't those women be more qualified, everything else being equal, for positions of leadership?

I just want it open to both men and women. I don't want anybody *exercising* authority over anybody like we did in Worldwide.

It is interesting to read your paper [THE JOURNAL] from May of last year. I was reading about the question-and-answer session that United had.

[See "UCG Elders Ask, UCG Council Members Answer," *THE JOURNAL*, issue No. 144, dated May 31, 2011.]

As that article indicates, there's a totally different spirit in United now [after the split of early 2011].

UCG changed a doctrine in '95

THE JOURNAL: I was in Cincinnati for that special conference, and I noticed people there seemed less tense than they had of late.

Mrs. Engelbart: I'm very happy with that different spirit. In that article you wrote that council chairman Mel-

vin Rhodes said some people believe that no doctrines were changed in the split from Worldwide [in 1995].

But, as he said, there was one doctrine that changed, and that was government.

He said that in Worldwide the government was authoritarian.

Now, if United's leaders recognize that church governance should not be authoritarian, perhaps they need to question why the government in the family of men over women should be authoritarian.

What did Jesus do?

THE JOURNAL: In your research paper you say that the only reason Jesus did not ordain a woman or a gentile as one of His 12 was because Jewish societal laws prevented women and gentiles from receiving an education in the law, entering synagogues and teaching others. You point out that none of these reasons is applicable today.

But how do you know that was the only reason, and why wasn't equality of the sexes more of a priority for Jesus?

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, actually, it was. Jesus was very interested in all people, not just women.

THE JOURNAL: But all 12 of his inner circle of apostles were men. He seemed to tacitly endorse the male-dominated way of thinking and doing things.

What about slavery?

Mrs. Engelbart: Let me ask you a question: Why wasn't slavery more of a priority with Jesus?

THE JOURNAL: Exactly. Fair question.

Mrs. Engelbart: I mean, slavery was a much bigger problem at that time. Most everybody had slaves.

THE JOURNAL: So what's your answer to the Bible's and Jesus' approach or nonapproach to slavery?

Mrs. Engelbart: My answer is that, because of the way society was at that time, coming out overtly against slavery would have severely hindered His ministry. It is the same reason He could not choose a gentile as one of his 12 apostles.

An example of this is Paul. Now, remember when Paul went back to

Jerusalem he was accused of bringing a gentile into the temple. He didn't. They just thought he did.

A riot started, and the Jews accosted him, seized him, beat him and wanted to kill him. A Roman centurion arrested him under protective custody to save his life. Why did the Jews want to kill him?

Because he was perceived to be teaching against the law, the Jewish law, and the temple, and he supposedly brought Greeks into the temple and defiled it.

Women weren't allowed into the temple either. They could go only to the court of women.

But the court of women, interestingly enough, is not something the Bible anywhere demands. It was purely based on the Jewish oral law.

Jesus had priorities

THE JOURNAL: So you're saying Jesus had other priorities.

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, because they would have done the same thing to Him they did to Paul.

There was an apostle called Junia. There was a minister called Phoebe. As it was, the Jewish leaders tried to kill Jesus many times, but they were prevented because it was not His time yet.

He would not have accomplished His ministry if he had ordained a woman or, for that matter, a gentile.

THE JOURNAL: So He had things He was able to do and He had to work within that framework.

Mrs. Engelbart: But, even so, he did very shocking things within that restrictive society including having women travel with men in His own group. It was unthinkable for men to be traveling with women. The rabbis couldn't even talk to women. They couldn't even talk to their wives on the street.

So here we have a group of women who are traveling with Jesus and the disciples. That was unheard of.

Specific-purpose statement

THE JOURNAL: Is there one particular Bible passage that is central to your thesis?

Mrs. Engelbart: The principle that I try to follow, and that seemed to speak to me loud and clear as I was doing the paper, is love your neighbor as yourself.

I can't imagine men wanting to be treated the way that women have been treated. The men have to ask themselves if they would like to be denied their leadership positions in the church.

The Bible as a puzzle

THE JOURNAL: You've adopted a similar approach to the UCG's in that you're proof-texting.

It seems to me proof-texting makes sense for the long haul only if the Bible is like a puzzle or a book of codes where everything really does easily fit with everything else.

The problem I see is that the resolution to a discussion like this with the UCG will end up for the interested observer as coming down to whoever can make the best proof-texting arguments; that is, deciding to accept some verses and disregarding other verses that contradict them.

But why not just argue that male dominance was a cultural phenomenon and we live in a different age and not worry about specific apparent contradictions or even genuine contradictions in Scripture?

Ignoring won't help

Mrs. Engelbart: Because most churches base their positions on authority and women's role on the Bible. If you say let's just ignore that, that's not going to help. It's not going to prove anything.

I base *my* position on the Bible. I have found in this study that a lot of the scriptures they use to prove their position happen to be mistranslated.

It happens in other biblical subjects that are discussed. For example, the King James Version in Acts uses the word *Easter*. But that is a flagrant mistranslation of the word *pascha*, which means Passover.

When you go into the Scripture and bring that kind of thing out, that's not proof-texting. I call that researching.

Unidentical accounts

THE JOURNAL: That's a good example in one sense. In another sense it can be irrelevant because of other situations that arise.

The other situations involve actual contradictions, not just apparent ones, such as the unidentical accounts of creation in Genesis or the birth-story variations in Matthew and Luke.

Mrs. Engelbart: Another one is they say you don't have to keep the Sabbath because it's not commanded

See **IF WOMEN**, page 6

'If United's leaders recognize that church governance should not be authoritarian, perhaps they need to question why the government in the family of men over women should be authoritarian.'

If women must really keep silent, then they shouldn't sing

Continued from page 5

in the New Testament. Well, in Hebrews 4:9 it's translated "rest," and the Greek is *sabbaton*, which means there is a keeping of the Sabbath.

A clear text about the issue of women is the example of Deborah. She was commander in chief, she was a judge, she was a prophetess, the top three positions in the country.

She obviously was in authority over men. But then we come along and say that 1 Timothy 2 says women are not allowed to be over men.

One word that's used for "authority" in 1 Timothy 2 is *authentain*. It is used only one time in the Bible, and nobody really knows what it means. There is a perfectly good word for "authority" in the Greek, *exousia*, that is used hundreds of times. But that's not the word that Paul used.

For talking about authority, why didn't Paul use that word?

But here again there is a clear Scripture example: that Deborah indeed was over men. So if another scripture says she wasn't then there's a discrepancy and you have to go with the clear scripture and find out what's wrong with that other scripture.

THE JOURNAL: Unless both contradictory scriptures are clear.

Mrs. Engelbart: But this one is not clear.

Believe the clear examples

THE JOURNAL: Deborah is clear, but there are places in the Bible, in the epistles, that say women are to keep silent. That is clearly stated in Scripture.

Mrs. Engelbart: If it says, which it does, that women are to keep silent in churches, then you must also take into account the clear example in 1 Corinthians 11, where Paul talks about women praying and prophesying in church.

THE JOURNAL: You make a good case that the Bible can be read as supporting a role for women in what could be called women's ministry. But I'm just saying that it seems to me that in some places in the Bible it does not.

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, it does. When it does not, you have to find out what does that other scripture really say. In this case Paul, in 1 Corinthians 14, is quoting a letter from the Jewish believers who don't want women to speak in church because in the synagogues they were not allowed to speak.

When you read in the Bible that women can't be over men, and then you read that Deborah was over men, what are you going to believe: the example that there was a woman put by God over men or a scripture that says they can't be?

I'd go with the example scripture each time and find out what the scripture really says in the original language and within the historical and biblical context.

THE JOURNAL: Is there a passage of Scripture that you consider a difficult one, that is a problem for your thesis,

that's harder to explain than the one you just gave me.

Mrs. Engelbart: No. They're all explained once you go into the original Greek.

Elders' wives and deaconesses

THE JOURNAL: On page 70 of your paper you ask: Why in our church are elders' wives and deaconesses the only two positions to which women may aspire, yet neither is mentioned anywhere in the Bible?

Since the positions of elder's wife and deaconess are not in the Bible, do you see any problem with a church having the position of deaconess or elder's wife?

Mrs. Engelbart: No, I don't see any problem with it. There were women deacons in the Bible. What I take issue with is they were not deaconesses. The word is *deacon* in the Greek, which means "minister," the same for men and women.

However, I have no problem with the church ordaining deaconesses. I also don't have any problem with positions like youth leader and choir director.

Where is Sam now?

THE JOURNAL: So whatever happened with your daughter Sam's situation?

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, after she read my paper she's a member of United. She could see that the Bible really does not teach that [the prohibition of women as church leaders]. But she's a little bit upset with the church.

Other discussions

THE JOURNAL: Are there other topics in Christianity or the Bible that interest you in the same way, that maybe

'It's very important for all of us, not just the UCG, to look into this doctrine. This doctrine prevents probably more than half of the congregation from serving God in the way they could.'

we as a movement, not just United, get wrong?

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, yes, there are others.

I love research. When I was in college I wanted to be a church historian, but I was told because I was a woman I could not do that. But I research all sorts of topics.

Gifts of the Spirit

THE JOURNAL: Can you mention one besides women's role?

Mrs. Engelbart: Recently I've been researching the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

THE JOURNAL: You want to briefly elaborate?

Mrs. Engelbart: No, because I'm just starting it. I don't want to get into that right now.

THE JOURNAL: But is there something

you could get into now, just briefly?

Mrs. Engelbart: Well, basically that both men and women have been given the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They're able to utilize them equally.

I could say this. There is a directive that we sing from our hymnal: "Go ye therefore into all the world; preach the gospel, everyone; all those who believe and who are baptized shall be saved while others are condemned, and they shall lay hands upon the sick and the sick shall be made well."

That directive, that command, which includes the laying of hands upon the sick, is for everybody including women.

THE JOURNAL: Okay.

Mrs. Engelbart: But we're not allowing them to.

Submitting to each other

THE JOURNAL: But aren't wives to submit to their husbands as to the Lord and, presumably, as to the church?

Mrs. Engelbart: Speaking of submission, I'd like to mention Ephesians 5:22, even though that was not the topic of the UCG paper. It says in Ephesians 5 that women should submit themselves to their husbands and by extension to church leadership.

When we hear the word *submit* we automatically think of obey. But that's not the case. The context is submitting yourselves one to another.

The church and other believers in authoritarian doctrine say *submit* is a Greek word referring to somebody placed under somebody in authority. They say it's a military term.

Subverting terms

But I would say that the scripture that says submit yourselves one to another totally defies that description.

yourselves one to another in the church except that husbands don't have to submit to their wives. Rather, it's everybody. Everybody is to submit.

Then Paul explains how wives submit, and he explains how husbands submit. Husbands submit by giving themselves up for their wives like Christ did. I would say that's a much greater submission than what the wives are to do.

In society and even in our churches, our rules and traditions say leaders are to be served.

But Jesus said no, no, no, no. Leaders are to *serve*. So to lead is to serve. It's the new Christian definition.

The other Churches of God

THE JOURNAL: What about the Churches of God beyond United. Do you have thoughts or advice for them?

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, it's very important for *all* of us—not just the United Church of God—to look into this doctrine. How many people read your paper?

THE JOURNAL: I don't really know. I print 3,000. But we also put it up on our Web site [thejournal.org].

Sometimes I'll print something and we don't get much of a reaction. But I wrote an article recently on the nature of the Bible and I've received a lot of reaction to that. People out there who don't subscribe are writing me about it, so somehow they see it.

Mrs. Engelbart: I think it is very important to think of the effects this doctrine [regarding women] has in the church. It prevents probably more than half of the congregation from serving God in the way they could and hurts the growth of the church.

It doesn't affect just the women. It affects the men also. It also affects the young girls who are growing up in the

church who are seeing the opportunities they have outside of the church but not in the church. That's one reason many are leaving.

It isn't just a problem for girls. It's also for young men because in the workplace they are used to having women bosses. They're used to seeing women in responsible positions, and it seems to them old-fashioned and restrictive and hopelessly out of date for women not to have the same kinds of opportunities.

Suggestions for the COGs

The other thing I would like to mention: I would love to see the church at least look into having women give opening and closing prayers. There is absolutely no reason why they shouldn't. They did it in 1 Corinthians 11.

I understand some churches now have women ushers, but all the leadership positions should be open.

I understand the churches probably wouldn't be ready to have a woman preacher, but, if a woman can stand up in a Christian-leadership class in a different room off the main hall and speak about the Bible, why can't she do it up on stage?

You have leaders in different churches reading this, and I would like to ask them: Why not allow women to give opening and closing prayers?

THE JOURNAL: If the churches are going to take literally the admonition that women are to remain silent in the churches, should they not prohibit them from speaking in Sabbath classes or singing with the men in the congregation?

Mrs. Engelbart: Yes, if they want to be consistent and true to their view of Scripture, then women should not be able to sing and teach Sabbath classes.

Many new women come into the church because they get excited about learning the truth.

We [in the UCG] have a fantastic

Web site. We have fantastic TV programs. They come to the church and there is no visible female presence in the church. When they find out what the doctrine is on women, many of them never come back.

Ready, set, go

THE JOURNAL: Pragmatically speaking, do you think the Churches of God are ready for women ministers?

Mrs. Engelbart: Let me kind of think out loud. Thanks to the mind-set of the church the way it has been taught, ordaining women as ministers would cause splits. That's what the current ministers are afraid of.

When I spoke about this subject to a high-ranking minister, he told me he actually believed that women should be able to do everything that the men do in church. But he said he could not promote that as policy in his church because he would lose all his high donors.

I would say that a similar situation happened in the New Testament church. The church started out Jewish. All the apostles were Jews. All the elders were Jews. They were all Jews. All were brought up with Jewish a mind-set that gentiles were inferior and unclean.

And then Paul went out and preached to the gentiles, and the church at that time didn't think that gentiles would be able to be part of the church, nor should they be.

That's why they had the conference in Acts 15, when both Peter and Paul said that if the gentiles have received the gift of the Holy Spirit as we received it then there is no difference between us.

THE JOURNAL: Do you think allowing women preachers would be as disruptive to the modern church as allowing gentile converts was to the early church?

Mrs. Engelbart: I would say that allowing gentiles to be brought into the church as equals was a more-divisive issue for the New Testament church than women preachers would be in our church.

The New Testament church had a conference about it. They allowed both sides to speak. That's what we need to do.

James came up with a decision that that's exactly what God wanted, that there was no difference between Jews and gentiles. I would say there's no difference between men and women, as it says in Galatians 3:28.

Just what do you mean Christian?

THE JOURNAL: I heard a Church of God pastor comment during a sermon that he is not willing to say that his Sunday Christian friends are not Christians. Where are you on that? Are Sabatarian Christians the only Christians?

Mrs. Engelbart: I believe that there are various stages of Christianity, where people are when God calls them. I believe He has given us knowledge of the Sabbath, the holy days, His law and the Kingdom, and our Churches of God are the only ones who have those.

But he has given other Christians other gifts that we don't have.

I would say anyone who accepts Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and is baptized is a Christian. God decides what knowledge He wants to give to whom.

I'm not ready to consign everybody else to not getting in the Kingdom. I'm glad I don't have to make that decision.

More information

To read "The Biblical Role of Women," the doctrinal study paper approved by the UCG's council of elders in 2005, go to tinyurl.com/ucgwomensrole.

To read Mrs. Engelbart's response to the UCG's study paper, go to tinyurl.com/womeninthebible.

Write Tina Engelbart in care of THE JOURNAL, P.O. Box 1020, Big Sandy, Texas 75755, U.S.A., or info@thejournal.org.



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Charles Hunting's relationship with WCG ended in 1975

Continued from page 1

parachute was riddled with machine-gun fire and full of blood.

The plane crashed into the ocean. He survived and was rescued by locals paddling out on canoes.

CFH continued to fly fighter and dive-bombing combat missions from carriers till the end of the war and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Purple Heart.

Eloped to Mexico

During the war CFH met Miss Veryl Cheney, who served in the Navy's Medical Corps.

After the war, romance blossomed, and in 1946 they apparently eloped across the border to Mexico, where they were married.

The couple settled in Long Beach, Calif., and had three children.

CFH started a business refurbishing electrical transformers, having learned the basics of the trade from a relative. It became very successful.

Charles remained in the Navy Reserves and was training on jet planes when he abruptly resigned in 1956, just six months before he was to qualify for a Navy pension. He was a lieutenant commander when he retired.

Dedicated to the WCG

This unusual action was triggered by Charles' decision to dedicate his life to the WCG, which was founded in the 1930s by Herbert W. Armstrong and was a pacifist organization.

The family moved to Pasadena, Calif., where in 1958 when he was 39 CFH enrolled for a B.A. in liberal arts at the church's training institution, Ambassador College.

His credits from previous formal studies reduced the normal time of four years by one, and thus he was never a sophomore.

In his freshman year his first part-time job on the campus was on the garbage-collection crew, but his progress within the organization thereafter was rather meteoric.

His junior year saw him in charge of the "mail-reading division," which handled the thousands of inquiries and requests for church literature. That same year he was appointed as the lead on a two-man team visiting church supporters.

Flurry of responsibilities

Charles was also a sportsman of note. In each of his two years at the Pasadena campus he was the tennis champion and best handball player.

In his senior year he was the student-body president, ordained a minister in the WCG and transferred, with his family, to the Bricket Wood (Hertfordshire, U.K.) campus in March 1961, three months before graduation.

In June 1961 he received his bachelor-of-arts degree in the first graduation ceremony for the English campus and was then given a flurry of responsibilities:

He was appointed as a lecturer at the English campus, made its bursar, appointed as business manager of the WCG's activities in Europe, ordained a minister of the WCG and designated the pastor of the Bristol WCG church.

In 1962 he rose to the level of "preaching elder," and later in the same year ordained as a "pastor"-rank minister. In January 1964 he was ordained an "evangelist," bringing the total number of evangelists in the WCG to 12 at that time.

WCG vice president

In December 1969 he was appointed as one of the nine vice presidents of the WCG, under President Herbert Armstrong. He formed an effective team with the regional director for Europe, Raymond McNair.

In the mid-1960s HWA began to

responsibilities.

Veryl died of cancer in 1973. She was buried on the grounds of the Bricket Wood campus. Apparently in



FIX THAT COLLAR—Charles Hunting gets a little help from a friend, Barbara Buzzard, during a conference in Tyler, Texas, in 2003. [Photo by Dixon Cartwright]

that year HWA indicated to CFH that he would eventually elevate him to the No. 2 position in the organization and that he would need to move to Pasadena.

However, considerable opposition to this plan was expressed, and it never eventuated. Instead, in 1974 CFH became the regional director of the entire WCG activities in the U.K.,

with the WCG ended in late 1975. He resolved not to take a salary again from a religious organization.

However, he never lost his faith in God and Christianity.

Marries Barbara

CFH threw his considerable energies into making a living and became involved in, among other ventures, construction in Dubai and golf courses in Spain.

In 1980 he married again. His new wife was Barbara Greville-Smith, an English widow he had met in Spain and whose best friend was Yolande

Farrell of Sarasota. Yolande and her husband, Dick Farrell, formed a long-standing close friendship with Charles.

The Huntings moved to Vero Beach, Fla., where they lived in a duplex that CFH built.

He resumed studying biblical doctrines privately and, with help from Sir Anthony Buzzard, was soon con-

vinced of the Christian non-Trinitarian view of God and cowrote a book with Sir Anthony on the subject.

He became a supporter of Sir Anthony's Restoration Fellowship, based in McDonough, Ga., for many years.

He resumed studying biblical doctrines privately and, with help from Sir Anthony Buzzard, was soon con-

vinced of the Christian non-Trinitarian view of God and cowrote a book with Sir Anthony on the subject.

The last years

Four years ago Charles' health began to decline, and he eventually needed kidney dialysis. He outlived his close friend, Dick Farrell. Mrs. Farrell helped care for Charles in the last years of his life as he became increasingly infirm, although she was already in her 80s.

Charles was admitted to a hospital in early November 2011, and a few days before he died he moved to a hospice facility.

His youngest son, Paul, daughter Sidni and her husband, Dennis, together with Mrs. Farrell, were with him in his final days.

His eldest son, Chris, in Australia, was unable to travel to be with him.

Charles died in his sleep and was buried in the Department of Veterans Affairs Sarasota National Cemetery.

Larger than life

Charles Freeman Hunting is survived by his three children, Chris, Sidni and Paul; nine grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Chris suggests the following should be his father's epitaph:

"A unique individual who achieved much. Respected and admired by most, feared by many; a truly larger-than-life character, but not without human flaws."

In 1973 Herbert Armstrong indicated to Charles Hunting that he would eventually elevate him to the No. 2 position and that he would need to move to Pasadena.

form personal friendships with powerful figures, particularly in Israel, Germany and Asia.

These included kings, dictators and high officials, as well as elected presidents.

CFH, as one of HWA's trusted advisers, was a frequent traveling companion (often along with his wife, Veryl) on these trips, which took them across the globe.

He undertook these travels while continuing to perform all his other

Europe and the Middle East, while the incumbent in that job, Raymond McNair, was transferred to Pasadena.

The church in crisis

During this time the WCG began to experience a series of crises. Scandals shook the church, and several senior ministers and internal theologians began to question some of the doctrines. CFH was persuaded that some of the WCG's core teachings were in error.

He spoke out, and his relationship

with the WCG ended in late 1975. He resolved not to take a salary again from a religious organization.

However, he never lost his faith in God and Christianity.

Happy in Sarasota

For CFH 1997 was traumatic as first his mother died, then his only sister, Frances. Then her husband, Jack Bryan, died, and, finally, CFH's wife, Barbara, passed away from cancer.

Some epistles attributed to Paul (like Timothy) came later

Continued from page 3

demonstrated that the rabbis were, in part, mistaken).

Christianity, however, was to continue to use the Septuagint-based "Alexandrian Canon" for another thousand years! This makes it quite hard to see how modern fundamentalists can justify their present canon as being either "apostolic" or "determined by the Holy Spirit."

Debating the NT

What about the New Testament? The New Testament canon was a matter of debate for centuries.

It first reached its present form as late as 367 when Athanasius, the bishop of Alexandria, compiled a list of recognized books that agrees with the one we now have.

(See an artist's depiction of Athanasius on page 1 of the Jan. 31, 2012, issue of *THE JOURNAL*.)

Three hundred years is a long time by anyone's reckoning. If the writing of the New Testament documents had started back in 1840, we wouldn't get to see the final product until the year 2140!

300 years with no canon

Although it seems hard to imagine, during this 300-year period Christians of all persuasions pursued their faith without the benefit of the Bible as we know it today.

As for the gospels, it took till 185

C.E. for a consensus to emerge about which documents were authoritative, and only then thanks to a pronouncement on the subject by Irenaeus.

For another 200 years these four gospels were put together with a variety of additional documents according to the best judgments of different Christian communities.

As late as the year 200 the church at Rome still didn't consider the books

We now know that Athanasius made several wrong calls. For example, several of the letters attributed to Paul (such as the epistles to Timothy) are in fact later documents.

And one also has to wonder how Christians who vehemently reject Catholic tradition and authority in all other matters can be so dogmatic in their agreement with this particular tradition. The events surrounding the cre-

which still holds the Septuagint as its official Old Testament text.

It is this truncated canon of the Old Testament that is now in almost universal use and is regarded as authoritative in traditions as diverse as Presbyterianism, all the various Churches of God and Jehovah's Witnesses.

Those churches that seek to identify themselves with the "apostolic era" to validate their beliefs (rather than later traditions, which they believe are flawed) seem to be blind to the fact that their Old Testament canon is far from "apostolic."

The Luther precedent

Few Christians realize that Luther's bold redrawing of the boundaries of Scripture almost flowed through into the New Testament as well.

The reformer had labeled the letter of James "an epistle of straw," and some Lutheran editions of the Bible followed through by relegating it, along with Hebrews, Jude and Revelation, to a special appendix at the back of the New Testament.

In effect this placed them in a de-facto New Testament apocrypha. Apparently Luther, who coined the very phrase *sola scriptura*, meant something different by it from the meaning understood by modern evangelicals and fundamentalists.

The practice failed to catch on. See *THE PRESENT BIBLE*, page 8

Those churches that seek to identify themselves with the 'apostolic era' to validate their beliefs seem to be blind to the fact that their Old Testament canon is far from 'apostolic.'

of Hebrews, James, 1 Peter and 2 Peter as Scripture.

However, they did include two "apocryphal" works: the Apocalypse of Peter and the Wisdom of Solomon.

In the end the final selection was to be a narrow thing, with the popular Shepherd of Hermas missing a listing in Athanasius's canon by a whisker, while the controversial books of Revelation and Hebrews squeaked through.

Several wrong calls

The main criterion used in the selection was that the documents flowed from the pens of those with firsthand knowledge of the events surrounding the creation of the church.

ation of our New Testament can give little support to a strict biblicist view.

1 Enoch

An interesting example of a book that has drifted in and out of favor is 1 Enoch. It was regarded as Scripture in many parts of the early church and is quoted in the New Testament book of Jude (verse 14). For the Ethiopian Orthodox church it still forms part of the Old Testament canon.

Enoch contains material about the origin of evil and the final judgment and provides details of the cohabitation between the "sons of God" and the "daughters of men" mentioned in Genesis 6.

included in the Septuagint and therefore never became part of the mainstream Catholic, Orthodox or Protestant canons.

The Reformation

The Reformation brought about a huge shakeup when Martin Luther banished the Old Testament canon based on the Septuagint (LXX) and replaced it with the shorter Jewish canon. The additional books, said Luther, were good to read but not to be considered as Scripture.

This broke a tradition going back more than a thousand years, one that is retained to some degree in Catholicism and even more so in Orthodoxy,

Paul sent Phoebe to the Corinthians because she was a minister

Continued from page 4

But the Living Bible describes Phoebe as “a dear Christian woman,” whereas Timothy is “a worthy pastor” (1 Timothy 4:6), even though the same word *diakonos* is used for both.

He is not called a “dear worthy man.” Is there perhaps a double standard here?

Other women leaders

The second item of interest is Paul writing to the Romans:

“That ye may receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you” (Romans 16:2).

This shows that Phoebe had some business in Rome, and Paul is asking the churches to assist her in whatever she needs.

No one is quite sure what this business was. Some have speculated it had to do with preparing for Paul’s visit to Rome and perhaps making arrangements for his planned trip to Spain. At any rate, Paul asks the congregations to assist her.

Wouldn’t they think it was strange that Paul would send a woman emissary instead of a man?

Apparently not, since Paul in his epistle to the Romans commends many women leaders of the Roman churches, including Priscilla and Junia the apostle.

We need your credentials

During New Testament times there were no post office and postal employees to deliver mail. The only mail service was by imperial courier, which was not available to private persons.

Thus Paul had to send his letters via private couriers who were his personal envoys, and they had to be people he could trust because many false brethren and false prophets were trying to infiltrate the new Churches of God.

In 2 Thessalonians 2:2 Paul admonishes the brethren not to be shaken “by word or by letter, as if from us.”

They had to somehow make sure that the letter carrier was indeed from Paul. A church’s acceptance of a letter from Paul was based on an envoy’s credentials.

Phoebe’s leadership qualifications

Paul, by way of introduction, commends Phoebe and emphasizes her leadership qualifications.

The envoy had to be a church leader because, not only did he or she carry letters from Paul to be read and explained to the outlying congregations, he or she also brought informa-

tion from the church back to Paul with an assessment of how the brethren were doing

For instance, in 2 Corinthians 7:5-16 Titus came back and reported on the state of the Corinthian church. Since envoys obviously represented the one who sent them, they were to be treated with the same respect as the sender, in this case Paul.

Most likely they would be expected to transmit information not contained in the letter, like he says of Tychicus, another envoy and letter carrier Paul employed:

“But that you also may know my affairs and how I am doing, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make all things known to you” (Ephesians 6:21).

Brother and sister

Here is Paul’s commendation of Tychicus:

“Tychicus, who is a beloved brother,

a *diakonos* of one church serving as an ambassador to another. This is significant because a minister was needed to explain any questions the brethren had about the letter being sent and read aloud to the church.”²

Was Phoebe ordained?

For Romans 16:2 the Montgomery’s New Testament translates the Greek text as follows: “. . . For she has been made [*egenthe*] an overseer to many people, including myself.”

In contrast, the NKJV and most other translations have either “she has been” or variations thereof (leaving out the word *made*).

The Greek here for “has been made” is *egenthe*, which means “to be made, established appointed, ordained.”

Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance gives these definitions: to cause to be; to become, be made, be ordained. The word signifies appointment to

times in the Bible. Both the bishop and minister (*diakonos*) are “to rule [*proistemi*] their house well” (1 Timothy 3:4-5.)

See also 1 Timothy 5:17: “Let the elders who rule [*proistemi*] well be worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine.”

Gifts of the Spirit

In discussing the gifts of the Spirit: “Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; or ministry, let us wait on our ministering; or he that teacheth, on teaching; or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth [*proistemi*], with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness” (Romans 12:6-8, KJV).

Here are other verses where *prois-*

and ‘succourer’ when it refers to women.”⁴

Why send a deaconess to do a man’s job?

Many churches still believe that Phoebe was a servant of the church, at most a deaconess, but in no way could have been a minister of the gospel.

So I would pose this question: Why would the apostle Paul send a woman, a servant or a deaconess to the Roman Churches of God in the capital of the Roman Empire 800 miles away with the assignment to take his letter to them, read it and explain it to them and conduct business?

There obviously were male ministers in Corinth. Apollos comes to mind. Why did Paul send a deaconess rather than a minister?

Here’s why: He sent Phoebe because she was a minister, and a high-ranking one at that, one who had the added title of *prostatis*.

Let’s put it in today’s context. Say, for instance, it was found there were churches in Russia that wanted to connect with Churches of God in America. Would the head of an American church send a deaconess, perhaps to Moscow, instead of one of his top male leaders in the church?

The answer is self-evident.

Were we wrong about these scriptures?

Since Phoebe was a high-level woman leader in the New Testament church, a minister who obviously had to speak to the churches, you would have to ask yourself if perhaps we have a wrong understanding of 1 Corinthians 14:33 and 1 Timothy 2:12. Those two verses forbid women to do such things.

Perhaps these scriptures don’t say what we thought they said. Perhaps more study and research are indicated.

See also “Church of God Member Says Bible Doesn’t Prohibit Women Elders Including Preachers” on page 1 of this issue of *THE JOURNAL*.

If Paul had meant to say Phoebe was a servant, he would have used doulos, not diakonos. The early church fathers, who had their own biases against women, understood diakonos to mean ‘minister’ and not merely ‘deaconess’ or ‘servant.’

a faithful *minister*, and a fellow *servant* [*sundoulos*]; in the Lord, will tell all the news about me. *I am sending him to you for this purpose*, that he may know your circumstances and comfort your hearts” (Colossians 4:7-8).

Please notice that Paul calls Tychicus a brother, just as he calls Phoebe a sister.

Tychicus is a *diakonos*, the same word Paul used for Phoebe but translated in Phoebe’s case as “servant.”

He was also a *doulos*, which is “servant,” not *diakonos*, as was translated for Phoebe.

As mentioned before, *doulos* actually means slave instead of servant. Yet in most cases in the New Testament the translators render it as “servant.”

Would have used the right word

My point: If Paul had meant to say Phoebe was a servant, he would have used *doulos*, not *diakonos*.

The early church fathers, who certainly had their own biases against women, also understood *diakonos* to mean “minister” and not merely “deaconess” or “servant.”

One of them wrote to the church at Philadelphia, as noted in a book about women leaders in the Bible:

“Ignatius, bishop of Rome at the turn of the first century, twice refers to

office as in Ephesians 3:7-8, where Paul says of himself “of which I became (*egenthe*, ‘was ordained’) a minister . . . that I should preach among the Gentiles . . .”

In Ephesians 3:7 the word is passive (“I was made a minister”), which indicates someone else made the appointment or ordination.

Thus, says *Strong’s*, the clause might be rendered “for she has been appointed, actually by my own action, an officer presiding over many” (Romans 16:2).³

Note that Paul was made a minister so he should preach. Doesn’t this apply to Phoebe as well?

Did Phoebe rule?

Phoebe was not only a minister but one who was to be welcomed as worthy by the saints and *assisted* (*parestemi*) in anything she required. Paul explains that “she herself has been a *prostatis* over many and even of myself.”

The verb form of *prostatis*, which is *proistemi*, means, according to *Strong’s*, “to stand before, i.e. (in rank) to preside—to maintain, be over, rule.”

Phoebe, therefore, was “a woman set over others,” or “one who stands before.”

The verb *proistemi* occurs several

times in the Bible. Both the bishop and minister (*diakonos*) are “to rule [*proistemi*] their house well” (1 Timothy 3:4-5, 14).

Josephus uses *prostates* (the male form of *prostatis*) to refer to a leader of a nation or tribe and even God. He calls Moses, Joseph, Herod Agrippa and Hyrcanus *prostates*.

Notice what Charles Trombley says of Phoebe as *diakonos* in his summary of Roman 16:1-2:

“If we refuse to admit that Phoebe ‘ruled’ or ‘led’ or was a ‘defender’ or ‘guardian,’ then we must reduce the male [*diakonos*] to whatever level Phoebe was ministering.

“If Phoebe just ‘succoured,’ then that’s all the male [*diakonos*] did.

“It’s quite inconsistent to translate the word ‘ruler’ when it refers to men

END NOTES

- 1 Tyndale’s Old and New Testaments were the first English translation of the scriptures taken directly from the original Hebrew and Greek languages . . . Tyndale’s 1526 New Testament was the first ever printed in English. In the 1530s he also translated the first 14 books of the Old Testament. He thus became the first man to translate anything from Hebrew into English—as Hebrew was virtually unknown in England at that time” (tinyurl.com/83fha4h). Tyndale was later

hanged and burned for the treasonous act of translating the Bible.

- 2 Ignatius, Letter to the Philadelphians 10:1; Letter to the Ephesians 2:1, quoted in Linda Belleville, “Women Leaders in the Bible,” *Discovering Biblical Equality*, p. 121.
- 3 Kroeger, *Women Elders: Called by God?* (tinyurl.com/6qfzqon).
- 4 Charles Trombley, *Who Said Women Can’t Teach in the Early Church?*, pp. 194-195.

The present Bible canon did not drop out of heaven fully formed

Continued from page 7

(although it persisted through a number of German New Testament editions).

The precedent is, however, a fascinating one because it demonstrates that the original Protestant tradition could, during its formative years, happily make major adjustments to the canon of Scripture.

The criteria were not some Joseph Smith-style revelation but reason and judgment based on the best scholarship available at the time.

The audacity of canonicity

Much more could be added. For example:

■ The Ethiopian Orthodox Church adds four extra books to its New Testament and another two (including 1 Enoch) to the Old Testament.

■ Writing around 300 C.E., Eusebius, the historian of the early church, listed Hebrews, James, 2 Peter, 2 John, 3 John, Jude and Revelation as either dubious or false.

■ The Syrian Orthodox tradition continues to reject 2 Peter, 2 John, 3

John, Jude and Revelation.

■ Irenaeus, who is credited with standardizing the number of gospels at the present four, included a book called the Revelation of Peter in his canon.

■ Codex Sinaiticus, the oldest complete New Testament manuscript

One is the reconstructed Q gospel that underlies Matthew and Luke.

Knowing about the process

The majority of New Testament scholars believe that this “sayings gospel” was reworked by the later writers

ings of Jesus that circulated in the early church.

Some of this material is believed to be at least as old as the gospels of Mark and Q.

The canon of the Bible, then, did not drop out of the heavens one day,

The original Protestant tradition could, during its formative years, happily make major adjustments to the canon of Scripture.

that has come down to us (4th century C.E.), includes Barnabas and the Shepherd of Hermas.

■ As late as the 5th century the Codex Alexandrinus included 1 and 2 Clement.

The gospel known as Q

To complicate matters even further, scholars have identified two new gospels that cast light on the church’s earliest beginnings.

to fit in with the brief narrative framework created by Mark as they sought to flesh out the scanty factual material available to them about Jesus.

These then (Matthew and Luke) can hardly be eyewitness accounts.

The second document is the Gospel of Thomas, one of the Nag Hammadi texts discovered in Egypt in 1945. This gospel includes some passages with close parallels to canonical material, but also some entirely new say-

fully formed and divided tidily into proof texts.

A basic knowledge of the process of canonization ensures that any concept of inerrancy is untenable, a weakness of those who have (to quote Luther) “swallowed the Holy Spirit feathers and all.”

Even today there is clearly no single Christian canon of Scripture, and in fact there never has been.

Books and more

For further reading:

- Marcus Borg, *The Lost Gospel: Q*, Seastone, 1996, 1999.
- Robert Funk and Roy Hoover, *The Five Gospels*, Scribner, 1993, 1996.
- Harry Gamble, *The New Testament Canon: Its Making and Meaning*, Wipf & Stock, 1985, 2002.
- Randel Helms, *Who Wrote the Gospels?*, Millennium, 1997.
- Burton Mack, *Who Wrote the New Testament?*, Harper Collins, 1995.
- Burton Mack, *The Lost Gospel: The Book of Q and Christian Origins*, Harper Collins, 1993.
- Lee M. McDonald, *The Formation of the Christian Biblical Canon*, Hendrickson, 1995, 2005.
- Robert Miller (editor), *The Complete Gospels*, Harper Collins, 1992, 1994.
- George W.E. Nickelsburg and James C. Vanderkam, *1 Enoch: A New Translation*, Fortress, 2004.
- Birger Pearson, “Enoch and Jesus,” *Bible Review* 19/2, April 2003.

Connections: Member to Member

Issue No. 136

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Feb. 29, 2012

With privilege comes responsibility

By Darlene Warren

BIG SANDY, Texas—To be a baby boomer connotes privilege. I guess that's probably true in a lot of ways. We're a generation born after the Second World War—the key word being *after*.

The years after World War II were some of the most prosperous of our history. Our fathers came home after fighting in far-flung regions of the world and wanted nothing more than to forget what they had seen and what they had endured and to get on with their lives—to raise their families and provide for them as best they could.

When the Japanese Empire finally surrendered on Sept. 2, 1945, the Allied world erupted in celebration, and the soldiers who made it home alive were welcomed like no other in history, whether they were Yanks, Brits, Aussies, Russians or whoever. The most widespread war in the history of the world had ended.

Hardened by poverty

What is a baby boomer? Generally speaking, baby boomers are people born between the years 1946 and 1964. There are 75 million of us in the United States alone.

Why so many? Just as a quick reminder, the boys fighting the greatest war in human history were children of the Great Depression and Dust

Bowl era. For the most part they were hardened by poverty and grueling work before they even went to war.



LEST WE FORGET—A U.S. postage stamp issued in 1945 commemorates the flag raising by marines at the Battle of Iwo Jima. [Wikimedia Commons photo]

who reaped the benefits of those government subsidies?

Healthy, wealthy, but not too wise

The baby-boomer generation grew up with a sense of privilege, a sense of entitlement. Not

having gone through the hard times like their parents, boomers assumed that times would only get better: no Great Depression in their future.

Sure, we've gone through some tough times. The '60s and '70s were no picnic: John Kennedy, Bobby Kennedy, Martin Luther King all gunned down in cold blood.

The Kent State massacre and antiwar riots nearly tore the country apart. Vietnam was a nightmare. Our country was on the ropes many times during those years.

We were beat up and battered. But we made it through.

Brink of disaster?

Somewhere along the way we fell asleep. The '80s were a time of prosperity for a lot of people. The economy was rocking along, and we were lulled into thinking we would always have the good life: a home in the suburbs, fancy car, bank account, hefty retirement pension.

Look at us now. Our country as we know it is on the brink of disaster. China practically owns us. We have so much debt we may never climb out. We're paying more than \$4 a gallon for gasoline to drive our cars.

The Supreme Court is hearing arguments to determine if the government can force us to buy

health insurance. Our economy is crumbling, and half of our citizenry is paying taxes to support the other half.

We have no money, yet Congress keeps spending.

With privilege comes responsibility

Do we really believe God is the one who has blessed us with this great country? Is He the one who inspired men to come here and found this nation?

If so, we need to be asking for His wisdom and guidance to help us through the coming storm.

We can't do anything on our own, but with God guiding us who knows what can happen? He saved Nineveh when the people turned from their wicked ways, didn't He?

It's time to wake up, baby boomers. We've been privileged to live in the richest country in the world for a long time. Don't let our fathers' sacrifices be trampled underfoot while we stand idly by. Remember what they gave up so we could live free.

Remember the thousands of young men who never came home from Europe and the Pacific. Remember our children and grandchildren who will come behind us. What are we going to leave them?

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The Old Covenant is not the Sinai Covenant

Most attending a Sabbath keeping church of God think it is. The rest don't know one way or the other and haven't thought about it much. This in spite of the Old Covenant playing a major part in the doctrinal differences that tore apart the Worldwide Church of God.

Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail (Rev 11:19).

Does God need to have a yard sale to clean out His temple? What is the ark still doing in His temple if the covenant inside is old or obsolete?

In fact His covenant is not the Old Covenant. His covenant is forever! "... He will ever be **mindful of his covenant**" (Ps 111:5b). "**He remembers His covenant forever, the word which He commanded, for a thousand generations**" (Ps 105:8). About 140 generations have passed since Moses.

The Protestant roots of the WCG still tug at the churches of God. They assume that His covenant is the Old Covenant **without proof** and **without reading carefully**.

The confirmation of the "Old Covenant" is recorded in Hebrews 9:18-22. It claims that Moses sacrificed calves and goats, sprinkled the tabernacle and utensils after telling the people every major precept of the Law.

The confirmation of the Sinai cove-

nant is recorded in Exodus 24:3-8. There Moses read from a book that consisted of the instruction he had just been given in Exodus 20-23. It didn't contain every major precept of the Law. The priesthood of Levi is not mentioned. Sin offerings are not mentioned. National curses are not mentioned. At Sinai Moses offered oxen or young bulls, not calves and goats. To top it off, he didn't sprinkle the tabernacle or utensils because they didn't exist. Moses had not even received the plans for them yet. Either Hebrews is referring to a **different covenant** and **different time** than the covenant at Sinai or Hebrews is very sloppy.

In fact it is referring to a **different covenant**. "**These are the words which Moses spoke to all Israel on this side of the Jordan . . .**" (Deu 1:1a). "**Moses spoke to the children of Israel according to all that the LORD had given him as commandments to them**" (Deu 1:3b). "**These are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the covenant which He made with them in Horeb**" (Deu 29:1). "**Therefore keep the words of this covenant, and do them, that you may prosper in all that you do**" (Deu 29:9).

Thirty-nine-plus years after Sinai the tabernacle did exist and Moses explained the fundamentals of everything he had been given from God. Hebrews is referring to this covenant.

Among other things, God didn't command offerings at Sinai. "**For I did not speak to your fathers, or command them in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices**" (Jer 7:22). But they were certainly commanded in Deuteronomy (Deu 12:8-11).

One does not add to a covenant. "**Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it**" (Gal 3:15b).

Because God put additional requirements on Israel, He made a **second covenant** to put the new regulations on a plane similar to **His Covenant** that He proclaimed at Sinai. The words of Deuteronomy became the fundamental terms of this **second** covenant. It was the final book of the Law.

"**So it was, when Moses had completed writing the words of this law in a book, when they were finished, 25 that Moses commanded the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying: 26 "Take this Book of the Law, and put it**

beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there as a witness against you" (Deu 31:24-26).

The Law is a **second covenant** that was placed near The Covenant of the Lord. It did not replace it, nor was it the same covenant. It contained new regulations which could not be added or merged into the Sinai covenant. This covenant that ratified the Law of Moses is the Old Covenant, not the covenant made at Sinai. If the scroll of the law becomes old, that does nothing to His Covenant, the Covenant of the Lord that predated it. His covenant is forever.

Don't wait for someone ordained of men to look into this for you. If they have been unable to understand something so basic to His mind and the historical record of scripture, how can you expect that they can teach you the deep truth of God? Develop your own relationship with your Creator with an in-depth study of His word. This is the tip of the iceberg of misunderstanding that blinds (Rev 3:17) the churches of God. A complete understanding of His mind begins with understanding **His covenant** and how it relates to the Law.

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This page is part of **CONNECTIONS: MEMBER TO MEMBER**, the advertising section of **THE JOURNAL**

What does Genesis 1:14 really say?

always took Gen 1:14 to mean what the church always said it did; that the sun and moon were created to allow men to track the passage of time. But what if there is more to this verse? What if God was telling us something else? What if there is an *additional* meaning to this verse? If you have an open mind and are willing to listen, I believe you can see how this is possible, and how it could impact your understanding of the calendar. (Yep, I'm still harping on the same ol' thing.)

First, let's read the verse in context from the King James version:

14 And God (430) said (559), Let there be lights (3974) in the firmament (7549) of the heaven (8064) to divide (914) the day (3117) from the night (3915); and let them be for signs (226), and for seasons (4150), and for days (3117), and years (8141): **15** And let them be for lights (3974) in the firmament (7549) of the heaven (8064) to give light (215) upon the earth (776): and it was so. **16** And God (430) made (6213) two (8147) great (1419) lights (3974); the greater (1419) light (3974) to rule (4475) the day (3117), and the lesser (6996) light (3974) to rule (4475) the night (3915): he made the stars (3556) also. **17** And God (430) set (5414) them in the firmament (7549) of the heaven (8064) to give light (215) upon the earth (776), **18** And to rule (4910) over the day (3117) and over the night (3915), and to divide (914) the light (216) from the darkness (2822): and God (430) saw (7200) that it was good (2896). **19** And the evening (6153) and the morning (1242) were the fourth (7243) day (3117)." (The numbers in parenthesis are the Strong's numbers for the words in bold type.)

Now let's read it from the Good News Translation:

14 Then God commanded, 'Let lights appear in the sky to separate day from night and to show the time when days, years, and religious festivals begin; **15** they will shine in the sky to give light to the earth'—and it was done. **16** So God made the two larger lights, the sun to rule over the day and the moon to rule over the night; he also made the stars. **17** He placed the lights in the sky to shine on the earth, **18** to rule over the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God was pleased with what he saw. **19** Evening passed and morning came—that was the fourth day."

Now from God's Word translation:

14 Then God said, 'Let there be lights in the sky to separate the day from the night. They will be signs and will mark religious festivals, days, and years. **15** They will be lights in the sky to shine on the earth.' And so it was. **16** God made the two bright lights: the larger light to rule the day and the smaller light to rule the night. He also made the stars. **17** God put them in the sky to give light to the earth, **18** to dominate the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. **19** There was evening, then morning—a fourth day."

Lastly, let's look at verse 14 from the Moffatt translation:

"Then God said, 'Let there be lights in the Vault of heaven to separate day from night, to mark out the sacred seasons, the days and the years.'"

Here are three translations that render verse 14 with a context referring to God's sacred holy days. All three are subject to criticism for varying from *traditional* understandings in numerous locations. However, as I pointed out before, traditions are not always an accurate source of truth. We all know the traditional understanding of the Trinity is false, yet this teaching is woven throughout every version of "accepted" translations. HWA taught us to look at more than one translation when there are questions about a verse. I am simply doing the same.

There are several things involved in this study.

- 1) The Bible is a translation. We all know this but seldom really consider how this affects what we read. Moses didn't write Genesis in English.
- 2) The translations we read have a source. This

seems like common sense, but, again, we seldom really consider how this affects what they actually say. What we are reading is a copy of a copy . . . countless number of times.

- 3) The sources for translations vary. Some translation teams use one source, some use multiple sources, and others use another source. This is where the copies mentioned in item 2 come into play.
- 4) Societal norms, training, experience, and the native language of the translators have a HUGE impact on how the translators interpret what they are working on.

All this probably seems silly to make a point of, but the reality is that the sources for translations are important to note, as well as the background of the translators. For instance, the Good News source for the Old Testament is the *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, which is sourced from the *Biblia Hebraica*, edited by Paul Kahle. This was the first printed Bible based on the Leningrad Codex (book).

The Leningrad Codex is the oldest complete manuscript of the Hebrew Tanakh (Bible) using the Masoretic text, which is accepted as Judaism's official text. There will never be an authoritative "These are the only scrolls Christ Read from" copy of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament, but the Leningrad Codex and the Alpeo Codex come as close as can be determined via comparison with the Dead Sea scrolls and other ancient sources.

This is important because the sources used for some translations of the Old Testament are not from these sources. Many of the oldest translations used by the "church" appear to be from the Greek Septuagint and were translations into Latin, many of which are referred to as some variant such as "XXX Vulgate." Jerome originated this translation in the 4th century, and over the millennia it became corrupted as compared to original texts it was translated from.

This point about corruption cannot be overstated. Human nature being what it is, and as noted by HWA, once a mistake is learned, it is very nearly impossible to admit the mistake. Unfortunately, church leadership has done much to promote this kind of problem. At the Council of Trent the

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Church stated that the Latin Vulgate was to be "held as authentic; and that no one is to dare, or presume to reject it under any pretext whatever" (*Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent, The Fourth Session, 1546*). Some branches of The Church of God are no better since they refuse to review old WCG teachings to see if they are correct in light of what has been learned and has happened since 1986.

The background of the translators also comes into play here. The King James Version was published in 1611. There were numerous previous translations of God's word into English prior to the KJV. But the people working on these and the KJV had grown up and been trained during a time that the Catholic Church's doctrines were almost universally accepted. It is unreasonable to expect that they would be accomplishing their work without some level of bias.

Because of all this, looking back as far as possible to the original words and their meanings is critical to making sure that we have the most accurate understanding of the original intent of the text.

This study is one such example. In the text of Genesis 1:14 the word "seasons" is Strong's number 4150, *Mow'ed*. The definitions for it are: appointed place, appointed time, meeting, appointed time (general), sacred season, set feast, appointed season, appointed meeting, appointed sign or signal, tent of meeting. As you can see, *none* of these refers to the seasons of the year that we think of, i.e., spring, summer, fall, or winter. We can also probably eliminate the meaning "appointed sign or signal," since the specific word "signs," Strong's number 226, *'owth*, is in the same verse, and means: sign, signal, a distinguishing mark, banner, remembrance, miraculous sign, omen, warning, token, ensign, standard, miracle, proof.

Using *any* of the *proper* definitions listed by Strong, we must come to the same conclusions that the three translations I quoted from above have come to. That one of the main reasons God told us He placed the Sun and Moon in the heavens to tell us when His appointed times are to occur.

This verse in the majority of English language translations is easily misread as referring to only tracking the passage of time because of the mistranslation of the term *mow'ed* into singular English word

"seasons." From what I can ascertain, the

Hebrew word *mow'ed* can only be interpreted as having to do with an appointed time to meet, and the English word "season" is at best a poor translation. At worst, it is a clear mistranslation meant to deceive. As we know, our church has told us that this verse says the Sun and Moon are there to determine the days, months, and years.

To the best of my knowledge our church made only minimal mention that God's original words refer to His appointed times, *not* the seasons of the year.

If I am correct about the understanding of the meaning of the word *mow'ed*, how is it that *so many* of the translations we read do *not* show what the ones quoted above do? I contend that they fall prey to what I mentioned; that the translators let their personal biases interfere with their work. There are other examples in the Bible of this the WCG brought to our attention. I won't go into them here, but I am sure that you can find them with just a little research.

What does this all mean then? God set up the relationships between the sun, earth, moon, and galaxy for multiple reasons. One was to accommodate life here on the earth. Without the tides, summer and winter, and day and night, the cycle of water would stop and the earth would become stagnate; a festering pool of degenerate waste. But, more importantly, He set up the solar system so that *we* could determine *when* He wants us to meet with Him to honor and learn from Him how we

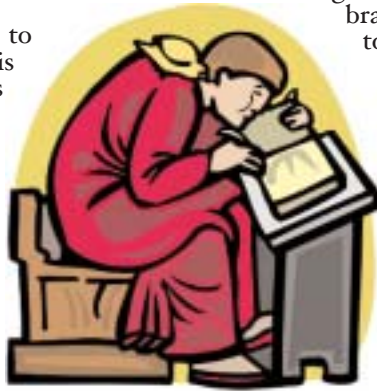
are to live here and now, so we will be qualified to be a part of His plan for eternity. I believe that Moffatt brings it out best. This verse says that God put the Sun and Moon in place to allow us to keep track of time so we know when the sacred seasons are.

This clarification of Genesis 1:14 is one more brick knocked out of the wall of ignorance that we have willingly maintained for so many years. One could make the claim it is a wall of pride and prejudice the ministerial hierarchy maintained so *they* were the arbitrators of right and wrong.

This all makes me wonder about the future of the ones who support that system.

Are they are guilty of the same sin as Adam and Eve? Are they guilty of eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? Of taking upon themselves the prerogative of determining what is sin and what is not? Of placing themselves between God and His people?

Maybe that's why God had to crush the church. So He could finally get the ministerial system out of the way. So He could get closer to His people.



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In the Days of Esther

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Abagtha	Biztha	Haman	Mehuman	Tarshish
Admatha	Carcas	Harbona	Memucan	Teresh
Agagite	Carshena	Hathach	Meres	Vashti
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Building Bridges Not Walls, www.ReconciliationGroup.org.

The Church of God is not prepared, www.ChildrenofGod.net, P.O. Box 30332, Little Rock, AR 72260.

The Church of God Big Sandy, www.churchofgodbigandy.com.

The 120 Year End-Time Prophecy! Triumph Prophetic Ministries, P.O. Box 842, Omak, WA 98841, www.triumphpro.com, triumph-pro.org, triumphpro.info.

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Widower, retired teacher, conservative, fit, longtime COG member, seeks single COG lady 50-62 for long-term relationship. Friendship first. Write Gordon Winkelman, 9571 E. 5th St., Tucson, AZ 85748. Pictures please.

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Free: About 20 copies of the Ambassador College yearbook, The Envoy, from the 1970s through the 1990s. I'm giving them away, but you will need to pay postage. Mrs. Clyde Mottin, 514 Milan Ave., Ravenna, NE 68869. Phone (308) 452-3340.

Obituaries

Susan Irene Quincer, 62, of Pasadena, Calif., passed away on June 2, 2011, at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena with her family at her side after a brief illness. Born Susan Irene Rethford Dec. 8, 1948, in Renton, Wash., to Paul Robert and Capitola Rose Rethford, the family moved to Blue Springs, Mo., where Susan spent her early youth on the family farm. Orphaned by the age of 13, she lived with many families in the area from her church until graduating from high school. In 1966 Sue moved to Pasadena to attend Ambassador College. She would fondly remember her first ride from the airport, seeing



Susan Quincer

streets lined with palm trees and thinking: I am home. In 1968 Sue met Dick Quincer, and they married two years later on Jan. 10, 1970. Their early years together were spent enjoying travel throughout Europe, the Middle East and the United States, the purchase of their current family home and establishment of careers before the arrival of daughters Jennifer Paige in 1983 and Allison Beth in 1986. Sue always had a passionate dedication to her family and all their endeavors. She gracefully balanced a career as a human-resources specialist with being a terrific wife, mother and friend. After retirement from Atlantic Richfield/BP in 2001, she took her talents to Nestle USA, where she was most recently employed. An amazing woman with a generous and joyous spirit, Sue loved God and was devoted to the daily study of His Word. She loved her home, music and art, was an outstanding cook and was always finding ways to care for those around her. Susan's beautiful spirit, sense of humor, infectious laugh and dimpled smile are greatly missed every day. Susan is survived by her husband, Dick; daughters Jennifer (Erik) Strom and Allison Quincer; and siblings Paul (Thelma) Rethford, Gary (Mary Ellen) Rethford and Nancy Baley. Her Illinois family includes brothers-in-law James (Alice) Quincer of Malta, Ill., Mark (Sandy) Quincer of LaSalle, Ill.; and sister-in-law Bonnie Caswell of Clare; along with many nieces and nephews. By her request Sue was cremated. On June 25, 2011, hundreds of family and friends gathered in Pasadena for a wonderful afternoon to remember Susan Irene Quincer and to celebrate a life lived well.

Obituaries

Charles Ray Black, 74, of Big Sandy, Texas, passed away March 19, 2012. Mr. Black was born Aug. 15, 1937, in Canton Texas. He was a retired coach, teacher and building contractor. He is survived by daughters and sons-in-law Cathy and Alan Jones of Hawkins, Texas, Cindy and David Martin of Lindale, Texas, Janet and Peter Gordon of Boca Raton, Fla., and Julie Black of Frankston; son and daughter-in-law Carl and Kelley



Charles Black

Black of Round Rock, Texas; 11 grandchildren; a brother, Randall Black of Tyler; and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Barbara Black; and siblings. His friendliness, hospitality and generosity are greatly missed by all who knew him.

Obituaries

Gary W. Vance, 64, of Tulsa, Okla., passed away March 17, 2012, after a short illness. He was born Oct. 8, 1947, in Chicago, Ill., to John C. Vance and Barbara Smith Vance. Gary married Susan C. French on March 15, 1973. She preceded him in death in 2007. Gary was an entrepreneur by nature and owned Big Red Sales, Cowboy Pete's and Sunbelt Truck & Equipment. He was a college-football fanatic and an avid conversationalist. Survivors include his son, Gary W. Vance Jr. of Tulsa, and his brother John C. Vance III of Kalispell, Mont., along with several nieces, nephews and friends including employees. Donations may be made in Gary's name to the American Cancer Society. See an article Gary wrote on page 3 of issue No. 146 of THE JOURNAL, dated Dec. 20, 2011.

Photo by Denise Henry



Gary Vance

Vance Jr. of Tulsa, and his brother John C. Vance III of Kalispell, Mont., along with several nieces, nephews and friends including employees. Donations may be made in Gary's name to the American Cancer Society. See an article Gary wrote on page 3 of issue No. 146 of THE JOURNAL, dated Dec. 20, 2011.

Prayer requests

Delores Imler, of York, Pa. (mother of Beverly Wertz), is suffering from Lou Gehrig's disease, limited lung capacity and pneumonia. Prayers are appreciated.

Prayer requests

Michael Smith of Mounds, Okla., is recovering from a broken bone in his foot.

Mary Morelli, 80, of Rhode Island suffers with heart failure and pneumonia.

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Why do you tithe on money?



Few of us have taken a closer look at the Scriptures to see what it really says about tithing. Honestly, where does the Bible say, or even hint, that we are to tithe on the money we earn? What truly is Biblical "increase"? Few doctrines have been as badly misrepresented as the doctrine of tithing. If you now tithe on money, on your paycheck, then you owe it to yourself and your family to get the facts. Read this detailed

study of tithing which has been freeing people from the false teachings on tithing for over 20 years. (Suggested donation, \$3 ppd)

A sunset-to-sunset weekly Sabbath is not in the Bible!

It is an old story: assuming a belief comes from the Bible, when in fact the Bible says nothing of the sort. Most of us came out of Protestantism because we saw exactly that. The truth, the Scriptural truth, is the sunset-to-sunset weekly Sabbath doctrine is just ANOTHER ONE of those beliefs that has no Biblical basis whatever! Shocking though this may be, it is the provable truth. For nearly 20 years the book, *The Scriptural Weekly Sabbath is NOT from Sunset-to-Sunset*, has shown the vital truth on this crucial subject. The Biblical facts and history do not lie.

Read the facts for yourself. Is Lev. 23:32 really proof of a sunset-to-sunset weekly Sabbath? Could it be an ancient Babylonian method of reckoning the day gradually replaced the observance of the true Biblical day? This book is a must read. Order yours today. (Suggested donation \$3, ppd)

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Church of God Ministry—In Christ

Over the years I have advertised the above website in this publication. Many have taken up the invitation to visit it.

The site has been updated and is easier to use. I have added several new study/commentary papers dealing with God and Jesus Christ—who they are, how to identify them, their purpose and other interesting reading. Also, I have acknowledged certain errors concerning the prophecy papers.

I invite all past visitors and welcome new visitors. The time spent will be worthwhile.

Carl Falzone
 www.cgministry-inchrist.org

The Church of God is not prepared for The Return of Jesus Christ

Read it here:
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Where Is the... True Church today?



Jesus Christ said, "I will build My Church." He did not say "Churches," denominations, "sects." He said the gates of hell would not prevail against that Church. Somewhere that original true Church exists today. But WHERE? WHICH? . . ." (*WHERE Is the True Church* booklet, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong).

"The Death Throes of America and Britain"

Dear Brethren,

Time is rapidly running out for America and Britain, and the Church of God, for the end is now virtually in sight—and only a few are awake to what is taking place, and others do not seem to care!

Alarming and Sobering News: There are many frightened because of what they are witnessing taking place in America and Britain—asking themselves: *Will there be a future for us?* Consider the following from the Internet that reflects the thinking of others:

Internet: "Could 2012 be America's Last Presidential Election?" posted on December 12, 2011 by Giacomo, "I've asked this question to a number of people and most of them respond as if I were crazy for asking. They tell me that this is America, land of the free and that there will always be elections.

"The thought that this might really happen scares me to death! This is frightening. We had better pray like never before for God's leadership in our lives and our country . . ."

A Godless Society and World! Due to the rejection of God and Jesus Christ and Their holy and righteous laws, *evil worsens*—as can easily be seen from the reporting of the news media. The Apostle Paul terms this an evil world (*Galatians 1:3*).

Evil Prevails: While viewing the news on television and reading the newspapers, it is grievous to see the continued downward slide of evil that knows no boundaries in both societies of America and Britain (*which includes Canada, Australia, and South Africa*), and not seeing society raising an alarm; but more alarmingly is to see the Churches of God are sleeping their way through it along with the churches of this world!

Social Problems: Rarely does one find anyone speaking out and upholding the social values based on Holy Scripture. Anything goes, and this can easily be witnessed on television! There is the acceptance of it by the so-called conservative speakers on television and radio. Virtually all of them have caved in to the overwhelming liberal element of society. For example: Consider the continual **murder of unborn babies:**

(CNSNews.com) By Dan Joseph, January 25, 2011: "Nearly 50 Million Abortions Have Been Performed in U.S. Since Roe v. Wade Decision Legalized Abortion . . ."

Violence, Strife, Contention, is everywhere, cities, streets, countrysides! Law Enforcement Officials freely admit we are living in a violent society. Through the News Media we read of killings taking place every day—*many random killings!* Recently one FBI agent tried to shoot his supervisor and another then shot and killed him. The Law Officials are fully right: No one is really safe anymore; and it is getting worse. As to why: **"The law is powerless and perverse judgment proceeds"** (*Habakkuk 1:1-4*).

The Wickedness of Mankind—is essentially the same today as it was in the pre-Flood world of Noah—wickedness so great that God destroyed a billion people or more with a Worldwide Flood:

"Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that EVERY INTENT of the thoughts of his

heart was only EVIL CONTINUALLY. And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the LORD said, 'I will destroy man . . . for I am sorry I have made them . . . the earth was filled with violence . . . all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth'" (*Genesis 6:5-13*).

The Wrath of God—Because of this great wickedness, Jesus Christ will soon pour out His wrath on the people of Israel (*Ezekiel 6:10-12*), and later the world at **Armageddon!** This soon-coming time will be worse than any previous time in history or ever will be again, so said Jesus Christ (*Matthew 24:21; Daniel 12:1*). The prophet seeing this coming pleads with God, "In wrath remember mercy" (*Habakkuk 3:2*).

Jesus Christ makes known the same conditions will exist in this coming time as they did during the time of Noah and Lot:

"And as it was in the days of Noah, so will it also be in the days of the Son of Man (just before He returns): they ate, they drank, they married wives (including racially mixed and same gender marriages, Ecc. 1:9; 3:15), UNTIL the day that Noah ENTERED the Ark, and the FLOOD came and destroyed them all.

"LIKEWISE as it was also in the days of Lot: they ate, they drank (nothing said about marriages of any kind for it was a sodomite society), they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; BUT on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it 'rained fire' (our time—nuclear warfare) and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all.

"EVEN SO will it be in the day when the Son of Man (begins to be) is revealed" (Luke 17:26-30).

In the preface to his book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong wrote:

"People of the Western world would be stunned—dumbfounded—if they knew! The governments of the United States, Britain, Canada, Australasia, South Africa would set in motion gigantic crash programs—if they knew! They could know! But they don't! Why?"

Slaughter Coming: Not only are Americans being led like stupid sheep to slaughter. It does not bode well for Christians either. What Satan the devil is doing in all levels of society and to the Church of God is like the proverbial frog being gradually **cooked to death** without realizing it! This is a repeat of what took place within the Worldwide Church of God over an eight-year period of time, 1986-1994.

Corporate Churches of God: Prophecy makes known the continued apathetic condition of the corporate Churches of God who have closed their eyes and ears:

Jeremiah 10:21: "For the shepherds have become DULL-HEARTED ('without knowledge' 10:14), and (because of it) have NOT sought the LORD (in Spirit and in Truth, John 4:24; 17:17); therefore they shall not prosper (*James 4:7-9*), and all their flocks

shall be scattered" (*John 10:10, 12-13; 23:1-3; Ezekiel 34*).

Flocks to be Scattered—Scripture makes known that very soon all of the members of the corporate Churches of God will be scattered to the winds with no faithful caring pastor of Jesus Christ there for them—a further fulfillment of prophecy:

Daniel 12:7: ". . . and when the POWER of the holy people has been COMPLETELY scattered, all these things shall be finished."

It is the tithes and offerings that make possible the power of the corporate churches. Persecution and the failing of the economy will fulfill this prophecy. Then will come to pass the **Famine of the Word** (*Amos 8:11-12*).

God's True Passover: Based on the downward spiral of society into the bottomless cesspool of abominable evils, one cannot help but wonder whether this year, or the next one, or possibly, two, could be its last observance before being observed in the place of safety for God's true and faithful people of the Philadelphia Era of His Church.

It should be realized history teaches us the Passover has played a very significant and trying role in the history of God's Church:

1) Jesus Christ was arrested shortly after observing the Passover in 31 A. D., and tried by a **biased and enflamed Sanhedrin Court**, then beaten and crucified the following day by the Romans (*Matthew 26:47-67; 27:1-66*).

2) Moses was used by God to lead His people out of Egypt beginning the very next day after that momentous Passover when all the doorways of their homes had to have the **blood of the slain Lamb smeared** over them in order to have their lives spared from the death Angel who passed over them; but then killed all the firstborn of the Egyptians that same night (*Exodus 12*).

3) God's Church in Jerusalem found a small window of opportunity to flee from that city just before the arrival of Titus and his huge Roman armies that began their attack on the very day of the Passover in 70 A. D. (*A Handbook of Ancient History in Bible Light*, Page 260, Dorothy Ruth Miller).

God's True Passover—with its Vital and Meaningful Symbols is at hand! Very probably nothing of any great significance will take place this year, but what about next year, or the following one?

The greatest EMPHASIS must be placed on **God's Passover** and preparation for it! For Scripture and duality from past history strongly indicate **God's faithful elect** will be departing shortly before the Passover—and soon!

Will you and I be counted worthy to escape when that very small window of opportunity opens just before the modern day Titus (**Beast**) with his enormous armies attack and conquer the House of Joseph? *Luke 21:36; Revelation 18:4.*

The True Passover—is to be partaken of with the full realization of its vital importance and understanding of the meaning of each **SYMBOL** must be the priority of all priorities! To reject the symbol of the **BREAD**, as many thousands are now doing, is to **reject** the symbol of the **WINE** as well! *It is deadly serious!*

The Great Tribulation—It should be realized by everyone the time of **Satan's Wrath is also at hand!** And with it will be the demise of America, Britain, and other nations of Israel, brought about by the fully revived Roman Empire. This will also be the time of the **martyrdom** of saints (*Revelation 6:9-11*)! Shortly before this occurs **God's true and faithful elect** will be in the Place of Safety—protected from the **terrifying warfare and slaughter** then taking place.

God's Protection—To be counted worthy of God's protective blessing, these soon-coming terrifying times should very seriously be considered in view of this coming **Passover and Its Vital Symbolism!** For by partaking of the Passover with a right Spirit, recognition, and acceptance of the true meaning of the symbols could make the difference between healing in this life, deliverance from an early death—and even the **Great Tribulation!**

The Passover—is the most vital and important service of all God's commanded assemblies for it symbolizes the horrible beating and crucifixion of Jesus Christ that He voluntarily paid for all of humanity (*John 3:16*). Without it there is no hope (*John 6:53*).

"A WAKE UP CALL" to the conditions of this coming terrible time is now being made before it comes to be too late! It is also hoped all will come to see who are in churches with **unconverted ministers, or apostate ministers** who have **rejected** Christ by going **off-track** from His true doctrinal teachings in part or in whole, and get back **on-track** Remember: **"God's eyes are upon the truth"** (*Jeremiah 5:2; John 17:17; Matthew 4:4*).

A Repentant Change—Please know unless there is change with repentance, Scripture makes known many thousands will suffer the horrors of the **Great Tribulation** that is virtually on top of us! Why—because of continuing to choose the teachings of Satan the devil through an apostate pastor general over and above Jesus Christ through His apostle and end-time Elijah! *II Corinthians 11:3, 13-14; Colossians 2:6-8; Daniel 12:10; Isaiah 33:6.*

The decision is yours to make; no one else can do it for you or me (*I Corinthians 11:31*).

Your caring friend and servant in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior,

—Don Billingsley



Titus and his huge Roman armies that began their attack on the very day of the Passover in 70 A. D. (*A Handbook of Ancient History in Bible Light*, Page 260, Dorothy Ruth Miller).

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The Ezekiel WATCHMAN

God's *Warning* Message

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

“The end has come; it has DAWNED for you; behold, it has come!” (Ezekiel 7:6).

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

**By Alton B. (Don) Billingsley,
Church of God, Faithful Flock**

Wannsee Remembered

J-WIRE published the following on January 21, 2012: “On January 20, 1942, the Nazi leadership gathered in a villa on the outskirts of Berlin and adopted the ‘Final Solution to the Jewish Question.’ The Wannsee Conference, as this became known, from the suburb where the meeting was held, formalized the process that exterminated so much of European Jewry. Writes Danny Ben-Moshe:

“As we mark the 70th anniversary of that 90-minute meeting in which 15 people condemned millions to death, there are many crucial lessons to learn from the Holocaust . . .”

The Jerusalem World News, on January 25, 2012, adds: “Presiding over the conference was SS-Lieutenant General Reinhard Heydrich, chief of the Security Police and Security Service. In attendance were 14 high-ranking German military and government leaders, among them Adolf Eichmann. Imagine, over lunch 15 men in 90 minutes changed the world forever. January 20, 2012, marks the 70th anniversary of that fateful conference. We dare not let this dubious anniversary pass without marking how little time it takes to alter the course of history . . .”

“. . . How little time it takes to alter the course of history . . .”

The course of history is now being altered through similar leadership groups! This is evident from witnessing Governments now being overthrown in the Middle East and being replaced with leadership that is no longer friendly to this country or Britain.

The Transformation of Europe: In addition, the face of Europe is being changed due to economic and other problems of numerous nations!

The Revived Roman Empire: Soon the Pope, this one or another, will be given the power of miracles by Satan the devil (*Revelation 13:11-18*). With that power, and what he will then do with it, will alter the course of history by reviving the Roman Empire by bringing Ten Nations in Europe under its authority! *Revelation 17:12-13*. And shortly thereafter the Beast with the blessing of the Pope will with **blitzkrieg nuclear warfare** attack and conquer the House of Joseph and other nations of Israel (*Ezekiel 5:12-17; 6:6*).

Tragically the House of Joseph is asleep to the plans that undoubtedly are already being crafted to conquer and rule the world by the Revived Roman Empire (*Isaiah 29:14*). This can and will take place virtually overnight with no retaliation! *Ezekiel 7:14*.

A Divided Nation: Jesus said a house that is divided cannot stand! This country is being divided more politically and in other areas than ever before along with many unsolvable problems.

Famine and Disease: Soon we will be entering the hard stages of **famine** (*Joel 1*), and the **disease epidemics which cannot be cured** (*Deuteronomy 28:27, 58-61*). They are now making their appearance as the following articles make known:

Der Spiegel Online wrote on January 27, 2012: **Coming-Worldwide Disease Epidemics and Pandemics**

“Antibiotics were once the wonder drug. Now, however, an increasing number of highly resistant—and deadly—bacteria are spreading around the world.

“The bacteria are transmitted via the skin, through towels, clothing or direct body contact. All it takes is a small abrasion to provide them with access to a victim’s bloodstream. Festering pustules develop at the infection site, at which point the pathogens are also capable of corroding the lungs. If doctors wait too long, patients can die very quickly. The two bacteria, ha-MRSA and ca-MRSA, are only two strains from an entire arsenal of pathogens that are now resistant to almost all available antibiotics. Less than a century after the discovery of penicillin, one of the most powerful miracle weapons ever produced by modern medicine threatens to become ineffective.

“With the spread of ESBL-forming bacteria, reserve antibiotics have to be used more and more frequently, thereby allowing new resistances to develop. In fact, there are already some pathogens that not even the drugs of last resort in the medical arsenal can combat. This rapid spread has caused many to wonder whether more and more people will soon die of infectious diseases that were supposedly treatable, as happened in centuries past. Unfortunately, there are many indications that this might ultimately be the case. The World Health Organization (WHO) recently warned against an impending medical catastrophe . . .”

Internet: *The Independent*, Jeremy Laurance Monday 20 February 2012

Experts fear diseases ‘impossible to treat’

Alarming rise in bacteria resistant to antibiotics, government report find Britain is facing a “massive” rise in antibiotic-resistant blood poisoning caused by the bacterium *E.coli*—bringing closer the specter of diseases that are impossible to treat. Experts say the growth of antibiotic resistance now poses as great a threat to global health as the emergence of new diseases such as Aids and pandemic flu.

By *Christine Gorman / Scientific American—Wednesday, February 8, 2012*

“The arms race between humanity and disease-causing bacteria is drawing to a close and the bacteria are winning. The latest evidence: gonorrhea is becoming resistant to all standard **antibiotic treatment**.

Gonorrhea is one of the most common **sexually transmitted diseases** in the world with about 600,000 cases diagnosed in the U.S. each year.

The Wrath of God: Jesus Christ is even now dealing with the house of Joseph, America and Britain, and the other tribes of Israel, due to their **rejection** of Him and His holy and righteous laws; He will later deal with the nations of this world. God’s anger is **red-hot** against His people:

“Thus says the LORD God: ‘Pound your fists and stamp your feet, and say, “Alas, for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! For they shall fall by the sword (warfare), by famine, and by the pestilence!”’” (Ezekiel 6:11).

God desires repentance, for He takes no pleasure in the death of anyone. Through His prophet, God says to the leadership:

“Say to them: ‘As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘I have NO pleasure in the death of the wicked, BUT that the wicked TURN from his way and live. Turn, turn from

your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’” (Ezekiel 33:11).

The prophesied **famine and diseases** will be brought about by severe adverse weather conditions and locusts (*Joel 1*). This will leave this country in such a weakened state it will be overpowered and conquered by the rapidly developing Roman Empire in Europe.

It can also be seen by the astute observer the disasters in nature have been **intensifying** and coming much closer together! They are rapidly leading the way into such terrible times that will be so **terrifying** as to be beyond description—so said Jesus Christ!

“For then there will be [the] Great Tribulation, such as has NOT been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And UNLESS those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved (alive); BUT for the ELECT’S sake those days will be shortened” (Matthew 24:21-22).

The Food Pantry is almost Bare—The severity of the coming famine will be upon society before it is realized there is no food to be had from anywhere! Alarming, recent news reports make known there are no real reserves of food in either America or Britain!

Prophecy makes known society will soon come to know the **gnawing hunger pangs**—followed by death from the **famine, disease epidemics, nuclear warfare, and slavery**—all taking place before Jesus Christ returns and establishes the Kingdom of God (*Ezekiel 5:12*): **“a soon-coming NIGHTMARE that no one seems able or willing to face the truth.”**

Are YOU ‘AWAKE’ and of God’s Faithful Elect? How do you know? Check it out by prayerfully studying what Christ says of the Laodicean Church Era and compare it with the Philadelphia Era. Revelation 3:7-22. Your life could depend on it!

The MYSTERY OF THE AGES

Jesus Christ led His apostle and the promised Elijah—His *teacher*—to write the last book of his life, **THE MYSTERY OF THE AGES** to be A REMINDER of all of the doctrinal teachings Christ RESTORED within His Church through him. By the use of this original unedited book with the Holy Bible, His people should be enabled to recognize the strong deception that is now on His Church by Satan the devil and keep themselves from it.

The Philadelphia Remnant

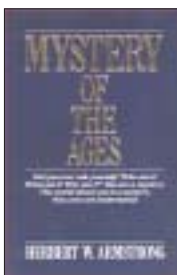
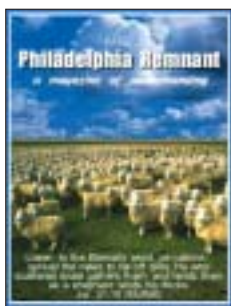
To be kept informed from a Biblical perspective the meaning of the continued **record breaking disasters** in the nations of Israel and other major problems that are now coming closer together we offer freely a subscription to our magazine. It can also be read on our website (www.cog-ff.com).

The Three Elijahs

The book of *The Three Elijahs* has been updated and completed. It can now be read on our website (www.cog-ff.com) or downloaded from it. This book makes known how these **Three Men** were used by God to perform basically the same responsibilities and for the same reasons.

God had ample reason for these three men to have the same name as Elijah. And though John and Mr. Armstrong had their own names, they were “. . . to go forth before Him (Jesus Christ) in the spirit and power of Elijah” (*Luke 1:16-17*). The identity of the end-time Elijah is established with Biblical proof and by his fruits.

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Now and New World Order

Part 15

CIA owns the media

Online court testimony of expert witness William Schaap: CIA paid reporters and news writers (as of CBS) to manipulate public opinion for US ventures. US government agencies falsified news to promote war effort, and continued in peacetime. Later found out by hearings of Congress and newspaper investigation.

"During the Vietnam War when there was a massive bombing campaign and the U.S. was bombing Cambodia, President Nixon and Secretary of State Kissinger repeatedly made public statements that we were not dropping bombs in Cambodia. Well, you couldn't fool the Cambodians who looked up and saw the bombs falling in their back yard! . . . that was a disinformation campaign later admitted." While Americans expect their government to tell the truth, other nations are skeptical until proven otherwise.

Life magazine's cover picture of an enlarged North Vietnamese stamp showed Vietnamese shooting American planes, bursting into flames and crashing. Glorifying the killing of Americans in various gruesome stamps, but it was later learned they were false. "They were CIA forgeries. Had never been real stamps. The CIA was able to have them appear on the cover of *Life* magazine as if they were the real thing."

Former CIA agent John Stockwell told how his group vilified Cubans fighting in the Congo, drummed up terrible things they were doing to Angolans. A series of articles told about their atrocities and was sent to wire services reporting this phony news to the world. The CIA spends over 25 billion dollars a year on media control! Propaganda to manipulate US citizens and the world.

The US had trouble getting a US nuclear sub to dock at Japan so a CIA agent wrote an editorial that appeared next day in a major Japanese newspaper claiming it was all right, despite Hiroshima. Though that it originated from the CIA was kept quiet.

FBI's Hoover tried to get Martin Luther King to commit suicide and to implicate his followers with Communists. Hoover had his FBI men contact favorable newscasters to discredit MLK. "Hoover, for reasons that are still unclear . . . hated Dr. King . . . referring to him as garbage . . . Though publicly the FBI claimed to be painstakingly researching MLK's assassination."

Illuminati: Fact & Fiction

By Mark Dice (2009): In 1963 Joe Valachi told a congressional hearing about a US group that secretly controlled industries, polices and judges. He was put into an insane asylum. Later, authorities realized he told the truth about the Mafia. [Part of larger plot. Mazzini founded the Mafia to fund his revolution. The M in MAFIA stands for him, and a statue of him is displayed in NY City!]

Albert Pike in 1871 wrote (to Mazzini): "[The world] will receive the pure doctrine of Lucifer brought finally out in the public view." In 1889 he claimed the highest orders of Freemasonry worship Lucifer. "The Masonic religion should by all of us initiate be maintained in the purity of the Luciferian doctrine. Yes, Lucifer is God, and the true and pure religion is the belief in Lucifer . . . A devil, the fallen Lucifer."

The 1972 *None Dare Call It Conspiracy* book by Gary Allen had foreword by Congressman John Schmitz and sold over 5 million copies in one year. Told about Insiders (Illuminati) who ruled behind the scenes manipulating governments to get in debt to them, and secretly financed Communism.

Pike's book *Morals and Dogma* is given only to 33° Masons. It says "Every Masonic lodge is a temple of religion and its teachings are instruction in religion." What many suspected all along.

The 33° Mason Manly Hall wrote "Careful analysis of the [US] seal discloses a mass of occult and Masonic symbols chief among them the so-called American Eagle . . . only the student of symbolism can see through the subterfuge and realize that the American eagle upon the Great Seal is but a conventionalized phoenix [fire god]." Other US symbols as the 5-point star are Masonic and from mystery religions (treated as patriotic emblems!).

Mike Hanson's book told about the Bohemian Grove (where top leaders meet in secrecy). A few prostitutes hired there were not

paid for a sex show, so one stole a laptop computer. It showed videos of children raped and tortured (as DeCamp found by other means).

Conspiracy of Silence is like a film version of John DeCamp's book *Franklin Cover-up*. Both tell of a Nebraska credit union embezzled for \$38 million, to pay off politicians to allow a drug and prostitution ring, including child prostitution. Many boys and girls told how they were sent around by airplane for sexual favors. One boy, Paul Bonacci, won a \$1 million judgment for kidnapping, mind control and satanic ritual abuse. Later, photos caught popular politicians in such acts. *Washington Post's* 6-29-1989 front page headline was *Homosexual Prostitution Inquiry Ensnarers VIPs with Reagan, Bush*. Prosecutors called the ones caught as the tip of the iceberg. [Later, President George W. Bush was caught in photos caressing a black male model.]

National Geographic in 2004 pictured a 1915 photo of Bohemian Grove's effigy sacrifice before a 40-foot owl (representing the god Moloch). [Later, more archived photos showed human sacrifices.]

■ Celebrities against Official Story

Nazi ideas carried into the US through neo-cons. Henry Kissinger was selected by Bush for the 911 Commission, but the 911 widow victims found his bin-Ladens business ties and stopped him, though the Commission still found no one at fault. And the Bushes have business with the bin Ladens, too. The Bush administration spoke of *security failures* after 911, but no one was blamed. Bush spoke before the UN within days saying: "Let us never tolerate outrageous conspiracy theories concerning the attacks of September the 11th, malicious lies that attempt to shift the blame away from the terrorists themselves, away from the guilty." The guilty got away with it!

Charlie Sheen was the first celebrity to speak out against the Official Story: "It seems to me like 19 amateurs with box cutters taking over four commercial airliners and hitting 75% of their targets, that feels like a conspiracy theory." He researched the idea, but the media called him crazy.

Yet Jesse Ventura, once wrestler and governor, noted that the jet fuel was kerosene which burns less hot than propane, yet propane does not melt metal grills while burning. And the towers fell about the rate of gravity and blew up into powder. [He claims Democrats and Republicans are like pro wrestlers—act like bitter enemies for show, but out of the limelight are really buddies.]

Rosie O'Donnell on *The View* 2007 asked fellow hosts if governments have ever faked attacks to get the nation into war. (Happens often.) She noted it would be the first time fire melted steel columns of just 1 tower but also 2 other towers fell that way and they fell defying the laws of physics according to the Official Story. A video on YouTube shows her talking about knowing janitor William Rodriguez, last one pulled out. He claimed in sublevel two a bomb blast peeled the skin off a vending machine worker. Rodriguez later traveled telling the world that 911 was an inside job.

Some Hollywood shows featured 911 events such as the 3-4-2001 *Lone Gunmen* pilot show (*X-Files* spinoff) telling a fictional story of a man trying to stop a plane attack on the WTC. A radical group inside the government tries to start a fake war against terrorists to provide funds for the military industrial complex since the Cold War ended drying up funds. They hijack a commercial airliner, crash it into one of the Twin Towers and blame a terrorist group to increase arms deals.

The US Great Depression was engineered by the Federal Reserve to profit the few elite and set up the New Deal of FDR or socialism. Nazi means national socialism. Nazi Germany was funded by the elite [through the Federal Reserve while USA suffered]. FDR placed the Illuminati symbol of All-Seeing-Eye on \$1 bills, after it was a hidden part of the US Great Seal for over 100 years. [Early US flags featured 13 red and white stripes, with canton of the Eye but deemed too difficult to copy. The first official US flag had the triple cross canton—of the British East India Co., and later replaced by 13 5-point stars, not really for colonies, but for the Illuminati with same Eye idea.]

In 1976 the US military devised a mock World Trade Center attack involving Mid-East terrorists with plastic box cutters hijacking airliners. [One of the participants in this exercise tries to tell the world what they concocted.] The 911 attacks were implemented to get laws as the *Patriot Act* to set up martial law in a declared emergency, and 1000 US concentration camps are ready.

H.G. Wells wrote that the *Open Conspiracy* is a world religion. Rockefellers admit they secretly conspire with a few others to rule the world. A president's cabinet is made of CFR members doing the bidding of David Rockefeller. Already the richest people pay no taxes, almost monopolize resources, make governments accept corporate rule over their water and electricity. The wealthy fund costs for eugenics.

They conspire to make a feudal system, but one almost exists. This slum planet has a billion barely surviving in crowded, despicable areas. They and other near or actual slaves make the goods the rich sell at dirt cheap prices by low wages.

The book *1984's* idea and Big Brother are almost here: 'Wiretapping' without a warrant; surveillance most everywhere, including homes; forced vaccination shots and drugs; full body scans, watched by face recognition software; no say in electing good leaders; media-controlled information. Roundup of dissenters in detention centers (for extermination or forced labor).

Rulers of Evil (1999)

By F. Tupper Saussy: USA was based on the Roman pagan system [so it is a candidate for the Beast]. Proof of paganism is in the dome of the Capitol, depicting pagan gods ruling America, teaching its citizens wisdom [Hab 2:18-19]. US motto *Annuet Coeptis* is from a prayer to the god Jupiter, so urges Jupiter to favor its undertakings.

Bill Clinton's favorite professor Carroll Quigley wrote in *Tragedy & Hope* that "multitudes were already under the control of a small but powerful group bent on world domination and Quigley himself was part of that group."

Time magazine reported in 1992 that Reagan and the pope conspired in a secret holy alliance to defeat Communism. Naming many Catholics in key positions in US government, as John Kerry and Edward Kennedy.

Washington DC was formed from Maryland and Virginia, or Virgin Mary land. Founded on land known originally by a town named Rome and by the river Tiber, and owned by the richest US men at the time, Catholics Daniel Carroll and his brother-in-law Robert Brent was DC's first mayor.

Before the Revolution Catholics were barred from voting or public office, since most were fleeing Catholic control. So few Catholics, yet by migration from Europe by 1850 Catholics became the largest church. The *Constitution* decreed freedom of religion.

Catholics changed worship of pagan gods to saints, changing names and with a slight change of practice. So the temple of Mars became church of Saint Martina, and god Bacchus became St. Bacchus the Martyr. The pagan Saturnalia became Christmas celebrating the same feast to Bacchus under another name to hide the fact. Most any reference source will tell you this.

Manly Hall wrote in his *Secret Teachings* that many US founders were Masons and were aided by "a secret and August body existing in Europe, which helped them to establish this country for a peculiar and particular purpose known only to the initiated few." The Illuminati seal became the US Great Seal. The 1776 actually refers to the Illuminati (re)founding.

Charles Thomson was known as *the man who tells the truth*, Secretary of the Continental Congress, and helped design the US Great Seal. He said if he related all he knew that *the leadership of the nation would be weakened*. Dr. Benjamin Rush overheard Thomson's reply to a request to tell his secrets: "No, said he, I ought not, for I should contradict all the histories of the great events of the Revolution, and show by my account . . . that we are wholly indebted to the agency of Providence for its successful issue." He surely knew and was actually pointing out that the vicar of Christ was the agent of Providence, or the pope (self-

appointed, not by God).

England's Trafalgar Square has two statues, placed at the center of two lawns. One of King James II wearing armor of Julius Caesar. George Washington the other, holds a fasces, emblem of Roman rule. British enemy yet honored!

Freemasons governed the British East India Company in 1773. According to the *New Encyclopedia of Freemasonry* "The Boston Tea Party was entirely Masonic, carried out by members of the St. John's Lodge during an adjourned meeting" of the Green Dragon Tavern. (Dressed in Indian garb to blame them as a false flag op.) So Masons seemed to fight other Masons, but in leadership roles mostly.

In the book *Our Flag* (1890) it states the US flag committee was aided by a man called The Professor. He advised the flag of the British East India Company be used as US flag. And George Washington did use it first in 1776. British officers seeing it hoisted, saluted it, and even with a 13-gun salute. So the first US flag was of a private company ruled by Masons, of 13 red and white stripes, with triple cross canton. Then later the canton was switched to 5-point stars with same idea of sun worship.

In Manly Hall's *Secret Destiny of America* he implies the Professor was Francis Bacon and later suggested the US flag design. Bacon used the symbol because stars mean the sun (a star) and the sun was adored as life-giver and god. [Masons kept the winter and summer solstices and these later morphed to become US holidays of Christmas and Independence Day.] Hall claimed the US phrase *E Pluribus Unum* refers to ancient Bacchic Rites, a forerunner of *Freemasonry*.

Ancient Pergamos (of Turkey now) "was bequeathed to the Roman people in 133 BC by its king Attalus III. But . . . the people of Rome had to regard their leader as God. The Pergamos kings had begun ruling as God with the title of Pontifex Maximus fled the fall of Babylon in 539 BC." Persians defeated Belshazzar who parted with sacred Temple vessels (God sent Darius to punish them). Belshazzar's priests were spared and migrated to Pergamos, setting up their Pontifex Maximus. Romans did not worship their emperors as gods until death, but Julius Caesar changed that in 48 BC.

Early US Freemasons used the Phrygian cap, a loose cap from the Phrygia district of the kingdom of Pergamos (Babylon) signifying liberty. The area around the US Capitol is sectioned, each labeled 600-699 with the exception of 666 so must be for the Capitol grounds.

On Dec. 8, 1854, the Virgin Mary was declared by the Vatican as Immaculately Conceived as Jesus. Then Congress became obsessed with expanding the Capitol dome. "According to the official publication *The Dome of the United States Capitol* (1992) *Never before (or since) has an addition to the Capitol been so eagerly embraced by Congress.*" Within a week the Freemason Thomas Walter completed designs for the dome which looks like St. Peter's of Vatican City. Topped by the equivalent of Mary for Immaculate Conception, goddess Persephone. A reversal of history when Persephone's temples became churches of Mary. Persephone was also known as Libertas or Liberty, now Freedom and 12 fasces lie beneath her.

Constantino Brumidi was paid to decorate the Capitol dome or Rotunda after approval by the Vatican. He painted Washington ascended among heathen gods (as Vulcan and Mercury) known as his apotheosis.

[Statue of Liberty, the Illuminati's Illuminator, was made by Italian Freemason F.A. Bartholdi who tried to form a statue of the goddess Isis, the Egyptian Queen of Heaven, to overlook the Suez Canal. But could not, so made goddess Liberty instead. At first with cup in her hand, but changed to a lamp for a lighthouse. Her scarlet robes were deemed too costly to make. So the USA has the best giant display for Mystery Babylon.]

Doc Marquis, ex-Satanist

"Doc Marquis is a former Satanist who was trained in the Illuminati Plan before he came out of the coven to become a Christian. The Illuminati copied heathen holidays from Satanism and then just gave them Christian names . . . our entire calendar is patterned after Illuminism: Valentine's and Groundhog Days; St. Patrick's Day; Easter; Beltaine—May 1-6; Halloween (Samhain); Christmas (Yule)."

See his about an hour long video online of *American Occult Holidays*. He also notes that the US military's *Handbook for Chaplains—Pamphlet 165-13* includes occult religions allowed by active military personnel since the mid-1960s.

Illuminati continue the ancient practice of human sacrifice on these holidays, and Marquis

Continued on next page

Now and New World Order

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

tells why some innocent sounding practices are Satanic. He says the triangle of All-Seeing-Eye stands for Satan, False Prophet and Antichrist.

Synagog of Satan (2009)

By Andrew Hitchcock (Rev 2:13 cited): Ashkenazi Jews are not really Jews. They seemed to convert to Judaism to avoid war with Muslims and Christians in 740 AD when they lived between the Black and Caspian Seas. [Bible claims a true Jew is one of the heart, not just physical (Rom 2:29). Even a Gentile can be a spiritual Jew in the heart. Some people contend that some Ashkenazi Jews are ethnic Jews.]

1694—Bank of England formed, not run by government, but Jews. It lent out 98% of the money with only 2% cash reserve to profit greatly. The plan is to increase money supply (print more money) causing inflation and the amount a person has is less so he needs to borrow. When enough people are in debt no more loans are made, and the bank collects real wealth or property.

President Thomas Jefferson noted media control in his day! "Nothing can now be believed which is seen in a newspaper. Truth itself becomes suspicious by being put into that polluted vehicle. The real extent of this state of misinformation is known only to those who are in situations to confront facts within their knowledge with the lies of the day."

Rothschilds are Ashkenazi Jews. They picked Weishaupt to lead the Illuminati. They tempt leaders with vice and blackmail them to control them. Through Alexander Hamilton they had the US establish a central bank called First Bank of the US with 20-year charter. Costs in the US went up 72%.

US did not renew the bank charter so the Rothschilds had Britain declare war in 1812. But the US won, the British were fighting Napoleon, too. The 5 Rothschild brothers began funding both sides of war, in this case Napoleon and Britain [stirring hatred in the media they controlled]. The debts are guaranteed by the government so they cannot lose, and the victor must honor the debt of the loser. By 1900 the Rothschilds owned half the planet. Mayer Amschel Rothschild's wife said before she died "If my sons did not want wars, there would be none."

They had Switzerland remain neutral in wars to fund both sides. In 1815 Nathan Mayer Rothschild said: "I care not what puppet is placed upon the throne of England to rule the Empire on which the sun never sets. The man who controls Britain's money supply controls the British Empire, and I control the British money supply." In 1830 Rothschilds controlled opium trade in China using David Sassoon to gain a fortune for them and the British royal family.

President Andrew Jackson opposed a central bank. The Rothschilds spent \$3 million to get his opponent elected, yet he succeeded in a landslide. They tried to assassinate him but both guns of the assassin misfired. He became the only president to pay off the national debt.

President James Garfield was assassinated in 1881 two weeks after stating "Whoever controls the volume of money in our country is absolute master of all industry and commerce . . . and when you realize that the entire system is very easily controlled by a few powerful men at the top, you [know] how periods of inflation and depression originate."

In 1891 the British Labor Party Leader stated about the Rothschilds: "This blood-sucking crew has been the cause of untold mischief and misery in Europe during the present century, and has piled up its prodigious wealth chiefly through fomenting wars between states which ought never to have quarreled." This and other comments led them to purchase Reuters news agency to control the media, later Associated Press—news services copied for daily news.

Congressman Oscar Callaway told Congress in 1915 that J.P. Morgan is a Rothschild-front controlling US media. They found that only 25 key newspapers needed to be bought to control most all papers, to steer "news" in their favor.

■ Jews conquered Russia

In 1919 *The Times of London* reported "One of the curious features of the Bolshevik movement is the high percentage of non-Russian ele-

ments among its leaders. Of the 20 or 30 . . . leaders who provide central machinery of the Bolshevik movement, not less than 75% were Jews." Rothschild-led Jews instigated Communism in Russia in 1917. The Jewish spies changed their names to Russian ones, as Trotsky was originally Bronstein, and Lenin was the Jew Vladimir Ulyanov.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn wrote that the Soviet concentration camp system where tens of millions died was run by Jews and he named the leaders. They killed way more than Hitler did, and before he did, but their controlled media kept it silent.

Winston Churchill, born of a Jewish mother, wrote in the *Illustrated Sunday Herald* in 1920 of "this worldwide conspiracy [of Weishaupt and Karl Marx to Trotsky] for the overthrow of civilization . . . There is no need to exaggerate the part played in the creation of Bolshevism and in the actual bringing about of the Russian revolution by the international, and for the most part atheistic Jews . . . the majority of the leading figures are Jews."

Also 1920 *The American Hebrew* issue stated "The Bolshevik revolution in Russia was the work of Jewish brains, of Jewish dissatisfaction, of Jewish planning, whose goal is to create a new order in the world . . . [the same Jewish influence will] become a reality all over the world." [So their world order is Communism.]

Again in 1920, H.A. Gwynne wrote: "There has been for centuries a hidden conspiracy, chiefly Jewish, whose objects have been and are to produce revolution, Communism and anarchy." *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion* was published outlining world conquest by Jews. In 1921 Henry Ford said "The only statement I care to make about the Protocols is that they fit in with what is going on."

John D. Rockefeller was assigned controlling US media. He set up *Life* and *Time* magazines. He had two Jews buy up major publications as the *Washington Post* and *Newsweek*. *The Jewish Encyclopedia Judaica* claims "all the large Hollywood companies, with the exception of United Artists, were founded and controlled by Jews."

President Teddy Roosevelt before he died in 1919 was quoted in the *NY Times* 1922: "These International bankers and Rockefeller-Standard Oil interests control the majority of newspapers and the columns of these newspapers club into submission or drive out of public office officials who refuse to do the bidding of the powerful corrupt cliques which compose the invisible government."

His quote followed the previous day's quote of NY Mayor John Hylan: "The warning of Theodore Roosevelt has much timeliness today, for the real menace of our republic is this invisible government which like a giant octopus sprawls its slimy length over city, state and nation . . . head of this octopus are the Rockefeller-Standard Oil interest and . . . international bankers. This little coterie of powerful international bankers virtually run the U.S. Government. They practically control both parties . . . to place in nomination for high public office only such candidates as will be amenable to the dictates of corrupt big business."

Josef Stalin's real name was Djughashvili meaning son of a Jew. He married 3 Jewish wives in his life. He passed law against anti-Semitic comments, a death sentence. [He said "It doesn't matter who the people voted for; they always vote for us." Same can be said of USA led by the Illuminati—why both major parties seem to be opposed but are really sides of the same coin.]

Director of the FBI Hoover was homosexual and was photographed engaged in the act with Associate FBI Director Clyde Tolson, lifelong mate and who inherited Hoover's estate. The photos were obtained by the Mafia, run by the Jewish Don Meyer Lansky for blackmail to control Hoover. Hank Messick's book *Lansky* had the subtitle *Jews control crime in the United States*, but under pressure the Jewish involvement was deleted.

Nesta Webster reported "The Jewish conception of the Jews as the Chosen People who must eventually rule the world forms indeed the basis of Rabbinical Judaism . . . Jewish religion now takes its stand on the Talmud rather than

on the Bible." [Jesus did claim the Pharisees were blind guides (John 5:45-47).]

The Jewish Encyclopedia of 1925 claimed Ashkenazi Jews (90% of all Jewry) are from Edom or Esau, enemy of the Israelites (Gen. 36:1) "Edom is in modern Jewry." [Edom or Esau was the fraternal twin brother of Jacob, who stole Esau's firstborn birthright and blessing, so a reversal of fortunes.]

In 1927 *The Jewish Tribune* of New York stated "Masonry is based on Judaism. Eliminate the teachings of Judaism from the Masonic Ritual and what is left?" Well known Rabbi Isaac Wise stated "Freemasonry is a Jewish establishment whose history, grades, official appointments, passwords and explanations are Jewish from beginning to end." From the *Talmud*, difficult to get a copy of since the penalty for teaching the *Talmud* to a non-Jew is death.

"[In the] Rothschild-owned publication *La Revue de Paris* a letter to Karl Marx from Baruch Levy is reprinted . . . the Jewish people as a whole will be its own Messiah. It will attain world dominion by the dissolution of other races . . . annihilation of monarchy and by the establishment of a world republic in which Jews will everywhere exercise the privilege of citizenship. In this New World Order the children of Israel will furnish all the leaders . . . Thus will the promise of the Talmud be fulfilled in which is said that when the Messianic time is come the Jews will have all the property of the whole world in their hands."

In 1929 the Rothschild-controlled Paul Warburg sent secret warning of the planned depression so men as Rockefeller, JP Morgan and Joseph Kennedy got out of the stock market before the crash, then bought up much at low prices later. Rep. Louis McFadden said "It was not accidental. It was a carefully contrived occurrence . . . The international bankers sought to bring about a condition of despair here so that they might emerge as rulers of us all."

The Federal Reserve was suppose to keep it from happening, instead it restricted money further. Economist Milton Friedman stated "The Federal Reserve definitely caused the Great Depression by contracting the amount of currency in circulation by one-third from 1929 to 1933."

While many Americans were made poor, the Federal Reserve funded rebuilding in Germany! McFadden stated "All this [renovation] was done on our money. All this was given to Germany through the Federal Reserve . . . pumped so many billions of dollars into Germany that they dare not name the total." [So USA funded the resurrection of the Beast.]

In 1931 the Jewish Alliance Israelite Universelle member Jean Izoulet stated "The meaning of the history of the last century is that today 300 Jewish financiers, all Masters of the Lodges, rule the world."

Elizabeth Donnan in 1930-35 published her 4-volume set *Documents Illustrative of the History of the Slave Trade to America*. Told that Jews dominated the slave trade of African slaves to the US, with close ties to the Rothschilds. They hid by using Gentile crews.

A plaque at the Auschwitz concentration camp used to have a sign saying 4 million were murdered there, mostly Jews, but was replaced later stating 1.5 million. Though the oft repeated 6 million total is not revised by 2.5. The Israeli Knesset requires anyone in the world who questions the 6 million figure to be extradited to Israel for trial. Within 5 years after WWII 9 million captive German soldiers and civilians were allowed to die by Allied forces, but kept secret.

The Rothschilds bribed President Truman in 1948 with a \$2 million campaign contribution to recognize Israel as a sovereign state. Its flag is a blue Rothschild hexagram with blue borders at top and bottom to indicate Israel's intended borders from Nile to Euphrates rivers. Termed the Star of David, it is actually of ancient mystery religion of Molech, pagan god demanding human sacrifices, and his ritual is portrayed at Bohemian Grove.

Sephardic Jewish children taken on field trips by Ashkenazi adults were exposed to radiation. [Sephardic Jews may be racially of Judah and thus Jews, but may not act like a spiritual Jew is to act. As with most groups there are those religious or secular. Jews were originally of Judah, Levi and Benjamin.]

On Jan. 10, 1963, A.S. Herlong spoke to Congress listing the 45 goals of the Communist Manifesto. The US fulfills every one of them. Lenin said "The establishment of a central bank is 90% of communizing a nation."

Kofi Annan became Secretary General to the UN. He had married a Rothschild. US forces attacked Afghanistan and Iraq, 2 of 7 nations without a Rothschild-controlled central bank. Others are Cuba, Iran, Libya, North Korea and Sudan known in the US as *rogue states!*

Jews want mixing of the races to blur nationalism, but in the state of Israel the only race for emigration is Jewish, and it is forbidden for a Jew to marry a non-Jew.

Israelis in 1967 attacked and tried to sink the USS *Liberty* (but it limped home), to blame Egypt and attract US citizens to their side. So 34 US troops died and 173 were wounded. The Israelis claimed it was a mistake. The US military warned survivors not to tell who really attacked as a national security issue. The next day Israel occupied the Golan Heights. Israeli General Matityahu Peled was quoted in *Ha'aretz* 3-19-1972 saying "The thesis that the danger of genocide was hanging over us in June 1967 and that Israel was fighting for its physical existence is only bluff which was born and developed after the war."

In 1972 Senator Fulbright told on CBS TV "The U.S. Senate is subservient to Israel . . . This has been demonstrated time and again." Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned. He said in an earlier speech "The people who own and manage the national impact media are Jewish and with other influential Jews helped create a disastrous US Mid-East policy . . . I am referring to the major news wire services, pollsters, Time and Newsweek magazines, the NY Times, Washington Post and the International Herald Tribune." He cited many of these Jews by name.

Nixon resigned, a result of Watergate in 1974, punishment for his 1971 order to investigate many Jewish IRS agents aiding rich US Jews. Long time secretary of Nelson Rockefeller, Louise Boyer, fell to her death out her 10-story apartment, 3 days after a NY periodical published that an anonymous source revealed that the Rockefeller family manipulated the Federal Reserve to sell off Fort Knox gold cheaply to European speculators.

In 1993 US forces attacked 150,000 Iraqi troops fleeing with white flags from Kuwait, slaughtered by fuel air bombs. George H.W. Bush ordered this, apparently because it was Purim when Jews vanquish their foes.

In 1977 the Israeli Knesset passed law to punish up to 5 years for a non-Jewish Christian to give a New Testament to an Israeli. In 1978 Israelis killed 1500 Lebanese and Palestinians with cluster bombs, provided by the US for defense only. Most of the dead were civilians. In 1982 Israel air attacked Lebanese and Palestinian civilians and 18,000 died. Said to thwart guerrillas, but there was a truce for a year and no settler deaths.

Wojtyla in 1978 became the first non-Italian pope since 455, renamed John Paul II. His mother was a Jew, which constitutes a Jew under Israeli law.

In 1985 the *Achilles Lauro* cruise ship was hijacked by a Palestinian terror group funded by the Israelis. An American Jew in a wheelchair was killed and thrown overboard, shown highlighted on the news that day.

In 1996 Marlon Brando on *Larry King Live* said "Hollywood is run by Jews. It is owned by Jews, and they should have a greater sensitivity about the issue of people who are suffering because they've exploited them." The Jewish Defense League tried to get his star removed from the Hollywood Walk of Fame but could not.

■ Virtual presidents—puppets

Bill Clinton was ordered by the elite to do their bidding for favors to him. In 1998 he told on an Irish visit "By the time you become the leader of a country someone else makes all the decisions. You may find you can get away with virtual presidents, virtual prime ministers, virtual everything."

Ralph Nader confirmed this: "What has been happening over the years is a predictable routine of foreign visitation from the head of the Israeli government . . . The Israeli puppeteer meets with the puppet to the White House, and then moves down Pennsylvania Avenue and meets with the puppets in Congress. And he takes back billions of taxpayer dollars."

[*Mercury* magazine 1957: "The invisible money power is working to control and enslave mankind. It financed Communism, Fascism, Marxism, Zionism and Socialism. All of these are directed to making the United States a member of World Government."]

—Mr. Jan Young

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Plane Truth Part 6

Depleted Uranium and 9/11 DVD

By Leuren Moret (2011) who used to work at the Livermore nuclear weapons labs in California. Upon meeting survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, she changed her mind and wants to advocate for them. She is an expert on atmospheric dust and radiation. Educating people, the media and parliaments. Videos of her lectures or interviews are online.

By the level of radiation detected by Geiger counters, the dense metal of Depleted Uranium was used to penetrate the Twin Towers and the Pentagon. [The WTC was designed to be plane-crash proof, even multiple strikes. First responders were exposed to this radiation, especially in the dust and air. While they used filters and gas masks, these were not much help, so they are ill or dead. Radiation particles are so small filters do not work. Breathing tank air does help.]

Major Doug Rokke is a military whistle-blower and doctor who treats DU illness. He heard from a colonel at the Pentagon 20 minutes after the Pentagon crash that it was a cruise missile. Rumsfeld on 3 separate occasions referred to it as a missile.

The Pentagon is the most defended building in the world with missiles on roof and underground, besides jet intercepts, so the military had to be involved (let it happen at least). The initial crash hole was only 16 feet wide, too small for an airliner, and plane parts were not found outside. The hole extended through 5 walls, and the exit hole was labeled with a big sign of *Punch-out Hole*, a term from target range practice when a target is examined after shooting to indicate accuracy. Also the military term *cookie-cutter* comes up because of the neat entry hole of penetrators, bunker busters. Despite that the side hit was recently renovated with reinforced concrete.

Senator Al Franken (a Jew) wrote the book *Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them* [NY Times bestseller, see online] in which he stated a lot of people claim the Jews were warned to avoid the WTC on 9/11, and he got the "Jew call." [He wrote "I got the Jew call. I had an office in the Trade Center where I used to do most of my writing. The call came from former New York mayor Ed Koch. Al, he told me, don't go to work on the twenty-third day of Elul (the Jewish calendar date for 9/11)." So if Arab terrorists wanted to harm Jews, they did a poor job of it! Some non-Jew officials were warned and thus survived the day. Why were other people not warned, or the crashes averted if they were known about a day ahead of time?]

The Navy section of the Pentagon was vacated for renovations, so few casualties there. (In the floor just a few feet above the hole, people recounted they were not hurt at all and unaffected.) The next section of the hole inward was accounting. Rumsfeld said since 80 accountants died in the crash and the records were destroyed, the trillions missing from the Defense Department could not be found out; but don't they keep copies of the records somewhere else? [Quite nice of terrorists to get him off the hook! Not to mention the crooks who stole the greatest amount of money! Contractors were charging the military exorbitant prices for cheap parts anyway for decades! Conveniently, the \$2.3 trillion unaccounted for was announced just before 9/11 and did not reach the media until months afterward, buried under the 9/11 disaster news.]

Emergency responders at the Pentagon and WTC are all sick or dying from radiation contamination of Depleted Uranium there to penetrate the buildings. One Tower crash had 3 projectiles leaving the opposite side, 2 had the olive drab color of burning DU. An aluminum plane hitting a building is like an eggshell. [The WTC outside 'webbing' design acts like a mesh, as a screen door does against a pencil thrust through it, making a hole but not tearing the rest.]

The highest concentration of fine particles of uranium ever measured in an air sample in the US was recorded in the WTC dust. Tritium, a form of radioactive hydrogen, was found in the WTC basement waters. It is a by-product of DU weapons.

(When Moret urged residents to get Geiger counters to measure radiation levels, the NY City police chief panicked and wanted law passed to prohibit citizens from using them! Fortunately that failed.)

Evidence of both thermite and thermate were found at the WTC, of controlled demolition. But they could not account for all the dust present. [New York Newsday reported] removal of bomb-

sniffing dogs 5 days before 9/11. What would they have found? Some tenants heard heavy work going on, even on floors normally completely empty. The WTC was a white elephant with many floors vacated, needing modernizing, besides the very costly asbestos removal problem. So demolition would solve much.

Evidence of Judy Wood shows HAARP was also used. An aerial view of the ground around the WTC showed 22-foot diameter circles touching each other. A 60-foot hole was also made in the ground. Many burnt cars, blocks away, had engines missing. You could see through a hole in one side to the other. So an odd force erased the massive engines but hulks of the cars remained. The WTC columns were made of stainless steel which does not rust, but many were found rusty, evidently from a strange process. Plus many bent and twisted in odd shapes, unlike damage from any ordinary fire. Curled beams were curved without buckling or tearing which happens only using intense heat as at a foundry. The 9/11 attacks showed *shock and awe*.

("A chemical explosive does not release enough energy to do what happened to the World Trade Center buildings, which was to nano-powder them. And they were in lower orbital space within 48 hours of the disaster. Those are very tiny particles, and I am an atmospheric dust expert. I've never heard of it going up into lower orbital space that fast.")

Livermore labs is basically a nuclear bomb factory, and includes HAARP research, too. Also is reported to be a site of raped children experimented on and mind-controlled in the program MKUltra. Monkeys had removed skulls and electrodes placed in their brains to get them to do the same tasks for hours.

WMD are for international bankers to profit from wars. And 'terrorist' attacks to restrict freedom, as the US Patriot Act.

The National Guard and military fought in Iraq and Afghanistan and brought back contamination from DU used there, so contaminate those they contact. Part of plot to finally destroy US forces and take over.

Terrorists are not rogue groups, but formed and funded by intelligence agencies working together. Arabs with box cutters who could not pilot airliners did not crash buildings on 9/11. Officials claimed the attacks were not known about ahead of time, but quickly 19 names were found.

"International terrorism does not exist" according to a Russian general (see his article ahead). He claims globalists use the various intelligence agencies of nations pooled together to fake rogue terrorist attacks to fulfill their agenda to dominate in a One World Order. The 9/11 attacks were faked to speed up their NWO plans and profit from war as usual. Most citizens of nations believe 9/11 was an inside job, because they know how their own government would act.

Cossiga, former president of Italy, was part of Gladio terrorism after WWII (see his words ahead). He claims 9/11 was false flag terrorism as Gladio. The real terrorists made it appear they were innocent and blamed others. Even children are sacrificed in these events for globalist rule.

The British MI5 or MI6 controls the Mossad and the CIA. The Federal Reserve uses the FBI to do its bidding, while the City of London bankers uses the CIA.

Genocide of 3rd world nations has been going on as Africa—land grabs for its resources. We are too, from Genetically Modified foods, vaccines, fluoridated water, man-made diseases and radiation. For years, atomic bomb air tests spread radiation in the US and USSR. Later replaced by radiation dumps of nuclear reactors and US use of DU weapons, as in Iraq.

HAARP practiced on hurricanes making them do circles or loops. Steering by an energy beam on one side that ionizes, as seen on hurricane Katrina. [FEMA botched aiding survivors since that was the idea behind the devastation, with late help, as contaminated trailers for homes. And Blackwater thugs patrolled the area afterward.] HAARP weaponizes nature, like making tornadoes or causing flooding. Or creating earthquakes in populated areas for maximum effect.

HAARP can create rogue waves 100 feet high and has sunk 250 world class cargo ships to eliminate competitors. No ship is designed to withstand such high waves. HAARP caused 1400 dry lightning fires in California for two days June 21-22, 2008.

High tech weapons made most of the WTC building material, instead of impacting the

ground, turn to dust and rose to the upper atmosphere. Quite unusual since most heavy material normally falls making a great seismic impact, especially from a high rise building.

Taxpayers pay for high tech science. These scientists tend to be like little boys wanting to zap objects in space as asteroids with lasers. They seem to have no ethics. It is possible now to obliterate the planet earth. Moret saw such a large laser beam one night at Livermore labs when the sky above was kept free of planes within a 5-mile radius. It was described by the labs as trying to create a star, but lasers are used to destroy and break apart.

Moret tells that 6 million rich US farmers were starved to death during the Great Depression. Similar to when those of Japanese descent were put in concentration camps in the US during WWII, mostly farmers and their land confiscated. Millions of Russian farmers starved to death under Stalin. Parts of globalized land grab.

For the 2005 Kashmir earthquake, Los Alamos satellite images caught HAARP employed for 3 hours on 5 successive days and the quake occurred at the end of 5th 3-hour session. HAARP is used to melt the polar ice cap to gain natural resources there. Though blamed on man-made global warming to prompt a global tax. [They create the crisis, shift blame and profit.]

Sirhan Sirhan was mind-controlled, spotted 3 days before the assassination of Bobby Kennedy at the Livermore labs. [He claims he was brainwashed. Ten witnesses say he was always in front of Bobby, never behind, yet the autopsy shows a shot from behind.]

There is a synergistic effect of chemicals in chemtrails, radiation and Genetically Modified foods. Each by itself is bad, but together they can double and triple adverse effects.

Good news: Though the fishing in the North Atlantic dropped 50% from atom bomb tests in the US, UK and Soviet Union, it rebounded to much higher than normal after air tests were banned. (Later it resumed to the previous normal level.) So if radiation contamination ceases, nature should rebound back.

Leuren Moret archives

"Since 1991 the US has released [by nuclear plants and DU weapons] the radioactive atomicity equivalent of at least 400,000 Nagasaki bombs into the global atmosphere. That is 10 times the amount released during atmospheric testing which was the equivalent of 40,000 Hiroshima bombs."

The UN 2008 Report *Evidence of Global Decline in Population and Fertility* told that nuclear bomb testing in the air caused Strontium-90 damage to bone marrow. Nuclear bomb advocates were "sublime in the knowledge that these infant mortalities would be perfect murders."

"Evidence from India on the effects of nuclear testing and the release of large amounts of radiation into the Irish Sea by the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant in the UK, reveals that since 1950 nuclear pollution has caused a significant decrease in the population and fertility in India."

Indian scientist Ramaswami Kumar's data estimates about 30 million Indian babies died or were stillborn from 1950-2008 from atmospheric testing, Chernobyl and Sellafield radioactive emissions. "Dr. L.J. LeVann's research in 1963 on Canadian babies exposed to ionizing radiation from Russian Arctic bomb tests found that: a single radioactive atom is 10-100 million times more toxic to developmental stages of multicellular organisms than the most potent teratogenic substances [drug-caused defects]."

(The UK's Sellafield nuclear plant has contaminated the area and world from its discharges. Moret cites instances of increased cancer downstream in an ocean current greater than all the rivers combined, affecting those of India. So Indian children are born with grotesque shapes. Radiation contamination of the world is planned using nuclear bomb testing, DU and nuclear plant discharges in air and water. So a kind of nuclear war is going on continually.)

World fish populations are showing increased male to female sex changes after birth due to radiation contamination, so females increasingly outnumber males. "This has been reported offshore in California fish populations exposed to San Onofre and Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant emissions and cooling water that

have also caused two ocean dead zones. It has been widely reported in fish populations in the coastal waters of the UK and Ireland, and in the Irish Sea." Not surprisingly, most ocean dead zones are near nuclear reactors.

"Intersex is another expanding problem reported in wildlife populations, with mixed aspects of both male and female reproductive cells and/or organs reported in fish, polar bears and other wildlife populations." (Shows up in humans, as a male/female Olympic athlete.)

In Los Angeles 2007 uranium levels in drinking water doubled due to DU contamination in air strikes in Iraq and Afghanistan spreading east. They were synchronized with the monsoon for maximum effect. "On June 1, 1948, the *Tulsa Tribune* reported in an article *Radioactivity Lingers Longer in Water Blast* that the most efficient nuclear war is delivered by rain." That a nuclear blast in rain clouds would spread the contamination the best.

"Basically males and females are being rapidly sterilized in all species around the world by the effects of DU. Israel is the infertility poster child of the year for self-sterilization. Israeli sperm quality is down 40% in a decade. Israel has used DU weapons against Palestinians for decades, in the 2005 campaign of DU carpet and grid bombing in Lebanon and recently in Gaza . . . If the decline continues at a rate of 4% per year, sperm quality will reach 20% by 2019, a level at which men are considered to be infertile."

"Diabetes is a major cause globally of declining population numbers and fertility. . . Many investigations of diabetes have reported that the largest number of new cases of diabetes are reported within the first month of the rainy season, due to rainout of radioactive particles and dust from the atmosphere. The first newspaper article on high rates of diabetes in northern Israel came out on 12-19-2006, 3 months after the rains started."

Bertrand Russell in his 1930s lectures and his 1952 book *Impact of Science on Society* told about his and the rich elite's plan to eliminate fertility in 95% of males and 70% of females globally. "Global radioactive pollution is the perfect mechanism to silently carry out sterilization and reduction of the global population."

In 2006 Israel began a 34-day conflict in Lebanon and northern Israel using DU bunker buster bombs the US shipped to Israel. They permanently contaminated the entire nation. "The DU acted as a terrain contaminant, a gas made up of radioactive uranium nanoparticles that is a pernicious poison and can cause cancer and diabetes within weeks of exposure. The 4th generation nuclear weapon component released higher levels of radiation carried on air currents, exposing populations to radiation that would quickly disappear and not be detected. Radiation effects on contaminated populations were escalated by the uranium 235 and activation products. Of course Israeli nuked itself as all nuclear states do without fail. I sent out a press release in the middle of the 2006 conflict warning that within three months of the seasonal rain starting in October, Israel would be in an epidemic of diabetes."

"How ironic that Israelis do not recognize that they have been tricked and used yet again by the International City of London financiers and their partners in crime, the Wall Street bankers. The Anglo-American Economic Empire is an international permanent war crimes racketeering syndicate. The Israelis have been set up with depleted uranium and nuclear weapons by Livermore and Los Alamos nuclear weapons labs through the Wall Street bankers . . . What the Israelis refuse to recognize is that they are sterilizing and exterminating themselves . . . The Israelis themselves have turned Israel and Palestine into the perfect *self-cleaning oven* . . . Wall Street bankers (represented by Noble Drilling company from Oklahoma), and the City of London financiers (represented by British Gas), will divide their spoils and laugh all the way to the bank without any troublesome Israelis demanding their share. Dead men don't talk."

"The sanctions against Iraq were signed at the UN in 1990 on the anniversary of Hiroshima Day. This is no accident. It is a conscious and deliberate invisible war against life itself."

■ From Hiroshima to Iraq, 61 Years of Uranium Wars

"Not only are U.S. and allied soldiers exposed and civilian populations genocidally targeted, but the depleted uranium pollution is now global. In reality, we are all Gulf War veterans."

"In the book *Tiny Rowland: The Ugly Face of Neocolonialism in Africa* are details of the role that Tiny Rowland played as agent of the British Queen in turning the 1960s dreams of independence of the African nations into the nightmare of a dying continent, plagued by starvation and disease. Rowland was the CEO and chief architect of Lonrho, the British multinational compa-

Continued on next page

Plane Truth Part 6

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

ny that was the headquarters for looting African countries through economic dirty tricks.

“Through Lonrho, Rowland became the biggest Western businessman in Africa. The book also details how Rowland set up Rio Tinto Mines for the considerable private and personal uranium holdings worth over \$6 billion, of the Queen of England in former British colonies. Not bad for a German former Nazi youth corps member, who was a convicted criminal in Germany before he changed his name, moved to England and became the Queen’s buccaneer.

“The depopulation policy thesis extends to international collaboration and alliance between private organizations, universities, corporations, governments, the military and quasi-governmental bodies. The concept for AIDS, a new class of bio-weapon, came out of the Club of Rome and was made in labs of the Department of Defense.”

“The New World Order depopulation policy was consciously accelerated during World War II with the Manhattan Project . . . [It] developed three illegal and infamous weapons of mass destruction: the atomic bombs dropped on the civilian populations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, a defoliant developed as Agent Orange for the Vietnam War, and depleted uranium radioactive poison gas weaponry used in Iraq, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan and Lebanon since 1991. These weapons of mass destruction were developed specifically for the purpose of depopulation.”

[So the US is the worst WMD fanatic.] US universities played a major role in developing WMD and in depopulation policies. They get grants from the Department of Defense.

“In addition to running the nuclear weapons labs, UC Berkeley began DOD-funded research developing *flying-spying robotic insects, smart dust* and other projects prompted by the 2001 events of 9/11. This is benign compared to Johns Hopkins University, the largest single university recipient of DOD funding in the U.S., which receives nearly \$350 million a year. [It] and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, where the Manhattan Project started during World War II, have both been involved with research on another aspect of U.S. depopulation policy, the *genome project* . . . Human genome mapping and the development of new bio-weapons go hand in hand. Secretly and in violation of international law, exotic bio-weapons have been under intense development in more than 100 government and military laboratories in the U.S. during the past few decades.”

“Apparently, designing new kinds of bio-weapons for the DOD can be dangerous to a scientist’s health. More than 50 world-class scientists have been murdered since 2002 in the U.S. and the U.K. Almost all of them were microbiologists working on ethnic specific bio-weapons.”

“Forced sterilization as a means of population control has been covertly introduced in Third World countries, where women receiving vaccines were never able to have a live birth after the vaccination. This was reported in a BBC documentary on women in the Philippines and Mexico who had been used as guinea pigs for a new experimental pregnancy vaccine. The HCG vaccine makes a woman’s body reject new pregnancies. Black women have involuntarily been sterilized in South African hospitals with the HCG vaccine. They were told after the birth of a baby, that *we could not leave the hospital until they had this shot.*”

“Black newborns, born to parents without AIDS, were given vaccinations before they left the hospital in South Africa, and the babies were soon found to have AIDS. In some American Indian tribes, up to 80% of the women are sterile. Biopharmaceutical crops are a disaster waiting to happen. Dr. Ignacio Chapela reported that spermicidal corn was being tested by drug companies in Mexico [as a contraceptive].”

“Nuclear power plants deliver the same lethal fission products in their emissions over a period of months and years that a nuclear bomb delivers in a nanosecond. Chronic exposure to low level radiation in emissions released from nuclear power plants may be deadlier in many ways than one acute exposure to a nuclear bomb detonation. Radiation has a very powerful mutagenic effect, destroying DNA and the genetic future of individuals and populations chronically exposed. It also destroys brain functioning and causes many radiation related illnesses. Twenty years ago,

80% of men’s sperm globally was normal and 20% had DNA damage. Today, it is reversed.”

“In a 2-volume series *The Rothschilds* Japanese journalist Takashi Hirose exposed the well-concealed mechanisms for the Rothschild syndicate’s control of nuclear power. A Rothschild serves as the business manager for the Queen of England, who privately and secretly owns massive interests in uranium holdings in Africa, Canada and Australia through Rio Tinto Mines. Hirose’s charts of Rothschild intermarriages in his books reveal that the Rothschild syndicate has for centuries extensively intermarried with royal families and nobility globally. He also revealed that Princess Diana’s mother was a Rothschild through intermarriages several generations back. It is easy to understand how the ruling elite and London Money Power have shared common interests and goals, since they mutually benefit by forming alliances. And they know elected officials are easy to bribe.”

The ruling elite have carried out 3 secret and overlapping nuclear wars “with atmospheric testing, nuclear power plants and depleted uranium weaponry . . . There are also ties to pharmaceutical companies, which further their goals of maximizing profits. They get paid to make the mess, they get paid to clean it up, and they get paid to treat the illnesses they caused. It is repeat business—extreme capitalism at its best.”

■ Fukushima and the Global Danger

Where a magnitude 9.0 quake hit in Japan 2011: “Even the centers for disease control were part of this foreshadowing. On March 9th, two days before the earthquake hit Japan, the centers for disease control started posting hundreds of documents on radiation emergencies [similar to FEMA alerts prior to 9/11]. And information for care-givers, and about radiation . . . So this is all planned ahead of time . . . the earthquake was triggered by HAARP. We now have extensive evidence that confirms it.”

“The Stuxnet virus sabotaged every effort to start up the emergency cooling systems at the Fukushima plant. So those reactors were without cooling water for more than probably 48 hours . . . We know that the reactors were in complete melt-down and starting to melt through the bottom of the reactors within 6-8 hours of the quake, from a simulated melt-down at the Browns Ferry nuclear power plant that was simulated in 1984.”

“The Stuxnet virus was developed at the Idaho engineering lab 2007 by a US team . . . of nuclear weapons level scientists and computer software experts” [In past articles I reported on US nuclear plant mishaps. Much due to stupidity, as using a taped-up basketball to plug a pipe temporarily, and it squirted out too soon. But according to Moret, they are constructed with built-in intentional mistakes to allow radiation to spread. Japan had 55 nuclear plants, in an earthquake zone.]

■ Alfred Webre interview of Moret

Fukushima HAARP Attack by CIA, Dept. of Energy & British Petroleum for London Banks (5-9-2011): “Moret states that the group behind the March 11, 2011, events at the Fukushima nuclear plant is the same war crimes racketeering organization behind the false flag operations of 9/11, hurricane Katrina (2005), the Haiti earthquake (2010) and other HAARP-triggered false flag operations. The west coasts of the United States and Canada, Mexico and Hawaii are being intentionally targeted by dangerous radiation from the March 11, 2011, tectonic warfare earthquake and nuclear meltdown events at Fukushima, Japan.” Areas of major food production dosed with radiation.

Webre: “Claudia von Werlhof, professor of political science and women’s studies at Innsbruck, Austria, has been laying some of the foundation for these conclusions in general.”

Moret: “She is leading a movement around the world of people concerned about how these weapons are being used, specifically HAARP. She stated *We have discovered that the military in the East and West has developed new technologies which could attack the planet and transform it into a weapon itself . . . these technologies can be used everywhere on the planet as plasma weapons, weather wars, and geo-engineering.*”

“Why in the world would you put a power plant right on the ocean and then put the back

up cooling system under the reactor in a basement room that would immediately be flooded? So it seems like it wasn’t just poor design. It seems like there was very careful planning that would sabotage the safety of these nuclear power plants in the event of earthquakes and tsunamis. Of course the diesel system flooded. The workers tried to get the pump on the beach to start up, they couldn’t do that. There was no electricity coming into the plant, so they resorted to their last backup system, which is battery driven and even that couldn’t work because a Stuxnet virus created by the CIA with the help of Siemens and the Mossad was also involved.”

“An Indian Admiral told me that Chernobyl was a false flag that was carried out against the Soviet Union to end the Cold War. [He said 12 safety steps were ignored. The crew on duty was drunk. The disaster was to ruin Russia and end the Cold War. Moret says Chernobyl means wormwood of the Bible (Rev 8:11, water contamination), a precursor of the final event?] And now in a very similar way Fukushima is a false flag op being carried out covertly to bring a transformation to Japan’s economy and role in Asia as well as the unification of the North American continent into one region which will be run or like the European Union. So we are in a very dangerous stage now. And you can see how these bankers have used weapons of mass destruction, and the Department of Energy and CIA and Japanese Government as their agents, in carrying out the most horrific false flag that has ever been carried out in the history of the world.”

Webre: “Don’t forget that Mao Tse Tung was trained by a Skull and Bones project from Yale in China, and Communism essentially was an Illuminati project. So this all seems like the New World Order attempted *culling of the herd.*”

Moret: “Indian scientist Kumar said that Sellafield radiation had migrated south into the Great Conveyor Belt which is the huge circulation system that loops around the Atlantic up into the Pacific and then back up into the Atlantic, and it is what controls climate and is a tremendous heat sink on the planet.”

Italian Says 9-11 Solved

It’s common knowledge, he reveals, CIA, Mossad behind terror attacks—by the Staff of American Free Press: “Former Italian President Francesco Cossiga, who revealed the existence of Operation Gladio, has told . . . that the 9-11 terrorist attacks were run by the CIA and Mossad, and that this was common knowledge among global intelligence agencies . . . Cossiga told the newspaper *Corriere della Sera*:

“All the [intelligence services] of America and Europe . . . know well that the disastrous attack has been planned and realized from the Mossad, with the aid of the Zionist world in order to put under accusation the Arabic countries and in order to induce the western powers to take part . . . in Iraq [and] Afghanistan.”

Cossiga was president 1985-92. “He was forced to resign after revealing the existence of, and his part in setting up, Operation Gladio. This was a rogue intelligence network under NATO auspices that carried out bombings across Europe in the 1960s-1980s. Gladio’s specialty was to carry out what they termed *false flag operations*—terror attacks that were blamed on their domestic and geopolitical opposition. In March 2001, Gladio agent Vincenzo Vinciguerra stated in sworn testimony *You had to attack civilians, women, children, innocent people, unknown people far removed from any political game. The reason was quite simple: to force . . . the public to turn to the state to ask for greater security.*”

Cossiga [said about the 9/11 attacks] “*it could not be accomplished without infiltrations in the radar and flight security personnel.*”

Dr. Doug Rokke and others on DU

Congenital abnormalities are increasing, with high incidence among veterans’ children. He and his fellow doctors get breast cancer from treating these afflicted.

Radiation effects of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki blasts were censored. The US Army made a video warning of DU dangers but it was never shown to the troops. Veterans sue the government over failure to warn and protect them. *American’s Greatest Crime against Humanity/Military Use of DU* by Allen Roland

graphically shows its effects.

A 1995 US Army DU training film “has more recent inserts by presumably nonmilitary video editors. Interesting how in 1995 the U.S. military admitted to hazards prior to use in Kosovo and Gulf War I. The latter-day video editors inserted the banner: *The U.S. has released the radiological equivalent of 250,000 Nagasaki’s in Gulf War I and II.*” This is much more than the 300 tons of DU admitted publicly.

Ted Gunderson, former FBI Chief

Agent in charge of Los Angeles, Dallas and Memphis has online videos: He was part of the group *aircrap.org* and exposed US military involvement in spreading chemicals in the skies called chemtrails, by two military bases he witnessed. He wanted the pilots to stop, since the chemicals are killing vast numbers of birds and fish, and causing many human health problems.

Children were flown to Washington DC for sex orgies of Congressmen and the White House, but the media kept a lid on it and attorney generals ignored it. The group called Finders kidnapped kids for this, Satanic ritual abuse and children sacrifice. *Reader’s Digest* 1982 reported 100,000 US children went missing each year, not teenage runaways but very young ones kidnapped. Top leaders, Illuminati, worship Satan and perform these sexual rites.

“The CIA makes the Mafia look like a Sunday school class. . . . What they (the CIA) have done to us is unbelievable.”

He talked to a naval intelligence officer who discovered on Dec. 4, 1941, that Japan was about to attack Pearl Harbor. He passed this info to his superiors, but they did nothing. After the war he was subpoenaed by a congressional hearing, but his superiors told him to ignore the summons, that he would understand why later.

JFK was shot by more than one shooter. His assassination was followed later by his brother Bobby’s, when his real killers got away with it. Oswald and Sirhan were just pawns. The Ruby Ridge and Waco incidents showed unlawful use of power. Pedophiles are in power, and of the satanic occult.

In the 1993 bombing of the WTC, some of the FBI provided the patsy and the bombs. The Oklahoma City bombing involved at least 11 people, not 1 or 2. Osama bin Laden was formerly the CIA asset Tim Osman supplied by the US to lead al Qaeda to fight Russia in Afghanistan. [Osman toured US military bases and saw the latest weapon demonstrations. Later, he continued in that role as supposed terrorist and reason for the US to invade there and Iraq for their resources. His family continued war profiting with the Bushes in the Carlyle Group.]

International Terrorism Does Not Exist

A 2006 article by General Leonid Ivashov who was Chief of Russian Military Staff on 9/11: Globalization needs terrorist attacks to bind separate nations into “a unipolar world with a sole world headquarters, a pretext to erase national borders and to establish the rule of a new world elite. It is precisely this elite that constitutes the key element of world terrorism.”

“If we analyze what happened on Sept. 11, 2001, in the U.S., we can arrive at the following conclusions: 1. The organizers of those attacks were the political and business circles interested in destabilizing the world order, and who had the means necessary to finance the operation . . . interests of Big Capital at global and transnational levels.”

“2. Only secret services . . . have the ability to plan, or such magnitude. [They] finance and control extremist organizations. Without the support of secret services, these organizations cannot exist, let alone carry out operations of such magnitude inside countries so well protected.”

“3. Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda cannot be the organizers nor the performers of the Sept. 11 attacks. They do not have the necessary organization, resources or leaders . . . The Sept. 11 operation modified the course of events in the world in the direction chosen by transnational mafias and international oligarchs; that is, those who hope to control the planet’s natural resources, the world information network and financial flows. This operation also favored the US economic and political elite that also seeks world dominance.”

International terrorism has these goals: Hide the real objectives of troops deployed around the world. Create public demand for struggle with an invisible enemy. Change concepts as aggression to mean liberation of repressed nations. Keep people from exercising their right to resist aggression. Solve “economic problems through a tough military rule using the war on terror as a pretext.”

Mr. Jan Young

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Can you Answer the Apparent Conundrum of Isaiah 44:6, "Beside me there is no God"?

Verses like Isaiah 44:6 where the OT LORD God declares, "Beside me there is no God" pose a conundrum because if Jesus gave that message to Isaiah, then He denied the deity of the NT God the Father and if God the Father gave that message, then He denied the deity of the NT Jesus. It will be shown that neither the former Worldwide Church of God (WCG) nor mainstream Christendom nor the Unitarians have an answer to this conundrum. Mainstream Christendom evades the conundrum by hiding behind their Trinity and the former WCG does something similar with their pseudo binity "God-is-a-Family" Godhead of God the Father and His Son Jesus. The Unitarians fail to deal with the conundrum because they mistakenly assume Jesus was no God Person. Can you answer the conundrum?

Before we can solve the conundrum of verses like Isaiah 44:6 we need to review some Bible basics that few appear to know.

1. The all-capitals LORD

Throughout the English OT the all-capitals form "LORD" (Strong reference H3068) occurs over 6,500 times. The form LORD is misleading because the Hebrew for this does not mean "Lord" but something entirely different. We need to know its meaning because God names people, places and events for what these denote, including His own name. This name, which God gave for Himself to Moses at the Burning Bush (Exod 3:6, 13-15) remains obscured from readers of the OT by the all-capitals form LORD but we need to know it because it reveals vital information.

To identify the OT LORD God who spoke to Moses from the Burning Bush let us go to Mark 12:26-27, where Jesus says:

²⁶ "And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?"

²⁷ "He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living: ye therefore do greatly err."

In verse 26 with "bush" Jesus refers to the Burning Bush of Exodus 3:1-6 and in verse 27 with the pronoun "He" Jesus refers to the OT LORD God, who is also the NT God the Father. Therefore God the Father was the OT LORD God who spoke to Moses at the Burning Bush—see also my short articles, Q6 Q7, A2-A3 and the study paper P2.

The Hebrew meaning of the all-capitals form "LORD" has nothing whatever to do with the English word "Lord" but literally means, *The Eternal* or *The Self-existing One*. This is explained in my article A13 and which appeared on page 14 of Issue 143 of *The Journal* (November 2010).

It is recommended when readers see the all-capitals form "LORD" in the OT that they read instead of "LORD", its actual meaning, namely, "The Eternal" or "The Self-existing One".

An ongoing theme of this article is that now only God the Father remains as an independent self-existing God Person since the NT Jesus agreed to become incarnate and die as man's atoning Passover Lamb—more on this below.

2. The most high God and Melchizedek

Genesis 14:18-19 describes Abram meeting Melchizedek, who was priest of the "most high God". And verse 22 explains that the "most high God" is the LORD (*The Eternal*) who is the possessor of heaven and earth.

Since Genesis 14:18-19 reveals there is a "most high God", this marks there exists also a less high God. Indeed the next section explains that the priest Melchizedek of Genesis 14:18-19 is this other God who became incarnate and dwelt amongst us as the NT Jesus. Therefore the "most high God" of Abraham is the NT God the Father.

So we have found the first indication that the NT God the Father is the OT LORD God and whose name is denoted in the OT by the all-capitals form "LORD" and that this name means, *The Eternal* or *The Self-existent One*.

God the Father's name "LORD" is also known as the Tetragrammaton (literally the "Four consonants") represented by either JHVH or YHWH. Only these four consonants have survived of God the Father's name because the vowels of His name became lost through disuse as explained in my aforementioned article A13.

As further evidence that the OT "most high God" who spoke to Abraham was the NT God

the Father consider Genesis 22:16 where the OT LORD God said to Abraham, "By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD". Paul explains in Hebrews 6:13, "For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself". Since Jesus said that His Father was greater than Himself (John 14:28), it is plain that the OT most high LORD God was the NT God the Father.

3. Evidence of Jesus' original deity.

Hebrews 6:20-7:4 reveals that the Melchizedek who met Abraham had no beginning of days and had no father or mother. This means Melchizedek was a self-existing Being and was not a created or begotten being as are the angels and humans. For a further explanation read article A12, "Melchizedek and Abraham are a One-God Stumbling Block" at my Internet Home Page.

Since Melchizedek was a priest to the most high God of Abraham and since Paul explains in Hebrews 6:20-7:4 that this Melchizedek was not a created or begotten Being it follows from Genesis 14:18-22 that the most high God of Abraham was the NT God the Father. Psalm 110:1-4 with Matthew 22:43-44 again point to Melchizedek being the NT Jesus.

When in Acts 3:13 Peter declares, "The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son, Jesus . . .", he identifies the NT God the Father as the OT (LORD) God of Abraham.

Philippians 2:5-7 reveals that when Jesus was still in God form He did not object to being made incarnate as a man. That is a clear statement that Jesus existed prior to his Bethlehem birth and even as a God.

In summary Hebrews 6:20-7:4 and Philippians 2:5-7 make it plain that Jesus existed before His Bethlehem birth and as an independent self-existing God Person.

Jesus' prior existence and even as a self-existent God is also plain from His claim of having existed before Abraham (John 5:58) and also from having seen Satan being expelled from Heaven (Luke 10:18) and also His attesting to His former glory in the presence of His Father (John 17:5).

That there were originally two God Persons follows also from Genesis 1:26, where one God addressed His fellow God with, "Let us make man in our image"? After all we were not created in the image of a created angel but in the image of our two Gods.

For additional examples and explanations read my short articles: A2-A3, A4 or the in depth study, P5, "The Bible Shows Jesus was a Self-existent God".

4. Refuting Unitarian Denial of Jesus

I have corresponded extensively with a prominent Unitarian who denies not only Jesus' original deity but even His existence prior to His Bethlehem birth. That therefore Jesus was specially begotten (created) by God the Father through Mary.

This Unitarian bases his claims primarily on the lexical meaning of the Greek verbs referring to the begetting and birth of Jesus and he insists these lexical meanings preclude any prior existence of Jesus. It is true that secular lexicographers ignore that with God all things are possible and accordingly they limit the lexical meanings but we should not limit God by their lexicon definitions as Jesus' birth was utterly unique in history.

This Unitarian refused to read the green section of my short article A4, which outlines what is involved in Jesus' incarnation from spirit God life to human physical life and a resurrec-

tion from the physical plane to spirit God life. He made much of human scholarship but ignored this also gave us the false theories of the Trinity, Evolution and the Big Bang!

5. The secular roots of Unitarianism

We need to go back to the 2nd-century AD when mainstream theologians questioned that a God (Jesus) could have died and therefore rejected that Jesus was a God. This also appealed to converts from monotheist Judaism. Since most 2nd-century theologians were educated in neo-Platonist Greco-Roman scholarship they also rejected that a God (Father) would have soiled His hands creating the corrupt physical worlds. Therefore they denied that God the Father was the Creator and claimed that Jesus had created the physical worlds for his Father. We do well to remember these "scholarly" theories are departures (!) from Apostolic Godhead teachings that there were originally two independent self-existent Gods, who are known as the NT God the Father and His Son Jesus (e.g. Phil 2:5-7, Heb 6:20-7:4).

Other theologians questioned whether a created Jesus could be a sufficient atoning sacrifice for all sins of all of mankind. But instead of returning to Apostolic Godhead teaching, they departed even further from this by theorizing that the Godhead was a single (monotheistic) substance into which are subjoined God the Father and His Son Jesus. After two more centuries of theorizing the "scholars" subjoined to this a third fictitious God the Holy Spirit. With that the "scholars" had remade God as a type of divine Siamese Triplet.

Let us remember that the "scholarly" theories behind the Unitarian, Binitarian and Trinitarian Godheads are all departures from the Apostolic Godhead teaching that there were originally two independent self-existing God Persons.

6. Who was the LORD God of the OT?

As a result of these 2nd-century departures from Apostolic Godhead teachings, mainstream Christendom teaches that Jesus was the Creator and LORD God of the OT.

Surprisingly the former WCG adhered to that aspect of mainstream Christendom's 2nd-century Godhead teaching. Therefore the former WCG confused the OT roles of the NT God the Father and His Son Jesus as does much of Christendom. My study paper P1, *Laodicea's Lamp!* essays the reason for God allowing this confusion to continue in the former WCG.

The all-capitals form LORD literally means *The Eternal* or *The Self-existent One* and this can only apply to the NT God the Father because when Jesus agreed to become incarnate and die as man's atoning Passover Lamb, He surrendered His former independent self-existent deity and since then God the Father alone remains as an independent, self-existing and ever-existing God Person. Therefore God the Father alone can have the all-capitals name LORD, which uniquely means: *The Eternal*.

7. Unable to accept a new Truth?

That not Jesus but the NT God the Father was the Creator and OT LORD God is difficult to accept by those taught one or other of mankind's several Godhead doctrines.

Although it is wise to avoid rushing into every new doctrine that comes along, it is also not wise to persevere with a Godhead doctrine that fails to answer the Isaiah 44:6 conundrum.

My aforementioned Unitarian correspondent ignores the many difficulties that arise from Unitarianism but there must come a point where the reader recognizes that the several Godhead theories dreamt up by the "scholars" will not do because they deny God's Word of

Truth. Let us remember that man's theoretical scholarship also gave us the Trinity, Evolution and the Big Bang.

The Bible is God's Word of Truth so when we meet an apparent conundrum posed by Isaiah 44:6 then let us recognize this as a sign that our current Godhead doctrine is false.

8. The enormity of Jesus' sacrifice!

We readily recognize the great physical suffering that Jesus accepted to die as our atoning Passover sacrifice. However, there is far more to His sacrifice than that.

Jesus was from all past eternity also an independent self-existing God and this He surrendered to become, incarnate, die as our Passover Lamb, depend on His fellow God to resurrect Him and become for all future eternity an obedient Son to His fellow God and now His Father. Let us stop to recognize the enormity and for ever more ongoing price Jesus paid for our salvation by surrendering His former independent self-existing deity.

Isn't the arrogance of Unitarian "scholars" breathtaking when they deny Jesus original deity and even his existence prior to His Bethlehem birth?

Once Jesus agreed to surrender His original independent self-existing deity to become incarnate and die as our Passover Lamb and remain for all future eternity an obedient Son to His fellow God, He ceased to be a true independent self-existent God because once a God agrees to something, it as good as done even if fulfillment is millennia in the future. Therefore God the Father could truly say in Isaiah 44:6, "beside me there is no God".

The NT Jesus retained despite His incarnation, death and resurrection His original Godmind. In that sense Jesus remained a God but He is no longer a true independent self-existent God and so the OT LORD God and NT God the Father could say, "Beside me there is no God" (Isa 44:6).

9. The need to reject false doctrine.

The Catholics believe the Pope can not err and therefore embrace that Jesus was the Creator and LORD God. The former WCG also believed HWA could not err and embraced his teaching that Jesus was the Creator and OT LORD God. Strangely both ignore their Godhead teaching does not fit the conundrum of Isaiah 44:6.

Both claim that God the Father could not have been the OT LORD God who spoke to Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Moses because Jesus said in John 5:37 that no-one had "heard" His Father's voice. Yet at Jesus' baptism, God the Father's voice had been heard from Heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" (Matt 3:17). It is plain that Jesus had referred with not hearing His Father's voice that mankind had always rejected God the Father's message. This is further explained in my paper P10, *How God the Father was Seen and Heard!* The point is that starting with Eve and Adam mankind has always refused to listen to (hear) God the Father's message.

10. In conclusion

The aforementioned Unitarian protested that no scholar or theologian has considered my answer to the Godhead conundrum of Isaiah 44:6 and who am I to advance this? First it is not my answer but God's answer from His Word. Let it suffice that I can share this with you so that you can judge which Godhead doctrine is true and which is false.

The papers referred to above are freely available by writing to Henk Jens, P.O. Box 121, Belmore, NSW, 2192, Australia or at my Internet Homepage www.rightly-dividing.net.

The 11th Annual

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Saturday & Sunday, June 2–3, 2012 • Austin, Texas

You are cordially invited to attend our 11th annual One God Seminar to explore the wondrous and phenomenal nature of God on June 2 and 3, 2012, in Austin, Texas.

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Ken Westby

Why have another One God Seminar?

Can there a more important topic to understand and contemplate? Should not we engage ourselves

to ponder the mystery of God? Can we not give our minds to attentively and thoughtfully meditate upon what the Being who made us is like and what he expects of us?

Jesus manifests what his Father is like in character, love and goodness and what the Father wants of us. Jesus has pioneered the path to life everlasting in the fellowship of our loving Heavenly Father.

Herein lies our motivation behind what we are doing: to seek the Truth about God and in so doing help people draw nearer to God and Jesus by knowing them better as Scripture presents them; and to have greater confidence that we can follow Jesus into fellowship with the Father.

The truth about God has been buried under centuries of tradition and stained glass. God has been presented as an impossible-to-comprehend three-headed or two-headed “Godhead.”

He has been presented as the pagan Greeks understood their deities, not as how Abraham or Moses or Jesus understood him: a personal being, a

Heavenly Father. But Scripture tells a story different from the orthodoxy of the creeds of Christendom that in the 4th and 5th centuries set these errors in stone. Jesus describes himself and his Father as different from anything we learned in Sunday School or seminary.

We believe that God is one and Jesus is a man (he is glorified, but still a man; see 1 Timothy 2:5).

I don’t see this as a salvation issue; i.e., you must believe it or you won’t be “saved.” That has never been my approach, and I’ve never stated that, because I don’t believe that is what is at stake. Who is or is not saved is up to God, and I expect he is a whole lot more merciful than we are.

But the question isn’t what are the minimal “requirements” for salvation, but: How do I come to know God and develop his good character? We should never stop seeking to know him better. I believe that the truth about who God is and what he is like—and likewise for Jesus—should form the structure and content of our Christian walk.

A Return to the Faith of Israel and the Religion of Jesus

Those who are dedicated to the restitution of the true knowledge of God are on a crusade to return to the faith of Israel, to the religion of Jesus and his apostles. They explore the leading edge of biblical research.

Why a One God Seminar? Nothing about the knowledge of God is unimportant. It is the zenith of learning: knowledge that isn’t head-puffing stuff but information that can change the way we think and behave and determine our eternity.

If we don’t know about telescopes, we won’t know that Jupiter has moons. Men lived for millennia without telescopes and yet experienced no injury.

Not so about the knowledge of God, which is the light that illuminates our spirit and soul. If we can’t see what God is like, how can we become like him in mind and character? The telescope to see God clearly is his revelation in Scripture, nature and firsthand experience of those who truly have known him.

I liken our job in our One God Seminars to providing a telescope for God’s children to behold his wonder, pulling us into fellowship with

A few words about why I’m involved

In the 1980s, when my ideas on the Godhead were challenged, I tended to think in terms of truth vs. heresy. On one occasion Sir Anthony Buzzard and I were on opposite sides of a public debate. The debate was the beginning of my mind opening up to consider that my concept of God, at least in this respect, could be wrong. By the ‘90s I became convinced that Yehovah was truly *One* and there was no other God besides him. I came to realize that he is the Yehovah of Creation and the God of the Old Testament.

Coming to accept that Jesus was fully human (that he hadn’t preexisted and, for all practical purposes, was just like any other son or daughter of Adam and Eve) was for me more difficult. But in time that too became crystal-clear from the Scriptures.

Now what? What should I do? Should I go public with my newfound truth? Would Christians regard me as a heretic as I once regarded those who believed that only the Father is God?

In time I received answers to all these questions and more. I have come to believe that the knowledge of God, in all its facets, is the most critical knowledge of all. It is the key to life itself, but it is largely hidden, deliberately obscured. The knowledge of God is clouded in metaphysical nonsense and pagan myths. —K.W.

him. This is the heart of the Gospel, the Kingdom of God.

The Speakers: This year’s all-new topics will be presented by Sir Anthony Buzzard, author and trailblazer leading a return to biblical monotheism; Sean Finnegan, whose websites and debating skills are challenging many on the Trinity; Kermit Zarley, author of *The Restitution of Jesus Christ*, Evangelical leader and professional athlete; Noel Rude, linguist and scholar; and Michel Danis; Owen Murphy;

Mark Bosserman; Gary Woodring; and Bob Woodburn—all speakers guaranteed to make us think afresh. In all, we expect to have 10 to 12 sessions by these top researchers into the nature of Yehovah and Jesus.

Discussions and questions are always a big part of the program, along with lots of pleasant fellowship. Bring your challenges and questions. Let us reason together to learn all we can about God, who after all is the foundation of truth and faith.

If our God understanding is corrupted or skewed, so will be our worship and faith. We must get our God concept as pure and right as possible and as true to Scripture as possible. The two days of the One God Conference will be the most intellectually and spiritually stimulating days you will have experienced in years.

Schedule and location: June 2–3, 2012, Saturday and Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Austin, the capital of Texas.

Just for our group, a special in-hotel get-acquainted social hour with hors d’oeuvres and refreshments will follow Saturday’s sessions.

The seminar will take place in the **DoubleTree by Hilton, 6505 Interstate 35 North, in Austin.** The Austin Church of God and Dan Girouard are our local hosts.

For reservations call toll-free **1-800-347-0330** or visit a special website that the DoubleTree by Hilton and the Austin Church of God have developed just for us: <http://tinyurl.com/austinconference>.

You are cordially invited to attend and join with us in honoring Yehovah and our Savior, Jesus Christ.

—Ken Westby
acd@Godward.org

The Association for Christian Development

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What Is a Law?

By Art Mokarow

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Laws” are not “Covenants” and “Covenants” are not “Laws,” whether in *The Bible* or those made in the world. Surprisingly, any time a nation requires a *Law* it is the beginning of a people who are destined for slavery. A *Law* keeps an individual from being “free.”

Good and Evil

Symbolically, *The Bible* speaks of humans using physical comparisons to express ideas of human understanding.

Jesus described trees as humans (Matthew 7). Jesus said, “A good tree cannot bring forth [produce] evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.” YOU SHALL KNOW PEOPLE BY THE KIND OF FRUIT THEY PRODUCE.

Jesus said “a free people should be able to live by *the golden rule*. No one wants to be harmed. People should be treated as they want to be treated. Individuals must never cause harm to anyone and work, instead, on becoming perfect like God (Matthew 5:48).

That is why *LOVE*, “true Godly love,” *FULFILLS THE LAW* (Romans 13:10). “God” is “love,” and if you do not love you *do not know God* (I John 4:8). Now, you know *The Great Commandment* is to *LOVE GOD* with all your heart, mind and body. This is the *MOST IMPORTANT COMMANDMENT*.

Jesus told His disciples and followers that others would know you are one of Christ’s if you *love each other* (John 13:34). The Word of God in its *essence* is very *simple* and *basic*.

The children of Israel asked why they must keep these *commandments* and *Laws* (Deuteronomy 6:20-26). Moses wrote they came out of slavery, and, “to

keep from returning to slavery,” they must keep these *commandments* and *Laws*. Read it thoroughly.

Why did Israel become *captive slaves again*? They broke God’s *Laws*. They were transgressors (Galatians 3:19). Now you know why Paul, The Apostle, said *The Law* was not given for “*the righteous*” but for “*the unrighteous*.” He followed with a list of sins the unrighteous do which cause horrendous harmful behavior. Moses told Israel they needed to be reminded to keep *The Law of Moses* (II Timothy 1:7-10).

Commandments and Law

This may come as a surprise, but *Commandments* are not *Laws*. *The Ten Commandments* are like The United States Constitution. *ALL NATIONS* usually have some *declarations* by which they live.

Laws are only given to people or nations *who disobey their Constitution*. What is the culprit? Why does anyone need any *laws*? God answers that dilemma and conundrum as well. He did so by creating *The Added*

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Art Mokarow

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CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Law to The Torah. The Torah from Adam’s and Eve’s time in The Garden of Eden had *no law*, only *The Everlasting Covenant* written in Isaiah 55. This *Everlasting Covenant* will be reinstated in The New Heavens and The New Earth.

The first *law*, given as a *Covenant*, was *The Noachian Covenant* after the flood, so humans would be put to death if someone murdered another.

Rewritten Law

The Added *Law of Moses* was “A REWRITTEN LAW,” included for a very good reason. Let God tell you. *The Commandments* couldn’t be followed because the people had a *wrong heart* (Deuteronomy 5:28-29).

It was not natural for human beings to keep *The Commandments*. Every individual is made of “flesh” and therefore “born to sin.” Because they kept sinning, *The Law of Moses* had to be “added.”

Does that mean you as a Christian must keep *The Letter of The Commandments* if you do not harm God or mankind? Paul tells you how you are to keep *The Commandments* and *The Law of Moses* (II Corinthians 3:1-6). Read every single word, not missing one word. Paul ends by saying *if you keep THE LAW to “THE LETTER” you die, while the spirit gives life.* That is pretty simple. The Letter of *The Law* is what is written on tablets as Paul wrote. Paul included *The Ten Commandments* in his writings.

God wrote only *Laws* that you must follow when you cannot know or do things correctly. When God knows your “*heart’s desire*” is not right, *He must add “LAWS” with CURSES* which must be paid.

Remember, *Laws* restrict individuals as they keep breaking more laws (doing more harm) then more laws must be added and then you find yourself back in slavery. That is exactly what God told you in Deuteronomy 6.

Keeping *The Ten Commandments* or the statutes and judgments doesn’t give you Eternal Life. God is “*a spirit*” and wants to be worshipped spiritually (John 4:24). You must *worship Him in “SPIRIT” and “TRUTH.”*

The bottom line you must not sin.

II Corinthians 3:1 tells you what “*the truth*” is. It is “*Christ In You*” which solves *The Mystery Of The Law* with *The Hope of Glory* (I Colossians 3:27). God writes His *Commandments* and *Laws* by His *Holy Spirit* in your heart—not on stone.

God writes His *Holy Spirit* in your heart which becomes a part of you. Note how plain, simple and easy this is. Christ told His Disciples He would give them “*a comforter,*” “*a counselor,*” “*God’s Holy Spirit*” to lead them into all truth (John 13:25).

John also separated THE LAW from Christ and THE TRUTH. Moses gave *The Law*, but Jesus was able to give “*grace*” (forgiveness) and “*truth*” (John 1:17). Through Christ forgiving your sins, you now are

helped by The *Holy Spirit* by not sinning. Abraham followed God and was God’s friend—you can also be His friend. When you sin and then

repent, Christ’s blood gives “*grace*” so you can keep growing spiritually.

The Letter or Truth?

Keeping *The Commandments* and *The Law* in “*the letter*” with all its deeds and works *is not the truth.* It is only “*a type of prophecy*” foretelling “*the truth* to come.” *The Law of Moses* doesn’t make you like Christ, who is exactly like God (Hebrews 1:1-4). It is God’s system of reproducing Himself (Genesis 1:26).

God’s Holy Spirit (the very *power, love* and *sound mind* of God) leads you to be like Christ and God. That’s it!

Christians are to worship God “*spiritually*” by His *Holy Spirit*—*not needing any LAW.* *LAWS* are for *criminals* who are unlawful and do a great deal of harm. If you are a criminal, you must keep *THE LAW.*

God’s love does not harm anyone or any part of His creations. It is a way for *The Law* to be fulfilled or completed. Loving one another eliminates The Need for a *LAW.* When Christ gave His life for everyone, *The Laws* of God are now actually imbedded in your heart! The *Holy Spirit* will help you from sinning.

**Keeping The Commandments and The Law
in ‘the letter’ with all its deeds and works is
not the truth. It is a ‘type of prophecy.’**

A Personal Message from William F. Dankenbring on the 25th anniversary of Triumph Prophetic Ministries

The Armstrong Era Is OVER— It's Time to Move Forward!

I was a prolific writer for *The Plain Truth*, *The Good News*, *Tomorrow's World* and other publications of the Worldwide Church of God from 1963 to 1974 and a well-known church member till 1987 when Joseph Tkach had me thrust out of the church, accusing me of teaching heresy and being a false teacher, even though my books had been read and enjoyed by thousands in the church from 1975-1987 and never disapproved by Herbert Armstrong or the ministry during that time.

I am now the director and leader of Triumph Prophetic Ministries, publish *Prophecy Flash* magazine, books, articles, and booklets, and continue striving to serve God and recapture the true values and the "faith once delivered" to the saints, to the best of my ability. 2012 marks the 25th anniversary of Triumph Prophetic Ministries.

Years ago Herbert W. Armstrong said the PROOF that a Church or individual is truly following God is their willingness to admit error when they are shown to be wrong. False churches, he stated, are unwilling to change doctrinal errors which have been believed and accepted for years. He himself, several times during his ministry spanning fifty years, had to "eat crow," and admit it when he was proven wrong. He did so, even when others opposed him. I am not his judge, but there were times when he sincerely repented of error in teaching, and changed.

Today we live in a "NEW ERA"—the post-Armstrong era of the end-time Church of God.

Both Herbert and Garner Ted Armstrong, with their problems and contretemps, are gone. Now hundreds of scattered churches have sprung up like dandelions in their place. Most of them choose to follow in Herbert Armstrong's steps, right or wrong. They refuse to admit he could be wrong, or left any errors behind. They have stopped "proving all things."



William F. Dankenbring

Yet Mr. Armstrong himself never claimed to have been infallible—when he was alive, he confessed errors and changed when he saw he had been wrong. Only the Pope claims to be "infallible!"

With the passing of the Armstrongs, it behooves God's people as never before to "ponder the paths of your feet" (Prov. 4:26) and "prove all things" (I Thess. 5:21)—lest they be led astray by end-time false prophets, phony ministers, "hirelings," and men who claim to follow Herbert Armstrong, but all fight and wrangle and devour each other.

Some invoke the "Armstrong mystique" and image. Herbert Armstrong did blaze new trails in theology, and was a true "pioneer" in many respects. But he didn't have everything right—yet he was willing to admit he could be wrong, and to SEARCH OUT things which he previously assumed to be true, and to REPENT and CHANGE when he saw he had been wrong!

What about you, personally? Are you willing to investigate further, to search the Scriptures, like the Bereans (Acts 17:11), or do you just accept whatever you are told by your local church or minister, or because Herbert Armstrong taught it years ago?

I challenge YOU—yes, you personally—to take stock of your faith and beliefs—and re-examine things you "thought" you proved and accepted years or decades ago—and CHECK UP and PROVE when and how Passover should really be observed! Check up and PROVE how we should count Pentecost and when we should observe it! If you are presently right, then what do you have to lose? But if you are wrong, don't you want to KNOW about it? Why not take the time to MAKE SURE of your faith, your beliefs, and DOUBLE-CHECK the teachings you accepted years ago? God Himself declares, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (II Tim. 2:15). Salvation and truth are too important to "merely assume" you are right, and take it for granted! So here's what I want you to do:

Write for the FREE latest issue of Prophecy Flash on "Finally—the Honest Answer on the Passover!" What have you got to lose? What if you have unwittingly been taught error? Did the Jews really unwittingly lose track of time, change Passover?

Write for our FREE article on Pentecost—the Final Answer!" and "How Should We Count Pentecost?" Did you know Herbert Armstrong first observed Pentecost on the day the Jews do, then changed it in 1937-38 to a Monday, and then in 1974 moved it to Sunday? What is the truth? Is it time to come "full circle" and see WHY the Jews keep Pentecost on the day they do?

Write for our FREE booklet *A New Look at God's TRUE Calendar*. Study and see what the original calendar was according to the Word of God. Has the calendar been changed? Who changed it, and by what authority, and why? Isn't it time we get back to and "contend earnestly for the faith which was ONCE FOR ALL delivered to the saints" (Jude 3)?

Fifty-five years ago, I responded to Herbert Armstrong's challenge to "blow the dust off your Bible, and PROVE whether what I am saying to you is true!" What about you? Will you "blow the dust" off your Bible, and humbly, meekly, earnestly seek God's truth and prove it, asking God in humble prayer to show you if you have been wrong, mistaken, or misled? I DARE YOU TO TAKE THE CHALLENGE!

Yes! By all means please send me these items:

- An Honest Look at the Passover Luke and the Passover Question The Lord's Supper Versus the Passover!
 The Incredible Truth About Pentecost! How Should We Count Pentecost? Pentecost—The Final Answer!
 Free one-year subscription to PROPHECY FLASH!

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The Man of Romans 7:14-15 Is Revealed

Here is a short version of this very important but widely misunderstood text in the Bible.

The word *carnal* in verse 14 is the Greek word *sarkinos*, which means "made of flesh" as in 2 Cor. 3:3: "... Not in tables of stones, but in fleshly (Greek *sarkinai*, plural) tables of heart."

In our text of Romans 7:14-25, Paul the apostle used the pronoun *I* about 25 times in an abstract way in order to describe the *failing man* who cannot succeed without Christ (vv. 24-25).

Here is a short scriptural analysis:

The *sarkinos* man that Paul describes is a descendant of Adam, who is sold unto sin (v. 14), because he bears Adam's transgression in his flesh (Rom. 5:12).

He has experienced and reasoned that God's law is good and delights in it (Rom. 7:22). He desires to obey God's law (v. 19), but in his effort to please God he sees another law in his members [flesh] that brings him into captivity to the law of sin which is in his members (v. 23). He cannot escape from the captivity and dominion of the sin in his members. Therefore, he declares himself as a wretched man (v. 24). He can serve the law of God only with his mind, but with his flesh he serves the law of sin (v. 25).

This man desperately needs help to be delivered from this body of death (v. 24). His deliverance can come *only* from the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus,

which will set him free from the law of sin and death (Rom. 8:2).

In order for that to happen, our *man* must repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sin, and he shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38), which is given by measure to all that obey God (Acts 5:32).

Now that our *man* walks in the Spirit of Truth, he no longer fulfills the lust of the flesh (Gal. 5:16). For Christ in him (2 Cor. 13:5) by the power of His Spirit puts to death the deeds of the body, and he shall live—he shall have eternal life (Rom. 8:13). "And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Gal. 5:24).

Having been declared free from the law of sin and death through Jesus Christ, our Lord, our *man* ought to walk as Christ walked (1 John 2:6). He must be a partaker of the divine nature of God (2 Pet. 1:4), and live by the faith of Jesus Christ to the end (Heb. 3:6). In so doing, he mortifies sin in his flesh by the power of the everlasting Spirit, and puts off the old man with his deeds, and puts on the new man of Him who created him (Col. 3:5-10; Eph. 4:22-24).

Having done that, he has now died to sin (Rom. 6:2). Sin will not have dominion over him (Rom. 6:14). He is now *dead* to sin (Rom. 6:11), and dead people do not sin because they are dead!

From now on our *man* lives by the Spirit, and he has been declared a saint in Christ, by the

living Word of God (1 Pet. 1:23; Eph. 5:13).

After this short biblical information, we can conclude that our *man* **cannot** be the apostle Paul *after* his conversion in Christ Jesus, neither the Roman Christians, nor any other true believer in Christ. Prior to his conversion in the faith, Paul as a descendant of Adam had sinned, "for all have sinned [not all sinning now, of course] and have come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Although he was blameless according to the righteousness that is in the law (Phil. 3:6), nevertheless Paul received salvation apart from the law, which is the righteousness of God by faith in Christ (Rom. 3:21-24).

In view of all of the above, our *man* has been identified as every descendant of Adam **who fits in our text of Romans 7:14-25**. He needs Christ in order to be delivered from the clutches of sin and the curse of violating God's law (Gal 3:10-13), whether he be Jew or Gentile, for all have been declared unrighteous in the eyes of God (Rom. 3:10).

Having said all that, in all fairness I must add that certain Christians who are still struggling with sin in the flesh are either newcomers in the faith of Christ or have not completely surrendered to the perfect will of God so that their minds and hearts might be fashioned unto His divine nature through the knowledge of salvation (Luke 1:77).

—John Kal

Building Bridges Not Walls

*Dedicated to the Reconciliation of
The Sabbath Keeping Churches of God*

Jesus of Nazareth warned his followers that those who would soon come after him should be very careful about how they built the Church of God.

He warned that the coming of false prophets would cause the church to be built upon a foundation of sand, unless certain principles were followed.

Did Jesus of Nazareth warn his followers to be cautious about building their house, the house of God, upon sand?

When we look at the modern church of the 20th and 21st century, do we see a house built upon sand, or one built upon the rock?

Do we see a house that stands and grows strong, or do we see a house of God that splits and falls?

This short but powerful Bible study will assist all Christians in their quest to construct and nourish a growing Church of God.

Please visit our website, and study our recent article: "A House Built upon Sand." You might even consider using the article as a Bible study guide with your fellowship group.

"A House Built upon Sand"

I think you will find to be an eye-opening study.

Please visit our website at

ReconciliationGroup.org

To comment E-mail: godstruth777@aol.com

What God Is Doing In These Last Days in The Church of God

Greetings to all our Brethren:

Please read every word of this letter. I want you to know what GOD is doing in these last days in The Church of God!

It is so obvious that the Hand of Almighty God—The Eternal—is on this Work. This ministry is not the work of any one man or even group of men. What we see occurring is not something that any man can make happen. It is God! And what we see now is *truly amazing!*

We must ask the question: Is Christ returning to a *dead* and *dying* church? Will He return to a church which He has raised up but that is all split up and divided? When we read the seven prophetic churches of the book of Revelation, ask yourself would Christ be using a church such as the one typified by *Thyatira* (Revelation 2:18-29), who was “seduced” and deceived by a woman prophetess to give up the Holydays of God and many important doctrinal truths? Or—would Christ return to a *spiritually dead* church such as the one you see depicted by the *Sardis* church in Revelation 3:1-6?

The Bible teaches that the last church era extant *immediately before* the Great Tribulation will be a true church who has not denied the preaching of the NAME of Jesus and who has actually kept His Word! (Verse 8)—depicted by the church at Philadelphia. Jesus has no criticism of this specific End Time Church! But he also adds that they have “little strength.” As we all know the expression, it is true that “there is strength in *numbers*.” The real end time *Philadelphia* era church will therefore likely be very *small*—at least compared to the worldwide membership of the previous *Sardis* Church era.

But first let me give you a brief history of the Church of God of the 20th history. It followed the church era where the woman prophetess (Ellen G. White) greatly *seduced* the true Church of God of the 1800s—the remnant of the Waldenses—who had arrived in this country in the late 1600s and in the 1700s. Precious few saints were left after the *mass apostasy* that occurred between 1844 and the 1890s. Ellen G. White started a competing Protestant church called the Seventh Day Adventists and the *vast majority* of the true church was seduced into joining that group, giving up and abandoning the Feast days and the annual Passover/

communion service on the 14th of the first Hebrew month of Abib. *Only a tiny handful remained.* Those who survived this great apostasy and who did not join the Adventist cult of Ellen White had several “headquarters” sites in the United States, the most well known being Marion, Iowa, and later in 1899 a new headquarters in Stanberry, Missouri. This apostasy was so great it was given “honorable mention” even in the prophecies of the Bible. Jesus speaks of this occurring in the *Thyatira Era*. At no time in church history did there ever appear a woman professing to be a prophetess who greatly seduced the members of the true Church of God *until this period!* Obviously, this period in church history genuinely identifies with the *Thyatira* church era of the book of Revelation, chapter 2!

To this day there is a remnant of that group, though God is not using them as He once did. *That era is over.* The remnant of that group is called The Church of God (Seventh Day). Only a FEW of them from that church era still keep the

It appears that while the very Church of God that Christ raised up in the 20th century is fast dying, God is calling many thousands to new life in Christ.

Holydays. The hand of God long since left them. In the 1930s that church split and a number of split-off groups emerged, the largest one going on radio in the mid-1930s and later incorporated separate from the Stanberry, Missouri, headquarters as “The Radio Church of God.” It was that church that God used greatly in the 20th century. God blessed its growth and it grew by 30 percent a year for over 30 years, but in the 1960s the leader of the church whom God had raised up *strayed* from the public preaching of Jesus Christ *entirely*. Even the preaching of the Bible itself to the public via radio and television was de-emphasized and the leader of that church era greatly *secularized* those broadcasts. I came into contact with the Church of God in 1967 and remember it well! It was reported that the church leader’s son protested this shift toward “secularism” but he was powerless to change it. The church leader set up an “international cultural foundation” and built a Concert Hall in Pasadena, California, to *entertain* southern California’s cultural *elite* while abandoning the Great Commission as

defined by Jesus Christ which is to “go into all the world and MAKE DISCIPLES”! (Matthew 28:19, see margin and modern versions who correctly translate this verse). As a result of apostatizing *from the preaching of Jesus Christ*, God allowed this church to spiritually DIE (see the next church era pictured by the church at *Sardis*—Revelation 3:1-6). Today, precious few of them keep either the annual Holydays or the weekly Sabbath just as in the previous era of the Church.

When this 20th century era of THE CHURCH OF GOD ceased preaching the real Gospel of Christ, it appeared it was at that time that God visibly *removed His hand*—that is, His anointing—from that church. God never again blessed it with an annual 30 percent growth. Over the years the Church of God has gotten farther and farther into blatant APOSTASY, gradually forsaking even the Law of God including His Sabbaths and annual Holydays. But again, I ask the question, is Christ returning to a DEAD and *dying*

church? The answer is an emphatic *NO!* Notice what the Bible teaches concerning this. Paul wrote that Christ will sanctify and cleanse His church so “that He might *present it to Himself* a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Ephesians 5:27). At the very end time we see that Christ will raise up the Philadelphia era church to which each of us *can BELONG* if we are indeed living in that 1st generation. All indicators today point to the probability that we *are in the last days indeed*, the very generation that will SEE Jesus Christ return to this Earth!

It appears that—while the very Church of God which Christ raised up in the 20th century is fast *dying* away—God is now calling many thousands around the world to new life in Christ, once again raising up people who will keep His Sabbath and Holydays. Continually, I meet people who grew up in traditional Sunday religion (from mother Rome) who learned from the Bible the truth of God’s Law and has embraced it! Just this week, as this is being written, I met a man who is keep-

ing the Feast days of Leviticus 23 now for his first year, though he did not learn the truth from the Church of God, but *from the Bible!* A few weeks ago I met a millionaire and his wife who are now keeping the weekly and annual Holydays of the Bible. The wife first learned the truth from reading the Word of God—not from any church, as her background is Catholic. As the Church of God of the 20th century gradually apostatized from the very truth of the Bible, God Himself is raising up a *NEW CHURCH ERA* around the world who will be faithful to His Word! *Our Ministry is a part of this revival* that God has placed His hand on! Each of you who support Christian Fellowship Ministries of the Church of God are a *part* of this genuine End Time revival which is *of the Holy Spirit*—and not any one man!

Jesus said He will set before this end time true Church an open door that no man can shut (Revelation 3:8). These words echo a prophecy found in Isaiah 22:20-22. The name “Eliakim” actually means “God will establish”! This new church will not be raised up by any one man. *CHRIST HIMSELF WILL RAISE UP THE NEXT ERA OF HIS CHURCH!* Are you a part of it? You are if you are keeping His Word and not denying His Name. You are if you are supporting the true Gospel of Christ without

shame or embarrassment (as shameful “Sardis” was), willing to share your personal faith in Jesus Christ—and if you are supporting God’s End Time Work.

What I have to tell you now is astonishing! It is astounding! Unlike anything I have ever seen God do in His church before. It is obviously the hand of God and YOU are now a part of it! We need something very important from you. We need your faith-filled PRAYERS that God will continue to *OPEN DOORS* that no one can shut! I will be sharing some of this surprising news in the next letter to our partners and co-workers. I am awed at what is occurring in this Ministry. Yes, simply AWED! It has not been seen at any time in the last days—yet *now God is opening up such doors!!* Please pray for this Work of God! And also remember: never hesitate to share your prayer requests with us! We are partners together in this prophesied end time Work of God!

May God richly bless you!

Sincerely,

Keith Slough, minister

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES, INC.
KANNAPOLIS, NORTH CAROLINA

The reprinting of the above letter sponsored by Howard Bruce, Glendale, Arizona

Feasters report from SOOJ and CCG

Continued from page 1

Each day started with a lip-smacking breakfast buffet at our excellent hotel. We also had a seniors' luncheon with good food and conversation. Thanks to the local church for picking up the tab.

We had a dinner-dance, including great food and a Western theme with varied dance styles and a local music duo.

Can't turn it down

On an open night we had drop-in games with snacks in the CCG's new building, recently purchased from its builders at a you-can't-turn-it-down price.

On our free day a bus took many of us into the mountains and up Unaweep Canyon to a resort where we toured an antique-car museum and had lunch.

The trees were at the height of the fall color change and were backgrounded by interesting rock formations.

We saw bighorn mountain sheep on the high cliffs and up close, grazing next to the road for close-up camera shots.

Drainage out of both ends

Unaweep is the only canyon in the world with water drainage out of both ends. Some went rock hunting and hiking and took scenic excursions. The area is full of endless things to do and see. This is my Colorado, where a phone conversation with God is a local call.

The Elliots and Coy Colberts invited the attendees into their homes one afternoon for potluck get-togethers, games and visiting.

The CCG is involved in God's work. Besides hosting the yearly Feast, a Web site with broadcasts of services and a CD program to help those like my wife and me who live way out in the high-lonesome country, they support a Church of God in Kenya.

Del and Rich inform and promote

Del Leger writes and publishes concise booklets on many Bible sub-

jects to inform and promote God's Book. Rich Traver writes and publishes articles and booklets on many Bible subjects. Lead on, fellows!

This will be the place to be for Feast

children's Feast programs in education, fellowship, recreation, team-building and worship.

Teen-written comments in our anonymous survey reveal a common thread of the fun of making new friends and discovering that they are not alone in their walk of faith.

Children are not forgotten either. They have separate programs geared just for them during the sermon messages.

SOOJ is an Ambassador-quality independent Feast site with a professional conference-program approach. It was at the beautiful lakeside setting of Camp Windermere at the Lake of the Ozarks.

The Feast site is open to all and features more than 70

activities for all age-groups, including 21 adult interactive breakout sessions, 12 sermon presentations and 12 teen activities.

The varied program empowers all to participate in every aspect of the Feast.

Hebrew roots

SOOJ is a Hebrew-roots (not Messianic) site because more people are discovering that an understanding of Hebrew and 1st-century culture and history (not Jewish tradition) adds a richer meaning to the traditional messages taught in the Churches of God.

In 2011 SOOJ saw a 31 percent increase in attendance (590 total) including a 49 percent increase in teens and 67 percent in children.

We know that worship, education, recreation, fellowship, joy and peace are among the primary fruits and purposes of the Feast, but we are also happy to see numerical growth in attendance.

Several Churches of God keep the Feast in southwestern Missouri. Go ahead in the fall of 2012 and take a leap of faith: Visit us for a day! *Mike Bacon, Prescott, Ariz.*



FAITH ON THE ROPES—Teenager Jared Jackson takes a leap of faith from the top of a 25-foot-high telephone pole. Jared's leap happened during the High Ropes course at the Season of Our Joy Feast of Tabernacles site at Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. See reports from the Lake of the Ozarks site and a site in Grand Junction, Colo., beginning on page 1 and concluding on page 24 of this issue of *THE JOURNAL*. [Photo by Haylea Parks]

2012. Come and join me. I'll see you there. *Dale Atteberry, Holyoke, Colo.*

LEAP OF FAITH

By Mike Bacon

LAKE OF THE OZARKS, Mo.— Sometimes it takes a leap of faith to break out of our comfort zones in overcoming and fellowshiping.

Life is hard enough for most of us so that we would rather have life's challenges and hardships come to us rather than embracing them in a voluntary leap.

The High Ropes course challenges teenagers to face and feel the fear and overcome it (see the photo on this page), while the Focus Point series offers spiritual instruction and life lessons from mature believers.

The Midnight Midrash (a chaperoned discussion group run by the teens themselves) offers respectful and intelligent real-time interfacing with others.

Focus on teens

Season of Our Joy (SOOJ), a Feast site sponsored each year by Tim and Angie Kelley of Hawkins, Texas, offers the nation's premier teens' and

Notes and quotes

Another mystery of the ages

KIMBERLING CITY, Mo.—The Church of God in Truth (CGT), pastored by James Russell, offers a booklet about the feast-day calendar titled *Postponements: Another Mystery of the Ages*.

The CGT has studied into the calendar postponements since 1992 and was a participant in the landmark calendar conference in Dallas, Texas, in January 1997 organized by Lawrence Maayah and Michael Turner.

The church teaches that the postponements mislead church members into keeping the wrong annual days.

Write for the booklet at CGT, P.O. Box 1120, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686, U.S.A., or cogit@flash.net. See also www.postponements.com.

No need to reinvent

BELMORE, Australia—Henk Jens announces an updated article about the feast-day calendar.

"I reissued Paper P4 at www.rightly-dividing.net to correct an error in the second paragraph of Section 1.4," Mr. Jens said.

The section now correctly refers to Section 3.8, "The Calendar Restrictions."

Section 3.8 explains that there is no need to "reinvent" the calendar and that its stewardship is left properly to "the Jews."

Paper P4 refers to Paper P6, titled "Noah's 365 Days in the Ark," which shows that the Jewish calendar fits the Flood dates "and therefore reinforces the notion that we must not reinvent the calendar but leave the calendar stewardship to the Jews (Levites)," Mr. Jens concluded.

Talpiot tomb exploration

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—James Tabor, chairman of the department of religious studies at UNC Charlotte, has posted an article at bibleinterp.com that "offers a preliminary report and analysis with maps and illustrations of the recent Talpiot 'patio' tomb exploration by remote camera that Rami Arav and I conducted in 2009-2011."

Dr. Tabor, a former WCG member, is author of the best-selling book *The Jesus Dynasty*.

Tornado damages Feast site

FLINT, Texas—Mark Armstrong, president of the Intercontinental Church of God, reported that a tornado recently damaged the Kimberling Inn in the Branson, Mo., area, where the ICG plans to sponsor a Feast of Tabernacles observance in the fall of 2012.

"We don't yet know the extent of the damage or whether it will interfere with our plans for the

Feast of Tabernacles there," Mr. Armstrong said.

"Dr. James Ricks will be checking on this over the next few days, and we'll make a determination as to our plans in the fall."

The ICG plans at least six U.S. Feast sites and one each in Britain and Australia.

For more information visit intercontinentalcog.org or write P.O. Box 747, Flint, Texas 75762, U.S.A. Or call (903) 561-7070.

UCG youth camps

MILFORD, Ohio—The United Church of God has announced details of its camps for 2012, their 18th year of operation.

Eligible to attend are children of UCG members, but other young people may camp as well as long as they and their parents agree to abide by the camps' "Code of Honor."

U.S. camps for youths 12-18, locations and dates:

Camp Cotubic, Ohio, June 17-24; Camp Pinecrest, Mo., June 29-July 6; Camp Hye Sierra, Calif., July 1-8; Camp Woodmen, Ala., July 1-8; Northwest Camp, Ore., July 22-29; Winter Camp, Wis., Dec. 24-30.

U.S. camps for preteens 6-12, locations and dates:

Southwest Preteen Camp, San Bernardino National Forest, Calif., June 17-20; Camp Kiwanis, Jersey Shore, Pa., July 8-11; Camp Colorado, Allenspark, Colo., June 24-17; Camp UCanDo (day camp), Indianapolis, Ind., July 10-12.

Camps in other countries, locations and dates:

Latvia, July 15-22; the U.K., July 27-Aug. 5; Jamaica, July 22-26; Kenya, Dec. 12-18.

For detailed information including camp rules and tuition fees and to apply online (no paper applications are available this year), go to uyc.ugc.org.



Henk Jens



HAS IT BEEN 15 YEARS?—In this historic photo, Jamie Cartwright (left) and Nicole Fisk, both of Big Sandy, Texas, attend the UCG's Pinecrest camp in Missouri in 1997. See information about the UCG's camps for 2012, above. [JOURNAL photo]

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