Ronald Dart was a remarkable human being and human beam

The writer, a minister in the Church of God, was a board member of the Armstrong movement in Jamaica since 1996, pastors the largest WCG-decree Church of God congregation in the Caribbean (average attendance of 220 in Kingston) and is a widely recognized teacher and author. He joined the Church of God at age 44 years old at age 15.

By Ian Boyne

A summerula—Perhaps the most telling indication of the caliber, character and compassion of Ronald Lee Dart happened on the day of his death (Jan. 23, 2016). When my friend, David Jon Hill, received word of the passing of the leader in a Church of God blog (run by Gary Leonard at armstrongmovement.com) there was an outpouring of respect for his life and regret over his death expressed by visitors to the blog.

Some of those guys on that blog can be crude, callous and cryptic, but Ron Dart was spared their vitriol, and not because of any fault on his part. One must not speak evil of the dead. Those guys hold no such scruples.

It was because of the sheer weight of Ron’s godly influence. No matter how cynical, you could not help but be impressed by Ron Dart.

No comparison

No other Church of God leader will have the kind of universal honor and respect among those in the Church of God he was loved and respected him.

Ron played a special role in the lives of those who were a part of the WCG. See RON DART, page 16

Ronald Dart had. To read the comments you have to make Facebook posts has been deeply heartwarming. I wonder if he knew how much we loved and respected him.

The writer is a minister in the Church of God International in Jamaica since 2003. I had just returned from doing some grocery shopping. I unpacked the bags, cleaned up the kitchen a bit and decided to check my E-mail. Three announcements of the death of my beloved friend and mentor, David Jon Hill.

The one from his son Jonathan made it official. “Sad news. My Dad passed away this morning when I was getting ready to leave for work. He died peacefully in his sleep. He was 71.”

Dart’s father had been diagnosed with emphysema and congestive heart failure in November of that year. Jon was writing the second article in the series, and his son had just sent me a batch of pictures to accompany the articles. Jon had missed the deadline for the current issue of The Journal, but many readers were eagerly anticipating his next installment.

It was only a short time earlier that Jon had said, “We have had three funerals among our friends in the last three months, and more recently in 2003, Gamer Ted Armstrong had passed abruptly from the scene.”

The official cause of death was a “prolonged battle with cutaneous T cell lymphoma,” a type of skin cancer, announced CEM office manager Linda Bonton.

Mr. Bonton said Mr. Dart “died peacefully in his sleep.” He had never fully recovered from an injury to his head caused by a fall at his residence in 2010.

Ron Dart was born Jan. 7, 1934, in Harrison, Ark., to Tilden and Eva Dart. He joined the U.S. Navy in September 1952 and ultimately served for four years, achieving the rank of petty officer first class. After the Navy he attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas, for two years and Ambassador College for two years, earning a bachelor’s degree in 1960.

Mr. Dart served as a pastor of a congregation of the Radio Church of God and returned to Ambassador in Pasadena, Calif., to work on his master’s degree in theology.

He later did graduate work in communication at the University of Texas, Austin.

Mr. Dart eventually taught speech and theology at Ambassador College, as well as serving as the school’s department chair and executive vice president.

Alongside his college duties, he served as pastor of the Big Sandy Worldwide Church of God 1973-76.

Mr. Knauels, former managing editor of The Plain Truth, published by the Worldwide Church of God, was a prolific journalistic writer. This article is Mr. Knauels’ tribute to his friend, David Jon Hill, whose articles about the early Armstrong movement appeared in issues No. 178 and 179 of The Journal. While in the process of writing a series of four articles that were originally to appear in this issue of THE JOURNAL. [Photo by Edward Malone]

The writers are webmaster and publisher, respectively, of THE JOURNAL.

By Alan Ruth and Dixon Cartwright


The 2016 observance for most Sukkot sites in the world, other than in the United States, will be held at Camp Windermere, adjoined the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri. Mr. Dart’s funeral took place at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler, with a United Church of God elder, Jonathan Garnett of Yorba Linda, Calif., officiating.

Friends remember Ron Dart the husband, pastor, teacher, author, broadcaster, mentor and friend

Mr. Dart’s funeral took place at Stewart Family Funeral Home in Tyler, with a United Church of God elder, Jonathan Garnett of Yorba Linda, Calif., officiating.

Palbearers were John Beasley.

It’s not too early to make plans for Feast 2016

If it’s not too early to begin advertising your Feast of Tabernacles site. A common mistake is waiting until the last minute when potential Feast-goers may have already made their plans of where to attend. To get your advertising campaign started for 2016 contact Linda Cartwright to place announcements in the CONNEXIONS section of THE JOURNAL. See that’s at (903) 630-4779 and lcartwright@ad.com.

The 2016 observance for most festival planners will begin the evening of Oct. 16 and run through Oct. 24. If your observances dates differ from those specified by the Hebrew calendar, you will of course want to make sure that in your announcement.

Ronald Dart’s MICROPHONE—On display during Ron Dart’s funeral, on Jan. 27, 2016, is his communicative microphone representing many of his years as a broadcaster of Christian Educational Ministries’ Born to Win radio program. See articles and photos about Mr. Dart and his ministries in the Churches of God and tributes by old friends including Ian Boyne in this issue of THE JOURNAL. [Photo by Edward Malone]

The curious events happening in the world, sooner or later we will have to pray Thy Kingdom come, which was the theme for the 2015 Season of Our Joy (SOJO) Feast of Sukkot.

It was held at Camp Windermere adjoining the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri. Eight of the 10 main speaking sessions were devoted to the festival theme with the 22 breakout sessions such as mentoring, Akiba counterfeiter kingmaker, law protection, choosing life and the patience of Yahweh.

The Feast included nationally recognized Hebraic-roots ministers such as Eddie Chumney of Hebraic Heritage Ministries, Dean Wheelock of Hebraic Roots magazine and Joseph Good of Hatikva Ministries.”

The curious JOURNAL reader should also know that all speaking sessions are recorded and posted on the SOJO website, sojo.org. Each session is followed up with a Q&A session to keep speakers on their toes. They hadcounseling sessions though 2001 in 2013 but dropped to about 400 in 2015. No reason to panic, though.

SOJO organizers have always encouraged fellow believers to start Sukkot sites in their areas.

In 2015 new sites had sprouted in Kansas, South Dakota and Virginia, which now from the central Missouri site.

SOJO will not be held in 2016. Tim and Angie have decided to take a sabbatical from festival organizing. So they plan to bring it all back in 2017. Stay tuned. We wish Tim and Angie a wonderful sabbatical year!
I would not battle against Benny Sharp and once in a while against him and Gamet Ted. A quality individual.

Michael Kiehna

See other writers paying tribute to Mr. Dart beginning on page 1 and 3.

Lenny’s radical grace twist

Lenny Cacchio’s comments on page 3 are our best attempt at a twist to grace as compared to the common grace twist. “Maybe it would be better to use the word gracious,” Lenny wrote. “If you forgive someone for the sake of grace, you will not twist to grace as compared to the common grace twist. "For his of fullness we all received, even graciousness for graciousness."

Various other places in the Scriptures.

For example, Matthew 6:14: If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you.

Verses 9-10: If you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive you.

Luke 6:37-38: Judge not, and you shall not be judged. Condemn not and you shall not be condemned. Forgive and you shall be forgiven.

Luke 11:4: Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us.

Colossians 3:25: He who does wrong shall receive from the wrong he has done... Mercy represses judgments.

Revelation 13:10: He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity. He who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword.

Exodus 23:19: I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you, and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious.

If you give us some idea as to whom He will show mercy to and whom He will be gracious to. We will give you our interpretation. Look forward to every issue.

Ray Flippo

Tampa, Florida

The nerve

The article in the November 2015 Journal on “John Doe” and his propaganda on DHS and our security (“Church-Member Department of Homeland Security Employee Says DHS Keeps Americans Safe, Secure”) cer- tainly needs a huge response.

The entire facade of “security” proj- ects like the DHS, TSA, Patriot Act and such are typical smoke screens and are all based on one gigantic lie: 9/11.

Anyone who has done even a cursory exam of the massive amount of evid- ence on this event will know full well that the perpetrators of this horrific U.S. government and others.

If you do a good research, most of the alleged prevention of terrorist attacks are either “attacks” by someone patting themselves up, and then

I’m not sure if it’s my understanding or Ken Westbay’s writing that is improv- ing. Whichever is the case, his article on “Splits Happen” in an issue a while back was one of the finest articles I’ve ever read.

At first I thought his Ken again rebuking ancient historical revision, which in fact being true, I’ve always enjoyed read- ing his perspective. But by now I figure he is either writing for his own group or nono, in the so-called East Coast Religious press.

But the lessons Ken has drawn, and the focus he has for his life and the gen- eral direction and inspiration he presents them in his articles, are inspir- ing, and my admiration for his steadfastness in both word and work never ceased to grow. Paragraph by paragraph.

I think it’s my understanding or Ken’s writing that is improving. Whatever is the case, by God’s grace I’m certain they will both just keep on getting better.

Wade Franoose

Madison, Wis.

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Ron's and Allie's journey began in 1953

The authors pastored the Church of God Big Sandy and is a regular columnist for The JOURNAL. He wrote the fol- lowing when he left the CGI and he joined the Bates Big Sandy of the team effort by Ron and Allie Dart. CEM is a nonprofit, nondenomina- tional organization that provides educational materials and services for individuals and churches. One of its signature projects is the Born to Win radio broadcast. And the name Ron's name is more visible because of the Born to Win broadcasts and the many publications produced by CEM, Allie has been a strong partner in organ- izing and reaching out to the millions of the mate- rial in CEM's educational materials. "The journey of Ron and Allie Dart has been a success story of two people working together. The team worked many years seeking to serve the congregation, not only possible, and it continued to meet the challenge of life's challenges ahead.

Sincere congratulations to Ron and Allie Dart and wishes them many happy days together.
my mentor and friend David Jon Hill was one of a kind

Continued from page 1

tive failure, he imagine he suc-
sumingly with his colleagues.

Jon’s passing should not go unno-
ticed. He was one of those larger-
than-life characters, someone whose impression on everyone who came into his life was apparent on and off the page.

He loved his students and friends and was a mentor and leader who provided opportunities to those reporting to him. Jon was a kind and caring person who always had time for others.

He was an expert in the field of biblical studies and human nature. His passion for the Bible and the truths contained within it was evident in his writing and teaching.

Jon was a dedicated family man and a dedicated follower of Christ. He lived a life that was an inspiration to all who knew him.

The loss of Jon is a significant blow to the world of biblical studies and human nature. His contributions to the field will be remembered for years to come.

The family of Jon Hill is planning a celebration of his life. Details will be announced in the coming weeks.

Comfort My People, advises God

Continued from page 3

David Jon Hill was one of a kind

At the end of his life David Jon Hill owned a 1990 van, an old Olympic portable typewriter and the clothes on his back.

The week before I wrote these words Jon and I had a long, satisfying phone conversation. We covered a lot of ground, including many memories.

I wrote: “We discussed Ray Crandall, whom he’d recently visited in Sacramento.

Then Jon packed his meager belongings into his van and moved in with his son Jonathan and his wife, Bonnie (members of the United Church of God).

In his prime, David Jon Hill was an evangelist, an Ambassador College board and faculty member, a church pastor, an editor-editor, a vice president and publishing-directing head and a friend and mentor to many, including myself.

He helped me make the WCG what it was at its peak. He was a major figure in the world of biblical studies and human nature. Jon, an editor-writer, a vice president and publishing-directing head and a friend.

Jon was one of the WCG’s best writers, and he was a major figure in the world of biblical studies.

Jon Hill taught several classes at Ambi-

diator College in Pasadena. His most

by an assortment of sauna baths, swim-

ning pools games, beer drinking and other nonproductive nonsense. (He loved his board games, especially Risk.)

Jon’s lifestyle wasn’t exactly commendable when it came to staying healthy. He might have eaten a few crude spot illustrations for the

magazine.

I especially loved to pick the brains of

Jon the teacher and “processing” a number of his articles for Tomorrow’s World church, writing and preaching. I remember “processing” a number of his articles for Tomorrow’s World church, writing and preaching.

Jon provided me with opportunities
to teach a number of classes, courses and seminars at AC and at the various WCG conferences.

After what seemed like a lifetime of hard work and struggle, he also taught a number of classes, courses and seminars at AC and at the various WCG conferences.

Jon was one of the WCG’s best teachers, and he was a major figure in the world of biblical studies.

Jon once was one of the WCG’s best teachers, and he was a major figure in the world of biblical studies.

Jon refused to sign it. In fact, many of

the WCG employees must sign a type of loyalty oath. It was a pure form of blackmail, based on the un-

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necessary war with the receiver.
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 become established as firmly as the weekly Sabbath doctrine is just ANOTHER ONE of those beliefs that has no Biblical basis whatever!

Read the facts for yourself. Is Lev. 23:32 really: “Therefore Friday’s rest was to be Sunday’s work.” Shocking though this may be, it is the provable truths on this crucial subject. The Biblical facts and history do not lie.

The return of Jesus Christ

Read it here:
ChildrenOfGod.net
PO Box 30332
Little Rock, AR 72260

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

Connecting Member to Member

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Connections: Member to Member

Issue No. 180

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Jan. 31, 2016

Solomon

OAZUAAHVKBHEZJRCCQNKMOONGRTYSOLOMOMPDRHPQXEIAJEDRADEMORDJVISBFWPKWTIVKTPRELTYOEREJXPPUIRERAWRXJSBREVORPMSRSMLOGLUMDFSSSJIJDTEWPAMGBZRBNQNLHEZVPMLBOROWAISPDDOCSPIUYORMOSPHSKNEOXGNWHPBDCHGEMVNAORDRQIIWYESSLSNBECCQONHASCUKRG3DILYIWHQIOAFYHTARDPYPWPCIKFQDLABBBOAMGL10ISHRLUWKRERSEAURHNRAHDXXQONALPORFJSDCRATUBHPYTHUSIKOMEGJVDGEJLQEHVPPDSKHBLHOMTMMUEIJAHYADECTZKEGYONGRNORXQYSSJQTVNHETXQL

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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A History of Propaganda by Philip Taylor

Who are the counterparts to the Nazi propaganda minister, Joseph Goebbels? The Nazis and Soviets of nasty regimes were known to offer war propaganda. However it is a political tool of all regimes, whether they are modern or those from the past. When the British were at war with France, they forced their own citizens not to support any foreign entanglements. It might seem ironic, therefore, that it is the Americans who, today stand as the masters of the art, science and craft of [propaganda]. The British public, who were, as a result, ruled, then the US Empire followed [actually both ruled By the “City” of London].

Ministries of the Mind (2003)

The unnatural by what the government wants us to believe! Do we know the truth? The propaganda tells us.
The US resembles the Roman Empire. Successful battles led to confidence and the idea that right was on their side, that they had a mandate, from the people, to conquer all of the world. The war on terror is not unlike this.

The South pictured the North as immigrants, and killing of ‘heretics’ continued hundreds of years. So the Inquisition of torture wrote that war was pressed upon Catholics by pagan aggressors. The Nazis and Soviets of nasty regimes were portrayed as the enemy in the Cold War, but some American critics wondered if war propaganda would be used during peace time to further the political agenda of some US leaders.

By the late 1930s state-sponsored propaganda had emerged in the US. Hollywood owned over half the world’s movie houses. However it was not just in the movies that propaganda was used in the Office of War Information. US troops were shown on TV. The public could see US troops in combat, hearing the sound of battle and the slogans were heard. While TR claimed in speeches to be against war, he must have known that if war was going to happen, he would be needed to lead it. TR was touted as the man who would save the world from war. The US media hardly noticed this attack or similar ones. The Spanish-speaking natives were made to sing along with the US troops used waterboard torture on the rebels. The British effort in the US was carried out by sending the USS Maine to dock in Havana. The Spanish-American War was a disaster for Spain. Spain was left with the scar of the world shaded in red, so British propaganda could use the story to play up to American nationalism. The British deliberately cut the buried telephone cables between Germany and the US—enemy had to guess where the source was. The British deliberately cut the buried telephone cables between Germany and the US—enemy had to guess where the source was. The British deliberately cut the buried telephone cables between Germany and the US—enemy had to guess where the source was. The British deliberately cut the buried telephone cables between Germany and the US—enemy had to guess where the source was. The British deliberately cut the buried telephone cables between Germany and the US—enemy had to guess where the source was. The British deliberately cut the buried telephone cables between Germany and the US—enemy had to guess where the source was.

A world War propaganda

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...Continued from previous page 5733 per ounce), under the pre-tax, an estimated 17% of the production workers were arrested, incarcerated and their gold sold.

FD Roosevelt started the Social Security pyramid scheme. Instead of getting a good return on investment in gold, it resulted in even lower return on the few SS recipients. FDR’s New Deal was triangu- lar. "The new deal is a sellout to the rich" in that it was used from the outset to funnel money to the wealthy. New taxes were assessed, increased prices and had to display the National Recovery Administration’s logo. The so-called "working man" Communist Harry Hopkins’ Works Progress Administration (WPA) was formed and crica...
“YOU” ministers “ARE” CAUSING Sin

You ministers are MOVING God’s Sabbath to Friday and worse: You REFUSE TO REPENT.

AND WORSE YET: You LIE to your members that you obey God’s Bible: When the “FACTS PROVE” you refuse to obey God’s Bible Words.

You liars “KNOW” that God’s Sabbath was moved to Friday in 1883 with Satan’s phony IDL (International Date Line). Because we told you for 11 months!

In 1882 God’s 7th day Holy Sabbath occurred in Australia “AFTER” the sun set in Jerusalem.

In 1883 God’s 7th Day Holy Sabbath was in Australia 1 whole day "BEFORE" the sun set in Jerusalem.

Editor’s Note: That would mean Christ would arrive in Australia 1 DAY before Jerusalem.

You lying sinister white washed walls continue to have God’s Sabbath Day on FRIDAY!

YOU “WILLFULLY” REFUSE, and continue to “Neglect and Reject” to obey God’s 4th Commandment.

Repent you Sinisters, REPENT NOW! God NOW Commands: “REPENT” NOW Acts 17:30

God also COMMANDS in Malachi 4:4 for you Sinisters to Obey the Law... Last God destroys the whole earth. Malachi 4:6. But you Sinisters are so PROUD, so self-centered, and so ARROGANT that no one can teach you anything. You Sinisters ARE egotistical maniacs because you would cause God to destroy the whole earth just so that you could save face and not have to admit you were wrong. So you willfully refuse to REPENT and obey God’s 4th Commandment!

You lying sinisters REFUSE to REPENT and have God’s Sabbath Day on the 7th Day in Australia, New Zealand, China, India, etc. 1/2 the World, which means as usual your lamps are ONLY 1/2 full of oil = only 1/2 Obeying.

On the Authority of God’s Bible “YOU Sinisters WILL BE locked out of the Marriage Supper and cast into outer darkness where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. Because “YOU” EGOTISTICAL Sinisters are TOO PROUD to change and follow God’s 4th Commandment of Exodus 20:8.

You “KNOWING” EVERY WEEK “CAUSE” your members in the other 1/2 of the World to break the 4th Commandment. Because you “cause” your members to sin.

Matthew 13:41 ESV: 41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all who sin against me and all who break the law.

...42 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

YOU Sinisters have all your members in these above Countries WORKING ON GOD’S SABBATH DAY!

On the Authority of God’s Bible we state that: “You Sinisters are WILLFULLY causing the death of a KILLING” your members in these above Countries, “BY” CAUSING your members to BREAK work on God’s Sabbath.

YOU ARE “CAUSING” your members’ deaths because the Sabbath is the Test Commandment, BUT “little you” Sinisters are so arrogant to change:

Sabbaths are a sign between God and man. Ezekiel 20:12, 21.

The Sabbath is a sign. Exodus 31:17. Seal the law [4th Commandment] among my disciples. They keep the Commandments. Revelation 14:12. Your Sinisters LIE TO YOU and tell you they keep the commandments while they BREAK God’s Commandments. They are LIARS as proven by the FACT they move God’s Sabbath Day.


In works [you Sinisters] deny Him [deny Jesus]. 2 Thessalonians 1:8.

For 11 months now you Sinisters have read this TO COG (The Obedient Church of God) www.1stCenturyChristian.com $500.00 Ad's veracity/truth, but you have REFUSED to Repent and follow God’s Bible’s 4th Commandment in 1/2 the World, and God’s other Truths that we have RE-Discovered and RESTORED.

This is proven by our restoring these following Doctrines of God:

1.) STOP moving God’s Sabbath Day to Friday in 1/2 the World with Satan’s phony 1883 IDL (1883 International Date Line).

2.) STOP using an averaging calendar that causes you to work on HOLY Days (when with 1 computer click you can know the RIGHT DAY). Lev 23:2

Realize that these “Moadim-appointed times” were set.

3.) STOP ignoring the 4 fasts of the Lord. Zechariah 8:19

4.) STOP ignoring God’s COMMAND for you TO GO TO travel to A FEAST 3 TIMES A YEAR. Deut 16:16.

5.) STOP ignoring God’s COMMAND to hold a Worship Service every New Month Day. Ez 46:3.

Realize that a Service on New Month Day is God’s Command, right along with the Weekly Sabbath. It is not optional. Ez 46:6. You may be a living sacrifice Rom 12:1

6.) STOP adopting the ways of the heathen gentiles such as Turkey God Day. You shall “NOT” add to God’s Feast Days Deut 12:32.

7.) STOP hiring Restaurant Workers and paying them money on God’s Sabbath Day = breaking God’s Sabbath as soon as you walk out of Services.

Even others know-Quote: We shouldn’t buy or sell on the Sabbath day, not even food. God says this will “pro-lance the Sabbath day.” The gates to Jerusalem were shut as it began to get dark towards the Sabbath, and were opened again after the Sabbath was over. This was to keep the merchants and sellers from buying and selling on the Sabbath Nehemiah 10:31, 13:15-22.

There are NO restaurants open in Jerusalem on God’s Sabbaths. You have the Preparation Day on Friday to buy a takeout meal at a Restaurant, then you eat at home with your friends on Saturday by warming up the magnificent meal you bought at the Restaurant on Friday. Editor’s Note: Those who REJECT God’s Law/Way of Life will be eternally lost.

8.) STOP having Pentecost on the WRONG DAY! http://statetanktruthian.com/Pentecost.pdf Herbert W. Armstrong had Pentecost on Sivan 6 from 1933 to 1937. Then Herbert changed Pentecost to Monday in 1937, and again changed Pentecost to Sunday in 1972. God gave Herbert the correct Sivan 6 Pentecost day in 1933, but Herbert fell off the rails in 1937, among other horrible sins Herbert started committing towards 1937. Those who say they want the “faith once delivered” to Herbert (before he fell off God’s fails/God’s ways), MUST have Pentecost on Sivan 6 = the day God gave/established the WCG with = Sivan 6 in 1933, or they are liars trying to say they have Herbert’s “original” doctrine.

We "ARE" Restoring All Things.

TO COG is the “Only” Church that is:

"CONTINUING" Mr. Armstrong’s Work of RESTORING All Things

All other churches are stuck in 1972 and refuse to Grow in Knowledge. 2 Peter 3:18

Follow God’s words as your final authority, not ministers!

answers@theworldtomorrow.org

Lawrence Albert Nowell

"For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES" (Hebrews 10:26-27).
The Ezekiel WATCHMAN

God’s Warning Message

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the LORD (Malachi 4:5; Matthew 17:10-11).

Alton B. (Don) Billingsley

TRUTH—Shortly before Jesus Christ was beaten and crucified, He prayed fervently to His Heavenly Father for His true people to keep them apart from the world, “Sanctify them by Your Truth, Your Word is truth.”

Holy Men of Ancient Times—were chosen and used by God, due to their dedication, obedience to His laws, together with righteousness before Him, because of believing and living the TRUTH OF GOD. Godly men, such as: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Moses. Holy men who stood apart from the world around them because they believed God.

Noah walked with God—being divinely warned of things not seen in a world of total wickedness, preached warnings to them for 120 years while building the Ark whereby he and his immediate family were spared from the Flood that drowned billions of people and all land life.

Lot was Righteous—because of his grief of seeing the evil permeating the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah (II Peter 2:6-8), and remaining apart from it, he and his immediate family were led by angels to safety while those cities were destroyed with fire and brimstone that fell from heaven (Genesis 19:15-17, 24).

Lot’s Family—Because Lot was considered righteous, the angels asked if there were other family members who might be spared as well (Genesis 19:12-14). Lot then went to his sons-in-law’s homes near the midnight hour and hammered on their doors waking them up from a sound sleep. He desperately tried to warn them of the impending doom to befall the cities and a way of escape was offered to them.

Lot’s Family Refused the Warning—Lot’s families thought he was joking and laughed at him (Genesis 19:14). He returned home heartbroken knowing his families would perish along with all of the others and there was nothing more he could do for them.

The Obvious Parallels—For 52 years of his lifetime, God’s apostle and His Elijah of the end-time, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, warned the peoples of Israel, America and Britain, and the Church, of the coming demise of the nations of Israel; beginning with famine and diseases (Ezekiel 21:12), then followed by nuclear warfare (Ezekiel 6:6; 12:20; Nahum 3:12). However, like Lot’s family, the former members of the Worldwide Church of God either disbelieve or ignore those warnings. They have chosen their own destructive course!

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong—Quote: “If there is any one reason why God chose to use me, it is because I believe God.” This was true with all of the holy men of old. This is where I also stand—I believe God with my whole heart! This is why I continue to write as I have for 12 years, seeking to turn around former ministers, members and Laodceans from the path of destruction before it becomes too late! Prayerfully, all will return fully to the teachings God used that man to teach all of us.

A Prayer of David—“Search me, O God and know my heart; try me and know my anxieties and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way of everlasting” (Psalm 139:23-24). This is the kind of prayer each one of us should pray while evaluating where we are and what we believe, and return to the fullness of the TRUTH OF GOD (Jude 3).

Deliverance for the Godly—“The LORD knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations (as God did with Noah and Lot), and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment (as the pre-Flood world—Sodom and Gomorrah—and the coming Great Tribulation), especially those who walk according to the flesh (the way of human reason instead of believing God) . . . and despise authority authority given by God to His late apostle via the government of God) . . . having forsaken the right way and gone astray following the way of Balaam who loved the wages of unrighteousness (fame and gain more than the love for the fullness of the truth of God, II Thessalonians 2:10-13)” (II Peter 2:6-9, 15). God’s Caring Love—Because of God’s caring love, the warning from the voice and writings of Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong continue yet today on our 14 websites—knocking on the doors as did Lot on the doors of his families (Revelation 3:20); sadly, this is also met with disbelief! Are you of the godly—believing the TRUTH and Living it? This would make the difference as it did with Noah and Lot. Time is fleeting! MYSTERY OF THE AGES—To be so blessed, please seriously study your Bible together with the last book, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong wrote: the unedited MYSTERY OF THE AGES, ISBN 0-396-03777-6. This could save your life from this coming and dreadful time. REMEMBER—Mr. Armstrong was the man God used to teach all of us His truth (II Timothy 3:15-14).

The Philadelphia Era of God’s Church—Please know from Scripture it will only be God’s true and faithful little flock, the remnant of the Philadelphia Era of God’s Church, that will escape the coming terrible times due to their faithfulness and endurance (Revelation 3:7-13).

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P.O. Box 130 • Valley Springs, CA 95252 • (209) 772-0737
Devices of Satan

A long time ago there was a great, spiritual Being named Lucifer. He was a cherub and he and another of his kind stood on either side of God’s heavenly throne spreading their wings to provide a ‘covering’ for the throne. The Children of Israel built a Mercy Seat within the wilderness Tabernacle. On each side of the Seat they placed a golden image of a cherub (Exodus 25:18). The general appearance of a cherub is provided in Ezekiel 10:14-16, 20-21. Sometime before humans were created on the earth, Lucifer had a change of attitude toward God. No longer did he want to be just a covering cherub for God’s heavenly throne. He wanted to be God. Details of that change are described in Chapter 28 of the Book of Ezekiel.

The Lord God said to Lucifer: “You sealed up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. You have been in Eden the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering. The workmanship of your tabrets and of your pipes was prepared in you the day you were created. You were the anointed cherub that covered, and I set you so.

“You were upon the holy Mountain of God. You walked up and down in the midst of the Stones of Fire. You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created till iniquity was found in you. By the multitude of your merchandise, they have filled the midst of you with ‘violence’ and you have sinned.

“Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty. You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness. Therefore, I will cast you as profane out of the Mountain of God. I will destroy you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the Stones of Fire. I will cast you to the ground” (Ezekiel 28:12-17).

God then removed Lucifer from His presence. Jesus said he personally observed the fall of Lucifer from heaven (Luke 10:18).

However, Lucifer refused to stay away from the Mountain of God. Apparently the ‘iniquity’ discovered in Lucifer was his plan for a hostile takeover of God’s domain. Lucifer gathered supporters and mounted an attack upon God, likely the ‘violence’ God had mentioned. Verse 6 of the Book of Jude makes reference to some of Lucifer’s supporters.

Of course the attack upon God failed. The lesson: If a great, spiritual cherub couldn’t overthrow God, it is folly for any physical human to fight God and expect to win (2 Chronicles 13:12).

After Lucifer’s overthrow attempt failed, God told him: “How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How are you cut down to the ground! For you said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven. I will exalt my throne above the stars of God. I will sit like the Most High’ “ (Isaiah 14:12-14).

For a second time Lucifer was cast from God’s presence. This time Lucifer’s outward appearance changed from cherub to red dragon (serpent—snake). The former beautiful cherub had become Satan the devil.

Some people think God created the devil. God did not. Lucifer’s iniquity, his basic attitude of violence against God, caused him to become the devil. Lucifer did it himself.

The Bible pictures ex-Lucifer in the Garden of Eden with Eve (Genesis 3:1). Eve was destined to be the mother of all humanity, “Be fruitful and multiply,” God had told her. The serpent also heard.

Slyly the serpent engaged Eve in conversation. Covetously he brought up the subject of the attractive fruit on the only tree she and Adam were not to touch and presented various arguments why Eve should touch the fruit.

Eve agreed. The fruit looked so nice and tasty. And it would make her know good from evil then she could be like God. Eve had been ‘beguiled’ (Strong’s Concordance OT #5377 = lead astray; mentally delude) (Genesis 3:13). She took a forbidden fruit and ate (Genesis 3:5-6).

Surprise. Eve did not drop dead. The fact she did not die after touching the fruit might have influenced Adam. He saw his wife eating yet still alive. Adam then responded according to what his eyes were telling him. He also ate. The devil was ecstatic! His attack upon Eve had resulted in a bonus. He got Adam also.

The Bible doesn’t say if either Adam or Eve repented of their sin. But even if they did, sinning required punishment and both eventually died just as God had warned. They had violated the principle of God’s First Commandment: “You shall have no other ‘gods’ (Strong’s OT #0430 = magistrates) before Me. You shall not bow down yourself to them nor serve them” (Exodus 20:3, 5). Eve had served the interests of the devil. Adam had listened to his wife putting her voice before that of God’s.

The apostle James’ comment about lusting clearly describes what Eve did: “When lust is conceived, it brings forth sin. Sin, when it is finished, brings forth death” (James 1:15).

Lying

Jesus referred to the devil as ‘father of lies’ (John 8:44). The devil is very good at lying. It is one of his most useful devices. His best use of lies is camouflaging them with bits of truth. A camouflaged lie causes confusion and usually gets people squabbling and believing additional lies.

Satan presented camouflaged lies to Jesus in the form of temptations. They were excellent temptations most people would be hard pressed to ignore. Jesus wasn’t fooled.

Satan took Jesus up to a pinnacle of the Temple and encouraged him to jump off. “For it is written,” the devil told Jesus, “God shall give His angels charge concerning you. In their hands they shall bear you up lest at any time you dash your foot against a stone” (Matthew 4:6).

Satan correctly quoted Psalm 91:11-12, but twisted the meaning from accidental to intentional foot dashing. Jesus responded that putting one’s self in danger to prove God would keep a promise amounted to tempting The Lord (Matthew 4:7).

Satan presented Jesus with an offer of immediate power and control over the planet again transporting him, this time to the top of an exceeding high mountain. Satan showed Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and their glory (greatness). “All these things will I give you,” the devil said, “If you will fall down and worship me” (Matthew 4:8-9).

The offer was for world domination. Immediate control, and power. No waiting. No painful suffering on the cross.

Was Satan truly able to give Jesus control over the world? Possibly.

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But if Jesus were to take the devil up on the offered shortcut to sovereignty over the earth, it required abandoning what his Father had said. It meant rebellion against his Father. It meant serving the interests of the devil.

Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, sold a piece of land (Acts 5:1-10). They brought part of the price and laid it at the feet of the apostles saying it was the full amount.

Peter questioned: “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit? While it remained was it not yours? And after it was sold, was it not in your own power? You have not lied unto men, but unto God.”

Upon hearing these words, Ananias fell down and gave up the ghost. The young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out and buried him.

About three hours later his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. Peter questioned her: “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much!” And she said: “Yea, for so much.”

Peter said to her: “How is it that you have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of The Lord? Behold, the feet of them which have buried your husband are at the door and shall carry you out.”

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All money taken by deceit either belongs to Satan or you are an accomplice.

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They then fell down and yielded up the ghost. The young men came in, found her dead and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.

This incident provides a lesson about lying types. Bearing false witness against one’s neighbor violates God’s Ninth Commandment (Exodus 20:16). It is a sin that can be forgiven.

Lying to God’s Spirit is like lying directly to God’s face. It is unforgivable sin, just as are lies about the Spirit, and works of the Spirit.

The Pharisees accused Jesus of working miracles and casting out devils by the power of the devil (Beelzebub, prince of the devils) (Matthew 12:24-32). Jesus warned: “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they utter. But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” (Mark 3:28-29, Revised Standard Bible).

Rebellion

Ever since The Garden, the devil has been looking for ways to control humans. Much to the sadness of many he has been successful. He continues to have successes to this day. Even people who thought they were immune to the devil’s devices have been easy fodder.

The apostle Peter warned people to be sober and vigilant “because the devil actively is going to and fro and from the appearance of the likeness of the ‘glory’ he had had before the world was” (John 17:5).

Never did Jesus say he was equal in ability, stature or image with his Father before becoming human. When facing crucifixion, Jesus prayed asking only again to be in his Father’s presence, only to be restored to the ‘glory’ he had had before the world was (John 17:5).

Never did Jesus say after becoming human he was equal to his Father as the Jews accused (John 5:18). He said his Father was greater (John 14:28).

Resurrected, and standing outside the tomb with Mary prior to returning to heaven, Jesus said he was ascending to his Father, and his Father; and to his God, and his God” (John 20:17). Jesus mentions only one God, the Father.

The belief in multiple gods, equal or not as does the Trinity Doctrine, is contrary to Scripture. More examples: 1 Timothy 2:5—“There is one God, and one mediator between God and men the man Christ Jesus.” And Ephesians 4:5-6—There is “one lord (a reference to Jesus), one faith, one baptism . . . one God and Father of all who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

No pot can be equal to its potter (Isaiah 64:8). No Entity, neither physical nor spiritual, can be like God. The Lord God is unique and knows of no other like Him.

“We know,” wrote the apostle Paul, “God causes all things to work together for good to those who love Him, to those who are called according to purpose, for those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be ‘conformed’ (Strong’s NT #4832 = similar) to the ‘image’ (Strong’s NT #1504 = likeness; profile; resemblance) of His son” (Romans 8:28-29).

Revelation 1:13-16 provides a visual ‘image’ (likeness; profile; resemblance) of the resurrected Jesus. He is an eternal Entity, yet his appearance remains consistent with that of a physical human man.

Revelation 4:3 also provides an ‘image’ (likeness; profile; resemblance) of the One who sits upon the throne of heaven. The One upon the throne is similar in color to jasper and sardine stones which are yellow to red. The One upon the throne is identified as: “Lord God Almighty . . . which was, and is, and is to come . . . who lives for ever and ever . . . (and) has created all things” (Revelation 4:8, 10-11).

The prophet Ezekiel saw a vision of a throne. “The throne has the appearance of a sapphire stone,” he wrote. “And upon the likeness of the throne there was the likeness as the appearance of a man upon it. I saw the color of ‘amber’ (Strong’s OT #2830 = polished bronze), as the appearance of fire round about and within, from the appearance of His loins even upward, and from the appearance of His loins even downward. This was the appearance of the likeness of the ‘glory’ (Strong’s OT #3519 = splendor) of The Lord” (Ezekiel 1:26-27).

The apostle Paul understood about the ‘fiery image’ of God. In Hebrews 12:29 he restated Moses from Deuteronomy 4:24—“Our God is a consuming fire.”

The lesson. The visual image of Jesus is similar to a human man. He was a man. The visual image of God is similar to fire. Humanity

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was made in the image of God, however we are not exact replicas or clones. We resemble God only in profile like shadows or idols as the original Hebrew says. God is not a man, nor can He be (Numbers 23:19).

When people honor God as their Maker, and endeavor to keep His commandments, God considers them His sons and daughters. Each is an equal heir of God, and joint-heir with Christ (Romans 8:14-17).

These sons and daughters are in line to receive a promised change of ‘body’ from a corruptible to incorruptible one. Their new body will conform to the likeness of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:44, 52-53).

Some people have said: “When I become like God . . . .” That is a nice wish, but not possible. No one can be like God. It is not possible because it would cheapen the glory of The Eternal. It would amount to a gross put-down of God’s greatness and majesty.

It is not possible to be like God simply because God will not allow it! God says: “I am The Lord (Strong’s OT #3068 = The Self-Existent). That is My ‘name’ (Strong’s OT #8034 = the idea of a lofty and conspicuous position; a mark or memorial of individual honor, authority, character). My glory,” says The Lord, “will not give to another” (Isaiah 42:8).

Remember, the rebellion perpetrated by Lucifer was an attempt to be like The Most High (Isaiah 14:14).

False Prophets

Another device used by the devil is false ministers and prophets. These scriptures should be familiar to Bible readers: “Beware of false prophets which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves” (Matthew 7:15). Also: “In the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their conscience seared with a hot iron” (1 Timothy 4:1-2).

Some religious professing individuals make incorrect statements simply because they don’t know what they are talking about. On the other hand, some religious individuals that claim titles such as ‘minister’ and ‘prophet’ intentionally make incorrect statements. They knowingly lie to support an agenda, an agenda sometimes resulting from Satan’s involvement.

The Bible gives several ways for sorting out who is, and is not, of God. One way is listening to what is said. If claims are made for occurrence of certain events which never happen, beware. Jeremiah 28:9: “When the word of the prophet shall come to pass, then shall the prophet be known that The Lord has truly sent him.”

The entire Chapter 28 of the Book of Jeremiah tells about a false prophet, Hananiah. Hananiah had been making promises and giving hope to the people. He said he spoke in the name of The Lord.

But Hananiah was making the people trust in lies. God had not sent him and took a dim view of the corrupt use Hananiah was making of His name. Hananiah died a few months later paying with his life for presumptuous speaking in the name of The Lord.

Another way to identify a false religious ‘preacher’ is to mimic the ancient Bereans. They searched the Scriptures daily to see if what they had been told was true (Acts 17:11).

Notice that the word, Scriptures, is plural. The Bereans did not rely on one verse. They reviewed everything associated with a subject not embracing an idea until proven true by multiple scriptures. One verse does not establish religious truth.

Accusations

“I heard a loud voice saying in heaven: ‘Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ, for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night’ ” (Revelation 12:10).

Satan is an accuser. He accuses the righteous. He accuses the innocent. He accuses God. The devil causes brother to accuse brother, sister to accuse sister, neighbor to neighbor, parent to child. No one is immune.

Satan appeared before God and accused righteous Job of serving God only to obtain blessings (Job 1:9-11). God allowed Satan to ‘touch’ everything Job possessed. Job’s flocks died, his children and servants were killed by a ‘whirlwind’, etc. Regardless of these calamities, Job neither accused nor cursed God.

Satan did not get the reaction he wanted and returned for permission from God to touch Job himself. God allowed. Promptly Satan afflicted Job with painful boils.

Enter three ‘friends’ of Job. They were aware of Job’s difficulties and initially arrived to mourn with Job and comfort him. All sat together on the ground seven days saying nothing (Job 2:13).

It appears Eliphaz the Temanite was leader of the three. Finally he spoke: “Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.” Eliphaz implied that Job had plowed iniquity and sowed wickedness, and was reaping the same in return.

However, Eliphaz accused Job unjustly. He based his accusation on what he observed with his eyes. He accused without real knowledge of what was occurring.

Eliphaz continued: “Now a thing was secretly brought to me, and mine ear received a little thereof, in thoughts from the visions of the night, when deep sleep falls on men. Fear came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones to shake.

“A spirit passed before my face. The hair of my flesh stood up. It (the spirit) stood still. An image was before mine eyes, but I could not discern the form thereof. There was silence, then I heard a voice speaking” (Job 4:12-16).

Many biblical examples indicate that when God, or His messenger, delivers information it always is clear and concise. No doubt as to what the message means.

The spirit that appeared to Eliphaz, however, was faint, indistinct. Furthermore, what the spirit said was negative and not true concerning how God deals with most situations. It is apparent the devil is also involved with the friends.

Further into the story Zophar the Naamathite says to Job: “Should not the multitude of (your) words be answered? Should a man full of talk be justified? Should your lies . . . .” (Job 11:2-3). Zophar plainly called Job a liar after Job said he had wronged no one.

At the end of the Book of Job the three ‘friends’ were in serious trouble. Each one had accused Job unjustly. God considered what they had done, sin.

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The Lord now speaks directly to Eliphaz: “My wrath is kindled against you, and against your two friends. You have not spoken of Me the thing that is right as my servant Job has” (Job 42:7-8). The three were required to provide animal sacrifices to cover their sins. Job would pray for them because God would accept only Job.

In the New Testament, the apostle James encouraged all who experience ‘bad luck’ and ‘wrong’ to endure the temptations. “For when he is tried shall receive the crown of life which The Lord has promised to them that love Him. Let no man say when he is tempted: ‘I am tempted of God.’ God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempts He any man” (James 1:12-15).

There are two lessons. 1) When temptation and/or difficulties occur, likely Satan the devil is the one involved. God tempts no man with evil; 2) God does not look favorably upon an individual who falsely accuses.

Prior to the Children of Israel leaving Egypt they were accusing Moses of making them abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, thus putting a sword in Pharaoh’s hand to slay them (Exodus 5:21).

Once free of Egyptian slavery, they changed their complaining to: “Would to God we had died by the hand of The Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots and we did eat bread to the full. You (Moses) have brought us forth into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger” (Exodus 16:3).

God provided them an unlimited supply of manna food to eat. They complained wanting flesh.

Then it was water. Chiding with Moses: “Give us water that we may drink.” Moses told them to be quiet as they were tempting The Lord. The warning fell on deaf ears. The people murmured: “Wherefore you have brought us up out of Egypt to kill us and our children and our cattle with thirst?” (Exodus 16:2-3).

Korah and his followers accused Moses and Aaron of lifting themselves above the congregation, of making themselves princes over the people (Numbers 16:13). Korah wanted that ‘lifting up’ power and control for himself.

God eliminated Korah and other troublemakers who sided with him by opening the earth and swallowing them. The very next day all the congregation of the Children of Israel accused Moses and Aaron of killing the people of The Lord. Of course it was a lie. Moses didn’t open the earth (Numbers 16:28-30).

Bitterness

Satan is an arrogant and bitter Entity. He broadcasts bitterness. He is bitter because he was disgraced by removal as covering cherub to the heavenly throne. Bitter because of being disgraced by being cast from of heaven. Bitter because his attempt to overthrow God had failed. Disgraced and bitter from losing his beauty when cast from of heaven the second time.

Mother Eve was Satan’s target. He wanted her dead. Her death would thwart God’s plan to start a race of humans. Satan succeeded, but Eve didn’t die as soon as expected and lived hundreds of years giving birth to the human race. It had been another failed attempt to gain control from God.

King Saul of Old Israel became jealous of young David’s fighting ability after hearing the women singing about Saul killing thousands of Philistines and David his ten-thousands. Saul was king, yet the little shepherd boy was more popular with the people. Saul’s jealousy became bitterness, then progressed to murderous hatred of David. When hatred was born in Saul, God’s Spirit left him (1 Samuel 18:8-10). Departure of the Holy Spirit gave place to an evil spirit to torment Saul.

Jesus arrived telling people to repent of sin and worship God. God was offering humanity eternal life. But if Jesus could be successfully tempted, Satan reasoned, God’s plan would fail.

Satan did his best to trick Jesus. Jesus wouldn’t cooperate. That added to Satan’s bitter attitude. All his biggest efforts had been failures.

Sometimes people become annoyed. Jesus was not immune to annoyance. Money changers had taken over the entrance to the Temple in Jerusalem. When Jesus chased them and their animals away his motivation was not bitterness. It was rightous indignation. He corrected an inappropriate situation at his Father’s House (Matthew 21:12).

Satan might be bitter, but no quitter. He successfully has increased contention and division between peoples. Many nations are now fighting each other. Humans killing each other furthers his cause. Satan likes that.

Recently he began working on people living within a nation getting them to fight and kill each other. And has been for some time successfully dividing families, friends and neighbors through magnification of small, picky differences—making mountains out of mole hills.

He gets great satisfaction from the arguing, accusing and power plays occurring between so-called ‘God fearing people,’ between so-called ‘Churches of God.’

Satan has been playing cards from his evil deck for years. But one of the most powerful cards yet to be laid on the table is the coming End Time Beast.

There is a prophecy in the Book of Revelation that tells about a Beast rising out of the earth having two horns like that of a lamb, but it speaks as a dragon (Revelation 13:11-14). The devil will gain control this Beast and exercise all the power of a first beast appearing previously. The Beast will cause the earth, and them which dwell therein, to worship that first beast, which received a deadly wound that became healed.

In control of the End Time Beast, the devil will do great wonders. He will make fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. He will deceive them that dwell on the earth by the means of the miracles he has power to do in the sight of the first beast.

He will order all who dwell on the earth to make an ‘image’ (Strong’s NT #1504 = likeness; statue) to the beast which received the wound by a sword, yet did live. He will have power to give life to the image of that beast, so the image should both speak and kill as many as will not worship the image.

The Beast will cause all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a ‘mark’ (Strong’s NT #5480 = stamp, as a badge of servitude) in their right hand or forehead. No one will be able to buy or sell, only they who have the mark of the Beast (Revelation 13:15-17).

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
Devices of Satan

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The mark will indicate which individuals serve the Beast. The mark will have nothing to do with a particular day of worship, only who is worshipped.

Companion scriptures to the above are Daniel 8:23-25—"When the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power. And he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand, and shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many."

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4—"Let no man deceive you by any means. The day (of Christ) shall not come except there is a falling away first, and the Man of Sin is revealed, the Son of Perdition, who opposes all, who exalts himself above all that is called a god or worshipped as a god, so that he, as a god, can sit in the Temple of God showing the world he is a god."

God's Law

There are so many ways the devil has for getting people to break God's commandments it is difficult to pick one in particular. As for which commandments the devil prefers to see people break, it seems the First—downgrading God—is at the top of his list followed by the Ninth—lying.

Significant numbers of humanity are convinced lying is acceptable when done in the name of 'love.' Children all over annually are told about Santa Claus (Father Christmas) bringing gifts in a sleigh pulled by flying reindeer.

Some people say Christmas teaches children the principle of giving. The truth is, most children will be thinking about what they will be getting, some to the extent of lusting. The truth is, most children will be thinking about what they will be getting, some to the extent of lusting.

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Satan's tacit deceptions also have caused many people to depend on false security. "Only believe," they have been told. “Jesus did it all,” is another of the devil's grand deceptions.

Never has it biblically been said it is easy to gain entrance into God's Kingdom (heaven, nirvana, paradise, etc.). On the contrary, through much 'tribulation' (Strong's NT #2347 = afflictions) will people enter into the Kingdom of God (Acts 14:22). There are no automatically issued tickets to The Great Beyond. Those allowed to cross over to the spiritual domain of God will have been keeping His commandments. They also will have received positive testimony from Jesus (Revelation 12:17).

In some situations there is safety in numbers. When it comes to God, however, the statement is not true. In recent years, God has been scattering true worshipers across the entire planet so they are not clustered in one spot which makes them an easy target for Satan and evil governments of men under control of Satan.

There surely is a Place of Safety from the Beast and End Time tribulation. But that place is not hidden on the backside of a mountain or remote desert location. Safety comes only by being in service to God. He knows His own, and where they are.

Jesus spoke a parable about 10 virgins. He said that upon his return to take charge of his Father's kingdom he will recognize only virgins who are, or have been, showing enough light. Half the virgins in the parable he labels 'foolish' and unknown to him. He will not be able to vouch for them to his Father (Matthew 25:11-12).

Evilness

The fruit of God's Spirit is all goodness and righteousness and truth (Ephesians 5:9). The 'fruit' of the devil are the devices and atrocities he has committed upon humanity. Satan's fruit runs opposite that of God's Spirit.

Jesus said all that has been done in secret eventually will become exposed and shouted from housetops. Satan will be brought to justice for his crimes. Until then, how can an individual avoid the devices of the devil?

First, they must believe God has not placed an impossible stumbling block in front of them. Second they must believe no mountain is too high to climb, and no carrot is being dangled in front of them with God waiting to yank it away when reached for. God wants to hand out eternal life. It's just that He is not going to give it to the ungodly.

The apostle Paul encouraged the Ephesians to put on the armor of God. That armor would enable them to withstand the wiles of the devil (Ephesians 6:11).

Girt the loins about with truth, Paul said. Deploy the breastplate of righteousness. Shod the feet with the gospel of peace. Use the shield of faith to quench fiery darts of the wicked. Put on the helmet of salvation. Take up the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Ephesians 6:14-18).

Galatians 5:22-23 lists fruits of God's Spirit. And, as already said, run in an opposite direction to the fruits of the devil.

- Love (Strong's #26 = affection; benevolence). Satan's fruit is pure hatred for God.
- Joy (Strong's #5479 = cheerfulness). Satan's goal for people is mental depression.
- Peace; Long-suffering (Strong's #3115 = forbearance). Satan promotes fighting and open warfare.
- Gentleness (Strong's #5444 = excellence in moral character; patience). Satan is anything but gentle.
- Goodness (Strong's #19 = virtue). Satan has no virtue. He is evil, sinful, ungodly.
- Faith (Strong's #4102 = a conviction of religious truth). Satan is the father of lies and deceit.
- Meekness (Strong's #4236 = gentleness; humility). Satan's character is the opposite of humility. It is arrogant, obstinate, revengeful, contentious, haughty and full of wrath.
- Temperance (Strong's #1466 = self-control). The control Satan desires is to be over everything.

If an individual desires to have ways to deal with the devil, they must stay close to God and live by the Spirit of God. They should study to gain truth and knowledge of God. They should pray always asking God to rebuke Satan and his demons. These are the ways to deal with Satan the devil.

A righteous workman, or woman, need not be ashamed when they rightly divide the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15). Conversely, people should be ashamed if they reject the word of God.
Compassion: Don't Be Deceived by This Word

E or those of you living under a rock and haven't heard, there is currently a seri-
ous discussion about how to deal with ‘refugees’ who want to leave their coun-
try of origin and relocate to another country. This debate is typically framed by
the media and progressives by using the terms like compassion, mercy, and human
rights. The key is to how the Church has officially taken
the position refugees should be welcomed; immigration laws are morally null and void as they are
against the ability of humans to better their plight in life.

Let's take a look at this and see where com-
passionate or exhibit compassion. Clearly
Christ taught us we are to be compassionate
or exhibit compassion. But is this the same compassion
facing us now?

It is patently obvious the media and pro-
gressive liberals claim the ‘Christian’ value of compassion and mercy as the gold standard
that humans are to exhibit. Those same indi-
geners really correct?

These are used as related to Christ’s con-
cern for others. The same gospels the word
compassion is found 21 times and means to be com-
passionate or exhibit compassion. Clearly
compassion and mercy to this current refugee crisis?

What's the next logical conclu-
sion from this directive from God? That
strangers are to obey the same laws as
the native-born son. What's the next logical conclu-
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...
Eulogies honor CEM founder Ronald Dart

Ronald Dart prepared thousands of us

Eulogies honor CEM founder Ronald Dart

Ronald Dart, 1934–2016

One of the things we’ve got to get out of our system is that we can’t be in the Baptist Church on Sunday and go to the Roman Church on Wednesday. That is the way things were in the days of Sliming Nimrod, not Jesus.

Mr. Dart was a pastor for many years before joining the RCG/WCG.

“The Jesuus I worshiped is a Baptist Jesus,” Mr. Dart wrote of the Jesus of your New Testament, whom he worshiped in error.

We’re not ready to abandon everything for evangelism, Ro-

nman Catholicism or some version of

ultrawestern Christendom. The value of inspiration was Ron Dart.

Baptist movement (that grew out of

We were not ready to embrace atheism, agnosticism or existential-ism either. We were fed up with the authoritarianism and moral corruption of the WCG, but we wanted to retain the Sabbath, feast days, Kingdom of God on earth, salvation opportunity for all (at least for some God’s reproducing of Himself).

The Journal

Ron Dart prepared thousands of us.

Like a father

From GTA. GTA was an evangelist.

We were not ready to abandon the Sabbath, the Kingdom of God, or salvation opportunity for all.

Mr. Dart was a teacher and scholar.

I recall those early months in the late 1960s, attending the WCG’s flagship college, Ambassador College, in Pasadena.

From GTA. GTA was an evangelist.

Ron Dart was a teacher and scholar.

Mr. Dart said he believed the WCG was an obscure, often legalistic sect, that I had switched loyalty from GTA. GTA was an evangelist.

Ron Dart prepared thousands of us.

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